

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

The Pilot Covers Brunswick County

A Good News paper In A Good Community

Most Of The News All The Time

VOL. TWELVE. NO. 47

4-PAGES TODAY

Southport, N. C., Wednesday, December 25th, 1940

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## Automobile Accidents Claim Lives Of Two Citizens Of Brunswick

Ed Stewart and Harry L. Touchston, of Leland, were fatally injured when their car struck a parked truck on Christmas Eve.

### CORONER'S INQUEST TUESDAY NIGHT

Funeral services for J. E. Eichorn were conducted yesterday afternoon from Zion Methodist Church.

Ed Stewart, of Leland, died in the crash in which H. Touchston, also of Leland, was killed Christmas Eve when the car in which they were riding struck a parked truck on the highway near Leland, died Christmas afternoon at 4:12 o'clock.

Coroner John Caison, of Southport, has called an inquest into the deaths of Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock in the store of George Ganey at Leland. In Touchston inquest the jurors will be U. L. Rourke, R. C. Hollis, George Hollis, I. D. Marks, O. Simmons and W. G. Adkins. In the Stewart inquest the jurors will be U. L. Rourke, R. C. Hollis, George Hollis, E. A. Himes, F. O. Simmons and Foster Himes.

The inquests will be held simultaneously, the coroner said.

The truck which the car, driven by Stewart, was driving into was parked on the highway near Leland, died Christmas afternoon at 4:12 o'clock.

Funeral services for J. E. Eichorn, 48, of Hallsboro, who was killed in an automobile accident Christmas afternoon near Hallsboro, were held at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon from the Methodist church near Town Hall.

Rev. Walter Pavy, assisted by Rev. C. N. Phillips, officiated. Burial followed in the family plot in the church cemetery.

Mr. Eichorn is survived by his wife, Mrs. Peter Eichorn, of Leland; two sons, Jack and John Edward, Jr.; three brothers, W. R. and B. F. Eichorn, of Wilmington; and J. A. Eichorn, of Lake Waccamaw. His sisters, M. C. H. Hair, and Mrs. P. H. Koen, of Wilmington; Mrs. D. R. Murray, of Castle Hayne; and Mrs. C. W. McLellan, of Leland.

Eichorn was killed instantly Christmas morning at 10:30 o'clock when a car in which he, his wife and Miss Elizabeth Jolly were riding near Hallsboro struck a bridge abutment at Boney Swamp at a point where the newly-widened highway is wider than the bridge. Miss Jolly sustained a broken wrist and other minor injuries. The car was the fifth which has hit the bridge abutment in the last year, law enforcement officers said.

## Passion Play Here Saturday

Women of Trinity Methodist Church Will Sponsor Presentation Of Talking Movie "Golgotha"

The famous Passion Play, "Golgotha," will be presented at Southport high school auditorium Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock under the auspices of the Women's Society of Christian Service of Trinity Methodist church. This famous play is being shown for the first time as an all-talking moving picture. It covers the entire story of Passion Week, and is the first talking picture ever made of the life and crucifixion of Christ. The film is a spectacular and impressive production that will benefit every man, woman and child in the community.

Special sound and projection equipment will be brought here in order that this picture may be perfectly presented.

A number of local merchants have cooperated with the sponsor of this production to place the price of admission within the reach of everyone. This is being done through the medium of special tickets that are available from your local merchant.

QUILTING PARTY  
Mrs. J. Fred Smith entertained a few of her friends at an old-fashioned quilting party at her home Friday evening.

## Comstock Will Be Converted To Freighter

Famous Hopper Dredge Became A Familiar Visitor Here During Many Years Service Around Southport

### IS NOW HEADED FOR DRY-DOCK

Is Manned By A Crew Consisting Chiefly Of Men From Brunswick County; Has Always Had Men From Here

The U. S. E. hopper dredge Comstock, based at Southport for many years and used for maintenance work on the Cape Fear River bar, has passed from the hands of the engineering department and is now being converted into a freighter. Since first placed at work here about 20 years ago the Comstock has been handled mostly by a Southport crew.

Passing down the river from Wilmington Saturday enroute to dry dock to be prepared for new work, the Comstock let lose her siren long and lustily in farewell to Southport and Southport waters. It is understood that she will be used in South American shipping.

Some reports have it that the engineering department may rent another hopper dredge from some other district, when such a ship is needed on the bar here or in the Morehead City harbor. A still other report is that a new vessel with several times the capacity of the Comstock may be purchased and based here.

LATE REGISTRANT  
Ernest Charles Vitou registered this week with the Brunswick County Selective Service board. He was assigned serial number 1901, which called for order number 566A. Vitou was on a ship in the orient at the time of regular registration.

## Boys Report Army Life Is Not Half Bad

A military note was struck in communities throughout the county during the holiday season as enlisted men from the army, navy and marine corps were at home to spend Christmas with relatives.

The boys came home bearing tales of interesting new experiences in camp, and the general feeling which they left is that the life of a soldier isn't a half-bad life after all.

Of particular interest to boys who are considering volunteering for service is the fact that men are given assignments for which they show the best aptitude. This means that a boy with a mechanical mind and talent is not placed where he has no interest at all, etc. Since it is the purpose of the army to make experts in their chosen field of these boys it is obvious that when they have spent a year in intensified vocational training they will come out of the army better fitted than ever before to secure and hold a job.

H. M. Shannon, chairman of the Brunswick County Selective Service Board, says that boys are coming in every day to talk to members of the board about volunteering for service. Any youth between the age of 18 and 21 may volunteer through the Selective Service Board for one year's service, and men over 21 who have registered to become eligible for a later draft may volunteer to go ahead and get his army training ahead of time.

## Winners Are Announced In Lighting Contest

Annual Contest Sponsored By Members Of Southport Woman's Club Results In Outstanding Decorations

### MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER BEFORE

Fergus Home Most Beautifully Decorated, While Living Tree In Yard Of Mr. And Mrs. Butler Wins

In the annual Christmas lighting contest sponsored by the Southport Woman's Club first prize for house decorations went to Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Fergus; first prize for the prettiest Christmas tree went to Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Butler; and first prize for colored residents went to Bud McKoy.

The Fergus decorations was a giant evergreen wreath, outlined with red lights. Runner-up in this division was the church scene on the front porch of the W. L. Styron home which showed the vested choir and a cathedral window.

There was close competition in the living tree division, which was won by the Butlers with all-white lights in their cypress tree in front of their residence. Second place was a deadlock between Mrs. Louella Rourke and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Doshier. This year's lighting was featured by the profusion and beauty of entries in the colored residential section, and the first prize winner was given a close race for the honor by Eliza Wortham. Donors of prizes were Whites Ice Cream Co., Royal Bakery, American Bakery, Lucy Moore, Dorothy Owen, Will Rehder, and J. B. Ruark Co.

The community tree was lighted (continued on page four)

## Better Get Your Duck And Deer

Nimrods who plan to do any duck or deer hunting this season had better get busy about it, for the season closes for both on January 1, 1941—and that's next Wednesday.

From reports coming in from all sections of the county it appears likely that a record number of deer for one season has been posted by hunters this time. On the other hand, there seems to have been very little luck for the duck hunters. This is true despite the longer season for killing migratory fowl. The absence of any severe weather so far is given as a reason.

## Short Session In County Court

Monday Was Comparatively Easy Day For Judge Walter M. Stanaland And Court Colleagues

Three cases were disposed of here in Recorder's court Monday before Judge Walter M. Stanaland.

James Thomas Mills, white, pleaded guilty to charges of drunken driving and was given 6 months on the roads. Judgment was suspended upon payment of costs and a fine of \$50.00. His driver's license was revoked for 3 months.

W. C. Britt, white, was found guilty of interfering with an officer while in the discharge of his (continued on page four)

## Hallsboro Booming Under Defense Program Impetus

HALLSBORO, Dec. 23.—Under the impetus of the nation's gigantic defense program, this little town is booming. Hallsboro's town is booming. Hallsboro's four large lumber mills are working on an extended schedule to fill increasing government orders to such places as Fort Bragg, Norfolk's Navy Yard, and the Holly Ridge anti-aircraft center. This town has long relied upon the lumber industry for the major part of its sustenance, and right now the demand for lumber is greater than any other time since the last war perhaps.

Large numbers of workers are finding employment in the lumber mills and this increase in the purchasing power of the people of this area is being notably reflected in the regular business channels.



"RING OUT THE OLD—  
—RING IN THE NEW"  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO ONE AND ALL

## Aged Winnabow Resident Dies

Walker W. Willetts, Of That Community, Died At His Home Sunday Morning Following Lingering Illness

William Walker Willetts, widely known farmer of the Mill Creek and Winnabow sections, died at his home Sunday morning. He was 86-years-of-age and his death followed a long period of declining health.

Funeral services were held at Mill Creek Baptist church Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock and burial took place in the cemetery there.

Active pallbearers were: Foster Robbins, Harold Willetts, Decie Sellers, Dottridge Willetts, Junior Hilburn and Roger Willetts. Honorary pallbearers were: G. T. Hickman, R. H. Sellers, M. B. Robbins, J. D. Harrelson, D. R. Johnson, I. R. Henry, F. L. Lewis, J. J. Loughlin, Jr., W. K. Cox, R. K. McKethan, A. M. Beck, G. K. Lewis, Albert Reynolds, Willie Mills, E. R. Outlaw, D. B. Stanley, Ned Huffham, Lawrence Mills, W. C. Savage, H. Zibulin, C. W. Knox, D. L. Mercer, J. H. Cannon, C. Ed Taylor, E. H. Cranmer, J. F. Potter, W. L. Swain, W. D. Lewis, W. J. McDowell, A. G. Lewis, G. F. Lewis, T. O. Mills, and C. E. Mobley.

Mr. Willetts was born March 11, 1854. He was married in 1874 to Miss Francis L. Ganey, of Town Creek. By this marriage the following children survive: R. S. Willetts, of Winnabow, Mrs. R. M. Robbins, of Winnabow, Mrs. Mattie Hilburn, of Winnabow, Mrs. G. W. Sellers, of Bolivia, and C. P. Willetts, of Bolivia. On August 19, 1914 he married Miss Nancy Jane Bellamy, of Wampee, S. C., and from this marriage he is survived by his wife, and the following children: Joseph, Elmore and Nellie Walker Willetts, of Winnabow.

HOME FROM SCHOOL  
Addison Jenrette, student at N. C. State College and his sister from Bolling Springs, are spending the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Jenrette.

## Membership In Auxiliary Urged

"Enlist For Patriotic Service" Is Plea Of Officer Of Local Legion Auxiliary

"Enlistment for patriotic service." That is the term used by Mrs. J. Arthur Doshier, national defense chairman of the Southport Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary, to describe enrollment in the Auxiliary for 1941.

"Hundreds of thousands of women throughout the country are now enrolling in the Auxiliary because that is the place where they can enlist for patriotic service," she said.

Pointing to the many fields of activity in which the women of the Auxiliary serve for the country, Mrs. Doshier declared that every woman eligible should be in the organization this year giving her active support to its efforts to make America secure. She stressed the importance of continued activity by women in support of adequate national defense, saying: "The nation is now awake to the necessity for armed defenses strong enough to guarantee our peace and security. Years of effort by the Legion and Auxiliary, and calamitous wars raging both to the east and west of us were necessary to bring that awakening. Now the United States is arming itself with great vigor."

"But suppose the war situation changes so that the threat to our peace is not so apparent to everyone. Will our defense efforts be permitted to slacken? Will we again listen to pacifist propaganda coming from foreign sources and reduce our national defense to a point where we would be easy prey for a surprise aggressor? American women have a responsibility to see that the defenses of their country and homes are strengthened to meet present emergency with all possible speed, and that they are maintained at a high point of efficiency against future dangers."

"Every woman who enrolls in the Auxiliary now strengthens the Auxiliary's voice as it calls for national security in the present and in the future."

## Appropriate Christmas Programs At Churches

This Season For "Hopp'in John"

We are getting near that season of the year when coastal residents of North and South Carolina begin to think of having "Hoppin' John" for dinner.

One New Year's Day, so the story goes, a North Carolina coastal man whose first name was John was visiting a sea captain in South Carolina. Come dinner time and a savory looking dish was set before them. "I don't know what it is," said the host, "but hop in John." John hopped in, and along the coast hog jowl and peas, the traditional New Year Day dinner, has been "Hoppin' John" ever since.

Special Music And Pageants Were Presented On Christmas Night At Several Churches In Southport

### CAROLERS FILL AIR WITH MUSIC

Spirit Of Worship Was Strikingly Noticeable In Observance Of Holiday Season In The City

Observance of Christmas here in Southport was marked by the presentation of pageants and special programs in the churches of the community and by the singing of Christmas carols. At Trinity Methodist church on Christmas night an inspiring pageant, directed by Miss Lois (continued on page four)

## 1940 Population Of U. S. Totaled 131,409,881 People

WASHINGTON—The Census bureau announced tonight that the population of the United States on April 1 was 131,409,881. This was a gain of 7 per cent since 1930—the smallest percentage increase in any decade of American history.

The 48 states and the District of Columbia reported 8,634,835 more residents than they did 10 years ago, but individual states had widely differing stories. By percentages, Florida gained the fastest of the states, 27.9 per cent, while South Dakota lost the most, 7.5 per cent. The District of Columbia, where the number of government workers has doubled outpaced all the states with a 36.2 gain.

In actual numbers, California gained the most, 1,196,437, and Kansas lost the most, 81,862. The 7 per cent national gain was less than half the ratio in any previous decade. Census Director William L. Austin said this was due to a declining birth rate

and a virtual stoppage of immigration during the last 10 years. From 1910 to 1920, the gain was 14.9 per cent, and from 1920 to 1930 it was 16.1 per cent.

Austin said many sociologists had predicted that, eventually, the population would reach some "static" level and stop increasing. While his bureau is unwilling to make an official prediction, he said the peak might be reached in 1970 to 1980. The effect of birth rates on the population total was shown, he added, in the fact that the northern states accounted for only one-third of the national gain, while the southern half of the country—where the birth rate is higher—and the Pacific coast states accounted for two-thirds of the increase.

All the southeastern states had important increase, New England barely gained at all, and industrial states like New York and Pennsylvania gained less than the national average.

## Makes Appeal For Funds For Civic Program

W. B. Keziah, Secretary Of Brunswick County Chamber Of Commerce, Writes Letter To Several Property Owners

### FEELS THAT WORK MUST GO FORWARD

Illustrated Folders Are Now On Hand, But No Funds Are Available For Their Distribution

With an urgent need of funds with which to mail out the large stock of Brunswick county folders, answer inquiries and various expenses entailed upon the performance of efficient work, W. B. Keziah, executive secretary of the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce is this week mailing out a number of letters to the larger property owners in Brunswick county.

The letter speaks for itself and civic minded people, regardless of whether they receive a letter or not, should respond to this need. The letters, as mailed, are as follows:

"We have 15,000 illustrated folders of Brunswick county all ready to be mailed out. They are an excellent work and we are inclosing you a copy. "Most are to go to out-of-state people, folks who have recently made inquiries regarding Brunswick county, and to people whom we think we can interest in Brunswick.

"The object of the folders and the general work is to bring new people to this county, along with capital. We have great areas of idle lands and facilities for manufacturing and industry that are going to waste and which should be developed.

"The benefit from such work is obvious. The only hope that Brunswick can have for a lower tax rate is for the property valuation to undergo an increase through development of existing resources. We must interest and bring in new blood and new taxable wealth.

"We feel that it is a civic duty for all and to the advancement of all property owners, that (Continued on page 4)

## Halifax Made Envoy To U. S.

Lord Halifax Steps Down As Foreign Minister In England To Become Ambassador To U. S.

LONDON—Viscount Halifax, 59-year-old foreign secretary well known as the "Christian Gentleman of British policies" was named early Sunday to succeed the late Marquess of Lothian as British ambassador to Washington.

War Secretary Anthony Eden, who was succeeded as foreign secretary by Lord Halifax when Eden resigned in February, 1938, after a disagreement with the late Neville Chamberlain over appeasement of Germany and Italy, was named to return to the foreign secretaryship.

Captain David Margesson, 50, for nine years the government's chief ship in the House of Commons, was the "surprise" appointment as secretary of state for war to succeed Eden.

## Tide Table

Following is the tide table for Southport during the next week. These hours are approximately correct and were furnished The State Port Pilot through the courtesy of the Cape Fear Pilot's Association.

TIDE TABLE	
Thursday, December 26	
5:21 a. m.	11:40 a. m.
5:43 p. m.	11:53 p. m.
Friday, December 27	
6:12 a. m.	
6:34 p. m.	12:34 p. m.
Saturday, December 28	
7:00 a. m.	0:46 a. m.
7:21 p. m.	1:26 p. m.
Sunday, December 29	
7:45 a. m.	1:38 a. m.
8:07 p. m.	2:15 p. m.
Monday, December 30	
8:30 a. m.	2:26 a. m.
8:52 p. m.	3:00 p. m.
Tuesday, December 31	
9:14 a. m.	3:12 a. m.
9:37 p. m.	3:42 p. m.
Wednesday, January 1	