

Most Of The News
All The Time

THE STATE PORT PILOT

The Pilot Covers
Brunswick County

A Good News paper In A Good Community

12 TWELVE. NO. 4 4-PAGES TODAY Southport, N. C., Wednesday, February 26, 1941 PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY \$1.50 PER YEAR

Charleston Newspaper Urges Development Of Defenses In The Vicinity Of Southport

Illustrated Story Carried Sunday News And Courier Writer Asserts This Is Weak Link In Defense

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Re-Occupation Of Caswell As Means Protecting Inland Waterway And Cape Fear

BY W. B. KEZIAH

Carolina newspapers have been paying little or no attention to the potentialities for defense at the mouth of the Cape Fear River. In fact, we have not seen anything at all in the state papers with respect to the North Carolina's most important commercial waterway; a waterway that ranks well with the great waterways in the nation and which you will about it, the Cape Fear River is the most vulnerable point for invasion of any of the Atlantic seaboard—and it is completely undefended, lacking the defenses which Coast Defense Artillery might be brought to bear to command the narrow channel between Fort Caswell and Head Island.

The North Carolina newspapers have been too busy with something for their own localities to notice and something that the whole state does not appear to care with South Carolina newspapers, especially those of Charleston, S. C., Charleston, S. C., in its own right and in a great naval yard, has been loudly protesting time and again, for some time to be done in the way of defense at Southport.

This week, H. W. C. Furber of Charleston, writing in the News and Courier, asserted that Southport was a very weak link in the national defense. Mr. Furber used pictures to emphasize his claims. He asserted that Fort Caswell, swimming pools and other amusements were to be found on gun placements where 10 and 14 inch guns were to be.

Coming from outside of North Carolina and appearing in a newspaper that is published in a city that has a similar lot on to report, and which should logically be supposed to be desirous of everything that Southport affords food for thought, would awaken interest among Carolina newspapers and people.

As are appearing the story just as it appeared in the News and Courier:

About two miles from Southport, N. C., on a peninsula, lies Caswell. Built before the war, Fort Caswell has well the ravages of time has kept manned until the day of Fort Bragg. Today, however, of defense lines are sold to a private owner and is gradually going to

this day of preparedness national defense every one's turns to the protection of the same. However, no chain is stronger than its weakest link.

North Carolina houses a weak link. This weak link is necessary since it can be converted into one of the strongest units of our defense system. Our weak link is the inland waterway near Wilmington, which is protected by the now abandoned Fort Caswell.

Wilmington is one of the chief of our Atlantic seaboard and is connected by rail and highway to the interior of our state. The inland waterway is a little torpedo boat and is the fighting units of the most potent of foreign countries.

In addition to the grasping of the inland waterway system and invasion is the most potent of the defense system of Southport and Wilmington.

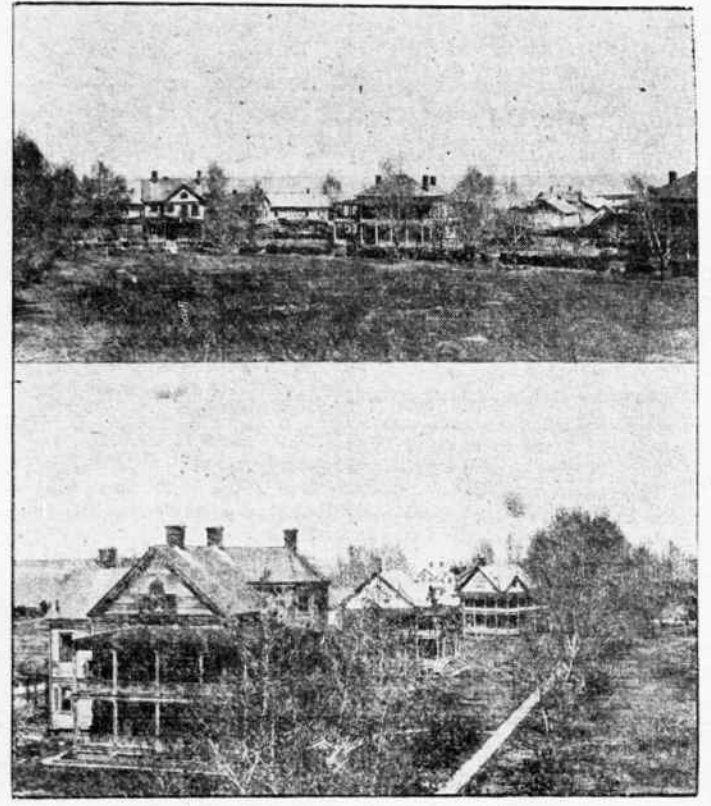
In North Africa, the Italians, they moved and destroyed up beauty and blasted it with guns. Bardia fell and the British went to capture it.

The Little Electric company was the low bidder on the work, which is to be started in the next few days.

E. D. Bishop is superintendent of the Brunswick corporation and B. O. Vannort, of Charlotte, is the engineer on the project.

(Continued on page four)

COULD HOUSE FORCES



EMPTY—Above are shown houses at Fort Caswell, in splendid state of repair, which, says Charleston News and Courier, should be housing armed forces of nation.

Bill Would Limit Bird Hunting To 3-Day Week

According To Provisions Of Measure Introduced Last Week By Ruark And Others, Hunting Would Be Limited Next Year

OTHER MEASURES ARE INTRODUCED

Opinion Regarding Hunting Bill Appears To Be Against Change Unless Columbus County Changes

There has been considerable agitation among the quail hunters of this community during the past two days following receipt of information from Raleigh that Representative J. W. Ruark is co-author of a bill that would limit bird hunting to three days per week during next hunting season.

Consensus of opinion among local sportsmen is that the bill law ought to be left as it is. However, since Columbus county is also named in the list of counties in which hunting would be limited next year to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, they believe that opposition to the bill should be contingent upon like opposition on the part of hunters from the neighboring county.

Following is the text of this and two other bills of local interest:

HB 384. (Public—Bladen, Robeson, Brunswick, Columbus Counties)

"Relating to the Closed Season for Hunting Quail in Bladen, Robeson, Brunswick and Columbus Counties". (Would make it misdemeanor to hunt quail with gun or dog in counties named, except on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays during open season.) Introduced by Bridger, Sikes, Johnson & Pitman of Robeson, and Ruark, February 19.

(Continued on page 4)

Award Contract For REA Line

Little Electric Company, Of Union, S. C., Is Successful Bidder For Extension To REA Project

A contract to construct 120.9 miles of electric line at a cost of \$588,576.26 has been awarded to the Little Electric company, of Union, S. C., by the Brunswick Electric Membership corporation, with headquarters at Shallotte. It was announced last week by the Rural Electrification administration.

The Little Electric company was the low bidder on the work, which is to be started in the next few days.

E. D. Bishop is superintendent of the Brunswick corporation and B. O. Vannort, of Charlotte, is the engineer on the project.

(Continued on page four)

Woman's Society Methodist Church To Meet March 6

Mrs. George Cannon, Of Bolivia, Is President And Will Preside Over Zone Meeting In Wilmington

MISSIONARY TO BE SPEAKER

Interesting Program Including Representatives From Brunswick County Has Been Arranged

The New Hanover Zone of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church will meet at Wesley Memorial Church Winter Park, Wilmington, on March 6th from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m.

New Hanover Zone comprises all societies in Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover counties.

Miss Ida Hankins, missionary to Korea will be the guest speaker. The following program will be given.

Call to order, president, Mrs. George Cannon, Bolivia; Devotional, Rev. W. A. Tew, Wesley Memorial Church; Solo, "Spirit of God", Mrs. Mildred Farrar Murdock; "Efficiency Aims 1941", Mrs. Wirt Casey, Rocky Point Auxiliary; "Christian Social Relations and Local Church Activities", Mrs. W. C. Davis, Trinity; "The Wesleyan Service Guild", Mrs. J. E. McCarty, Grace Church; "Secretary of Student Work", Mrs. Blake Applewhite, Fifth Avenue Auxiliary; "Our Periodicals", Mrs. E. M. Thompson, Burgaw; "Our District Work", Mrs. Floyd Johnson, Whiteville; District secretary talk, Miss Ida Hankins. Korea Round table discussion and question hour; lunch; adjournment.

County Council P. T. A. Meets

Executive Committee Decides To Combine Council - Sponsored Debates This Year With State Tri-angule

The Brunswick County Council of Parent-Teacher association met Thursday evening, Feb. 13, at the Bolivia High school.

Prior to the regular meeting, an executive session was held, at which time the officers of the council decided to combine the county debating contest this year with the state debates instead of having a separate contest. A loving cup will be given to the school whose team wins in the triangle.

Mrs. L. H. Reynolds, the council president, announced that Mrs. Howell, field representative, would be present at the next council meeting in April.

After the regular business meeting, members of Southport P. T. A. rendered special music with Mrs. Corlette and daughter as soloists.

The most important feature of the meeting was the Recitation-Declaration contest which is sponsored annually by the county council. There was one boy and one girl from each school in the county in this contest, all of whom gave an excellent interpretation of his declamation or recitation. The three judges gave first place for the boys to Billy Robbins of the Bolivia school and for the girls to Helen Eagles of the Southport school.

Mrs. Reynolds presented to these students a medal from the county council of the P. T. A. She congratulated both of them on winning in this contest which she said was the best the council had ever sponsored.

While the audience waited for the judges to render their decision, another interesting and entertaining feature of the evening (Continued on page 4)

Robbins Funeral Sunday Morning

Final Rites For Victim Of Automobile Accident Were Held At Mill Creek Baptist Church Sunday Morning

Funeral services for R. M. Robbins, of Winnabow, who was fatally injured last Monday morning when he was struck by a car driven by Capt. M. M. Piggott, of Southport, were held from the Mill Creek Baptist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Rev. A. L. Brown, of Southport, and Rev. B. R. Page, of Bolivia, conducted the services. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

Active pallbearers were R. H. Sellers, G. W. Whately, Bob Josey, George Walton, Joe Walton and B. Ellis. Honorary pallbearers were: I. D. Harrelson, Herbert Potter, D. R. Johnson, J. L. Henry, C. Ed. Taylor, F. L. Lewis, Everett Lewis, John Jernette, G. T. Hickman, Levie Swain, Rev. M. L. Mintz, Rube White, M. E. Cox, S. A. Potter, C. W. Knox, O. A. Lewis, W. D. Lewis, Tom Lewis and I. S. Willetts.

Mr. Robbins was born in the Mill Creek section on Dec. 31, 1881, the son of Susie and Benjamin Robbins. He was a life long resident of the Mill Creek section and a member of the Mill Creek Baptist church. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Carrie Ann Willetts Robbins; three children (Continued on page 4)

Numerous Cases Before Recorder

Cases Covering Wide Variety Of Offenses Disposed Of Here Monday Before Judge Stanaland

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

The case against Iron Cox for being drunk on the highway was remanded to a justice of peace.

Judge Stanaland passed judgment upon Dayton McLamb in a deferred judgment. He was found guilty of drunk driving and was given 4 months on the roads. Judgment was suspended upon payment of costs and a fine of \$50.00, his driver's license being revoked for 6 months.

Clay Smith, white, was found guilty of manufacturing, possession of apparatus for manufacturing, possession for sale and was given 12 months, execution of judgment to begin March 10. Notice of appeal was given and bond was set at \$300.00.

Arny Jacobs, white, was up for drunk driving and operating after his driver's license had been revoked. Given 6 months on the roads, judgment was suspended upon payment of a fine of \$100.00, cost of the case and suspension of right to drive for 12 months.

John Strickland, white, pleaded guilty to charges of reckless operation. The plea was not accepted and the defendant was found not guilty.

Ella Bowen, colored, was found guilty on charges of possession for sale, but judgment was withheld until March 3.

Harold Williams, white, was sentenced in a case in which he (Continued on page four)

THE LEGISLATURE

A Brief Review Of What Is Going On In Raleigh At The Present Time.

REFERENDUM

The biggest news of the eighth legislative week was the introduction of the long-expected liquor referendum bill and the passage of the revenue act. The liquor bill calling for a statewide vote next November 4 on the question of prohibition, was introduced in the House by Representative McGowan of Pender County on Friday, together with a bill to restrict the importation of liquor and wine into the State. The revenue measure, embodying a group of amendments to the continuing 1939 act, was given final passage Thursday when the House concurred in a batch of minor Senate Amendments. The biennial budget appropriations measure is expected to emerge from the Committee this week. The thirty-odd other bills passed during the week, most of them local in nature, included acts creating a Motor Vehicles Department and a State Marketing Authority.

PUBLIC MEASURES

Of the 170 bills introduced during the week, the preponderance of public measures, once more, related to roads, commerce, education and agriculture, plus a goodly sprinkling of municipal and county legislation.

BRUNSWICK BOY IN CAMP



LIMELIGHT—Hardly had Elmer Mooney, of Supply, second from left above, reached Fort Bragg before he was snapped talking to Representative O. M. Mull, speaker of the House of Representatives, while the solons were on a visit to Bragg last week. Young Mooney left for camp Tuesday.

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Bolivia Boys Set For Win Unless Upset Comes

Fishermen Begin Catching Shad

Captain Jim Arnold said this week that shad and whiting are finally bringing in some revenue to fishermen, who have been suffering from the poorest season in years during the past few months.

Shad fishing is being carried on this year in the river, Captain Jim said, figuring that last year's tragedy which cost the life of two local shad fishermen might be the cause. Stake nets and drift nets are being used and the nightly catch is averaging about 10 fish to the boat, he said.

Recently whiting fishermen have been doing well with their trawl nets outside, he said, with catches running to seven and eight hundred pounds per day.

Piggott Freed Of Wreck Blame

Captain M. M. Piggott Absolved Of All Blame In Accident Which Caused Death Of R. M. Robbins

A Brunswick county coroner's jury in session here last night ruled that R. M. Robbins, Winnabow man who died last Monday in Doshier Memorial Hospital as a result of injuries sustained when struck by an automobile driven by Captain M. M. Piggott of Southport, came to his death as the result of an "unavoidable accident".

Captain Piggott was exonerated of blame in connection with the fatal collision.

The hearing was presided over by Coroner John G. Calson, with the following citizens serving as members of the jury: Price Furber, C. L. Sellers, Joel L. Moore, J. A. Arnold and W. S. Davis.

Young Artist Visitor Here

Claud Howell, Of Wilmington, Spent Week End In Southport Painting And Sketching

Claud Howell, young Wilmington artist and great admirer of Brunswick county and Southport, spent Saturday here sketching. He is planning to bring a number of his fellow artists to this section during the spring and summer. He stated Saturday that he would really like to move here, live here and go more into the work of painting. He is in the offices of the Atlantic Coast Line and for the past several years he has been devoting every spare moment from that work to painting.

Friday night of this week the Wilmington Museum of Art will put on an oneman exhibit of paintings, to remain on display for a month. All of the pictures to be displayed are products of Howell's brush. To Brunswick county people a still more interesting feature is that nearly two-thirds of the paintings will be of Brunswick county scenes.

Many of Howell's paintings have been on display at various times in nationally known museums in the north and east. Some (continued on page four)

Coast Guard To Change District After March 1st

Plans Announced For Changing Boundary Of Coast Guard District To Conform With Navy District

LOCAL COAST GUARD AFFECTED

News Of New Set-Up Is Announced By The Coast Guard Commander In Washington Last Week-End

Plans for a new coast guard district with control over the Southport area and conforming to the sixth naval district, with headquarters at Charleston, to be established March 1st, have been announced in Washington. The headquarters will be at Charleston.

Commander Stephens S. Yeandle, now in command of the Coast Guard cutter Hamilton, which is returning from weather patrol, will be in charge of the new district it is reported. Lieutenant Commander R. V. Marron was transferred to Charleston two weeks ago from the cutter Tallapoosa at Savannah. He is actively engaged in making plans for the new district, and on arrival of Commander Yeandle he will probably be made chief of staff, it is learned.

Under the present arrangements which are to be changed, Southport has always been the tail-end of the Norfolk Coast Guard district. In other words, it has been about the furthestest from the point of control of any area in the district. Under the new arrangements Southport will be much nearer the headquarters.

The new district at Charleston will have in its jurisdiction ten coast guard vessels, the Modoc, Tallapoosa, McLane, Narcissus, Pamlico, Coast Guard Cutter 282, Cypress, Mangrove, Palmetto and the Agassiz. Lightship No. 15, on Frying Pan Shoals; No. 94 off Savannah and 109, which is now on relief duty.

The district will take in the Charleston base, the Charleston coast guard air base in the navy yard, the Ocracoke, Beaufort, N. C., and Southport and intermediate stations, as well as the St. Simmons and those on the Georgia coast. The Atlantic recruiting office will also be in the new district.

In the case of national emergency or mobilization the new district will be under the command of Rear Admiral William H. Allen, commander of the Charleston Navy Yard, and of the sixth and seventh naval districts.

Funeral Held For Mrs. Messick

Final Rites Conducted Saturday From St. Phillips Church By Rev. J. Leon Malone

Mrs. Mamie Messick, widow of the late Gilbert K. Messick, of Southport, died Thursday in a Raleigh hospital following an attack of pneumonia.

The deceased was a life-long resident of Southport and is survived by her mother, Mrs. Annie Parker.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock from St. Phillips Episcopal Church. (Continued on page 4)

Local Lad Loses Charlotte Bout

Johnnie Simmons Ran Into Trouble When He Tangled Thursday Afternoon With More Experienced Fighter

Blond Johnnie Simmons, welter-weight champ in the novice division of the Star-News golden gloves tournament, suffered a second round knock-out in the Carolina Golden Gloves go in Charlotte Thursday afternoon at the hands of veteran Jake Bowman.

According to first hand reports of the battle Johnnie was doing better than all right for himself until he caught the hay-maker on his chin. In fact, so the story goes, he was building himself up a nice lead on points and apparently was headed for a first-round victory in the fast Carolinas league.

Now Johnnie's back home and confining his sports activities to the less strenuous work of playing a guard position on the local basketball team.

W. M. Stanaland Is Jackson Day Head

W. M. Stanaland, chairman of the Brunswick county Democratic executive committee, has been named Jackson Day Dinner chairman for Brunswick county by Senator Joe L. Blythe, state chairman.

Plans for a campaign in Brunswick have not been perfected, but Judge Stanaland is expecting to be actively engaged in this cause.

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.

High Tide Low Tide

THURSDAY, February 27

8:26 a. m. 2:30 a. m.
8:41 p. m. 2:47 p. m.

FRIDAY, February 28

9:02 a. m. 3:09 a. m.
9:17 p. m. 3:22 p. m.

SAUNDAY, March 1

9:39 a. m. 3:44 a. m.
9:54 p. m. 3:55 p. m.

SUNDAY, March 2

10:16 a. m. 4:19 a. m.
10:31 p. m. 4:27 p. m.

MONDAY, March 3

10:56 a. m. 4:53 a. m.
11:12 p. m. 4:58 p. m.

TUESDAY, March 4

11:40 a. m. 5:31 a. m.
11:56 p. m. 5:34 p. m.

WEDNESDAY, March 5

12:27 p. m. 6:23 a. m.
6:36 p. m.