

Ft. Caswell Is Purchased By U. S. Navy as Site of Section Base Allotted For Southport

Official Announcement From Washington, D. C., Yesterday Puts End To Speculation Regarding Site

PURCHASE PRICE IS NOT REVEALED

Does Not Include Entire 2600-Acre Tract, But Only 300-Acre Improved Area In Seawall

The Navy Department completed Tuesday negotiations of several months duration for the purchase of historic Ft. Caswell from the Caswell-Carolina Corporation.

It is understood that the purchase embraces about 300-acres of the 2635-acre tract, including the buildings inside the seawall and most of the other physical improvements on the property.

Word was received here yesterday that a definite decision had been made by the navy department to use the Caswell property instead of erecting a section base at a site on the shore above Southport. However, the communication stated that this action was not yet official and no news was released until the official announcement from Washington.

While the primary purpose of the government in acquiring Ft. Caswell is to use the buildings and facilities for a section base for small craft, it is believed that the decision to use that property is an indication that other developments in the matter of coast defense may follow. It is known that the site has been under consideration for certain phases of personnel training, these developments being contingent upon the location of the section base at Caswell.

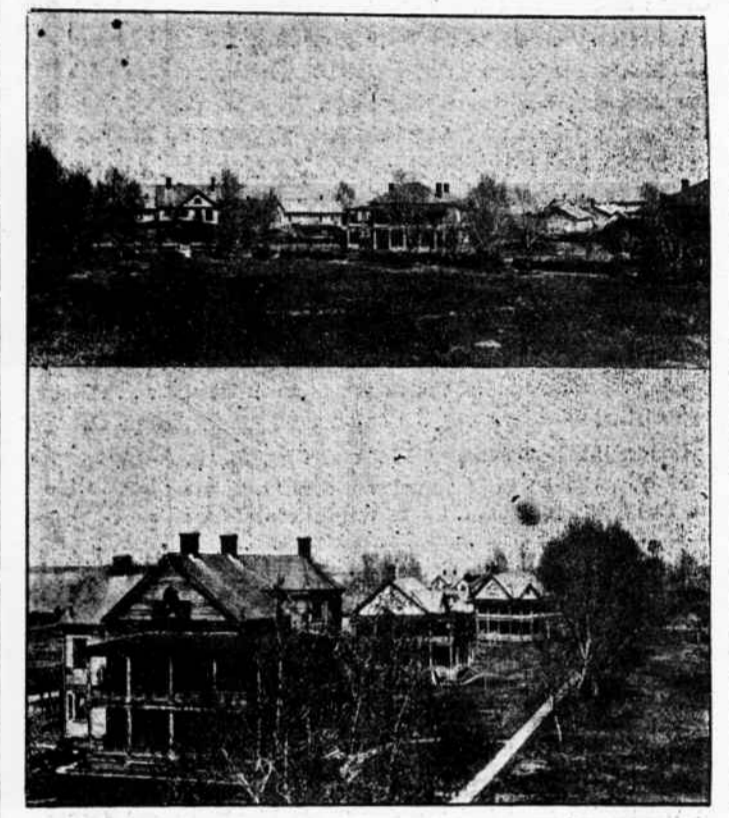
An announcement was made yesterday just when the navy will move into its newly acquired location. Fort Caswell has 45 buildings on its improved area, water supply with approved source of supply, electric power plant, sewer facilities, phone cable connections and a steel pier in good condition.

Burning Permits Required Now

Law, Text For Which is Hereby Quoted, Became Effective On First Day Of October

Colonel Thanks Southport People

NAVY PROPERTY



PURCHASED—Official announcement was made in Washington yesterday of the sale of Ft. Caswell by the Caswell-Carolina Corporation to the U. S. Navy. The purpose of the navy in obtaining this property is for the location of a section base there.

Brunswick Is Still In Running For Air Base

Advices Received Here On Tuesday Night From Senator Reynolds Indicates Brunswick Site Being Considered

STRONG FIGHT ON FOR BASE

Pender County Interests Working Hard To Secure Air Base That Will Involve Large Expenditure

Although Pender county has revived its efforts to secure the army airport for bombers, the prospects that Brunswick county may land the project seem to be much brighter.

Last night Senator R. R. Reynolds wired W. B. Keziah of the Chamber of Commerce the following with regard to the efforts: "With further reference to my wire of recent date, I have just personally contacted War Department regarding Airport for Brunswick County. Have been advised that survey has been conducted and site is under consideration, but no definite decision has been made."

The local organization has been working along with other business interests and individuals to secure this defense project for Brunswick. It is understood that some six million dollars will be involved in the construction and that approximately eight thousand men and many planes will be based at the field.

What Kind Of October Is This, We Just Ask You?

Whew! If we can get time out from wiping off the perspiration we'd like to inquire what kind of October weather is this we are having? The temperature for the past three days in Southport has showed up past the 90 degree mark—yesterday it was 91. This is something unprecedented for October in Brunswick, and nobody around here can remember the mercury ever going past 90 in October.

Bus Drivers Hear State Official Talk On Safety

C. C. Brown, Equipment Engineer For State School Commission, Attended Dinner Given Friday For Drivers

YOUNGSTERS TOLD OF RESPONSIBILITY

Open Forum Session Held To Give Principals And Drivers Opportunity to Ask Questions Wanted

School bus drivers of Brunswick county were honored Friday night at a dinner given in their honor at Shallotte high school. C. C. Brown, equipment engineer for the department of education was principal speaker and others in attendance included the school principals, members of the county board of education, the county superintendent of schools and the county mechanic.

In a brief and informal talk directed to the young bus drivers Mr. Brown sought to impress them with their tremendous responsibility. He told them that North Carolina transports more school children more miles each year than any other state in the union. There are 4,900 school buses in operation, he said, carrying 355,000 children to school, and 85-percent of these vehicles are being driven by student drivers.

"You are a hand-picked group," he told the young boy and girl drivers. Your school principals, your neighbors and others have said by their act of naming you as a bus driver that you are the best person in your community for this job. Your very presence here tonight is a result of their fine vote of confidence in you.

"You will never have a more responsible job in your life than the one you now hold, regardless of whether you become leader's in your church your school or in your government. The safety of the boys and girls who ride with you to and from school each day should be your first and last consideration. Your job requires constant vigilance.

"I want to call your attention to the fact that while North Carolina is transporting more children more miles to school with greater safety than is shown by the record of any other state, you are operating your buses on highways of a state that has one of the worst fatality records in the United States. I warn you, therefore, that you must not only look out for yourself, but must be constantly on the alert for the mistakes of the other fellow."

During the open forum session which followed Mr. Brown succeeded in clearing up numerous problems that have been perplexing the principals and the drivers.

Laws Governing Returning Men

Selectees Who Have Completed Twelve Months Training Automatically In Enlisted Reserve Corps

The War Department has authorized the discharge of certain men in the armed forces and the relief of others from active federal service, General J. Van B. Metts, State Director of Selective Service, pointed out today. "These men are now returning to their homes," Director Metts said, "and in their interest I wish to clarify their position under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940."

Men inducted through Selective Service, who have served their 12 months and are released from active service, are transferred by the Army to the Enlisted Reserve Corps. Yet, the Director pointed out, a man discharged for some specific reason prior to completion of his twelve months' service, being separated from any military organization, is subject to reclassification under the Selective Training and Service Act.

POINTS OF INTEREST



LANDMARKS—Two places of interest for every new visitor to Southport are shown above. The top photo is a view of old St. Phillips Church which was erected in 1725. The lower picture shows the Indian trail tree in the side yard of the Cranmer home. This tree is a constant source of interest to naturalists.

Visiting Troops Stage Thrilling Searchlight Show

Five silvery fingers raked the sky over Southport Tuesday night for an enemy plane which wasn't there, and Southport citizens looked on in amazement at a glorious display of Uncle Sam's elaborate preparations for keeping enemy bombers from these shores.

The Second Battalion of the 94th Coast Artillery was in town and five giant searchlights and an anti-aircraft gun were set up on the garrison grounds where four-score years ago cannon were mounted to defend Ft. Johnston. But never in all the war-torn history of this section was there a more colorful display from fighting equipment.

The beams reared upward for what appeared to be a distance of several hundred feet, and there was frank skepticism when the men in charge said that the lights' rays were traveling as much as six miles. Near the close of the two-hour practice period, however, doubts were dispelled when the five lights converged on old Bald Head tower on Smith Island and showed it standing there as plain as day. It was the first time in many a year that local citizens had seen anything of the old lighthouse at night, and was the only time in history when the tower was plainly visible from Southport after nightfall.

The searchlight session over, the men soon were at play. A dance in their honor was being held at the Army-Navy Club building, and during the evening practically every one of the more than 400 men dropped by, most of them to linger. Music for the dance was furnished by the 94th orchestra. Arrangements had been made for Mrs. J. W. Ruark to serve as chief hostess for the occasion, her assistants being Mrs. H. W. Hood, Mrs. H. C. Corlette, Mrs. J. D. Sutton and Mrs. J. G. Christian. Mrs. C. W. Easley spent most of yesterday afternoon preparing punch for about five hundred—it turned out not to be enough—and Mrs. G. E. Hubbard and Mrs. A. T. McKeithan served. If anybody's name has been omitted, it's a shame, for the cooperative effort on the part of the ladies conspired to make this a most enjoyable occasion, and officers in charge of the men were highly appreciative of the local effort.

Brunswick County Man Is Hit-And-Run Victim

Murray B. Robbins, Filling Station Proprietor, Hit And Fatally Injured By Automobile

DIED FEW HOURS LATER IN HOSPITAL

Coroner John G. Caison Empannels Jury But Says There Are No Clues To Driver

Murray B. Robbins, 54-year-old resident of the Winnabow community, was struck by a hit-and-run driver early Sunday evening as he was crossing the highway from his Bell Swamp filling station to his residence on the opposite side of the road.

Robbins' body was discovered about 250 feet down the highway toward Bolivia, where it had either been dragged by the car which hit him or where he had been flung by the force of impact. He was rushed to James Walker Memorial Hospital in Wilmington where he died shortly after midnight.

The following jury was empaneled by Coroner John G. Caison: W. E. Bell, Joel L. Moore, Price Furless, A. E. Furr, R. L. Thompson and J. Berg. Coroner Caison said that only minor clues were available for officers to work on, and that nobody has been arrested in connection with the case.

Convict Probably Will Get Little Rest Between Terms

Walter Stevens, Columbus county negro serving an 8-months sentence on the roads at State Prison Camp near Shallotte, may have only a very short vacation when his term is up about the first of January. Monday a warrant was issued requesting the presence of Stevens before Judge Walter M. Stantalnd of the Recorders court in Southport on January 5th, 1942. The warrant charged him with breaking into the store of G. T. Ruark at Shallotte last Tuesday night and stealing therefrom a quantity of cigarettes.

NYA Project Brings Training To Young Girls

Eighteen Young Brunswick County Girls Being Given Opportunity To Earn While They Learn

MISS DOZIER IS THE SUPERVISOR

Typing, Shortland, Bookkeeping And English Are Subjects Being Taught In This Class

Eighteen girls representing a number of communities of Brunswick county are now enrolled in a NYA training class for which Miss Margaret Dozier is supervisor.

Recently when the work, which is a \$6,010.80 project, was stopped county officials raised such a fuss that NYA officials re-opened the program which is destined to give practical vocational training to a score of young Brunswick county lassies.

The girls are required to put in a minimum of 80 hours each month in clerical work, which is a part of their training in type-writing, shorthand and bookkeeping. Their practical experience is being gained in several county and municipal offices where they are supplying clerical assistance that would not otherwise be available for these offices.

In order that NYA student service may be uninterrupted for these offices, the month is divided into two work periods, with one set of girls working from the 18th to the 4th, and another group coming on the 4th and leaving on the 17th.

Miss Dozier, the supervisor, says that there is room for at least three more students in the course and is anxious to interview prospects this week. The pay is \$19.00 per month for the 80-hours work.

The following girls are working in the following offices: County auditor: Marjorie Potter—Irene Clemmons; Register of Deeds: Madeline Robinson and Mavis Watkins—Letha Arnold and Katharine Willetts; Clerk of Court: Evelyn Autrey—Arnett Stantalnd; County Superintendent of Schools: Thelma Sellers—Elizabeth Henry; Welfare: Doris Lewis—Ethel Willetts; Board of Health: Eula May Smith—Lettie Sellers; Home Demonstration: Othella Outlaw and Marjorie Jones—Evelyn Loughlin; City Hall: Margaret Bartells.

Former Resident Passes Suddenly

T. H. Lindsey Died Suddenly Friday Morning In Wilmington Hotel; Former Senator From Brunswick

Thomas H. Lindsey, former State Senator from Brunswick County and a resident of Durham for a number of years, died in his room at a Wilmington hotel Friday of a heart attack.

Mr. Lindsey, who represented the old Tenth District in the General Assembly of 1931, was a son of Mrs. John M. Lindsey of Durham and the late Mr. Lindsey. He lived in Southport for 18 years and was prominent there in church and civic affairs.

Negro Is Fast, So Is Justice

Colored Employee Of Visiting Circus Captured Sunday Night After Running Out Of Laced-Up Shoe; Sentenced Monday

Wallace Miller, colored employee of the Shelby Circus, must have established some kind of record for being fleet of foot Sunday night when he ran right out of his laced-up shoe while fleeing from the Tom Hickman home into which he had been caught peeping a moment before.

He was caught and turned over (continued on page four)

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.

Table with columns for High Tide and Low Tide, listing times for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday.