

Fair Bluff Men May Face Trial By March 17th

Arrest Of Former Klansmen Brings Feeling Of Relief To Many People Throughout County

WORK ON 11 OTHER CASES TO CONTINUE

Bond Furnished For All Of The Accused Men Following Arraignment Saturday In Fayetteville

U. S. District Attorney Charles P. Green will not ask the death penalty for the 10 former Klansmen in the Fair Bluff area who were arrested Saturday on charges of violating civil rights and kidnapping.

Although news commentators carried the announcement that he would ask the maximum it was reported last night by the Associated Press that Green would not place the men on trial for their lives.

Since kidnapping, followed by violence, is a capital offense under the Lindbergh law, it would have been possible to impose a death sentence in the event of conviction.

Green said he hopes to bring them to trial, probably at Fayetteville, on March 17.

The 10 men under indictment in the abduction and flogging of Dorothy Dillard Martin, 27, and Ben Grainger, 40, both of Fair Bluff on the night of October 6, 1951 are Early L. Brooks, 44; Brooks' son, Bobby Brooks, 18; Horace Strickland 38; Ross Enzor 43; L. C. Worley, 25; Bob Hayes, 38; Pittman Foy Strickland, 29; George Miller, 19; Sherwood Miller, 26; and Steve Edmond, 26.

The FBI agents picked up the alleged floggers in early morning raids Saturday and whisked them away to Fayetteville for arraignment.

Sheriff H. Hugh Nance and Sergeant J. R. Pridden of the State Highway Patrol accompanied FBI agents to Fair Bluff for the arrest of Brooks, the former police chief and reputed leader of the Fair Bluff KKK Klans, which Grand Dragon Thos. L. Hamilton disbanded for "un-Klanish" activities.

Special Agent in Charge William A. Murphy of the Charlotte Division of the FBI promised protection for flogging victims and said investigations would continue. Meanwhile, Sheriff Nance said the work of his staff would not be completed until "every case that can possibly be solved is solved."

Emotion-torn Columbus County spent a week end in a feeling of shock, deep hurt and rejoicing.

There were rumors that scores of other Klansmen were "shaking in their boots" as they came face to face with the reality that the forces of law and order were in action and might call on them without warning.

Apparently the present situation can be summed up in these words: A few weeks ago no one (Continued On Page 2)

Brief News Flashes

LIONS TO MEET

The regular meeting of the Southport Lions Club will be held at the Masonic Building tomorrow (Thursday) at 1 o'clock.

OYSTER SUPPER

The Youth Fellowship of Sharon Methodist Church is sponsoring an oyster supper at Boones Landing Saturday. Oysters will be served from 3 p. m. to 9 p. m. The public is invited.

PURCHASE BUILDING

The old Miller Hotel building, built many years ago by L. Miller, now of New York State, was sold the past week to Monroe Butler of Lumberton. It is understood that the building will be used for a restaurant, to open some time in June.

SERMON SERIES

The Rev. T. D. Toler, pastor of Southport Baptist Church, has commenced a series of Sunday evening services on marriage and the home. These sermons will continue through the month of March, the first, "When your Heart Takes a Jump," being scheduled for Sunday evening.

Superior Court To Clean Civil Docket

Judge Chester Morris Serves Notice That Civil Cases Pending And Not Ready For Trial To Be Non-Suited

Civil Court cases pending and not ready for trial when Superior Court convenes in April will be promptly non-suited, according to a ruling made by Judge Chester Morris who presided at the two-hour-long session of court last week. Judge Morris will be back for the April term.

In some cases civil actions have been pending for as many as 15 years. They are docketed for each court and just as regularly continued. The ruling of Judge Morris will either see the long-carried cases tried or result in their being non-suited, never to come up again.

If a case, Clerk of Court Sam Bennett says, has been on the docket for only three years and is non-suited in April the litigants can renew it. The cases pending more than three years will have no such luck. They will be tried or non-suited, thereby disposed of for once and all.

For years each term of Civil Court has convened with large dockets awaiting. Except in vig-

orously contested cases everything has to be continued owing to lawyers, litigants or somebody else not being ready for trial. This goes on for years until a litigant often forgets what he is suing his neighbor for.

Great numbers of cases pending in Civil Court are not often docketed for trial at an approaching term, officials knowing full well that they will not be called. Even with careful selection of the pending cases in order to form a docket for trial at an approaching term it often happens that few of these cases are ready when court convenes.

At last week's term, after a large docket had been prepared, court convened and found only a single divorce case ready and waiting. This was disposed of within a few minutes, but at a cost of three or four hundred dollars. Tax payers see nothing funny in paying for a whole term of civil court, just for the disposition of an uncontested divorce case.

Tournament Games In Waccamaw Gym

Southport and Shallotte Teams Meet Tonight In Double-Header To Determine Who Stays In Tournament

DOUBLE-HEADERS SET FOR THURSDAY

Championship Game For Boys On Friday Night With Girls Finals Coming Up Saturday

Shallotte and Southport teams meet tonight in a double header, to fight it out for a place in the semi-finals at the annual Brunswick county basketball tournament which is being held at Waccamaw gymnasium. In the boys' division the winner of the Shallotte-Southport fracas must face top-seeded Bolivia tomorrow (Thursday) night at 8 o'clock. In a preliminary game on the evening session of the semi-finals, the top-seeded Leland girls play the winners of the Southport-Shallotte girls game.

Tomorrow afternoon the first session of the semi-finals will see the Bolivia girls meeting the Waccamaw home team at 3:00 o'clock followed by the Leland-Waccamaw boys game at 4:00 o'clock.

The championship game for the boys will be played on Friday night following the girls consolation contest. The championship game for the girls will be played on Saturday night, with the boys consolation providing the other half of the double-bill.

Features of the Friday and Saturday evening sessions will be the annual free throw contest, being held for the fifth consecutive year under the sponsorship of Stanley's Jewelers of Wilmington and The State Port Pilot. (Continued on page five)

Waccamaw Bank Big Institution

Notification Received That This Bank Rates Among Top Six Percent In Point Of Size In United States

According to a telegram to Dr. R. C. Sadler, president of the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company from the American Banker, daily publication of the American Bankers Association, the Waccamaw Bank now stands in 854th place in size among the 14,754 banks in the United States. The American Banker congratulated the local institution on its "spectacular advance" from 941st to 854th place during the year.

Prince O'Brien and J. E. Cook, Southport and Shallotte cashiers of the offices of the bank pointed out that the Waccamaw bank now stands among the top 6 per cent of banks in the country in size. The bank showed total resources of more than \$23,000,000.00 on December 31, 1951, an increase of more than \$3,500,000.00 during the preceding year.

March of Dimes Collection Near Quota In County

Chairman Edward H. Redwine Announces Collections Totalling \$1,961.33 With More Money Expected To Come In

SHALLOTTE LEADS OTHER SECTIONS

Reports Have Come In From All Sections Of County Indicating General Participation In Drive

Edward H. Redwine, chairman of the March of Dimes for Brunswick county this year, reports collections totaling \$1,961.33 with scattered funds still to come in. The county quota for this year was set at \$2,000.

Leading all other communities in the matter of contributions to this cause is Shallotte with a total of \$778.11. Mrs. M. H. Rourke was chairman for that section.

The leading school effort for the county was turned in at Leland, where collections totaled \$266.84. Principal Holland Manning was in charge of this effort.

Another noteworthy effort was that of Principal A. C. Caviness of the Brunswick County Training School, who reported total collections of \$228 from the colored schools of the county and from colored citizens.

Chairman Redwine says that he desires to express his sincere appreciation to all who have helped with this drive. "The fight against polio is one that all of our people can understand, and is a program with which all of us are in full sympathy. With the splendid support we have received from National Foundation during the past few years I am mighty proud that we have been able to come so close to our quota this year. I sincerely believe that supplementary (Continued on page five)

Bird Club Plans Visit To Area

The North Carolina Bird Club is scheduled to hold its spring meeting at Southport on April 18-19. Owing to the lack of lodging facilities at Southport arrangements have been made for the party being accommodated at the Caswell Baptist Assembly grounds.

Reports received here indicate an attendance of about 100 members. Most of these will be adult men and women. The planned activities include a visit to Bald Head Island, where the party is expected to spend several hours. Points up the river will also be visited.

Reports from Durham and Greensboro point to the attendance of quite a number of outstanding men and women. It is expected that the program will be ready in a short time for distribution to the club members throughout the State and to guests of the club who will attend.

Principals, coaches and vocational agriculture teachers met with members of the Brunswick county school board association Wednesday evening at Bolivia to discuss plans for beautification of school grounds.

An agreement was reached to inaugurate a program of planting and cultivation which will bring about a marked difference in the appearance of the school buildings throughout the county. The proposed plan is to get some quick growing plants out in order to make a showing as soon as possible and to fix hotbeds for rooting plants of more unusual varieties.

O. D. Hiatt, horticulturist at Orton Plantation, and Joe Ramseur, manager of Pleasant Oaks Plantation, were present and discussed some of their experiences in matters of this kind.

Other items of business included a discussion of final plans for the Brunswick County Basketball (Continued on page four)

Numerous Cases Tried In Court

Total Of Thirty Cases Disposed Of Here In Brunswick County Recorder's Court Monday

Out of the large number of cases that came up in Recorder's Court here Monday an even 30 of them were disposed of by Judge W. J. McLamb and Solicitor Ray Walton. About a dozen of the cases grew out of the overloading of trucks on the highway. The 30 cases handled were as follows: John A. Derrick, overloading, costs.

Anthony Aaron Hobbs, Jr., speeding, fined \$10.00 and costs. Ray E. McCombs, speeding, fined \$10.00 and costs.

Archie R. Parrish, reckless operation, prayer for judgment continued on condition that defendant make restitution for property damage in amount of \$50.00.

Horace I. Williamson, reckless operation, \$25.00 fine and costs. Dan Miller, public drunkenness, \$5.00 fine and costs.

James Owens, drunken driving, fined \$100.00 and costs. John Lago, speeding, costs in sum of \$16.95.

William Roger Phelps, overloading, half the costs. Harold Dean Gilmore, overloading, costs.

Roe Everette Pearce overloading, half costs. Alma Prayer Peterson, expired operator's license, \$25.00 fine and costs.

Ervin V. Altman overloading, costs. Woodrow Wilson Harvell, drunken driving amended to reckless operation, fined \$50.00 and costs, license suspended for six months, (Continued On Page Five)

Shrine To Be Spared



EXCLUDED—The ruins of old St. Phillips church near Orton will not be disructed by new construction in connection with the Army Ammunition Outloading Depot at Sunny Point. Word comes that it will lie just outside the area and will continue as an historic shrine.

Hospital Funds Stop With \$11,000

Silver Dollars Circulate Here

Silver dollars have invaded Southeastern North Carolina in quantity for the first time in many years. To dramatize where its portion of the \$60,000 spent last week for pulpwood by Riegel Carolina Corporation goes, Acme Wood Corporation paid out \$6,000 in silver dollars Friday to its wood producers.

Riegel Carolina's purchases of pulpwood this week totaled over \$60,000. Over \$25,000 was spent for payroll. With other buying Riegel Carolina's total purchases were over \$100,000 this week. The flow of the 6,000 silver dollars through this area will be a small evidence of the effect of these purchases on Southeastern North Carolina.

Brunswick Man Mate On Bacon

John E. Robinson Of Supply Is Mate Aboard Dredge On Which Many Men From This County Have Worked

The U. S. Engineer's dredge Henry Bacon, which for many years did maintenance work on the Cape Fear River under the Wilmington District with Capt. W. E. Bellamy in charge, will soon leave Savannah, Ga. for work on a defense project in the North Atlantic. That was the official word out of Washington last week.

One Brunswick man still with the dredge is John E. Robinson of the Silver Hill community near Supply. Mr. Robinson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Robinson of Supply. He has been employed (Continued on Page Five)

Our ROVING Reporter

Letters and other messages received by various other folks and called to our attention are indicative that a lot of people who left Brunswick county in previous years are anxious to return. With little in the way of industry, few ways in which to make a living, they had to go away, but they never have forgotten. The huge military facility being planned for this area is now giving them hopes that they will be able to return here and make a living. The indications are that the construction of the huge military facility will bring along with it a big home-coming of former residents of Brunswick.

The twenty-five hundred or so folks who watched the Shallotte school band parading and playing in the rain at the Christ-

Application To Duke Foundation Will Be Based Upon This Amount Which Was Final Report To The Board Of Trustees Monday

ADDITIONAL MONEY CAME THIS WEEK

Resolution Outlining Needs Of Hospital Adopted For Presentation To Duke Board Members At Feb. Meeting

An application has been made by the trustees of Doshier Memorial Hospital to the trustees of the Duke Endowment for matching funds for the \$11,000 which has been raised during a building fund drive for the institution. Collections during the final week totaled \$424.20.

If this body approves the request, this will make the sum of \$22,000 available in making application to the Medical Care Commission for an additional \$88,000. This will give a total of \$110,000 for the job of renovation and modernization of the Brunswick county hospital.

Most of this is a formality, since assurance already has been given that these requests will be looked upon with favor. In fact, the Medical Care Commission has earmarked up to \$160,000 for this purpose, contingent upon a 20 per cent sponsor's share being available.

Donation continued to come in during the past week right up to the time for making formal application. D. C. Andrews, Shallotte merchant, sent in \$25.00. The biggest addition was a check for \$200 from a Southport man who already had contributed \$100. The Winnabow Home Demonstration Club sent in their donation totaling \$38 and there was one Southport donor who contributed a check for \$50. When time came to make the final addition it was discovered that a sum of \$85.20 would be necessary to make the local contributions an even \$11,000 and that (Continued On Page Five)

Commissioners In Session Monday

Routine Business Disposed Of Before Board In Regular Session; Friday Will Be Holiday

The Board of County Commissioners were in session Monday with routine business being discussed.

On motion of H. O. Peterson, seconded by R. L. Rabon, H. O. Robinson is permitted to afterlist his property in Lockwoods Polly township for five years, his real estate not having been listed during that time.

Dr. R. H. Holden was appointed a director for this area for the Southeastern North Carolina Beach Association to recommend and help work out the needs on certain projects that should be started and completed.

County offices will close Friday, February 22, in observance of George Washington's birthday. (Continued On Page Five)

Expect Railroad To Cross Route With Overpass

Overpass Expected To Cross Coastline Railroad And Highway 74 And 76 Near Leland On Way To Eastbrook

STILL UNDECIDED ABOUT ROUTING

The Railroad Serving Sunny Point May Follow Old Route Or May Make Direct Line To New Project

By W. B. KEZIAH The proposed government railroad from Eastbrook on the S. A. L. will cross U. S. Highway 74 and 76 and the Atlantic Coast Line tracks with a long overpass at Leland.

The exact spot of the crossing will be several hundred feet east of the Mills Filling Station on U. S. 74 and 76. With the road proceeding toward Lanvale a spur track will be built back from the Sunny Point railroad for the connections with the Atlantic Coast Line. The sidings for the Atlantic Coast Line's shipping will be along the south side of the line and on the straight stretch between the Mills place and Leland.

From Lanvale the course of the Sunny Point railroad to its destination had still not been decided up to early this week, according to available information. One of these routes leads parallel to the course of the Cape Fear river, but some distance back. The other course follows the bed of the old WB&S Railroad to the county boardinghouse property near Southport.

Both routes have been thoroughly surveyed. It is understood that the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington district, was not willing to make the decision as to which route the road would follow. Accordingly they referred the matter to top officials, and the selection of the route on from Lanvale is now awaiting decision from these officials.

In such matters as this railroad and other like projects the government usually follows a procedure that is likely to result in the most general public benefit for the future. That is the present situation. No decision has been made as to which of the two routes for the railroad will be the most generally helpful in the future, as well as serving the present.

U. S. 17 likewise appears to be slated to have an overpass by the railroad. Where this overpass shall be is, of course, dependent on which way the railroad runs from Lanvale.

Although early action is looked for the status of the ammunition outloading depot. At that time a man with a little "satchel" appeared at engineers' offices on the full length of the Atlantic Coast. He asked what facilities they all had for a big terminal. In all engineers' offices he is said to have been shown just what they had. He traveled the full length of the Atlantic Coast and the first and only place that received any great attention was Sunny Point.

Red Cross Will Meet Next Week To Make Plans

Tuesday Night Meeting Called For Purpose Of Discussing Plans For County-Wide Organization

A meeting of Brunswick county citizens has been called for Tuesday night, February 26, at 8 o'clock in the Southport high school library for the purpose of reorganizing and revitalizing the local American Red Cross chapter.

J. Allen Carter of Atlanta, regional director of the southeastern area, American Red Cross, will speak to the group.

Since the resignation of the Rev. L. D. Hayman, several months ago the chapter has been without a head. County Superintendent J. T. Denning is serving as temporary chairman until a permanent chairman can be elected.

Miss Antoinette Beasley, field representative, was in the county Tuesday making arrangements for the meeting. She expressed the hope that a large number of persons will attend the meeting.

Another Band Added For Day

Total Of Six Bands Expected To Participate In Band Day Program At Shallotte On Saturday, March 1

Prospects for the Shallotte Band Day Festival are becoming brighter each day. It was originally planned that five high school bands would take part in the event. The present arrangements call for the participation of six bands with a total of 282 members.

The latest band entry in the event is the Wampee-Little River organization. Other participants as announced last week were Shallotte band, 72 members; Loris, S. C., band 50 members; Myrtle Beach band 40 members; Mullins S. C., band 40 members; Aynor S. C., band, 40 members. No information is available as to the number in the Wampee-Little River band.

The playing and marching of these bands is expected to draw crowds from all over the county and the two states of North and South Carolina. Shallotte folks are getting ready for a really big event.

W. W. Jacobus, director of the Shallotte band, states that among the features put on by his own organization will be a combination "West Point Drill." This, he says, is something seldom seen in the south. Mr. Jacobus anticipates that this will be one of the most attractive features of the day.

The bands from the various schools will begin arriving at Shallotte early Saturday morning and much in the way of entertainment may be found in their practicing and drilling before the big parade gets underway at 2 o'clock. At that time all bands will march through town to the high school athletic grounds, where the events will take place.

Director Jacobus says that there is plenty of parking space on the school grounds and the spectators are advised to assemble (Continued On Page Five)

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 2 columns: High Tide and Low Tide. Rows list dates from Thursday, February 21 to Wednesday, February 27, with corresponding times for high and low tides.