

Brunswick Between Bookends

By Eugene Fallon



TALES of the CAPE FEAR BLOCKADE. By James Sprunt. Edited by C. M. D. Thomas. The Charles Towne Preservation Trust, Winna-bow, N. C. Illustrated.

C. M. D. Thomas is to be con-

gratulated for the fine editing job he has made of Sprunt's book. In barely 130 pages he has caught the flavor of that stirring but terrible period encompassed between 1862 and 1865. These are not fading, gray ghosts the reader meets herein, but living men most believable, perhaps, for the small

wiles, white lies and cupidities inherent in all men.

For example, one George C. McDougal, Tar Heel native who possessed a commission in the C. S. Navy, was taken prisoner when Federal gunboats captured the blockade-runner Margaret and Jessie. The good ship M & J was out of Nassau and headed for Wilmington when she was captured off Smithville. The entire crew was interned until their names could be checked at Washington. The ordinary crewmen (some of whom were of British nationality) were to be turned loose and the Confederates imprisoned for duration of war. After some ten days in jail the lists came down from Washington. McDougal asks a general if he could see the names, he is given that permission, there are two listings:—one of those to be kept; one of those to be turned loose. McDougal, when the guard's back is turned, strikes his name from the first list and signs his name to the last, thus signing his way to liberty.

There are several references to Smithville (Southport) in this little edition, perhaps the most interesting of which refers to the adventures of a Capt. Thomas J. Lockwood of Smithville, aboard a blockade runner called The Kate. (One wonders if the late and esteemed Kate Stuart were inspiration for the name of the craft engaged in high and noble calling? Neither Sprunt nor Thomas lends light to this question.) The story of The Kate and her intrepid crew, stands proudly on its own merits; aboard The Kate, Capt. Lockwood carries his wife and two small children on the ship's second run (the first being successful) to the British West Indies for cargo. The run out is made without incident, and The Kate returns safely to discharge its precious cargo near Smyrna, Florida. Captain Lockwood finds he has to make a rail trip to Charleston, and taking his family with him, tells his first mate to hug the coast till their return. The Kate is discovered by the federals before the Lociwoods get back, however, and has to make a run for it, leaving the master and his family behind.

Undaunted, Lockwood picks up a 16-foot whale boat and sets out from Smyrna to overtake The Kate at Nassau. The first attempt almost claims the lives of the Lockwood family when the boat went down only a few rods off shore. It seems the plug had worked loose from the boat's bottom. Brave almost to the point of foolhardiness, the Lockwoods recover the whale boat and again set forth for the Bahamas. Two days at sea the weather turns bad and the boat is at the point of foundering with all hands when a neutral vessel discovers their plight and takes them off. Three weeks later they are landed at Nassau. An almost incredible tale.

This is the sort of fare found in this twice-treated storybook, and proves, once again, that truth is stronger than fiction.

The writing (by Sprunt and edited by Thomas) is not fancy nor is it supposed to be. The compelling thing about this material is its authenticity. One does not have to be a Conrad or a Faulkner to hold a reader's interest. The first and foremost law in the delightful labor of writing is that there be a story to tell. Sprunt had a story, or rather, a number of incidents to relate, which have never failed to hold interest and to draw the chroniclers like bees to honey. Recommended highly, and available at the Southport Public library.

ence. Sentence suspended on payment of \$35 and costs and defendant ordered not to operate motor vehicle until properly licensed.

Hazel Mae Smith paid \$10 and costs for driving with improper equipment.

Robin Dale Swain pleaded guilty to reckless operation and was fined \$75 and costs with \$25 of fine remitted on condition he satisfactorily complete Driver's Clinic course within 90 days.

Robie Clemmons Todd paid \$10 and costs on a speeding charge. Charles Robert Willis pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting in reckless driving and was fined \$25 and costs.

Robert L. Jacobs paid \$10 and costs for following too close.

Carlee Moore was found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon, and drew 6 months on roads with sentence suspended on condition defendant remain of good behavior and not violate any laws for 2 years and pay the costs of action.

Harlee Frink pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle with improper equipment, speeding 90-mph in 55-mph zone, failing to stop at stop sign and reckless driving. Sentenced to 4 months on the roads, with sentence suspended on condition defendant not violate any motor vehicular laws and attend and complete Driver's Clinic and pay a fine of \$100 and costs.

Charges of non-support and abandonment against George R. Johnson were dismissed after evidence couple were now living together.

Thomas Stevenson was fined \$10 and costs for operating motor vehicle with improper equipment, half the costs remitted.

James Robert Austin pleaded guilty to driving under the influence and was sentenced to 90 days on the roads with sentence suspended on condition the defendant surrender his operator's license and pay a fine of \$100 and costs.

Willie Bland was fined \$25 and costs for careless and reckless driving.

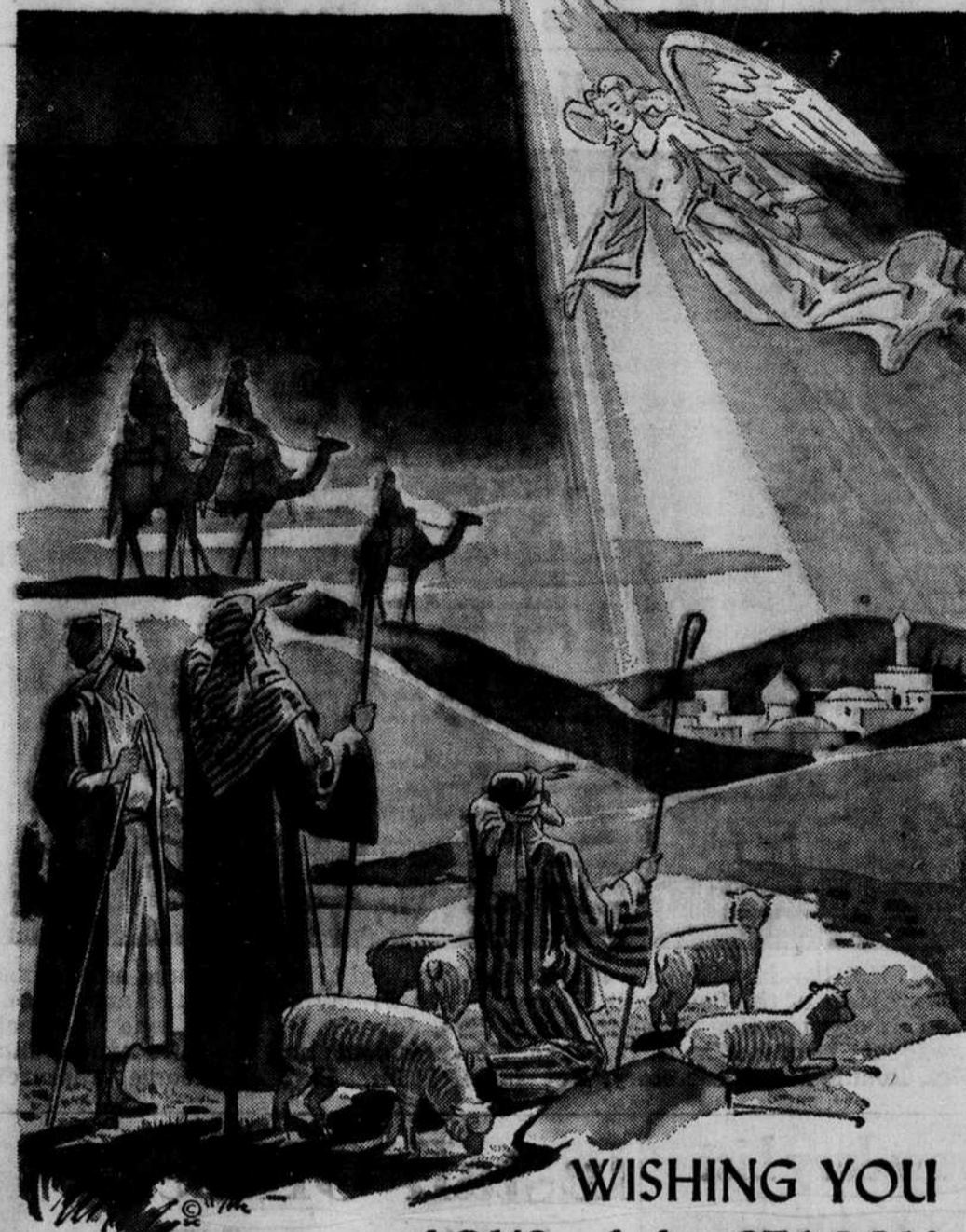
Kenneth L. Blake paid \$10 and costs for driving with improper equipment and failing to give signal.

Donald Earl Bellamy was fined \$10 and costs for driving with improper equipment and fine remitted.

Richard W. Burgess was fined \$10 and costs and fine remitted for falling to stop with unloaded school bus at a R. R. crossing.

Christmas Blessings

TO YOU and YOURS...



WISHING YOU JOYS of the SEASON

SUTTON-COUNCIL FURNITURE CO. 313 N. Front St. Wilmington, N. C.



TOMS DRUG STORE

Corner Front and Market Streets WILMINGTON, N. C.

OUR FRIENDS and CUSTOMERS IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY—VISIT US OFTEN.

GREETINGS!



DEAR FRIEND,

Just a few lines to let you know we appreciate your loyal patronage, and wish you a very Merry Christmas!

ELMORE MOTOR CO., Inc.

"Your Chevrolet Dealer" BOLIVIA, N. C.

Owners

JOHN A. ELMORE
H. FOSTER MINTZ

Sales Dept.

R. THERON MERCER
C. RAY GRUBB

WILLIAM LUCAS, Bookkeeper—MARCUS C. MERCER, Secretary

SERVICE DEPARTMENT:

JOHN B. WARTH, SERVICE MGR.

MECHANICS:

R. W. "PAT" HEWETT—BOBBY LEE BROWN—TRAVIS E. DANFORD

WASHING and LUBRICATION:

R. THERODORE SMITH — HERMON W. DAWSON

PARTS DEPARTMENT:

HERBERT C. BLAND, Parts Mgr.—WILLIAM D. LANIER, Asst. Parts Mgr.

Recorder's Court

The following cases were tried during Monday's session of Recorder's Court, with Judge W. E. Bellamy, Jr., presiding and Solicitor A. H. Gaaney, Jr., prosecuting:

Calvin Allen Stanley, Jr., pleaded guilty to possession of tax-paid whiskey with seal broken and was sentenced to 15 days on the roads with sentence suspended on condition he remain sober and of good behavior for 2 years and pay costs of action.

Charles Lindbergh Sides was fined \$10 and costs for driving without registration, fine remitted.

Bernice L. Johnson paid \$10 and costs for driving on wrong side of road, not in passing.

Larry L. Jones was found not guilty of driving with improper equipment.

George Waron Pellom was fined \$10 and costs for driving too fast for road conditions.

Charles R. Rice was found guilty of reckless driving and fined \$75 and costs with \$25 of fine remitted on condition he satisfactorily complete Driver's Clinic course within 90 days.

Harold Dean Barnhill paid \$10 and costs for speeding.

James Ervin Hewett was fined \$10 and costs for driving on wrong side of road, not in passing.

A charge of non-support against Curtis Long was dismissed after it was learned couple are living together again.

Johnnie Pigott drew 60 days on the roads for driving 70-mph in 60-mph zone and with no li-

HOLIDAY DRIVE-IN

SHALLOTTE, N. C.
Week Ends Shows Start At 6 P. M.
Week Nights Shows Start At 7 P. M.

Wed., Thur., Dec. 20-21

"THE ATOMIC SUBMARINE" ARTHUR FRANTZ

Fri., Sat., Dec. 22-23

"VALLEY OF DRAGONS" SEAN McCLORY

Sun., Mon., Tue. Dec. 24-25-26

"TWO RODE TOGETHER" COLOR JAMES STEWART

Wed., Thur., Dec. 27-28

"VIRGIN ISLAND" COLOR JOHN CASSAVETES

NOTICE! NOTICE!

ONLY CALL FOR TAXES

I will be at the places cited below at the time designated for the Purpose of Collecting 1961 Taxes.

PAY NOW AND SAVE COSTS

Town Creek Township, Friday, January 5th

D. H. HAWES & SONS—Bolivia 10:00 A. M. to 10:30 A. M.
A. P. HENRY STORE—Winnabow 10:45 A. M. to 11:15 A. M.
SKIPPERS (S&W Grocery)—Lanvale 12:00 Noon to 12:30 P. M.

North West Township, Friday, January 7th

APPLEWHITE'S STORE—Macco 9:30 A. M. to 10:00 A. M.
LEO MEDLIN'S STORE—Hood Creek 10:15 A. M. to 10:45 A. M.
CHINNIS STORE—Leland 11:15 A. M. to 11:45 A. M.
LELANI'S POST OFFICE 12:30 P. M. to 1:00 P. M.
NAVASSA POST OFFICE 1:15 P. M. to 2:15 P. M.

Shalotte Township, Wednesday, January 10th

IVEY HIGH STORE—Calabash 10:00 A. M. to 10:30 A. M.
HICKMAN'S STORE—Hickman's X Roads 11:00 A. M. to 11:30 A. M.
JOHN WARDS STORE—Longwood 11:45 A. M. to 12:15 P. M.
SANDERS PARKER STORE—Grissettown 12:30 P. M. to 1:00 P. M.

Waccamaw Township, Thursday, January 11th

RODDY BENNETT'S STORE—Exum 10:00 A. M. to 10:30 A. M.
RANDOLPH LONG STORE—Ash 11:00 A. M. to 11:30 A. M.
ERNEST MILLIGAN STORE—Ash 11:45 A. M. to 12:30 P. M.

Lockwoods Folly Township, Friday, January 12th

GALLOWAY'S STORE—Varnumtown 10:00 A. M. to 10:30 A. M.
BUD TINDALL'S STORE—Silver Hill 11:00 A. M. to 11:30 A. M.
C. ELWOOD FULFORD STORE—Supply, Rt. 11:45 A. M. to 12:15 P. M.
R. E. BELLAMY'S STORE—Shalotte 1:15 P. M. to 2:30 P. M.
J. M. PARKER'S STORE—Supply 2:45 P. M. to 3:15 P. M.

Payments May Be Made At Office In Southport Now!

D. H. HAWES, Tax Collector For Brunswick County

Southport, N. C.