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"Tabor City - The Town With A City Future" TABOR CITY, N. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1952

# Federal Court Convicts Klansmen In Flogging

# State Passes Sentence On 11 Night Riders In Johnson Case

Eleven of the 13 men charged Klux Klan cases were found guilty and received road sentences or heavy fines at the conclusion of the trial in Whiteville Saturday

spiracy, kidnapping and assault.

year road term in an assault con- ton. viction for Henry Edwards of

They were not found guilty of kidnapping charges, but Judge Williams told the defendants,"You are very fortunate the jury didn't find you guilty of kidnapping. I don't see how you escaped that."

Two other defendants, Lawrence Nivens, 28, of Hallsboro, and IN TRUCK Brook Norris of Whiteville were acquitted of all charges.

After disposition was made in the cases of these five, Judge Williams proceeded to pass sentence on the eight who pleaded no contest: Early Brooks of Fair bourn; Ray Kelly of Whiteville; Frank Lewis of Fair Bluff; George White and Steve Edmund, both of Columbus County, and Red Connor of near Cerro Gordo.

Lewis, Edmunds and Connor received two-year road terms, sus- Strawberry Fete pended upon payment of \$100 fine each, placed on probation three years. They had testified for the

klavern, received a two-year road club officials announced.

Leroy Honeycutt and John Honeyeutt, Jr., brothers, drew twoment of \$1,500 each and onefourth the court costs.

\$1,000 fine and one-fourth of court

costs. suspended upon payment of \$1,000 fine and one-fourth of costs.

An outbreak by Ray Kelly's family began as soon as Judge Williams first pronounced his sentence without suspending it, as the pudgy, timid pulp wood worker stood in the courtroom. A greyhaired man several rows back in the courtroom started convulsive movements of his arms and jerking movements of his head. At the same time, he chanted a weird and unintelligible language.

Two highway patrolmen moved to his side and tried to calm him by gently holding his arms. He struggled briefly, then suddenly stopped with an audible, "hallelulah."

Meantime, Mrs. Ray Kelly broke out in sobs, as did other members of the family. Then she arose from her seat, sobbing, and with a dancing step she made her way inside the bar waving a handkerchief over her head. As she reached her husband, wringing her hands over his head, he, too, began sobbing. After the sobbing subsided somewhat, Judge Williams ordered ev eryone to resume their seats.

The jury, composed of New Hanover County citizens who were finally selected after special venires of 150-50 and 50 had been summoned from that county, got the case at 4:45 p. m., and return-

ed their verdict at 8:15 p. m. Even as this case neared a conclusion, Solicitor Clifton Moore said he expected to issue warrants "within the next few days" gainst several persons of Columbus County. These persons have not been named in any of the flogging charges now in the courts. He describes them as "fairly promin-

Judge Williams recessed court for the noon hour immediately after Solicitor Moore concluded his argument to the jury at 1:30 p. m. The arguments began Friday afternoon and continued into the

(Continued on Page 4)

## with the flogging of Woodrow Johnson in the first of many Ku TO SPEAK AT COMMENCEMENT

o'clock.

The Sunday, May 18, and Thurs-

clude Gene Burroughs, James

Cooper, Charles Cox, Odell Fowl-

ior Jordan, Royce Norris, Avery

Stevens, Jiggs Waddell, Robert

er, Joyce Gore, Frances Hinson,

Jernigan, Margaret Jo Jernigan,

Maggie Larrimore, Gervais Long,

ATTENDING BAPTIST

CONVENTION

we believe in.

never rise again.

chicken thief or a bank robber.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Leggette and

Featered speakers of the 1952 | May 18th, while Dr. Hall will de-Tabor City High School com- liver the address at the graduation All defendants in the Johnson mencement exercises will be Dr. flogging were charged with con- Clyde A. Miller, president of Guil- May 20th. ford College, and Dr. B. Frank Judge Clauson L. Williams of Hall, pastor of Pearsall Memorial day, May 20th, evenings, featur-Sanford ordered a maximum two Presbyterian Church in Wilming- ing the baccalaureate sermon and is a nephew, Kern Prince of Tabor

Plans for the finals at the local Whiteville, Harvey Barfield of school were announced here near Mullins, S. C. and Ernest Thursday by C. H. Pinner, principal of Tabor City Schools.

Dr. Miller will be heard in the baccalaureate sermon to the graduates here on the night of Sunday,

## JACK FIPPS STRICKEN

Columbus County hospital, Whiteville, following a convulsion re- Piver, Joseph Ray, M. J. Reynolds, girl turning in the most money Beans Coming sulting from a diabetic condition Maitland Smith, Earl Soles, R. C. Monday morning.

Fipps was driving the Yam City Oil company service truck Jenerette, Willis Duncan, Billie who has not had the opportunity Bluff, John Honeycutt, Jr., and on the Whiteville-Tabor City Pearl Anderson, Mary Andrews, to contribute should contact Mrs. Leroy Honeycutt, both of Chad- highway at the time he was stricken.

He apparently was uninjured. The truck was ditched and slightly damaged.

# Chadbourn Slates

A strawberry Festival and Fes- ardson, Elsie Soles, Doris Spivey, tival Dance will be held in Chad- Ila Pearl Spivey, Edna Stroud, bourn this year under the spon- Lou Floyd Sugge, Frances Grey Brooks, leader of the Fair Bluff sorship of the Chadbourn Civitan Ward, Vera Ward, and Hilda Rae

The affair, which will be an afternoon and night feature of events, will be held on Tuesday, year terms, suspended upon pay- May 27, and will include a dance sons left Saturday for Miami, Fla. and floor show by the Bruce Bub- where they are attending the bles Becker orchestra and revue. Southern Baptist convention.

Present plans for the festival Rev. and Mrs. P. C. Gantt and term, suspended upon payment of other than the dance, schedule a sons left Monday for the conven parade, string band, noted speaker and the awarding of numerous White got a two-year sentence, prizes with a television set as a grand prize by the Merchants As-

### Finklea Student Has Three Year Atendance Record

Margaret Tompkins, nine-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Liston Tompkins, has a perfect attendance record for three years in the Finklea School. She is a fourth grade student and has not missed a day of school during

the past three years. certificate and a silver dollar and their eyes open and deserve no more consideration than a has attended the annual picnic given at Myrtle Beach honoring the students with perfect attendance records.

Margaret says "she is going to try to make it again next year.

### MRS. H. GARRELL AND DAUGHTER IN ENGLAND

Mrs. Howard C. Garrell and daughter, Tonia Sue, have arrived safely in England to be with Cpl. Garrell who is stationed with the Army there.

Mrs. Garrell wrote her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Fowler, of route 3, Tabor City that she is getting along fine in England, but is having a little difficulty in counting money as the value there varies from American money. She also said things are cheaper there. Cigarettes are only one dollar per cartoon and that she had bought her little daughter a swim suit for 57c in American money.

The Garrell's will receive mail addressed to Cpl. Howard C. Garrell, 14248426; 123 Med. Gp.; 123 It. Bm. Ug.; A. P. O. 122 Care Post Master, New York, N. Y.

### ATTEND CONVENTION

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Inman of the Inman Funeral Home attended the Funeral directors Convention in Charlotte Wednesday and Thursday.

#### DEATH CLAIMS CRANDALL PRINCE

William Crandall Prince, 69, Tabor City farmer, died in the Butner hospital Wednesday night following several years of declining health. Funeral services were held from the home of his neice, Mrs. Rudolph Todd, Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock with the Rev. P. Tabor Baptist church officiating. Burial followed in the Norris cem-

etery. He was the son of the late W. exercises on Tuesday evening, F. Prince and the late Mrs. Catherine C. Stephens of Columbus

Surviving other than Mrs. Todd presentation of diplomas to the City.

#### seniors, will bring the Tabor City commencement exercises to a Special music will be rendered TAG DAY SET by the seniors and High School Chorus both evenings with the programs getting underway at 8 SATURDAY Seniors to receive diplomas in-

Final Tag Day for the local fund, American Cancer Society, will be er, Billy Gore, Clifford Gore Dick held in the business district Sat-Garrell, Ray Harrelson, Robert urday, officials announced. A Jack Fipps is a patient in the Dale Inman, Harold Jordan, Jun- number of local girls will participate in the tag sales with the receiving an honor award.

Soles, Jr., Horace Spivey, Glen Solicitation is expected to come to a close this week and anyone Carolyn Cox, Muriel Cox, Carol Mae S. Young or Mrs. Evelyn Dutton, Ila V. Fipps, Vivian Fowl- Leonard, or mail a check to J. A. Hufham, Jr. at the Waccamaw Also Roberta Jenerette, Anne Bank and Trust company.

To date Tabor City is short of the \$800 quota, officials said.

#### Levonia Mills, Nellie Mills, Edna Norris, Mary Jo Pinner, Esther Mrs. R. C. Soles Porter, Betty Jean Reece, Annie Circle Hostess Lee Reeves, Mary Elizabeth Rich-

The Dula McGougan circle of the Mount Tabor Baptist W.M.U. met with Mrs. R. C. Soles at her home Thursday afternoon with Mrs. A. P. Rogers presiding. Mrs. Rosa Garrell gave the devotional.

ion service was planned by the circle at which time members decided to supply a sick patient with fruit juice.

hostess to eleven members his vision. and one visitor.

Justice-As Prescribed By Law

Williams in Superior Court—the floggers got their justice

applying their Klan interpretation of justice, Woodrow

He had no opportunity to secure legal aid, nor did he have

Many of the men who now face stiff sentences in the

Johnson case, are also charged in several others, including

the Federal case now in progress. Some of them are going

to spend a great part of their remaining lives looking

through bars at the outside. Like criminals of all descrip-

have not failed us, and in doing so have made our county

a better place in which to live. The virtual eradication of

the night-riding Klan is an accomplishment for Columbus

County and North Carolina and it is our belief that it will

they administered arrogant justice with a grudge.

unbiased and without prejudice in the case.

# Definite community commiss-

### Business Women Meet With Miss McGougan

The Business Woman's circle of the Mount Tabor Baptist W.M.U. When the ex-Ku Klux Klansmen who heard their senmet with Miss Anne Brooks Mc-Gougan at her home Thursday tences pronounced in Whiteville Saturday night used their evening. Miss Kate Jones, chairleather strap on handpicked citizens, they administered man, presided and Mrs. W. A. their outlaw justice as they saw fit. But there was nothing Williams gave the program entitled "The Christian Home." illegal about the justice as doled out by Judge Clawson

The circle decided to mail cards to the shut-in's for community service.

in a manner prescribed by law. That's the only kind that ved by the hostess to nine mem-We find no room for sympathy for these night riders

#### who are now saddled with two year road sentences or Porter Supply Co. heavy fines. They committed these criminal acts with Opening Here

E. A. Porter, Tabor City resi-In Judge Williams' court, these refugees from hoods and robes put their case before 12 good men, they had the benefit of an array of legal talent and could tell their story in cupied by the Tabor City Bus Staits most favorable light. Yet they could not escape the gravity of their deeds, and now must pay the penalty. In

With headquarters in Tabor City, the new business will be distributors for feed, flour and Johnson had no such opportunity to hear his case tried. self-rising corn meal for the Mt. Ulla Flour Mills. the opportunity to select a jury from 250 men who were

Mr. Porter will continue to be associated with the Tabor City Exchange here.

# Assistant Pastor

tions, most of them are repentant now. But it took a The Rev. James Randolph Jones, who has served as assistant court of law to unseat them from their pedestal from which pastor of St. Frances Xavier Catholic Church here since January, From the first, we have had no compliments for the has been appointed by Bishop of Tabor City, on the morning of people who the floggers whipped. There's no doubt that Waters of Raleigh to join the staff of the Diocesan Missionary Fathsome were involved in affairs bordering on the illegal. ers at North Wilksboro, N. C. Their Yet, we still maintain that the courts, and the law alone work is to conduct outdoor preachhas the American right to punish its citizenry. Our only ing services through the use of compliments to most of these flogged persons is on their a trailer chapel car in remote sec-

> Burlington, Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Mrs. Frances Cox.

## BASEBALLERS CLOSE SEASON WITH OUTSTANDING RECORD

Tabor City high school's baseball team closed but its 16 game Mrs. G. W. Crutchfield schedule last Friday night against Installed President Chadbourn with an 8-2 victory and ended the 1952 season with Of Woman's Club a recerd of 13 wins against only three defeats. This is one of the C. Gantt, pastor of the Mount best records ever compiled by the local high schoolers and brought City Woman's club at the general a highly successful seeason to meeting held at the clubhouse this tenure as diamond coach here.

> Tabor City dropped only three games and no team beat them more than once. Whiteville licked the locals in a single contest and Chadbourn and Fair Bluff teams were beaten by Tabor City in other engagements.

Jimmy Jernigan, who pitched and played outfield for the locals, was perhaps the team's most outstanding individual star. Jernigan racked up seven wins against one pace with a hefty .480 average.

Jimmy Tompkins had a 3-1 hurling record. Sam Walden had two wins against no defeats and Junior Jordan, the regular shortstop, had one win and one loss.

## To Local Market

The first beans of the season, ments during the year. 16 hampers, were sold on the Marketing company secretary, re- local club. ported.

4,957 crates of strawberries had summer and the Yam Festival ball, been sold on the market aver- queen contest and entered a float aging \$8.72 per crate. Total in the festival parade. money paid to growers amounts to \$43,233.38.

#### IN HOSPITAL

Herbert Fowler, Tabor City is a patient in the Veterans hospital, Fayetteville where he is receiving treatment for a broken leg and other injuries sustained in an accident Sunday night.

The jeep Fowler was driving overturned on a curve between Tabor City and Loris when lights Refreshments were served by from an approaching car blurred

Punch and crackers were ser-

dent, announced this week that new business, Porter Supply Company, was opening here this week in the building formerly oc-

## Of Catholic Church Is Transferred

courage to tell their story to the law. In that respect, they tions of the State.

Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Sarvis, Jr. of

Mrs. G. W. Crutchfield was installed as president of the Tabor Coach Bill Ratteree in his first month, Mrs. R. B. Mallard was installed as vice president; Miss Kate Jones, secretary; Mrs. Evelyn Leonard, treasurer, and Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, assistant treasurer.

Mrs. Crutchfield named the following committees to serve the also won single games. All three 1952-1953 year: Ways and Means, Mrs. Evelyn Leonard, Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, and Mrs. Ralph W. Spivey; Program, Mrs. Horace Roberts, Mrs. J. C. Singletary, and Mrs. H. B. Bell; Hostess, Mrs. David Kelley; Scrap Book, Miss had the best hurling record as he Anne Brooks McGougan; Governmend Bonds, Miss Flora Bell Gore; defeat. He also set the hitting Building and Grounds, Mrs. Evelyn Leonard; Kitchen, Mrs. S. T. Rogers and Mrs. Doc Bruton.

Mrs. J. C. Singletary made the official report of the North Carolina convention of Woman's clubs held in Winston Salem earlier in the month. Prior to turning the gavel over

to Mrs. Crutchfield Miss Anne Brooks McGougan, retiring president told of the club's accomplish-

The district 10 president and Tabor City market Monday for the woman of the year and county \$3.00 per hamper, C. E. Walden, cancer heads are members of the

The club sponsored the emer-At the close of Tuesday's sales gency flood Red Cross drive last The club won the attendance

gavel at the District 10 meeting and a scrap book ribbon at the North Carolina State convention. A Care for Korea package was sent and the Oscar Merit World

Peace contest was sponsored by the club. Many improvements were made to the clubhouse and grounds and the club served the Rotary club

suppers for nine weeks. Classes in parlimentary proced-

ure we e held. A plus rating was awarded the club by the North Carolina Feder- tion for three years. ation of Women's club with the club chalking up 112 points for the years work.

Hostesses for the installation meeting were Mrs. Horace Roberts, Mrs. Fred M. Jernigan, Mrs. W. H. Shelley, Jr., and Mrs. Bob but later several broke down and White.

New members accepted were were Mrs. Walter Leonard and Mrs. Claude Huggins.

#### Death Claims Good Hope Farmer

Jim D. Graham 58 year old farmer of the Good Hope section of Horry county, died Monday night following a heart attack. He suffered the attack at his home and was rushed to the hospital where he died almost suddenly. He had been in declining health for some time.

Funeral rites will be held from the Good Hope Baptist church this afternoon (Wednesday) at 2 Conway officiating with Rev. C. D. Brearley assisting. Burial will Follow in the Wood Lawn ceme-

He is survived by his wife the former Lula Hucks, and a son Jack Graham of the home. Two brothers, Bennie Graham of Myrtle Beach and Seif Graham of Conway; two half sisters, Mrs. Tillman Smith of Cool Springs, and Mrs. Glen Ward of Chad-

Rubert Prince, 23, has been arrested and charged with secret assault with a deadly weapon in the shooting of Ernest Strickland, February 10, it was learned today. Strickland was shot about 3:00 a. m. as he lay in bed. Also had led the prosecution, served arrested and charged with aid- notice that he may draw a Feding and abetting in the assault eral indictment against Hamilton, were Gladys Prince Strickland, the Imperial Wizzard. He would wife of the victim, and her son, Earl Prince, 17.

Mrs. Grant Stewart of Canton arrived Wednesday to spend a in Wilmington and at Whiteville, Hooks and daughter of Whiteville month with her parents, Mr. and it was brought out in the evidence and Mrs. Emma Roberts of Ra- Mrs. J. Leon Mills. Mr. Stewart that Hamilton had pocketed a subleigh spent the weekend with Mr. will join them June 1 for a vaca stantial sum from the sale of memand Mrs. S. G. Sarvis, Sr. and tion here during the fishing berships and robes to Columbus

Ringleader Early Brooks Fair Bluff constable and the Sevengali of the Klan mob which terrorized Columbus County for two years, caught a five-year penitentiary rap in Federal court in Wilmington Tuesday for the kidnap-flogging of a Columbus County couple in Horry County, S. C., last Octo-

Actually, Brooks was given

five year terms on two counts, the

sentences to run concurrently. He faces the Federal sentence after he completes a two-year stretch on the roads, handed down in Whiteville district court last week on another flogging charge. Brooks was one of ten penitent

Klansmen found guilty by Judge Don Gilliam after a two-day trial. Five others received shorter sentences and were placed on probation. The eleventh, 18-year-old Grand Dragon Thomas L.

Hamilton once denied in a letter to The Tabor City Tribune that the Fair Bluff Klavern had had anything to do with the Columbus county floggings but his tale was disproved in no uncertain terms this week as both State and Federal courts found members of that infamous group guilty of law violations.

George Miller, was found innocent and discharged. He explained to the court that he had been mistaken by the other floggers for his brother, and after the mistake was discovered he was forced to join the Klan because he "knew too much."

The other sentences were:

Three years on each charge, sentences to run concurrently -Horace Strickland, 29-year - old former fee deputy sheriff; James Robert Hayes, 38, whose car was used to carry the victims to the flogging site; Ross Enzor, 48 % and Pittman Strickland, 29.

Two years on each count, sentences to run concurrently - Carl Richardson, 60, oldest of the defendants.

L. C. Worley. 25, former Klavern secretary who turned state's evidence, two years on each count, suspended and placed on proba-

Sherwood Miller, 26 and Bobby Brooks, 19-year-old son of the kingpin, 12 months suspended on each count and placed on proba-

Steve Edmunds, 26, two on each count suspended, placed on probation for two years.

The men, most of them in shirtsleeves and open collars, received their sentences without motion,

In passing sentences, Judge Gilliam bore down severely. Conceding that the floggers had beeen "misguided," he declared that they, nevertheless, must pay for their mistakes. The Klan, he said, "is a com-

bination of a lot of people who take the law into their own hands . . a condition that would under mine our society if left uncheck-

their sentences without emotion, barpoon at Tom Hamilton, the South Carolina "Grand Dragon" of the Klan. He said that Hamilton had sold the guillible clay road farmers of Columbus County a "bill of goods," and was interested in the Fair Bluff Klavern only o'clock with the Rev. Deene of for the money he could extroct from it.

The witnesses, ranging all he way from sheriff Hugh Nance down to gaunt tobacco farmers, gave monosyllabic testimony to the good character of the masked goons who carted Ben Grainger and Dorothy Dillard Martin across the state line last October. The blood flowed. Miss Martin had testified earlier that each blow of the strap had knowcked her to the ground.

In the aftermath of the sentencing, seven of the convicted floggers filed notice of appeal. They were Brooks and his son, the Strickland brothers, Hayes and Enzor, and Richardson, Bond was set at \$3,500 for Brooks; \$2,500 for the others.

Meeanwhile the U.S. Dist. Atty. Charles P. Green of Raleigh, who not disclose the nature of the charge which he is contemplating

levelling against Hamilton. In the course of the two trials, Klansmen.