



The Tabor City Tribune



"Tabor City — The Town With A City Future"

TABOR CITY, N. C., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1952

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Hamilton Implies J.K. Powell Represented Both Sides In Columbus County Ku Klux Night-Riding Trials

Town May Increase Street Lighting Soon

The next meeting of the town of Tabor City Board of Commissioners will hear street lighting proposals with Carolina Power and Light Company offering the municipality the lowest rate in the area.

A few days ago, CP&L put a new street lighting rate into effect in the area formerly serviced by the Water Power Company and the rate makes it possible for small towns to double their candlepower at no extra cost.

In Tabor City, Carolina Power and Light will install free of charge bulbs in existing lights that will increase the overall lighting effect by 75 percent and the new rate would cost the town about 86 cents per light bulb per month.

The same proposition is being offered small towns throughout Eastern North Carolina and, of course, is being accepted by all towns. A representative of power company was here last week and said that towns who want the increased lighting power will be accommodated in the order in which they apply.

Many towns are taking even further advantage of the new rate by installing additional lights and more than tripling their existing lighting power at a nominal increase in cost.

Amateur Contest Winners Will Get Many Free Prizes

An amateur contest for those persons who can play a banjo, sing and dance or anything else in the entertainment line will be held at the New Farmers Warehouse on Friday afternoon, October 10.

Contestants may enter the event by contacting Cash Garrell, Jimmy Dews or Royce Harrelson. Prizes will be presented to winners in the show.

Sunday School Rally Planned At Old Zion

Old Zion Methodist church will hold a Sunday school rally Sunday morning, October 5 at 9:45.

GRID TEAM PLAYS HERE FRIDAY NIGHT

Tabor City's high school football team will oppose Wadesboro here at Civitan field Friday night at 8:00 in what the locals hope will be the second win against as many losses this season. Tabor defeated Lumberton by a 18-13 count at Lumberton last week.

Coach S. W. Caruso said this week that his team was hit hard by injuries and that he was uncertain as to the strength of his team for this week's event. However, if the team has all the players back in uniform by game time, they are expected to make a close contest out of it.

Practice sessions have been spirited this week and has improved a great deal since the opening game.

Kills Rattler

Ben Hinson killed a large rattlesnake last Saturday that had ten rattlers and a button, according to Oscar Soles, correspondent in the Emerson section.

Sandy Plain Club Plans Participation In Yam Festival

The Sandy Plains Home Demonstration club met Friday afternoon with Miss Irene Wright and Mrs. L. Harrelson at the home of the former.

During the business session the membership discussed the club's participation in the Carolinas Yam Festival in Tabor City on October 9, 10 and 11.

Mrs. Fred Wright, Mrs. Leon Wright and Mrs. Homer Adams gave project reports. A report on Farm and Home week was made by Mrs. Charlie Williams.

An exhibit of canned food was on display for the meeting.

Mrs. Otis Norris was received as a new member and Mrs. Trenton Hinson, Mrs. Mattie Fowler, Mrs. Lamar Hinson and Mrs. Joe Blunt were recognized as visitors.

Green Sea School To Have Festival

The Green Sea grammar school will hold a Harvest Festival on Friday night October 10 under the auspices of the Parent Teachers Association.

Yam Booths Are Listed

The State College exhibit booths at the Fifth Annual Carolinas Yam Festival which opens here next week, October 9, 10 and 11, will occupy 2660 square feet with 19 different themes, each teaching a lesson about yams.

The titles of the various booths along with the names of the persons in charge of each are as follows:

1. Breeding New Varieties—Dr. D. T. Pope, State College, Bob White, Tabor City, Ralph Spivey, H. E. Soles, Darwood Strickland.

2. Seed Selection—Dr. Fred D. Cockran, State College, Phil Hughes, W. C. Cox Jr, June White, Rt. 4, Whiteville; C. W. Todd, Rt. 1, Claremont; A. G. Long, Loris, S. C.

3. Seed Treatment—S. L. Jackson, Ben Nesmith III, Jack Mills, Newman Strickland, Lynwood Wright.

4. Diseases—Charles D. Raper, Lewis Gore, Thelbert Gore, Carson McPherson, Wilbur Smith, Ernest Long.

5. Insects—Dr. Glenn E. Moore, Claude Boyd, Ossie Norris, H. J. Watt, Dow Hinson, Marvin Lewis, M. Covington—Pope, State College, H. G. Dameron, Grover Hinson, Dock Ray, Philip McPherson, J. A. Rankin.

6. Planting and Bedding—H. M. Covington, State College, H. G. Dameron, Grover Hinson, Dock Ray, Philip McPherson, J. A. Rankin.

7. Soil Selection—W. D. Lee, State College, Rusey Hewitt, Jack Godwin, Shannon Gore, Dupree Cox.

MERCHANTS OPPOSE PHONE COMPANY'S NEW RATE HIKE

The Tabor City Merchants Association this week wrote Stanley Winbourne, Chairman of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, asking that the request for a rate increase by Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company be refused.

J. Oliver Prince, president of the local association, asked Winbourne for the date of the hearing on this proposed boost in rate and for other information that phone subscribers could use to voice their disapproval of the increase.

T. WARD GUY TO CROWN 1952 YAM FESTIVAL QUEEN

T. Ward Guy, County Superintendent of Education, will crown the 1952 Carolinas Yam Queen at the Queen's Ball to be held in Garrell's Warehouse on Friday at 9:00 p. m. festival officials announced today.

About 20 girls from the Carolinas will vie for the honor. The selection and coronation program is planned to offer entertainment both to spectators and dancers officials said.

The queen will receive a basket of quality yams and a dinner ring. The yams will be given by the Tabor City Marketing company and the ring by Dorman's Jewelers.

The runner up will be awarded a handsome wrist watch courtesy of Davis Jewelers, and all candidates will receive a gift certificate for silver in their chosen pattern by the Davis Jewelers also.

Miss Jean Yandle of Elizabethtown, 1951 Carolinas Yam Queen, will reign at the ball until the coronation ceremonies.

The popular Coy Tucker Orchestra of Tennessee will furnish the music.

INQUEST HELD IN DEATH OF GROVER L. WILSON

At an inquest on the death of Grover L. Wilson, 24-year old farmer of the Mollie section of Columbus County, held last Thursday evening at the Loris Town Hall the jury reached the verdict that death was caused by gunshot by Bertie Fowler who is to be held for grand jury investigation.

Witnesses appearing before Coroner Dix and questioned by Solicitor Reuben Long and, for the defense, by Attorney Frank A. Thompson were Hubert Gerald, the victim's brother-in-law, Rose Watts, Wilson's father-in-law; Tony Vasquez, a recent resident of this section who came here from Texas in June, 1952; Weldon Johnson, a resident of the area; and Donnie Williams, Jr., another local citizen.

Gerald, Watts, and Vasquez, all present at the time of the shooting in front of Bertie Fowler's store, Saturday night, September 20th gave similar testimony.

Wilson, Gerald, and Watts had stopped at Bertie Fowler's store to get a can of beer, it was alleged. While Wilson was inside, his wife drove up. Tony Vasquez, arriving about that time, told Wilson his wife was outside. Wilson went out and sat in the car with his wife.

Whether his brother-in-law and father-in-law were in the store with him or were outside was not made clear at the inquest, but apparently they were, near the car in which Wilson was sitting. Vasquez, also, was near the car at this point.

Gerald, Watts, and Vasquez all concurred in stating that some Negroes in a nearby car were engaged in "scandalous talk." Wilson, they said, told the Negroes to watch their language for his wife and children were present. One of the Negroes replied that he would make a football out of Wilson, whereupon Wilson started toward them.

Vasquez then grabbed Wilson to stop him in order to keep him from getting into a fight with the Negroes whom Vasquez said were coming toward Wilson with knives. In the process of stopping Wilson, Vasquez and he stumbled over each other and fell to the ground. They began wrestling in a friendly manner, the witnesses stated.

Bertie Fowler came out of his store and pointed his pistol at Wilson and, according to Gerald, Watts, and Vasquez, said only that he was going to shoot Wilson. Donnie Williams, Jr., however, testified that Bertie, after telling him and the other Negro with him to go into the store, first told Wilson and those with him to cut out the noise and break it up.

Firing his pistol only once, Fowler then shot Wilson, according to Gerald, Watts, and Vasquez. Gerald's wife then said, "You've

Thomas L. Hamilton, grand dragon of the now defunct Association of Carolinas Klans who begins his four year prison term today, released a statement to the press this week in which he implies that State Senator J. K. Powell represented both defense and prosecution in the recent Klan trials.

Powell assisted Solicitor Clifton Moore in the trial of 46 members of the night flogging band and was paid a fee of \$5000 from the State of North Carolina for his part in the prosecution.

This week The Tribune received an envelope bearing a Leesville, S. C. post mark and containing a carbon copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Junius K. Powell, Attorney, Whiteville, N. C. and signed by Hamilton which infers that all is not serene in Columbus county.

Hamilton says that he has information that Columbus county people have received "Statements" from Powell for "services rendered" and asks Powell how he could prosecute and render services at the same time.

Hamilton also says that "we (supposedly the Ku Klux Klan) are running a complete investigation in Columbus County and one of these days we will have data and material as well as evidence that I feel will cause some people in the county to fear and tremble."

Hamilton also says that his survey of the Columbus county people shows "without fear of contradiction" that they are on his side.

It has been reported that South Carolina neighbors of the Grand Dragon have appealed to North Carolina authorities for reconsideration of the Hamilton case. However, to date, there is no indication that any leniency will be shown.

At any rate, Hamilton is scheduled to report to the sheriff's office in Whiteville today (Wednesday) to begin his sentence. He was granted 60 days freedom after sentencing to allow his wife to undergo a major operation. He is on a \$30,000 appearance bond supplied by Mrs. Roger Bullock of Fair Bluff.

The Letter follows:
Leesville, S. C.
Sept. 27, 1952
Mr. Junius K. Powell, Attorney
Whiteville, N. C.
Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention, through a clipping from the Charlotte Observer, with certain statements that were released through you or the Honorable Clifton L. Moore, Solicitor of the District. This news dispatch was captioned "Whiteville North Carolina." I cannot gather who is responsible for the false and falacious statements made in the Press regarding me, namely, that I had approached you or tried to get you to represent me there in North Carolina. Now, Mr. Powell, I never approached you or tried in any way to get you to represent me; in fact I had never laid eyes on you until I met you in the Court House at Whiteville on July 21, 1952.

I feel that any Attorney who is secured by the State to represent the State should be paid by the State. But, it is a little puzzling to me a man who is employed by the State to act as States Attorney can represent certain people that he is trying to convict. Information has come to me from certain people in Columbus County have received STATEMENTS from you for "Services Rendered." How Could You Prosecute and "Render Services" at the Same Time???? One of these days, in the not too distant future, the facts of the Ku Klux Klans trials in Columbus County North Carolina will be revealed so that the people of the great State of North Carolina will have a TRUE conception of what really happened.

DAVID PUGH WILL PLAY FOR NEGRO DANCE

The David Pugh orchestra of Darlington will furnish the music for the Negro Dance at the Carolinas Yam Festival to be held in Planter's Warehouse on Friday evening, October 10, officials of the Tabor City Negro school, sponsors of the dance announced.

The highlight of the evening will be the selection of a "Popularity Queen" by the high school. The contest is now underway by a penny vote process.

LEAF SALES NOW TOP 7 MILLION

Tobacco sales on the Tabor City market topped 7 million pounds this week and averages have been among the best of the season.

Sales have been light with only some 60,000 pounds on the floors each day this week, however, a general price increase throughout the belt has kept most farmers happy with prices.

Sales on the local market are due to close Friday, October 3, and Sales Supervisor Don Hughes said today that he expected prices and volume to remain about the same for the balance of the week.

Tuesday's sale showed 66,456 pounds sold for an average price of \$53.48. Total sales through Tuesday were listed at 7,012,115 pounds.

First Yams

The first yams of the season came in this morning as the marketing company began the auctioning of the most famous product of Tabor City. The first few truck loads of yams sold for \$3.10 and \$3.20 per bushel and gave every indication of continued high prices through the season. The market held its highest average in history last season and most potato authorities expect another year of the same high prices.

BARN DANCE AND CAKE WALK SCHEDULED FOR YAM FESTIVAL

One of the featured entertainment events at the Fifth Annual Carolinas Yam Festival next week will be an old fashioned Barn Dance and Cake Walk at Garrell's Warehouse on Saturday night, October 11 from 8 'til 12 o'clock.

The shindig is being sponsored by the Tabor City Civitan Club and they have lined up Clarence Jackson and his band to provide adequate music for the affair.

The big warehouse will be appropriately decorated and a large crowd is expected to turn out for what promises to be one of the most enjoyable events during the three days festival.

All children under 12 years of age will be admitted free.

P.T.A. MEETS THURSDAY

The Tabor City Parent Teachers Association will show a film entitled "The Sixth Chair" at its Thursday night meeting at the school house, Mrs. R. P. Counts, president, said today. Ward T. Guy, county superintendent of education, will superintend the picture and give its high lights. The meeting is scheduled for 7:30.

The budget and finance committee will make their reports and suggestions for this year's projects will be heard.

"There are nearly 900 families represented at the local schools and we would like to see those parents take an interest in the PTA and attend its meetings," Mrs. Counts said.

VFW Sponsors Carnival Here

The Veterans of Foreign Wars will sponsor a carnival in Tabor City next week, October 6 through 11, it was announced today.

The Carnival is operated by Keystone Shows and will be set up in the vacant lot behind the city hall in the center of town.

Wanted Everywhere

The Negro nabbed here two weeks ago after striking and robbing Mrs. Alice Fowler at the Courtney Grocery has a long police record according to a telegram received here by Chief of Police L. R. Watson this week.

Watson had requested information on the Negro who gave his name here as Jimmie Lee Hayward from J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the FBI.

The telegram said that Hayward also used the names of Jim Goodwin, James Goodman and James Goodson. He is wanted by the State Convict Department Montgomery, Ala., for second degree burglary committed in May 1936 when he was sentenced to three to four years. He was again caught for robbery in July 1940 and sentenced to ten years. Also arrested by Police in Florence, S. C. in April 1942. In July he was sentenced to five years for larceny and receiving stolen goods.

Free Chicken Bog

A free chicken supper will be served at the Legion hut to everyone who attends a community wide meeting for the purpose of constructing the city park Thursday night at 7:30.

Members of all local civic clubs are especially urged to attend the meeting and help lay plans for this project which will complete the "Finer Carolina" program in Tabor City. The park must be cleared and equipment for the playground secured by October 31 if maximum contest credit is to be secured.

Miss Virginia Gregory, a member of the North Carolina Recreation Commission, of Raleigh, will arrive here Thursday afternoon to help plan and layout the park area and will make the principal address Thursday Night.

Everyone is urged to attend.