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# The Tabor City Tribune

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Ads—News—Pictures

"TABOR CITY — THE TOWN WITH A CITY FUTURE"

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TABOR CITY, N. C. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1954

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## Tabor City Community Soliciting Funds To Purchase Historic 700 Acre Lake For Park And Fishing Resort

### Bryant Elected Civitan President

Harry Bryant was elected president of the local Civitan Club for the 1954-1955 term at Monday night's meeting of the City Cafe. Other officers elected for the coming year were James Brice, vice-president, and Wallace Soles, secretary.

Bryant will succeed J. C. Bell, Jr. as head of the club while Soles replaces Arthur Prince as secretary.

Members accepted the proposal that they sponsor a local girl in the Strawberry Festival beauty contest slated for next month in Chadbourn. Names will be submitted at the next meeting and the contestant selected will be notified before the entrance deadline on April 16.

The annual Civitan Minstrel Show is slated to be reeled off on Tuesday, April 15 at the school auditorium. Practice sessions are being held under the direction of

Bob Hodges, director of the Columbus County Band. This year's show will also include a Womanless Wedding under the direction of Mrs. R. P. Counts and Mrs. Kate Rogers.

President Bell announced the cast for the show and members of the various committees for the production.

Ben L. Nesmith, III, will have the lead in the Minstrel Show while endman named were Phil Hughes, Doc Dameron, Cecil Mercer, Frank McGougan, and David Kelly.

Wallace Soles and Ed Wright head the publicity committee while Bill Oakley and Winston Gore are in charge of the stage property department.

J. C. Bell, Jr. accepted responsibility for arranging the program. Dave Simon and Wallace Soles will be in charge of the door committee.



RED DEVIL 1954 BASEBALLERS — Shown above are the boys who will carry the pennant hopes for Coach S. W. Caruso in this year's diamond campaign. Front row — left to right — Dale Fowler, Ben Spivey, Dale Tompkins, Jerry Cartrette, Jack Cox, Davis Norris and David Earl Anderson. (Second row — left to right) — Bobby Wright, Sam Walden, Ned ... Weidon Gore, Jayson Soles, and Coach Caruso. (back row — left to right) — manager Cecil Wright, Johnny Bruton, Tommy Collier, and Gene Larrimore.

### Local Jaycees Promoting Project; Citizenry Invited To Buy Stock

Rallying behind a movement to bring greater recreational facilities to Tabor City than ever before in history, local citizenry last week began talking up the purchase of the "mill pond" here and of its transformation into a fishing haven and community park.

The movement began when Mayor W. Horace Carter and G. L. Dorman secured a 30 day option on the 700 acre pond from J. L. Dodd, present owner of the property on March 22.

The movement was then set in motion to form a corporation of as many local citizens as possible who will actually own and operate the lake and other property as a recreational center. Before the end of last week, hundreds of people had been seen and rapidly given details of the proposal.

Application for a charter of incorporation was made this week to the North Carolina Secretary of State. The charter was applied for under the name of "Tabor City Recreation Commission, Incorporated." Stockholders at the moment of application were listed as Joe E. Coleman, Dorman and Carter.

The application specified that the corporation was being formed to buy, sell and develop the real estate in the mill pond area and to promote the property as a center of recreation for peoples throughout the Tabor City area.

The entire movement is designed solely to bring about greater local entertainment and recreation and no personal gain motive has been expressed by any of the individuals involved in the negotiations thus far.

If plans are completed to purchase the pond, it will be governed by a board of directors made up of its stockholders and, at the moment, plans are being formulated to make vast improvements to the area so that it would be a highly desirable fishing, swimming, boating and picnicing area.

Property owners around all sides of the huge lake have been contacted in the last few days by local citizens. In every instance these property owners have expressed enthusiasm in the project and have said openly that they would cooperate fully in the movement. Several have said that they would purchase stock and townspeople who have been directing the project have expressed the hope that several of these property owners would buy some stock and that they would serve actively on the corporation's board of directors.

The Tabor City Junior Chamber of Commerce heartily endorsed the project at its meeting last Friday night and voted to raise \$2000 on the required funds. A committee was named to contact potential stockholders in the area.

Although no official action is on paper to date, promoters of the project have stated that no more than five shares will be sold to any one person. They have emphasized that the corporation is seeking to have a great number of small stockholders rather than a few large ones.

Plans call for selling stock at the rate of \$100 a share and this would also entitle the purchaser to free fishing privileges for a specified number of years. Boats would be made available at the pond to be rented to any persons desiring to fish.

Other tentative plans call for immediate major reconstruction on the dam and spillway. If the deal is closed, engineering assistance will be sought to advise the best possible, practical solution to the problem of fortifying the dam and eradicating that as a hazard.

Efforts will begin immediately to secure adequate fish from the N. C. Wildlife authorities with which to properly stock the area. Some fish are already in the pond but it was drained last year and most persons believe it essential that it be thoroughly restocked as soon as possible.

Immediate steps are also planned to make a wide area at the Western end of the dam into a clean and respectable swimming pool for children. Later efforts are expected to be made toward providing adequate swimming facilities for all ages nearer the spillway.

Other long range plans call for erection of a boat dock and pier at some as yet unspecified location near the dam.

In addition to this original money that will have to be raised to complete the purchase, several thousand dollars will have to be raised for the immediate necessary improvements. Over the years, the group hopes that continued improvements will be made, and that it will grow into not only a widely used recreational center but that eventually residential areas will spring up around the huge lake.

"There's always this to consider, also," Mayor Carter said. "In the distant future, let's say 100 years from now, it may be impossible to provide an adequate water supply to the town of Tabor City with deep wells. We have some problem in this respect now. This lake might be a God-send when huge quantities of water are needed in the future and the general public has a civic responsibility to develop this area. Our children deserve better recreational facilities, and this is our only local alternative. It's either develop this, or keep right on having to go out of town for entertainment."

### Ernest Herbert Hickman Succumbs To Heart Attack On Sunday

Ernest Herbert Hickman, 61, prominent retired merchant and farmer, died in the Conway hospital early Sunday morning. He had been in declining health for a long period and suffered several heart attacks.

He was admitted to the hospital Saturday for observation and suffered the fatal attack at 5:00 Sunday morning.

Mr. Hickman was the son of the late Sam Porter Hickman and Mary Frink Hickman of Horry County. He was a member of the Tabor Masonic Lodge, number 563, the Scottish Rites Body of Wilmington and Sudan Temple, New Bern. He was a member of the Mount Tabor Baptist Church and a veteran of World War I.

Mr. Hickman was a Tabor City merchant for a number of years engaging in the grocery business and several years ago moved to Howard where he established a general merchandise store with his sons. He also had extensive farming interests.

Surviving are his wife Mrs. Zula Floyd Hickman; three sons, Edwin, Bill and Ben of Howard; one daughter, Mrs. R. T. Boyd of

Loris; three sisters, Mrs. Bell Blanton of Nichols, Mrs. Mace Shelley of Green Sea and Mrs. Inez Spivey of Tabor City; and two grand children.

The funeral was held from the residence in Howard with Masonic rites Monday afternoon at 3:00. Rev. P. C. Gantt, his pastor officiated and interment followed in the Myrtle Green cemetery.

The Tabor City business establishments closed for the funeral services.

Active pallbearers were I. S. Parham, Horace Roberts, J. S. Rogers, Jack Strickland, Kern Prince, J. M. McGougan, S. T. Rogers, and W. A. Williams.

Honorary pallbearers included Johnny Clemons, Rudolph Todd, Lester Fowler, Gordon Fowler, B. A. Garrell, B. L. Nesmith, Jr., R. C. Coleman, J. M. Soles, R. R. Rogers, Jr., D. W. Hardee, Lewis Gore, Ed Prince, Albert Schild, W. W. Woody, E. C. Sanders, Robert Soles, Wallace Soles, C. D. Garrell, Dr. R. C. Harrelson, Jr., Dr. Ross M. Williamson, Sam Hickman, Needum Causey, J. F. Prince, E. E. Prince, B. K. Stabler, Lee Strickland and Rev. Eric Gaskin.

### Pre-School Clinic Set April 12, 13

Parents of children who will be six years old before October 15 are requested to bring the children to the Pre-School Clinic which gets underway Monday and Tuesday, April 12 and 13.

The clinic will be held at the local school on those two days and will begin at 8:30 a. m.

C. H. Pinner, principal of the local school, said the groups would be taken alphabetically this year and further announcement will be made next week.

### Four Tabor City Boys Arrested For South Carolina Crimes

Housebreaking and grand larceny charges were lodged this week in Conway, S. C., against four Tabor City youths it was reported today by the Horry County Sheriff's Department. All of the boys were released on bond.

The four boys, Jimmy Brady, 17, David Norris, 17, Billy Prince, 17, and John H. Stroud are charged with entering Huggins Store at Mt. Olive, S. C. on March 5.

Three of the boys were arrested in Tabor City by Deputy Roy Huggins and the fourth youth, a soldier now stationed in Georgia, was returned to Horry County by Deputy T. M. Floyd.

The boys are reported to have taken the cash register and a quantity of merchandise from Huggins Store.

Stroud, the last to make bond, was released Tuesday night.

### Passion Sunday To Be Observed By Local Church

The congregation of the Saint Paul Methodist Church will observe Passion Sunday on April 4th with Holy Communion at the regular morning worship hour.

Pastor Carruth will use as the subject for the Communion Meditation "The Acceptance of the Cross."

A film commemorating the establishment of the Holy Communion entitled "The Lord's Supper" will be shown at the 7:30 p. m. worship hour.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend said pastor Carruth.

## "Old Savannah" Gets New Look And Pays Tribute To Modern Day Farming Methods

BY AL HARRISON

Farmers who knew of the venture told him that he was crazy for investing money in such poor earth but their pessimistic views only added fuel to the fire of determination in Tally Eddings to turn "The Old Savannah," between Tabor City and Loris, into a prosperous farm.

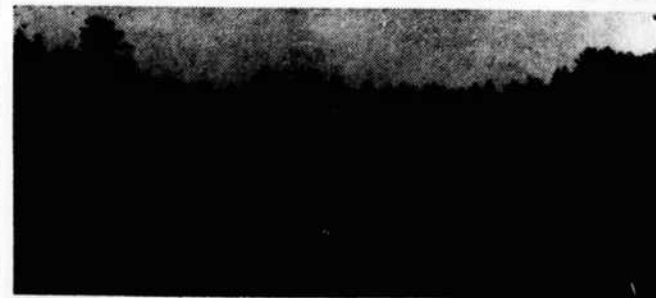
Two hundred and fifty acres of wilderness flushed with swamps and basins is no easy task for any person to tackle—it becomes even more difficult when the person has had no farming experience and knows about farming only what he has read in books.

These obvious handicaps weren't given the slightest edge when Eddings gave up his business in Knoxville, Tenn., and started out to make a fervent wish come true.

Tall tales about the entire tract of land being submerged in water were taken lightly by Eddings. He possessed knowledge that even the many hunters, who had cussed the cold, watery "Savanna" in their quest for game, failed to realize. Eddings was armed with the report that within these 250 acres of wilderness was the highest point in Horry County.

"Evidently, no one had waded all the way through the swamp land that dotted the edges of the Savannah or they would have realized that within this watery grave looking land was a rich and fertile soil," said Eddings as he recalled years of hopeful wishing for ownership of "The Old Savannah."

Highly successful farms border the Savannah on all sides which was the key to Eddings' thought that proper drainage and employment of scientific farming methods would result in some of the rich-



OLD SAVANNAH GETS NEW LOOK — This is part of the new look given to the Old Savannah, located between Tabor City and Loris, S. C., by Tally Eddings who gave up his private business to venture in farming. He had never had a day's experience in farming; yet, his book knowledge and assistance from agriculture agents in Horry County made it possible for him to transform a wilderness into beautiful farm land. On the left can be seen part of the 70 acres cleared during the past seven months. The photo on the right shows one of the right shows one of the three irrigation ponds built within the cleared land.

est farm land in this area.

It was not a "fly by night" proposition. Eddings began dickering with the owners in 1948 when he realized it was the size tract of land he wanted and was financially able to tackle. The owners finally sold it to him in 1953.

"With all the growth and wilderness we were virtually assured that developing the land would be like recalling days of pioneering," commented Eddings as he looked across part of the 70 acres cleared since August. There was a smile on his face—a justified smile since the 70 beautiful green acres told a gratifying story. There was no longer any question of the capability of the soil to produce and the only water visible was an irrigation pond built several months ago.

Lack of farming knowledge from experience proved valuable said Eddings.

"I didn't have to go to the

trouble of forgetting any ancient farming methods which simplified operations to a great extent—ample assistance from the proper authorities in employing the scientific means of farming was the only thing needed," said Eddings.

The proper authorities mentioned were Mr. Kirkpatrick of the Horry Soil Conservation Corp., Carlisle Shelly of the Production Marketing Authority, and Mr. J. D. Cannon of the Horry Conservation in charge of bulldozers and draglines.

"Every farmer should take full advantage of these services offered by competent men who are seeking to improve farming methods throughout the state," urged Eddings in voicing his appreciation for the aid given him by these groups.

Kirkpatrick was one of the first men contacted by Eddings when a survey of the land from a development standpoint was in order. Kirkpatrick surveyed the land in the absence of Eddings but was waiting for him when he arrived at the Savannah.

"I thought you had some good land here," said Mr. Kirkpatrick in a tone of voice that seemed to tell the complete story.

Eddings swallowed once or twice then recovered from his dejected frame of mind to mumble, "Well, we thought so too."

"Well, it is not only good land but it exceeds my expectations," chuckled Kirkpatrick as he realized how Eddings had taken his initial remark.

Kirkpatrick's final remarks were, "With proper drainage the land will grow truck without any difficulty."

That was the go-ahead signal for Eddings. In short order the clearing of 70 acres, the first part of clearance for the eventual building of four farms, was under way. Within three months the 70 acres had been cleared and three irrigation ponds dug plus the bog

### New Development In Pond Project

This week Dodd agreed to sell the pond to the corporation for \$8700 cash and every effort will be exerted to raise this amount and thus affect a huge saving on the purchase.

Organizers of the fund raising effort have expressed the hope that 150 shares can be sold. This would make it possible for the pond to be paid for in cash and in full and set aside enough additional capital to carryout a great deal of the improvement work scheduled to be done.

All persons interested in looking over the pond before deciding to buy stock or not will have the opportunity April 11 and 18 when motor boats will be available at the lake to escort prospective stockholders on a tour of the property.

With several people selling stock, it was impossible at press time to know exactly how many shares had been sold to date. However, it was a certainty that at least 63 shares were sold. Of this amount, \$2900 had been paid in cash and checks, and \$3400 was on hand in the form of signed personal notes.

A meeting of stockholders who have paid for their shares will be held within a few days to elect the corporation's original officers. Officers are expected to be elected on an annual basis by the stockholders at a special called meeting each year.

James W. Roberts of New York City spent a few days here recently with Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Sellers. He also visited Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Cartrette in Loris.

(continued on Page 5)