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"Tabor City — The Town With A City Future"

TABOR CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

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## Varied Talent To Be Displayed In May 12th Pageant

Two "thrushes" and three "hoofers" will be seen in the Miss Columbus County pageant March 12, as well as a clothes-designing model, a pianist, an actress, and one contestant who has yet to decide which she will make the best showing in. Talent, extremely important in the beauty pageant this year, will not be lacking with the nine contestants who have already agreed to grace the Tabor City school stage that night.

The two songstresses will be Dianne Mercer, 18, Chadbourne; and Jaye Moore Soles, 18, Tabor City. Miss Mercer is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Roy Mercer, and a Chadbourne senior. She aspires to be a doctor or laboratory technician. Dianne is sponsored by Charm Beauty Shop, Chadbourne.

Miss Soles is a Tabor graduate, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Soles Jr.; she is sponsored by Marie's Beauty Shop, Tabor City.

The three dancers to appear in the talent-parade are Linda Joan Best, 18; Mary Louise Towne, 18; and Mary Louise Gilliland, 18. Miss Best, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Best, Whiteville, is a senior and plans to attend Woman's College next year.

Mary Towne also hopes to attend W. C. next year, or East Carolina. She graduates this year at Whiteville and is sponsored by the Town's merchant's association. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gay Towne.

Miss Gilliland, the third singer scheduled, wants to attend East Carolina too after she leaves Hillsboro high. She is the daughter of Mr. M. M. Gilliland, sponsored by Lake Waccamaw's Lions club.

Jamsie Williamson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Williamson, Evergreen, is the only keyboard artist scheduled for this year's pageant thus far. Jamsie is in Bladenboro's graduating class.

Interesting — yet unique — will be the appearance of Ricki Jean Norris as a "quick-change" artist when she models garments from her wardrobe which she designed herself. She is a Tabor senior, daughter of Mrs. Ruby Norris. Ricki hopes to take hair styling as her career.

Jean Fuller's talent will be demonstrated with a dramatic reading. Jean, a Whiteville 12th grader, is planning to enter Campbell College in the fall. Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Fuller are her parents.

Clara Mae Prince has not yet decided which talent she will utilize in this phase of the contest. She too is a Tabor graduate, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Car Prince.

Tabor City Jaycees, sponsor of the event, are still looking for more contestants. According to Jimmy Garrett, chairman, deadline for entering is next Saturday morning, April 29.

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JAMSIE WILLIAMSON



MARY LOUISE GILLIAND



DIANNE MERCER



RICKI JEAN NORRIS

## Food For Needy Soon Available

The first shipment of surplus food to be distributed in Columbus County to the needy arrived in Whiteville this week, according to Eldred Buffkin, director of the program, but organization of his office is yet incomplete. Securing adequate facilities to house the program offices has been a main problem, Buffkin said.

Buffkin was appointed by the county commissioners to head the program which was made possible by the government's accumulation of a backlog of surplus foods which President John Kennedy has made available for distribution to needy persons.

At a meeting earlier this year, the commissioners voted to participate in the program which is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture. The county is responsible for hiring and paying the administrative personnel, and for transportation of the foods to local warehouses.

The county's department of welfare, headed by Mrs. Alice Wright, is responsible for certifying those persons seeking the foods. Mrs. Wright stated earlier this week that she hopes that an added case-worker will be assigned to her department to assist with the surplus foods program.

Those seeking the surplus foods must make application to the welfare department. Persons eligible include those who are receiving public assistance and general assistance, as well as others not on the assistance rolls now who the welfare department deem eligible; these include unemployed, parttime employed and other persons in need of food-assistance.

"However, the final determination of need will be the responsibility of the county superintendent of welfare," Buffkin noted.

Items to be distributed are corn meal, flour, rice, milk, lard, dry eggs, butter, peanut butter, pork and gravy, and rolled oats.

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## Final Victor Announced For "My True Security" Contest

Angelia Powell, Williams Township senior, was announced winner of the Jaycees annual "My True Security" theme-writing contest after a final reading Tuesday afternoon in the studios of WTAB where the reading was recorded for broadcast this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Competing against her was Carrie Jean Wray, winner of the Tabor City phase of the contest. Miss Powell won, however, by a margin of only one point.

The "My True Security" contest is promoted by the Junior Chamber of Commerce to foster deeper thought on true value, as well as constructive writing.

Miss Powell is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Powell, Clarendon R. 1, and Miss Wray's parents are Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wray, Tabor City R. 3.

The winner will be presented a plaque denoting the honor. Williams Township school will also retain a trophy received last year representing the largest number of students participating in the project.

Judges for the finals were Mrs. Harold Rogers, Loris; Miss Martha Harrelson, Whiteville High school teacher; and Ed Wall, probation officer assigned to Columbus county. R. C. Soles, Jr. was Jaycee chairman of the project.

Miss Powell stated in her theme that she believes that true security is based only on the spiritual and mental phases of life. "True security is found only in God," she wrote.

"After one has found security in God he will learn to know himself better. Then, when he has learned to know himself he will find that he possesses self-reliance and personal integrity-attributes which are necessary for one to find any real security."

Miss Wray stated, "To me security is not what you have but what you are." Later in her theme she stated, "To me a man's security is only as definite as his character is strong. Through our lifetime we must work to build strong characters by which to mold strong beliefs."

"Of course, God is the only true security in the end," she affirmed, but we cannot obtain this final security by merely saying we believe. After stating such it is up to us to live a life that will keep us worthy of final security."

Charles Enzor, retiring president, called the Fair Bluff P. T. A. to order Monday night after the reading of the minutes by retiring secretary, P. P. Renfrew. Mrs. Jimmie Scott gave the devotional.

## New Officers Named By Group

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New officers for the P.T.A. include Mrs. B. A. Powell, president; Mrs. Harold Turner, vice president; Mrs. James Rabon, secretary.

The program for the meeting was a talk on Cancer research and a film "Horizon of Hope" presented by Leslie H. Row, County Chairman of the Crusade.

Many forms of Cancer can be cured if treated in time Mr. Row pointed out. He also stressed that 270,000 will die this year, many of them needlessly.

"The American Cancer Society supports research, gives people life saving facts about Cancer and eases the burden of Cancer patients and their families," he said.

In conclusion he said "Money talks when you give to the Cancer Crusade our dollars can save lives and spread the word that many types of Cancer are now curable if detected and treated in time."

## A. A. Wright's Funeral Today

Arthur Augustus Wright, 87, retired saw mill superintendent, died at his home here Tuesday morning.

A native of Pembroke, Maine, he was a son of the late David Wright and Mary Smith Wright. He was a member of the Tabor City Baptist Church.

Funeral services will be held this afternoon, (Wednesday) at 3 p. m. in the Inman Funeral Home with his pastor, the Rev. James H. Johnson, officiating, assisted by the Rev. R. L. Pugh. Burial will be in the Myrtle Green Cemetery.

Active pallbearers will be Charles Leggett, Venoy Stephens, Monroe Lee, Woodrow Sarvis, Garland Fowler and Reece Burroughs.

Honorary pallbearers include Jennings Strickland, Robert Fowler, G. L. Dorman, Dr. Hubert Todd, M. D. Thompson, Ben Nesmith, Dr. C. F. Simpson and J. A. Hufham Jr.

He is survived by his wife; the former Bertha Mae Crawford; one daughter, Mrs. J. J. Harrison of Barnwell, S. C.; seven sons, Howard and Freeman of Detroit, Mich., Phillip of Baltimore, Md., Olin of New Bern, Kenneth of Atlanta, Ga., Granville of New York City and Pembroke of Petersburg, Va.; 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

## Body Of Drowned Man Discovered At Fair Bluff

The body of English Darwin Cook, 37, Chadbourne, - Whiteville insurance man, who drowned in Lumber River, at Fair Bluff nearly nine days earlier, was found early Thursday.

Capt. Elmo Hammond of the newly-organized Fair Bluff Rescue Squad, discovered the body floating in about 2 1/2 feet of water at about 7 a. m. while patrolling the area alone. The body was located at a spot half a mile downstream from where a light motorboat bearing Cook and a companion, Walter Haynes of Fair Bluff, overturned April 11. Haynes managed to swim ashore.

The two had been on a fishing trip on the river, swollen to overflowing by continuous rains.

The drowning set off one of the most extensive searches and rescue efforts ever known in North Carolina and the greatest ever held in this part of the state.

Rescue groups from Chadbourne, Lake Waccamaw and Lumberton, in North Carolina, and Marion, Mullins, Loris and Horry County, South Carolina as well as the Twin City (Loris and Tabor City) CAP Squadron joined with Fair Bluff's new group in the effort. Members of the Columbus County sheriff's department, Civil Air Patrol and State Highway Department joined in the search, which employed several scores of workers. Divers from Hartsville, S. C., Camp Lejeune and Wilmington also tried to locate the body.

Cook was a general agent for First National Life Insurance Co., with offices in Whiteville. He had lived in Chadbourne for about 15 years, though a native of Lake View, S. C.

He was a member of Chadbourne Baptist Church from which services were held Friday at 3 p. m. the Rev. Leo Hawkins and the Rev. Jimmy Johnson officiating. Burial was in Columbus Memorial Park in Whiteville.

Cook was a member of Chadbourne Masonic Lodge No. 607 and was a veteran of World War II. Masonic rites were held at the funeral.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Marie Mercer Cook; a son, Ed Cook; three daughters, Rita Jo, Debbie and Jackie Cook, of Whiteville; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eston Cook, Mullins, and a sister, Mrs. W. H. Grover, Mullins.

Imagination disposes of everything; it creates beauty, justice, happiness, which is everything in this world.

## Green Sea Youth Drowns During Fraternity Initiation

The body of Joe Henry Derham, Jr., 19, was found this morning in a lake on or near Clemson College, S. C., in which he was declared missing Tuesday while undergoing a fraternity initiation ceremony, according to an official source.

The popular Green Sea youth was a freshman at Clemson and was seeking membership in the fraternity conducting the "Hell Week" initiation. Cause of his death was attributed to drowning.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Henry Derham, Sr., and a 1960 graduate of Green Sea High school. His father is the community's postmaster, a merchant and farmer also.

Young Derham's body was discovered around 3 o'clock this morning.

Funeral arrangements are to be announced by Hardwick Funeral Home, Loris, later.

He is survived by his parents; the former two sisters, Mrs. Frank Looper of Florence and Mrs. Wilbur Brown, Lake City.

## W.A. Inman Dies Sunday Morning

William Alexander Inman, 90, retired farmer, of the Iron Hill Section died at home Sunday morning after an illness of six weeks.

A native of Columbus County he was a son of the late Allen Inman and Calista Baldwin Inman.

Funeral services were held Monday at 3 p. m. in the Iron Hill Baptist Church, of which he was a member, by the Rev. Forest Strife and the Rev. James H. Johnson. Burial was in the Spivey Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Robert Dale Inman, Wayne Cox, Allen Cox, Bob Cox, Sammy Inman and Billy Inman.

Surviving are four sons, Fred, Thomas, Ford and Leon of Tabor City; two daughters, Mrs. Jack Strickland and Mrs. Burrage M. Cox, both of Tabor City; 12 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Sales and Nesmith are businessmen; Wright, and Gore, Norris, farmers. Mrs. Bruton and Mrs. Inman are both highly qualified for the job," said Damerson, for they both are college graduates and parents of school-age children.

Nominated to the committee posts for Douglass school were L. D. Melvin, Clayton Chestnut, Joe Bellamy, Vernon Long, William E. Shipman and Sam Stanley.

WILLIAMSON BILL. Yesterday (Tuesday) Representative Arthur Williamson submitted a bill to the House of Representatives asking for the termination of terms to which the Old Dock school committee members were appointed Friday night, and asking for the appointment of another committee.

His bill was immediately (Continued From Page 3)

## County Confederate Soldier Wee Man With The Big Name

By WRAY THOMPSON. Probably the smallest man to serve in the Confederate army had the longest name — J. J. Prosper For Me D. W. Doctor DeVovell Conner.

Conner, who died in 1910, lies beneath a stone in the Porter Swamp cemetery in the Columbus County area where he was reared, four miles east of Fair Bluff.

Following the name inscribed on the marker is the epithet, "Born Nov. 9, 1830, JOINED THE CONFEDERATE ARMY 1861, RETURNED HOME JUNE 26, 1865. All things to the glory of God."

That he was involved in the saga of a famous Confederate spy, Mrs. Rose O. Greenwood, is a fact that the remaining member of his family had declined to disclose until recent years.

Mrs. Greenwood was a vivacious Washington hostess who, during the Civil War, was imprisoned for assisting the cause of the South, and later died while making a desperate attempt to consummate trade arrangements between the Confederate and England, of which the success might have been the economic salvation of the South.

JOINS ARMY. "Doc" Conner was one of the eleven children born to James and Arrie Nobles Conner in the Porter Swamp community. Although he was less than five feet tall, at his mother's insistence he volunteered for service in the Confederate army, because of his size, was refused two times before acceptance after the third try.

His daughter, Mrs. Mark Nobles, 83, who lives in Fair Bluff, says that when her father entered the army, and reported to duty at Fort Fisher, he wore only a size-four shoe. When he was uniformed, it (Continued On Page 2)



MARBLE MARKER from which the author copies important dates, identifies the grave of J.J.P.F.M.D.V. Conner, a Porter Swamp native who served the Confederacy as a soldier at Fort Fisher. Conner had the stone created before his death and placed in the Powell Cemetery, Fair Bluff, but it was moved to the Porter Swamp site after he died. Members of his family never did have the date of his death inscribed on the stone. (Note the tattered and sun-bleached Confederate flag.)



ELDRED BUFFKIN Program Director



ANGELIA POWELL