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of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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LACY STUTTS SHOT BY OWN GUN ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Young Vass Resident Dies as Result of Accident While Hunting

LEAVES WIFE AND BABY

The Christmas happiness in Vass was marred by a fatal hunting accident which occurred Thursday afternoon and cost the life of Lacy Stutts, twenty-one years old, of Vass, who for some time had been working with a Seaboard carpenter force in Columbia, South Carolina, but who had come home to spend the holidays with his family.

Mr. Stutts with a party of friends was out hunting rabbits on Christmas afternoon. He is said to have been poking the breech of his gun around among some bushes when the gun accidentally discharged, the entire load taking effect just about his heart. A car was nearby and the wounded man was carried to the Moore County Hospital, where he succumbed at five o'clock the following morning. He was conscious for several hours after the accident.

The funeral service was conducted at the home of the young man's father-in-law, Mr. Jessup, near Vass at three o'clock Saturday afternoon by the Rev. Charles A. Lawrence, and the body was laid to rest in Johnson's Grove cemetery. There were many relatives and friends present for the last rites.

Mr. Stutts was a son of Mr. and Mrs. George Stutts of Vass and was well liked by his associates. He was united in marriage about a year ago to Miss Emma Jessup, who with a little two-months-old son, Billy Ray, survives him. In addition to these, the following sisters and brother survive: Mrs. Lee Jones, Mrs. Ben Lane, Mrs. Horton Womble, Misses Nellie, Vera and Emma Stutts and John Stutts, all of Vass.

Fire Destroys Home of D. D. Cameron

Residence on South Street, Aberdeen Burns Before Large New Year's Day Crowd

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Cameron at the corner of South street and the Laurinburg road, Aberdeen, was completely destroyed by fire which broke out early New Year's afternoon and for a time proved a serious threat to the adjacent woods. The alarm attracted scores of residents to the scene, and early comers aided in removing the furniture from the home so that the loss was confined to the building itself. Even the piano was successfully carried out before the flames reached the living room.

The house, a frame structure, was purchased by the Camerons some time ago from Dr. A. H. McLeod. The Aberdeen department made a quick run to the scene, but the stream of water had little effect upon the burning timbers. The truck of the Southern Pines Fire Department broke down near Charlie's Place on the way to aid the local department in extinguishing the flames. The blaze spread to the heavy growth of grass in the low ground, but spectators succeeded in keeping it away from adjacent dwellings by back firing.

AMERICAN LEGION BALL PROVES GREAT SUCCESS

The American Legion Ball was a great success on Tuesday night and Shields Cameron, chairman of the committee in charge, reports that the Sandhill Post fund for disabled veterans will be greatly increased by the proceeds. He could not give a definite figure yesterday owing to the fact that several who had tickets to sell had not reported on them, but said sufficient money was taken in at the door of the Country Club that evening to more than meet expenses. The clubhouse was crowded for the annual affair, and Jack Wardlaw's U. N. C. orchestra was kept hard at it until around four o'clock in the morning.

The Sandhill Post takes care of a number of disabled veterans at the Government hospital at Oteen.

Food and Clothes for Hundreds of Sandhills' Needy



Photograph taken the day before Christmas when more than a dozen trucks were loaded by the Kiwanis Christmas Daddies for the distribution of baskets of food and boxes of clothing for needy families of the Sandhills. In the forefront are, left to right, P. Frank Buchan, chairman, Thad S. Page, Willard Dunlop, Mayor D. G. Stutts of Southern Pines, Senator-elect Murdoch M. Johnson, the Rev. J. Fred Stimson and Gloma A. Charles, who had charge of the fleet of trucks.

SOUTHERN PINES NAMES COMMITTEE ON UNEMPLOYMENT

All Local Organizations Represented on Board For Relief Measures

ELECT OFFICERS MONDAY

M. G. Nichols, chairman of the committee of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce, recently named by President L. B. McBrayer to effect an organization to be known as the "General Committee for unemployment relief" announced yesterday that the organization had been completed by the appointment of the following representative citizens by the various organizations in the city. George Case, representing the City Government; L. V. O'Callaghan, for the Catholic Church; J. F. Cole, for the Christian Scientist Church; S. B. Richardson, for the Baptist Church; J. C. Barron, for the Episcopal Church; Charles P. Heyward, for the Church of Wide Fellowship; Lloyd T. Clark, Masons; A. L. Adams, Odd Fellows; Miss Ethel Burnham, Eastern Star; Mrs. A. McN. Blair, Civic Club; Mrs. Hunter Eckert, Thistle Club; John Powell, Country Club; Charles Macauley, Men's Club; Struthers Burt, Library Association; E. V. Perkinson, Contractors; Frank Pottle, Hotels, and M. G. Nichols for the Chamber of Commerce.

A meeting of the committee has been called for next Monday evening at 8:30 sharp for the selection of chairman, Vice chairman and secretary, the appointment of various sub-committees, and to consider the best methods to accomplish the greatest good.

About a month ago the Chamber of Commerce appointed a committee to investigate the actual and prospective unemployment situation in Southern Pines, and the report of the committee induced the Chamber of Commerce to strongly recommend the organizing of a committee representing all the churches and other business, civic and social organizations to take charge of the work of relief which appeared to be urgent and continuous for several months. M. G. Nichols was delegated to form the General Committee and to represent the Chamber of Commerce on the committee.

CHIEF BROWN OF S. P. FIRE DEPARTMENT PASSES AWAY

Walter J. Brown, 50 years old, chief of the Southern Pines Fire Department from 1926 to 1930, died in Ashford, N. C., yesterday afternoon, a victim of Bright's disease. The funeral will be held today. Mr. Brown came to Southern Pines eight years ago, and was one of the best known citizens of the community. He leaves a widow, and three sons and three daughters. Two sons, C. J. and G. C. Brown, are in business in Southern Pines.

Death Claims J. McN. Johnson, Leading Citizen of Moore County

Dean of Moore County Bar, Author and Poet, Laid to Rest in Old Bethesda

James McNeill Johnson was laid to rest Friday afternoon in the cemetery so dear to his heart, Old Bethesda. This first citizen of the community with which he had grown up died at 3 o'clock on Christmas morning, ending a life of nearly seventy-one years of love and devotion to his family, his church, his county, state and nation. His was a life of service, unselfish, self-sacrificing, fulsome.

Mr. Johnson was born in Moore County, the son of Scotch parents. His early years were spent in the little town of Keyser, now Addor, then a center of activity in this section of the state. He conducted a general store in the village, and between the visits of customers to his counter he studied pharmacy, reading books on the subject and taking a course by mail. This self education led to his removal to Aberdeen to open a drug store, which he operated here for a number of years.

But from boyhood the great ambition in the heart of "Jim" Johnson had been to some day practice before the bar of his state, and during and after hours at the drug store, just as he had learned the pharmaceutical profession during his merchant days, he pored over legal volumes, again took a mail course, and acquired sufficient knowledge of the law to pass his state bar examinations in 1898, and become a full-fledged lawyer. He lived to head one of the leading law firms of this part of North Carolina and died the dean of his profession in the county.

J. McN. Johnson served Aberdeen in many capacities. He was mayor of the town at one time, served several years as its postmaster, was ever the friend and counsellor of those in power. He took an active part in the affairs of the Masonic order for many long years, was past master of the local lodge and at the time of his death Thursday was the oldest member of the lodge, both in age and affiliation. Some years ago he was made an honorary life member.

Ruling Elder of Church

The Presbyterian Church was ever dear to the heart of this good man. When at Keyser he was an elder of the church. For forty years he served as deacon of the Presbyterian Church here, and not long ago was made ruling elder. The history and traditions of Old Bethesda meant much to him, and to his love and activity is due much of the preservation of this edifice on the hill overlooking the village he called home. The old cemetery in the midst of which the church stands, was his personal pride.

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E. Roland Harriman, Goshen, New York, president of the American Trotting club, has been elected president of the Pinehurst Matinee club.



JAMES McNEILL JOHNSON

A Tribute

Mr. Butler Writes of Loss of a Close Friend in J. McN. Johnson

By Bion H. Butler

Some years ago a bright young man, Clyde Davis, in leaving the Sandhills to go to the World's Work in New York, wrote a brief farewell to this section, in the course of which he said he had looked forward to a day, when after a life spent in the Sandhills, he would be one of a trio side by side in Bethesda cemetery, himself, Jim Johnson and Bion Butler the others. It would have seemed curious to me, older than the other two, if I had known that I would lay a tribute at the feet of either of them, but Clyde Davis went first, and now that other good old friend, Jim Johnson, follows him.

James McNeill Johnson has been to me one of the inside circle that a man gathers about him in his associations. He had a bookish habit, but with it that natural faculty of inquiring into things that led him to become well informed, while good judgment enabled him to weight the information he gathered, and to bend his efforts in a direction that afforded him a right-well balanced home-made education. One of his traits was thoroughness, which made him as a lawyer one of the most exacting men in chasing down a title abstract that you will find in a life time. He knew the old grants, and the old deeds, and the old surveys and to fortify his knowledge he knew the old people who owned the lands. To many pieces of property he could write a chain of title from the memory of his acquaintance with the two or three generations, who had constituted the families. With that acquaintance he was fortified in local history, and a source to which the inquiring newspaper man often turned for information concerning people and things of the old-

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KIWANIS CARRIES CHRISTMAS CHEER TO 223 FAMILIES

Club Members Acclaim Report of Their Committee to Aid the Needy

NEARLY \$1,800 DONATED

The Christmas Daddies wound up their work the day before Christmas, and Christmas Daddies they truly were. No less than 84 white families and 139 colored families were provided for by this committee organized by the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen. A statement issued by P. Frank Buchan, chairman, best tells the story of the huge task performed by his committee:

"The committee of the Kiwanis Club wishes to express to the hundreds of individuals and various organizations in Southern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen its thanks for the wonderful cooperation and assistance given the committee by contributions of clothing and cash, making it possible to distribute to 223 families in Moore county Christmas cheer in the way of clothing, groceries, fruit, candy and toys.

"Seventy-five baskets of food and 76 boxes of clothing were sent to 84 white families, and 129 baskets of food and 113 boxes of clothing to 139 colored families. There were some families who needed only clothes, others only groceries. In the white families served, there were 272 children; in the colored families, 303 children, a total of 575 children.

"Below we give you the amount of groceries and clothing sent out by the committee:

"2,370 lbs. flour, 988 lbs. meal, 1975 lbs. potatoes, 198 lbs. butter, 395 lbs. lard, 988 lbs. sugar, 198 lbs. coffee, 1,383 lbs. cabbage, 988 lbs. rice, 988 lbs. meat, 228 lbs. candy, 40 lbs. raisins, 1,935 oranges and 2,820 apples.

Much Clothing Distributed

"The clothing distributed was as follows: 654 pairs of shoes, 550 union suits, 700 pairs of hose, 225 sweaters, 170 girls' dresses, 100 ladies' dresses, 50 ladies coats, 50 girls' coats, 50 men's suits, 35 men's overcoats, 25 men's sweaters and lumber jackets, 75 pairs of boys' overalls, 36 pairs of boys' trousers, 60 boys' shirts, 12 girls' coats (new), 12 boys' coats (new), 12 boys' lumber jackets (new), 60 men's shirts, 50 complete baby outfits, at least 1,000 toys.

"The total amount collected in cash by the committee was close to \$1,800. Sixty-five dollars worth of groceries were donated. The big order for groceries was placed with Bakers' Food Shop in Southern Pines whose bid was lower than other stores competing. This store also contributed \$30.00.

"The committee received cash donations ranging from one dollar to \$200. The total number contributing cash, food or clothing ran well into the hundreds. Among the organizations contributing were the Civic Club of Southern Pines, Christian Science Society of Southern Pines, the Ladies Aid of the Church of Wide Fellowship, Carolina Theatre, American Legion, Miss Margaret Silver's Sunday School Class, the Men's Bible Class of Southern Pines, the Good Fellows Club of Aberdeen, the Woman's Sunday School Class of the Baptist Church, Southern Pines.

"All clothing was purchased at liberal discounts, the local merchants being generous in their aid to the committee. Shoes were bought in job lots at from 50 to 75 cents per pair. Underclothing was bought wholesale by the case.

"The committee wishes to especially thank the Civic Club of Southern Pines, not only for its cash contribution but for the valuable aid given in packing the clothing. We would also like to thank the ladies of Aberdeen for the service they rendered in packing, and we would fail to do our duty if we did not mention S. B. Richardson, Thad Page and Mrs. J. C. Kelly and her son, who worked tirelessly for days helping us get the packages ready for distribution. And last but not least, we wish to thank the newspapers, the Sandhill Citizen, The Pi-

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K. DARBY BADLY HURT WHEN TRAIN HITS AUTOMOBILE

Official of Piedmont Grocery Co. In Serious Condition at County Hospital

AT ABERDEEN CROSSING

K. P. Darby, one of the owners of the Piedmont Grocery Company of Aberdeen and Troy, is in a serious condition at the Moore County Hospital as the result of a collision with Seaboard Air Line Train No. 4 at the main crossing in Aberdeen at about 9 o'clock yesterday, Thursday, morning.

Mr. Darby, who recently moved to Aberdeen from Southern Pines and with his wife has been occupying one of the J. R. Page cottages on Page Hill, started across the track in his car on his way to the local warehouse of the grocery company. It is believed that a truck alongside his car prevented his seeing how near at hand was the approaching northbound train, and the locomotive crashed into the very center of the big sedan, shoving it along the tracks some twenty-five yards. The car did not turn over, but was badly bent and the windows shattered, causing severe cuts. Just what caused the internal injuries which it is feared may prove fatal is not known unless the compact threw Mr. Darby, who is a large man, against the steering wheel with tremendous force.

The train was quickly brought to a stop and Mr. Darby lifted unconscious from the car. Dr. McLeod rushed to the scene and took him to the hospital at Pinehurst where it was said at a late hour yesterday that he was in a very serious condition.

A report from the hospital about midnight was to the effect that Mr. Darby had partially regained consciousness and that his condition was more favorable.

Mr. Darby resided at Troy for some time before coming to Southern Pines and Aberdeen. His wife formerly conducted the May Darby Shop in Southern Pines, and both Mr. and Mrs. Darby are well known and popular young people of the community.

A. R. Chiswell Hurt In Auto Collision

A. R. Chiswell of Southern Pines, an employe of the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company store in Pinehurst, is in a serious condition in Moore County Hospital, the result of a collision between his car and that driven by Charles Stanbach Lewis of Wadesville on the double road between Pinehurst and Southern Pines late last night. Mr. Chiswell suffered a fractured skull and was still unconscious at time of going to press.

Mr. Chiswell was returning to his home in Southern Pines from Pinehurst in his Buick car when he was struck by a Chrysler driven by Lewis. Also in the Lewis car were R. E. Green of Wadesville and Tom Coggin of Pinehurst. Chiswell's car was completely wrecked and its owner taken from under the wreckage and rushed to the hospital by C. H. Butterick of Southern Pines.

Lewis and Green were arrested by Officer Gargas of the Southern Pines police force and held over night in jail. Lewis was charged before Justice Windham this morning with operating a car while under the influence of liquor, and held without bond for appearance before Judge Humber at Carthage. Green was held as a witness under \$1,000 bond.

RUNAWAY GIRLS FROM NEW YORK HELD HERE

Three runaway girls from New York, all about 16 years old, are being held by the police of Southern Pines awaiting advice from the New York authorities as to what to do with them. Assistant Chief Gargas arrested the trio in the Seaboard station last night following a wire from John J. Sullivan, acting chief inspector of the New York police.

The girls, Sylvia Weinstein, Barnett Chamowitz and Rose Nolkowitz left their homes in New York to hitchhike their way to Florida to spend the winter.