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of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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FIVE CENTS

DORMITORIES AT SAMARCAND BURN; 16 GIRLS ARRESTED

Two Buildings of State Institution Totally Destroyed and Inmates Face Charges

ALL ADMIT COMPLICITY

Two buildings at the State Institution for Delinquent Girls at Samarcand were totally destroyed by fire last Thursday afternoon, and as a result sixteen girls ranging in age from 15 to 20 are in jail on charges of arson. According to Sheriff Charles J. McDonald, each one of the girls has admitted some part in firing the buildings, Chamberlin Hall and Bickett Hall, both dormitories. The girls were all inmates of the institution. The girls were given a preliminary hearing before Judge George R. Humber at Carthage on Monday and bound over to the May term of Moore County Superior Court on charges of first degree arson, a capital felony in North Carolina.

Moore county's jail being too small to hold the prisoners, arrangements were made Monday for their transfer to the other nearby institutions to await trial. The arrests were made promptly after the fire, the girls being held temporarily in the jails at Carthage and Troy.

Walter Siler, of the attorney general's office in Raleigh, was in Carthage Monday to handle the prosecution of the cases against the girls, and G. W. McNeill of Carthage was assigned to their defense.

Those Arrested

The sixteen held are: Josephine French, of Haw River; Delois Seawell, of Cove City; Mary Branson, of Rocky Mount; Margaret Pridgen, of Wilmington; Margaret Abernethy, of Kinston; Wilma

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Seek Vote on Express And Mail Delivery

Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce to Conduct Referendum Among Citizens

Residents of Southern Pines are going to be asked to vote on whether or not they want free mail and express delivery in the town. On motion of Dr. L. B. McBrayer, it was voted at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, held Tuesday noon at the Southern Pines Country Club, to submit the question to a referendum. Secretary Shields Cameron will send out postal cards in the near future.

This is not a new subject of controversy in Southern Pines. For several years there have been many who thought the town had become of sufficient size to warrant the delivery of express parcels to their homes, and others who sought delivery of mail by carrier. Those against the plan for express deliveries base their opposition on the fact that they would prefer to go to the express office and get their parcels when they arrive than lose valuable time in waiting for them to be delivered. Some of the larger merchants are numbered among the opponents.

Those who do not want mail delivered hold that the present box system gets people downtown at least once a day, is therefore good for business, and besides, the postoffice serves as a congenial morning meeting place for all and breeds a neighborly spirit.

A motion was passed at Tuesday's meeting to send a delegation to see State Highway Commissioner J. Elwood Cox before he retires—if he does—from the commission and make one more appeal for the paving of U. S. Highway No. 1 from Aberdeen to Drowning Creek. The stretch from Drowning Creek to the junction of the Rockingham and Hamlet roads is slated for paving, leaving the Aberdeen stretch the worst of the unimproved parts of No. 1 in this vicinity. President S. B. Richardson of the Chamber of Commerce will appoint a committee this week. Final contracts for this summer's work are to be let by the commission on March 27th, it is stated.

Salvation Army Buys "Broadacres," 5,000-Acre Tract in the Sandhills

Hospital Has Baby

Eight Months Old Girl, Found on Doorstep, Turned Over To Institution

The Moore County Hospital has become the proud parent of an eight months old baby girl. Many babies have been born in the new hospital since its opening a year and a half ago, but they all belonged to someone else. Now the institution has one of its own—unless someone claims her.

A white baby girl was found on the doorstep of the John M. Jamison cottage last week, well dressed and with smiling blue eyes. No one knows how the little one came to be there. She was taken to the hospital, and no one has claimed her. If you want to adopt a nice eight-months old daughter, the hospital authorities will consider your application.

VAN WIE, ORCUTT ENTER SOUTHERN PINES TOURNAMENT

Noted Women Golfers To Compete in Annual Mid-South Event Starting Next Week

MANY PRIZES OFFERED

The Women's Mid-South Medal Championship, an invitation tournament inaugurated three years ago and played annually since then, will be held next week, Thursday and Friday at the Southern Pines Country Club. Miss Maureen Orcutt of New York, several times Metropolitan woman's champion and well known nationally, who won the tournament last year, will be here to defend her title, as will Miss Virginia Van Wie of Chicago, winner of the Mid-South championship in 1929.

Other golf stars, nationally known, who will come to Southern Pines early next week include Miss Bernice Wall, Wisconsin champion and a member of the American team accompanying Miss Collett to England last year, Miss Edith Quier who played such fine golf last year in many important tournaments and a player enjoying great popularity with golf galleries, Mrs. O. S. Hill, western champion and a former North and South champion, Mrs. David Gaut, former Southern champion and a member of the woman's committee of the United States Golf Association, Mrs. Marion Turpie Lake, also former Southern champion, Mrs. Melvin Jones a former western champion, and Mrs. Harry V. Maxwell well known Pinehurst star.

The program calls for eighteen holes medal play each day, with additional contests on the side.

Trophies will be awarded to the winner of the tournament and to the 2nd., 3rd., and 4th.; low gross scores, to the 1st., 2nd., 3rd., and 4th.; low scores, to the low gross 18 holes, to the best selected 18 holes and to the winners of the special events.

The committee requests that tournament entries be sent to Mrs. E. Ellsworth Giles, Southern Pines, to be received not later than Tuesday, March 24th.

J. C. BARRON FINDS \$2.50 IN HIS 25 CENT APPLE

J. C. Barron, golfer, deserted the links long enough last Saturday morning to buy an apple from the barrel auctioned off by Frank Buchan for the unemployment fund. He only gave a quarter for the fruit, and it proved a good investment. When he bit into it his teeth struck something hard. Investigation revealed the \$2.50 gold piece which Claude Hayes had donated for the worthy cause. J. C. is still trying to figure what interest he made on his twenty-five cent investment.

*Old Gates Home and Orchard Sold to National Organization by H. A. Page, Jr.

Broadacres Orchard, comprising the Frederick T. Gates home, and containing more than 5,000 acres, has been sold by H. A. Page, Jr., to the Salvation Army, according to announcement made this week. The offices of the Southern Division of the Salvation Army, comprising territory of around 15 Southern states and the District of Columbia, is in Atlanta, and is in charge of Commissioner Alexander M. Damon, the legal department being in charge of Ensign J. R. Curran. The full scope of the operation of the Army is little appreciated, they having in all principal cities of the country hotels, rooming houses, hospitals, stores, etc. All of their men's hotels are called Argonne, and their women's hotels are called Evangeline, after its commander in chief, Evangeline Booth. The policy of the Army is to give aid to all needy persons applying for it, but to obtain such assistance, it is a fixed rule, unless the needy is physically unable, to require that some sort of work be done in exchange for assistance. The Army owns and maintains all of its units, and it has a large corps of most efficient workers to carry on the varied activities of one of the largest charitable organizations in the world. The record made by the Salvation Army during the World War stands out as one of the bright spots of that terrific conflict.

Just what disposition is to be made of the property just acquired is not definitely known, the new owners not yet having decided on what procedure they will take. A rest camp, somewhat like those maintained by the Woodmen of the World or the Shriners for members of their organizations in locations like Denver, might be one use to which it could be put.

A more general hospital for the transfer of those from other hospitals of the Army might also be worked out. However, with the backing of the Salvation Army which through numerous bequests is one of the largest property owners of charitable institutions in the world, it is only a question of what plan is best suited for the development of the property.

This property is located only three miles from the Mossiel Club, and a like distance from the large estate of Eldridge Johnson just on this side of Lumbee River. It is also close to the property reported sold last week to Glenn McKinney of New York.

Kiwanis Club Hears Quartet From Raeford

Visiting Ladies Entertain Members—Show to Aid Educational Fund Announced

A ladies' quartet from Raeford entertained the members of the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen at their weekly meeting held Wednesday in the Civic Club at Southern Pines. With Mrs. Clyde Upchurch at the piano, Mrs. W. R. Farrington, Mrs. W. M. Thomas, Mrs. Ina B. Bethune and Mrs. H. C. McLaughlin sang a number of selections. Mrs. Farrington delighted her audience with two solos, "Wild Irish Rose" and "When I Dream of Old Erin".

Richard Tufts told the club members of the need for more general support of the new County Hospital throughout the county. Edwin McKeithen announced the dates for the play to be held for the benefit of the Moore County Educational Foundation as March 31st at the Southern Pines Country Club and April 2 at the Carolina Theatre, Pinehurst. He stated that the cream of local talent had been secured to entertain the populace on those evenings.

RED CROSS \$10,000,000 CAMPAIGN OVER THE TOP

Local members of the American Red Cross expressed keen pleasure yesterday at the news that the campaign to raise \$10,000,000 in the country for drought relief had "gone over the top." The Moore County chapter did its fair share in the campaign for funds. North Carolina raised \$32,008.

WRECK LEADS TO ARREST OF 3 FOR NEW YORK THEFT

Stolen Auto Fails To Take Vass Curve at 75 Miles an Hour

CAUGHT AT ROCKINGHAM

A trip that, if reports are true, began with a sensational take-off from New York in a Packard car obtained in a hold-up at the point of a pistol ended most abruptly in Vass on Thursday night about twelve o'clock when the car failed to make the dangerous curve on Federal highway No. 1 near the railroad underpass and did a flip-flop that left it wholly incapacitated.

Clifford A. Schwab, 28, admits holding up the night watchman of a garage with a 45 Colt pistol, gagging and binding him, robbing him of \$38 and then stealing the new Packard straight 8 sedan. With Schwab was Eugene Reed, Jr., aged 27. At Trenton the two picked up Alfred Storms, 18. But he had nothing to do with the crime.

News of the accident was not generally known here until Friday morning, and then nothing could be learned except that a car was wrecked. No occupants were around. It was later learned that Alton Shaw, a young man of the Cameron community had happened along around twelve o'clock, just after the wreck had occurred, and had seen three men there, presumably gathering up articles scattered by the turn over. He stopped and asked if the party needed any help and was answered in the negative in a way that caused him to think that he had better move along.

Passers-by on Friday morning had their suspicions aroused when they learned that the wrecked car, a practically new convertible sedan, had been abandoned after the accident. Later, three men, one scratched up somewhat and another with torn clothing, attracted attention as they walked southward along the highway. Chief Beasley was notified, but when he came upon the men, they were already over the boundary into Richmond county, so he notified Rockingham officers, who arrested the trio on suspicion, and they were held in the county jail.

On Sunday, the Richmond county sheriff and a United States Deputy Marshal accompanied one of the prisoners to the scene of the wreck and on into Vass where the car had been brought for safe keeping. He is said to have admitted being in the car and to have said that it was being driven at a speed of 75 miles an hour when the accident occurred.

A pocketbook was found near the scene of the wreck which contained a card bearing what is supposed to be the name of the owner of the car. The prisoner claimed that the party had hidden four suit cases near the river, but a search failed to reveal them. He is also said to have told that the car was obtained after a man in New York had been held up at a garage at the point of a pistol, and left tied upstairs in the building.

It is said that officers are inclined to discredit a part of the story told, but the fact that the men were all heavily armed was enough to induce New York headquarters to send a detective here. They suspect the men may be wanted for other crimes in New York's underworld.

SOUTHERN PINES TOURNAMENT DWINDLES DOWN TO FOUR

Paul Carter, University of North Carolina golfer, Tom Kelley, L. E. Adams and Alec Brown survive the championship flight in the annual tournament for the golf championship of the Southern Pines Country Club, being played there this week, and the semi-final round will be played today, Friday, with the finals tomorrow.

Surviving in the second flight are Harry Pethick, F. Froeb, T. M. Adams and Robert Skinner, and in the third, W. S. Rutherford, W. A. Growney, J. C. Mallalien and Joseph Clapham.

100 Per Cent Town

Aberdeen Only Place of Any Size in State Which Had No Fire Loss in 1930

Aberdeen was the only town of any size in North Carolina which had no fire damage in 1930.

The North Carolina Fire Prevention Bulletin published by the State Insurance Department is just out and has some interesting figures. The fire loss in the state for 1930 was \$6,308,552, as compared with \$4,992,412 for 1929. The number of fires in the state in 1930 was 2,822 as compared with 2,423 for 1929. Though it would seem from the above that fires are on the increase, the per capita loss this past year was \$1.98 as compared with \$3.21 back in 1922.

Aberdeen alone attained the honor roll for the year among towns of any size. Of the towns having 15,000 or more population, Rocky Mount leads the list for smallest damage, only \$12,312 loss for the year. Asheville was a close second.

MUSIC, SPEECHES, FUN TO OPEN NEW COMMUNITY HOUSE

G. C. Seymour To Christen Aberdeen Meetin' House at 8:00 O'clock Tonight

EVERYONE IS INVITED.

Music, speeches, fun—that's the program for the official opening of Aberdeen's new Community House, which will be christened at a good old fashioned house warming starting at 8 o'clock tonight, Friday, in the remodeled Neill McKeithen house on South street. Don't miss it.

The program committee for the occasion is headed by the Rev. E. L. Barber and comprises Mrs. H. E. Bowman, Mrs. G. L. Burney, Mrs. W. T. Batchelor and Mrs. Barber. They have a lot up their sleeves for the entertainment of Aberdeen, but they aren't telling all they know. We have found out in an underhand sort of way that G. C. Seymour, newly appointed member of the Board of County Commissioners, is going to present the plans and purposes of the Community House Association and figuratively break the proverbial bottle of wine over the prow of the new ship. There will be other speakers.

The music program is in charge of Mrs. Grady Burney, who has secured the services of a colored quartet which is said to be good. Then

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Burns Prove Fatal to Evelyn Austin, Aged 6

Little Pinebluff Girl Playing Santa Claus When Clothing Catches Fire

Evelyn Austin, six-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Austin of Pinebluff, died Sunday in the Moore County hospital where she was taken hurriedly on Saturday after severe burns suffered when her clothes became ignited, Evelyn was playing Santa Claus with a number of the neighborhood children. She was dressed in her mother's clothes and having a jolly time around a tree out in the yard. Someone had produced a candle to add a Christmas touch, and another youngster had found a match. Evelyn's clothes caught fire, and by the time two colored men who were passing were able to reach her and smother the flames with their coats, the little one was so severely burned that all efforts to save her proved vain.

Pinebluff was overcome with the shock of little Evelyn's death.

The funeral was held Tuesday at the Baptist church there and the church was filled to overflowing with grief-stricken friends of the popular youngster. The Rev. A. Wade Thompson, the Rev. C. L. Jackson and Dr. Gibson officiated.

WIDESPREAD REPORT OF NEW HOSPITAL SOUGHT

Richard Tufts Tells of Problems in Meeting Institution's Annual Deficit

INTERESTING FIGURES

That the great need being met by the Moore County Hospital and the tremendous amount of good being accomplished by the institution is not fully realized throughout the county and therefore not fully appreciated was the gist of a talk made by Richard Tufts before the directors of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce. "The work of a hospital is of such a nature that it is difficult to give it proper publicity," he said, and told of some of the problems confronted by the directors of the institution in the management of its affairs.

The hospital's normal expectancy for last year was 20 patients per day. It averaged over 30, Mr. Tufts stated. Less than one-third were full paying patients, less than a third partial paying, the balance free or charity cases. More than 50 per cent of the patients come from the vicinity of Carthage, the Vass-Cameron section and the Hemp section. Aberdeen comes second in numbers sent to the institution, Pinehurst third, Southern Pines fourth, the Eagle Spring area fifth.

Like all hospitals, there is a goodly-sized deficit in the operations account at the end of a year. The problem is to arrange financing to meet these annual deficits. Mr. Tufts believes that if the public generally understood what the hospital is accomplishing, its value to the community, the appeal for financial aid would meet with a more widespread and generous response. Support of the institution at present is concentrated in a very small area of the county.

Asked what the county government was doing by way of support, Mr. Tufts stated that the sum of \$1,200 had been appropriated for the hospital, but had not been paid as yet. Many members of the Chamber of Commerce directorate thought this amount insufficient, that the institution should receive in the neighborhood of \$5,000 annually. One pointed out that the hospital probably saved the county that much in charity cases which would fall upon it were it not for the hospital. There has also been some talk of a membership campaign, whereby memberships of various classifications and annual dues could be established, a plan which would serve the double purpose of producing revenue and interesting the public generally in the institution, he said.

Mr. Tufts also spoke a few words about Knollwood, stating that he looked with the utmost confidence on the future of that section of the Sandhills. "I believe the return of business conditions to normal will mean a real boom for Knollwood," he stated, and told of the splendid season which the Pine Needles Inn was enjoying this year.

INNES HURT WHEN AUTOS COLLIDE NEAR ABERDEEN

Albert Innes, employed by the Powell peach orchard near Pinehurst, was painfully injured late Sunday afternoon when the car which he was driving hit another car on the curve near the Aberdeen baseball field, on the Pinehurst road. Innes was badly cut by breaking glass and rushed to the Moore County Hospital where it was reported yesterday that he was on the road to recovery. The driver of the other car escaped unhurt, but both cars were badly damaged.

ASSEMBLY PASSES BILL TO INCREASE COMMISSION

The bill increasing the number of members of the Moore County Board of Commissioners from three to five, naming Frank Cameron of near Cameron and G. C. Seymour of Aberdeen as the two new members from this end of the county, was passed early in the week by the General Assembly.