

## Town of Robbins Tax Rate Is Cut in Half, Bringing It to Only Fifty Cents

Reduction Is Made Possible By Generosity of the Robbins Cloth Mills

Commissioners of the Town of Robbins advised today that on account of the generosity of the Robbins Cloth Mills, they had been able to cut the 1944-1945 tax rate in half, from \$1.00 to 50c.

The reduction was made possible several months ago, when the mill gave the town \$26,000 worth of the water and sewer bonds. To buy them, the mill had to pay a premium of \$520.00. Thus, the town's bonded indebtedness was cut from \$99,000 to \$73,000. The bonds retired in this way were those of earliest maturity; therefore, as things now stand, the town has no payments at all due on its bonds until 1950.

Nor is this all. Interest payments on the bonds fall due in April and October. On due date last April the mill presented the town commissioners with \$1,460 in bond coupons marked "paid in full". Furthermore, assurance was forthcoming that October's interest charges would be canceled likewise.

In view of the foregoing facts, Mayor W. P. Saunders and the commissioners found the present \$1.00 levy unnecessarily high, and reduced it to 50 cents. This reduction, coming as it does on the heels of the previous year's cut from \$1.50 to \$1.00, points up a situation of good fortune and good management almost unparalleled in municipal history. So it is that the new budget just adopted calls for a new low figure of only \$13,362, and not a cent for either bond principal or interest.

### SUMMER GOLF

Jack Carter is the lone survivor from Southern Pines in the semifinal of the Moore County Amateur Golf Championship. Carter defeated Carlos Fry of Carthage 3 and 2 in the quarter-finals, which were completed Wednesday.

In the semifinal Carter will play Capt. C. B. Wallace, Jr., the tournament medalist. The other winners in the quarter-finals were Frank McCaskill of Pinehurst and W. J. Woodward of Robbins and they will meet in the lower bracket semifinal. McCaskill beat Ollie Adcox 1 up and Woodward beat Chester Williams 1 up.

In the second division I. B. Harris of Southern Pines was defeated by William Fitzgibbon of Pinehurst.

## Heart Attack Fatal to W. R. Gilliland

Member of Pinehurst Police Force Had Resided There for Twenty Years

William Ralph Gilliland, 70, a member of the Pinehurst police force, died suddenly Monday afternoon at the Martin Motor Company's place in Aberdeen. He suffered from a heart ailment for a number of years and for several days had not felt well.

Mr. Gilliland was a native of Randolph County, but came to Pinehurst to make his home in February 1924. Interment was in Morris Chapel cemetery in Harnett County.

Surviving are his widow, who before her marriage was Miss Mattie Della Leslie of Jonesboro; one son, Leslie Gilliland, of Pinehurst; three grandsons and three granddaughters, all of Pinehurst.

### PRETTIEST

The holly tree on the Southern Pines Post Office grounds is going all-out to live up to its reputation of being the prettiest holly in this section. Throughout the summer it has kept its glistening red berries while other trees around have shed theirs, and now, in addition, it has a new crop of green berries to add lovely contrast to the red.

## Now and Then

BY A. S. NEWCOMB

The subject of this week's dissertation is North Carolina. In my opinion, the three best states to live in (if there can be three best of anything) are the state of connubial bliss, the state of contentment, and the State of N. C.

Having lived in all three and having devoted this space to the other two, I now begin a preliminary discussion of this Old North State, with dissensions interspersed to grease the wheels of thought, hoping thereby to make them slide over the dry and rough places where without such lubrication they would probably bog down in a morass of figures and statistics.

North Carolina is a big state, 27th in size in the Union. It would make 3 Delawares or 5 Rhode Islands, and

O-o-o, that strikes a responsive chord that starts me off on a tangent right at the beginning. When Teddy Roosevelt was Police Commissioner of New York, he started a wave of anti-spitting ordinances that backwashed all over the country. While it was at its height, I heard Ezra Kendall, the Will Rogers of my youth, say that an act of Providence had just made it unlawful to spit on the sidewalk in Rhode Island but with a little practice one can spit over into the next state. Hyperbole, of course, but having since witnessed with awe and admiration the skillful expectations of certain Moore County natives, I am almost prepared to believe that they could do it if they had a fireplace to aim at. And here's another bit of lubrication: a woman, asked where she was from, answered: "Providence." "Are you?" said her interrogator. "No, R. I.," she replied.

But back to the subject. North Carolina's land area is 31,196,600 acres, enough to cover all the New England states except Maine and a substantial slice of that. The distance from northeast corner to the southwest extremity is 503 miles; its greatest span from north to south is 188 miles. If you could whirl it around on a

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## HE BREAKS THE NEWS

The thoughtfulness of Pfc. Alex Cameron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Cameron of Southern Pines, and the speedy mail service available made it possible for him to get ahead of the War Department in notifying his family that he had been wounded, thus giving them the consolation of knowing that he was able to write.

A telegram from the War Department stating that Alex had been slightly wounded in France on July 17 was received Thursday morning just after the Camerons had finished reading a letter which he had written from a hospital in England. He did not give any information regarding the nature of his wounds, but said that he was receiving good treatment.

### FILL CAR POOLS OR ELSE

Full supplemental gasoline rations for more than 30 days are going to be denied to home-to-work automobile drivers who have not formed full-car pools, according to a new OPA policy. If drivers fill their pools within the 30-day period, local ration boards will grant them full-three-month rations. Boards will ask applicants to present signatures of their riders along with their applications.

### VAN B. SHARPE RECOVERING

Van B. Sharpe, general manager of the Carthage Weaving Company, suffered a heart attack and has been confined to his home in Pinebluff since early last week. He is reported to be recovering, but has not returned to his office in Carthage.

### APPOINTED JP

J. Frank McCaskill has recently been appointed by Gov. Broughton as Justice of the Peace for Pinehurst.

## KILLED IN ACTION

Pfc. Leon Whittington was killed in action in France on June 20, according to a message received Thursday morning by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Whittington. Another son, James, Jr., is now in a hospital in England, having been wounded in the invasion.

## Assault Case Lands Defendant on Roads

Melvin Fry Is Given 18 Months for Assaulting Lum Simpson; Other Cases

Melvin Fry of Carthage was in Recorder's Court Monday given eighteen months on the roads for assaulting Lum Simpson with a deadly weapon, inflicting serious injury, and James Rowland Freeman, 19, found guilty of assault and battery in connection with the same disturbance, drew 90 days. The latter's sentence was to be suspended provided he pay the costs and \$25 to help defray Simpson's medical expenses, and upon the further condition that he not violate the law during the next two years. The trouble was the outgrowth of a pool game in Carthage.

Robert Hildebrand of Charlotte, charged with speeding at 55 miles per hour in a truck, pleaded guilty and paid a fine of \$40 and the costs. His 60-day sentence was suspended.

Driving an automobile in a careless, reckless manner while he was intoxicated proved expensive for Ed Martin, Carthage Negro. To have his 90-day road sentence suspended he was required to pay a \$50 fine and the costs and the repair bill on the automobile of Chief C. H. Bennett, which he damaged. His license to drive was revoked for a year.

William Daniel McAllister, Vass Negro, was fined \$40 and the costs for driving a car at 60 miles per hour and given a 60-day suspended road sentence.

Lynn Thompson, Robbins Negro, pleaded guilty of gambling with cards, and this offense resulted in his being charged with violating the terms of the judgement in a former case in which he had been given a 60-day suspended sentence. In the gambling case he was given 30 days, to run concurrently with the 60-day sentence put into effect in the older case.

Herbert Bertie Moore of Charlotte, found guilty of careless and reckless driving, paid a fine of \$25 and the costs, whereupon his 90-day road sentence was suspended.

Landon Sanders of Robbins pleaded guilty of drunken driving and paid a \$50 fine and the costs. He was given 60 days on the roads, suspended, and deprived of his license to drive for 12 months.

## Unexpected Sights, Even a Chinese General, Are Seen in This Section

The country is full of unexpected sights these days: gliders nesting in corn-fields, parachutes hanging in the tops of pines, Germans sunbathed like red Indians working in the peach orchards, a Swiss delegate from Washington, very much dressed up in his city clothes, visiting the Mackall prison camp on a hot summer's day, and, on Wednesday of last week on the edge of a Jump Area, a three-star Chinese general watching an outfit performing a tactical jump.

As we waited for the planes we tried to decide whether it was better to sit in the shade of the woods with the gnats and chiggers or out in the sun without them. Around us gathered jeeps, a truck full of riggers waiting to retrieve the chutes. Neighboring captains kindly offered glasses. Proudly a jeep driver exhibited his cherished conveyance.

"Hard to drive? Well, kinda, at first. They turn over right easy till you catch on." He stroked the boxy hood happily. At the sound of an approaching car he looked toward the road. "Oh-oh," he said. "Distinguished visitors."

Down the sandy track came an olive-drab car with three stars on the front of it. It swung around to a halt and out stepped two majors, two colonels and—a Chinese General.

## Mail Carrier Asks \$65,000 Damages As Result of Injuries

D. C. Ritter Starts Suit Against City Ice & Fuel Company, Biscoe

Alleging that he was totally disabled by injuries sustained when his automobile was struck by an ice truck last August, D. C. Ritter has started suit in Moore County Superior Court against the City Ice and Fuel Company of Biscoe in which he seeks to recover \$65,000 for damages to his person and for expense of treatment; a balance of \$50 not paid by the insurance company on a total of \$377.40 damage to his car, and \$27 for damage to his glasses.

According to the complaint, the accident occurred about five miles from West End on a sharp curve on the Eagle Springs-Carthage road while Mr. Ritter was working as mail carrier. He alleges that the agent of the defendant was driving at a rapid rate of speed at a point where it was impossible to see ahead a very great distance and that the truck brakes were faulty.

Mr. Ritter, according to his allegations, was so badly injured that he remained in the hospital from August until on or about the sixth of December and has had to spend most of the time in bed in a plaster cast.

## Dr. Clement Monroe Talks to Vass Club

Polio Is Subject of Interesting Address; Lions Will Collect Scrap Paper

Dr. Clement Monroe of the Moore County Hospital addressed the Vass Lions Club at its dinner meeting Tuesday night at The Acorn, giving an interesting talk on poliomyelitis, and answering questions in regard to this disease, the cause of which is still so baffling.

The speaker was introduced by W. E. Gladstone, club president.

The Lions set Wednesday, August 9, as the date for the next scrap paper collection and all residents of Vass are requested to have their donations of paper tied in neat bundles and placed at the front of their homes where they can be seen from the street by the collectors.

## MISSING IN ACTION

Sgt. Hassel P. Edmonds, son of Mrs. Henry D. Edmonds of Carthage, is missing in action in the European area, according to a War Department announcement made July 31.

## No New Polio Cases Develop in County But Number in State Continues to Rise

### SCHOOL OPENING

"August 31 has been set as the opening date for Moore County schools and we are hoping that the polio situation will clear up so that it will not be necessary to postpone the opening," County Superintendent H. Lee Thomas said Wednesday when questioned as to whether any local action had been taken in regard to the recommendation of State Health Officer Reynolds that schools delay opening until the middle of September. Mr. Thomas feels that there is no rush about making a change in plans; however, he feels certain that the Moore County Board will be ready to cooperate if conditions later in the month warrant a change.

## Supt. Weaver Gives Names of Teachers

Several Changes in Faculty Announced; School Opening Date Not Yet Set

Although the opening date for the local schools has not been set definitely, Supt. Philip J. Weaver is getting everything in shape for the fall term and he now has his faculty list complete for the Southern Pines Schools with the exception of a music teacher to take the place of Miss Annie Laurie Overton, who has resigned to enter Red Cross work. There are still some vacancies to be filled in the West Southern Pines Schools.

There will be four other new faculty members in addition to Miss Overton's successor: Miss Phoebe Witherspoon, Miss Betty Jane Seawell, Mrs. Sara Ellis and Miss Margaret Palmer. Miss Mary McDavid, Miss Lucille Cashion, Miss Margaret Mitchell and Miss Ruth Newcomb are not returning.

The complete list with home addresses and subjects, as released by Mr. Weaver, follows:

1st grade—Miss Kate McIntyre, Wingate; 2nd grade—Miss Sophie Howie, Pineville; 3rd grade—Miss Abbie Sutherland, Belton, S. C.; 4th grade—Miss Bess McIntyre, Wingate; 5th grade—Miss Elizabeth Hines, Blytheville, S. C.; 6th grade—Miss Mary McNeill Buckner, Clio, S. C.; 7th grade—Miss Annie P. Huntington, Southern Pines; science—Miss Billie Williams, Bat Cove; 7th grade—Miss Phoebe Witherspoon, Laurens; history and English—Miss Thelma Daniels, Columbia, S. C.; commercial—Mrs. Ruth Swisher, Southern Pines; Latin and English—Miss Pauline Miller, Statesville; mathematics and physical education—Miss Aline Todd, Charlotte; language and mathematics—Miss Betty Jane Seawell, Carthage; English—Mrs. Sara Ellis, Dillon, S. C.; librarian—Miss Margaret Palmer, Thomasville; history and physical education, A. C. Dawson, Jr., Southern Pines.

### RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

Which will be first, Pinehurst or Southern Pines? First in getting in all American Legion renewal memberships. That is a question that Chester Williams, commander of the local Post of the American Legion, would like to have answered and he hopes to see some friendly rivalry develop.

### SOME NEW SCHOOL BUSES

After almost total lack of new school buses for two years, WPB approved a 1944 production quota of 5,000, of which more than 2,400 already have been released to schools where new buses were needed to prevent absences and replace unsafe equipment, the Office of Defense Transportation reports.

### ON VACATION

The Rev. F. Craighill Brown, Rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church here, left the first of the week for a month's vacation. The regular church schedule will be resumed in September.

## State Health Officer Recommends Delay in Public School Openings

No new cases of polio have developed in Moore County since the first case was reported last week, that of Annie Lee Moore, four-and-one-half-year-old girl of Robbins, who is receiving treatment in a hospital at Hickory especially equipped for the treatment of infantile paralysis. However, a few new cases from various counties are reported to the State Board of health daily and through Tuesday the total number since June 1 had reached 427.

In a letter to county health officers of North Carolina Tuesday, Dr. Carl Reynolds, State health officer, recommended that the opening of all public schools in the State be delayed until the middle of September because of the epidemic. The letter stated that "should the situation be improved beyond our expectation two weeks from today, this recommendation possibly could be changed."

Eager to do everything possible to guard against the disease, the Moore County Health Department is at present making a survey of the water supply and sewage disposal facilities one mile out in every direction from the corporate limits of Robbins. While the town has a modern water system, a number of families in the outlying districts have water supplies that are far from sanitary, the investigation revealed. In the immediate vicinity where the case of polio developed there are said to be ten or fifteen homes that use water from springs on a branch. The Moores and four or five other families got water from the same spring, the health officer stated. A number of outdoor toilets are in use and a check is being made to see that these are up to sanitary regulation requirements.

It is hoped that a plan may be worked out whereby the town water line can be extended to serve these families, but no definite arrangements had been made early this week.

Many meetings have been canceled or deferred on account of the situation, and Governor Broughton has praised the people of the State generally for complying promptly and fully with the suggestions and requests of the State Health Authorities.

The Governor said, however, that "there are apparently a few sections which have not fully apprehended the seriousness of the situation, as large assemblies involving meetings and conventions of different kinds continue to be held or planned."

In thanking the Governor for his cooperation State Health Officer Reynolds stated: "Those who do not yield to moral suasion should be forced to do so by local health authorities. . . . Such persons and organizations are not only endangering themselves, but also the whole population of their respective areas."

Thirty-two women prisoners, 25 white and eight colored, who responded to a call for volunteers for aides, maids and kitchen workers at the Hickory treatment centers for infantile paralysis, are reported to have "entered upon their duties in a wonderful spirit of service, maintaining ethical relations with the other attaches."

## ENTER THE SERVICE

The following Negro men left Tuesday morning for Camp Croft, S. C., to enter the service: Frank Alfred Sellers, Vass; Charlie Cleo Dowdy, Carthage; James Thomas Patishall, Route 1, Cameron; Samuel Kelly, Carthage; O. D. White, Southern Pines; Ernest Balark, Lakeview; James Cullen Spencer, Route 1, Eagle Springs; Ezra Augusta Person, Route 1, Carthage.

### FEDERAL COURT POSTPONED

Because of conflicting dates, the September 4th term of Federal Court at Rockingham has been postponed until September 11th, according to an announcement by Judge Hayes.