

They Need Your  
Blood In Korea  
GIVE!

# THE PILOT

They Need Your  
Blood In Korea  
GIVE!

VOL. 34—NO. 10 SIXTEEN PAGES SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1953 SIXTEEN PAGES PRICE—TEN CENTS

## These Are The Boys We Really Count On



Here are the new officers of the organization most of us would vote the most important in town—the Southern Pines volunteer fire department.

Harold B. Fowler, seated, center, is the new Fire Chief. He has been assistant chief for the past two years; Mr. Fowler is also vice president of the Sandhills Firemen's association, composed of 45 volunteer departments.

Also seated, at left, is Joe O'Callaghan, the new assistant chief, and, at right, C. T. Dunn, Jr., company captain.

Standing, from left—S. T. Dunn, truck captain; Frank H. Kaylor, secretary-treasurer, and G. R. Currie, trustee. The other trustees, absent when the picture was made, are L. S. Rowell and Frank Viall. (Pilot Staff Photo)

## Charlotte Opera Co. Will Appear In "Desert Song"

One of the nation's favorite musicals, "The Desert Song," filled with glamorous melodies by Sigismund Romberg, will be sung here next Saturday evening, January 31, as the next presentation of the Sandhills Music association.

The Charlotte Opera association has won wide attention in the past two years for its production of famous operas and operettas in skilled professional style. Its troupe consists of highly trained performers, mostly young people, of dramatic as well as musical gifts.

Tickets are on sale at the Barnum Realty office. The show will start at 8:30, at Weaver auditorium.

It will be a special day for one of the performers, W. Kenneth Dooley, baritone, starred as "Pierre, the Red Shadow." Mr. Dooley, who is minister of music at St. John's Baptist church in Charlotte, was a victim of polio as a child. His favorite charity is the March of Dimes and January 31 is his favorite date as the birthday of the late Franklin Roosevelt, for a long time the date of the Birthday Balls.

The role of the heroine, Margot Bonvalet, will be taken by Dorothy Harwell, lyric soprano, a native of Iredell county who started her voice training at Mitchell college in Statesville.

The tenor role of Capt. Paul Fontaine will be played by Robert L. Clement, Jr., a graduate of The Citadel and of the Duke University law school. He is a practicing attorney in Charlotte.

## BREAK-IN

Sheriff C. J. McDonald and school officials this week were investigating a break-in at the Highfalls school Monday night, in which doors and locks were damaged, but nothing was stolen.

H. Lee Thomas, county superintendent of schools, said that entrance was obtained by breaking a window in the school office. From there, the intruders broke into locked classrooms and the lunchroom. In the office, desk and files were ransacked, apparently in a search for money. Investigation is continuing.

## Mrs. Banigan Sentenced To Prison; Sentences Postponed, \$4,000 Bond Set

Mrs. Julie D. Banigan of Providence, R. I., was sentenced to prison Monday afternoon in Moore superior court at Carthage on two counts of embezzlement. Both involved transactions which took place last winter and spring while she was in the real estate business here.

On the first count, that of embezzling \$1,200 from Brownson Memorial Presbyterian church, she was sentenced to not less than four nor more than six years in prison. On the second, that of embezzling \$6,375 from Wayne D. Boring, of New York, creator of "Superman," she drew not less than two nor more than five years. The sentences were to run consecutively, No. 2 beginning at the expiration of No. 1.

Both of the cases from which the criminal charges arose are also the subjects of civil suits filed some months ago, and now pending.

## Many Donors Still Needed For Visit Of Bloodmobile

More appointments are needed to fill up the schedule of the Red Bloodmobile on its visit here next Wednesday, according to Moore County Red Cross headquarters here.

The Bloodmobile staff, working hard to fill a great and immediate need, is looking for 400 to 500 blood donors from Moore for Korea. That means even more donors will be required, as some are always screened out for age, health or other reasons.

The Bloodmobile will be at the Southern Pines school gym from 11 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Appointments made at the Red Cross chapter office had reached 160 Thursday morning, and the Red Cross asks that all of these show up as promised. The last time, a good many made appointments and did not come, causing schedule difficulties.

Three local doctors will be on duty, and the regular Bloodmobile nurses. Sixty women volunteers will help with arrangements and with expediting matters during the day. They will serve light refreshments to the donors after blood has been given.

## Strong Opposition Displayed Toward City Limits Bill

### Blue Meets With Group, Decides He Can't Support It

A gathering which included some 80 persons from the outside areas last Friday night demonstrated positively to Rep. H. Clifton Blue that they did not want to be taken into the town.

While he did not promise not to introduce a bill to extend the city limits, Representative Blue said that, in the face of the determined opposition he saw evidenced, he felt he could not "support" such a bill in the General Assembly.

Without support, he said, it could not receive a favorable committee report and "there seems little point in introducing a bill which doesn't stand a chance."

His statement followed a demand from the floor, repeated in an inquiry by Hoke Pollock, town attorney, at the close of the meeting, as to what he planned to do.

It followed almost two hours of discussion of a problem which, to this community as to many others in the state, presents a blank wall to normal expansion.

### Problem Explained

Mayor C. N. Page opened the meeting with a greeting in which, speaking mildly, he made assurance of his friendly feelings, and explained the problem of increasing demands for city services, largely occasioned by the growth of the fringe areas.

He referred to services now being rendered to those outside, for some of which they pay, for some of which they do not—water, fire protection and sewage disposal. If the Country Club and Pinedene areas should be taken in, he said, garbage collection and police protection would be immediately afforded, while water and sewer lines would be extended as rapidly as possible. No bond issue for these, he said, can legally be held to serve the outside areas, until they are no longer outside.

### Tax Consideration

Leland McKeithen, Pinehurst attorney, employed by the outside groups as their spokesman, presented a petition which, he said, contained 114 names of persons opposed. Others, he reported, had phoned or wired him, and the total represented a decisive majority.

"The objection," he said, "is principally a tax consideration. It is acknowledged that we are indebted to the town for water, but it is paid for at a rate 50 per cent greater than in town. We pay also for fire protection—\$25 (Continued on Page 8)

## BLUE APPOINTED

Moore's Representative H. Clifton Blue was appointed Monday by House Speaker Eugene T. Bost to the chairmanship of the important public welfare committee, and to membership on nine other standing committees.

These are the agriculture, banks and banking, congressional districts, elections and institutions, local government, printing and wildlife resources.

Announcement of the appointments to all 47 standing committees by Speaker Bost completed organization of the lower chamber. The Senate appointments were completed last week. This signified the General Assembly was ready to get down to brass tacks, and work on major legislation, particularly the budget, was expected to begin this week.

## Pinebluff Wins

### "Finer Carolina" Contest Award

Announcement of the winners of the Carolina Power and Light company's "Finer Carolina" contest showed just one Moore County town on the list—Pinebluff, which won honorable mention and \$100 in its population bracket of 1,000 or less.

Pride in the accomplishment of its pint-sized neighbor to the south far overrode any disappointment Southern Pines might have felt in not placing in the comprehensive 2,500 - and - up group.

Announcement was made Wednesday by the sponsor company.

Mayor E. H. Mills of Pinebluff was, naturally, happy at the news. When asked who did the work he said, "We all did. This was a real community undertaking." Disposition of the prize money will await a meeting of the steering committee. It will most likely go toward one of the town's continuing improvement projects.

Mayor Mills himself, however, The Pilot has found out, was mainly responsible for the very excellent presentation which went to the CP&L. The Pilot is also proud to have been included in the form of a feature story on the town, clipped and mounted on the final page.

An eight-by-11-inch booklet, with transparent plastic envelope pages, backed in black, set off the neatly typewritten text and 19 photographs.

Projects were listed as follows. No. 1—General Improvement of Streets, Highways and Sidewalks. E. H. Mills, chairman, committee (Continued on Page 8)

## Morrison Tenders Plea, Gets Life Sentence In McLaughlin Death Case



### Dr. R. L. House, Local Pastor, Is Fatally Stricken

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at the Church of Wide Fellowship for Dr. Robert Lee House, its pastor since November 1949, who died suddenly Thursday about noon.

Dr. W. T. Scott of Elon college officiated, assisted by Dr. L. E. Smith and Dr. John G. Truitt, also of Elon college.

Pallbearers were E. J. Austin, J. D. Hobbs, Dr. J. I. Neal, A. C. Dawson, Earl Parker and Dr. R. M. McMillan.

A second funeral service will be held today (Friday) at 2 p. m. at the First Congregational church of Newport News, Va., with the Rev. Lansing Granger officiating. Burial will follow in Peninsula Memorial Park cemetery there.

Dr. House had a severe heart attack in the fall and was in the hospital for several weeks. He had "taken it easy" since that time, under doctor's orders, but was believed to be well on the way back to health and strength. Tuesday, he was watching the inauguration ceremony over television at Mr. Parker's home when he quietly slumped forward and was dead.

The news shocked and distressed this community where the (Continued on page 8)

Melvin Morrison, of Richmond county, accused of the murder November 7, of Louise McLaughlin of West Southern Pines, was sentenced to life imprisonment Wednesday at the Carthage courthouse.

The case did not go to the jury. The mandatory sentence, pronounced by presiding judge J. W. Rousseau of North Wilkesboro, followed automatically a plea of guilty of accessory before the fact of the crime of first degree murder, as presented for his client by defense attorney H. F. Seawell, Jr.

Queried at the close of the case, Mr. Seawell stated that Morrison had never admitted the crime but had heeded the advice of his counsel that the weight of circumstantial evidence against him was too great to risk another course.

The defendant, who has remained stoically calm during the entire course of the case, received without change of expression the sentence pronounced by Judge Rousseau committing him to State Central prison "for the rest of your natural life."

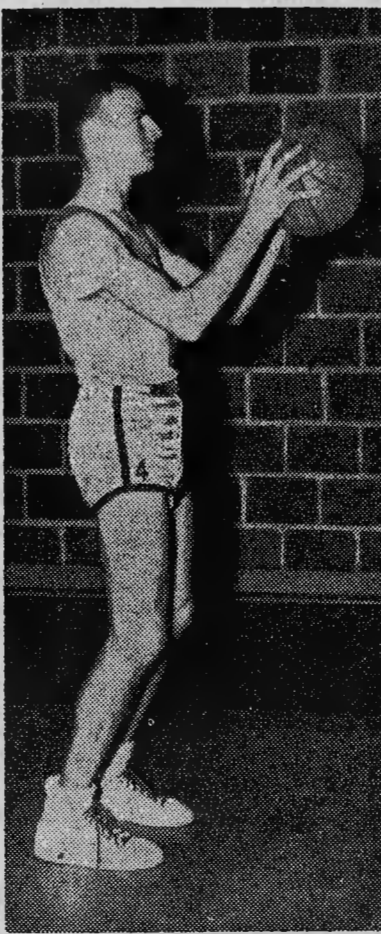
Thus, under dramatic brevity, ended the lurid case that horrified the people of this section when it broke in late November, and drew to Carthage one of the biggest crowds that has ever packed the courtroom. The sudden change of plea deprived those who had blocked windows and aisles and the galaxy of officials, behind the rail, of the opportunity to hear the elaborately prepared circumstantial evidence, documentary proof of which reposed in Chief C. E. Newton's bulging briefcase, and the testimony of the many witnesses unearthed by the prosecution and ready to take the stand.

Newton only witness called to substantiate the validity of the plea was Southern Pines' chief of police, upon whom has fallen the major burden of untangling details of the crime.

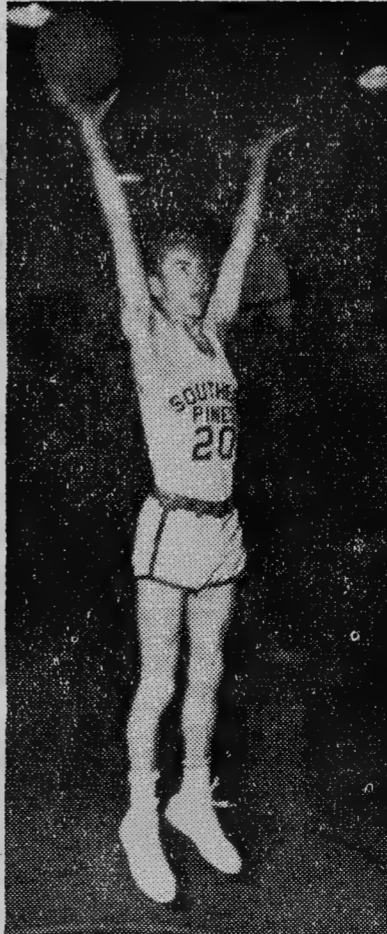
Newton, called to the stand by prosecuting attorney, M. G. Boyette, gave a resume of the case, telling how the victim, Louise McLaughlin, widowed mother of two young children, had been going with the accused until the time when, his attentions becoming excessive, she swore out a warrant for his arrest, agreeing, however, to withdraw her accusation when Morrison promised to leave her alone.

He told of receiving, on November 10, the news from her family that she was missing since November 7. He described the search for the body and finally its (Continued on page 8)

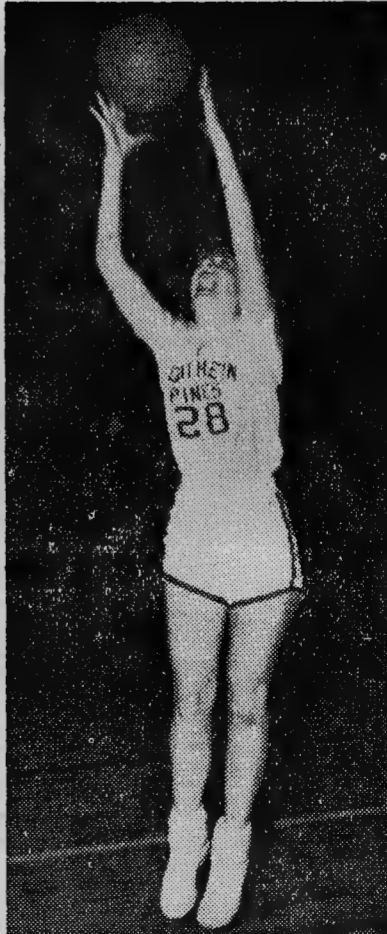
## Watch 'Em Tussle It Out At SP School Gym Tonight At 7:30



JIMMY CRUMP  
Aberdeen Guard



JIM MATHEWS  
SP Forward



PEACHES CAMERON  
SP Guard



DORIS TROUTMAN  
Aberdeen Guard

These are some of the young folks starring tonight in the battle of the century. The Blue & White boys and Aberdeen Devils, old foes, are both undefeated in the Moore County conference. The county trophy may be at stake.

The Blue & White girls have lost three games. Southern Pines folks think, though, they have the best team in years. The Aberdeen Devilettes ain't lost no games—yet. See stories on pages 7, 12. (Photos by H. H. Turner)