

THE PILOT

VOL. 34—NO. 33

SIXTEEN PAGES

SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1953

SIXTEEN PAGES

PRICE—TEN CENTS

Big Doings Slated At County Seat On Fourth Of July

Hundreds Expected To Attend Events Of All-Day Celebration

The 14th annual Fourth of July celebration will be held at Carthage Saturday under the sponsorship of the Carthage Junior Chamber of Commerce, with a record turnout expected for the all-day event.

Dan Roberts and Paul Blackman, co-chairmen of the celebration, announce that all is in readiness, with one of the most entertaining programs in many years lined up for the people of Moore and surrounding counties.

The day's festivities will get started on a patriotic note with a half-hour concert by the 440th Military Band from Fort Bragg, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Following the concert at 10 o'clock the invocation will be delivered by the Rev. W. S. Golden, pastor of the Carthage Presbyterian church, followed by a brief welcome address by Mayor Archie Barnes.

On completion of Mr. Barnes' speech at 10:05 the "street events" will be held under the direction of John Riddle. Mr. Riddle has lined up such contests as watermelon fights, "greasy pole," rolling-pin throwing for the ladies, foot races and pie-eating contest. These events have always been one of the big attractions of the traditional "Fourth."

At 11 o'clock the Hon. C. B. Deane, Eighth District congressman, will make the principal address of the day. Mr. Deane will be introduced by John Lang, Jr., of Carthage, administrative assistant in his Washington office.

Following Mr. Deane's address, at 11:45 will come the climax of the morning program—the annual beauty contest to pick the queen of the celebration. Claude Lingerfelt and Dave Ginsburg, the co-chairmen of this part of the program, have received entries from a number of Moore county's loveliest girls. Miss Suzann Burns of Southern Pines, winner of last year, will be crowned.

HOLIDAY

Most retail stores, businesses and offices in general plan to close Saturday, July 4, according to a survey made by The Pilot this week.

There are exceptions, some preferring to remain open Saturday, closing Monday instead.

Service stations in town have stated they will close. The bank, library, city offices, Chamber of Commerce, also county and federal offices will be closed for the national holiday.

At last report, the drug stores had not decided what they would do.

The post office will open its stamp and general delivery window from 8 until 10 a.m., and work box mail and outgoing mail throughout the day. There will be no city delivery.

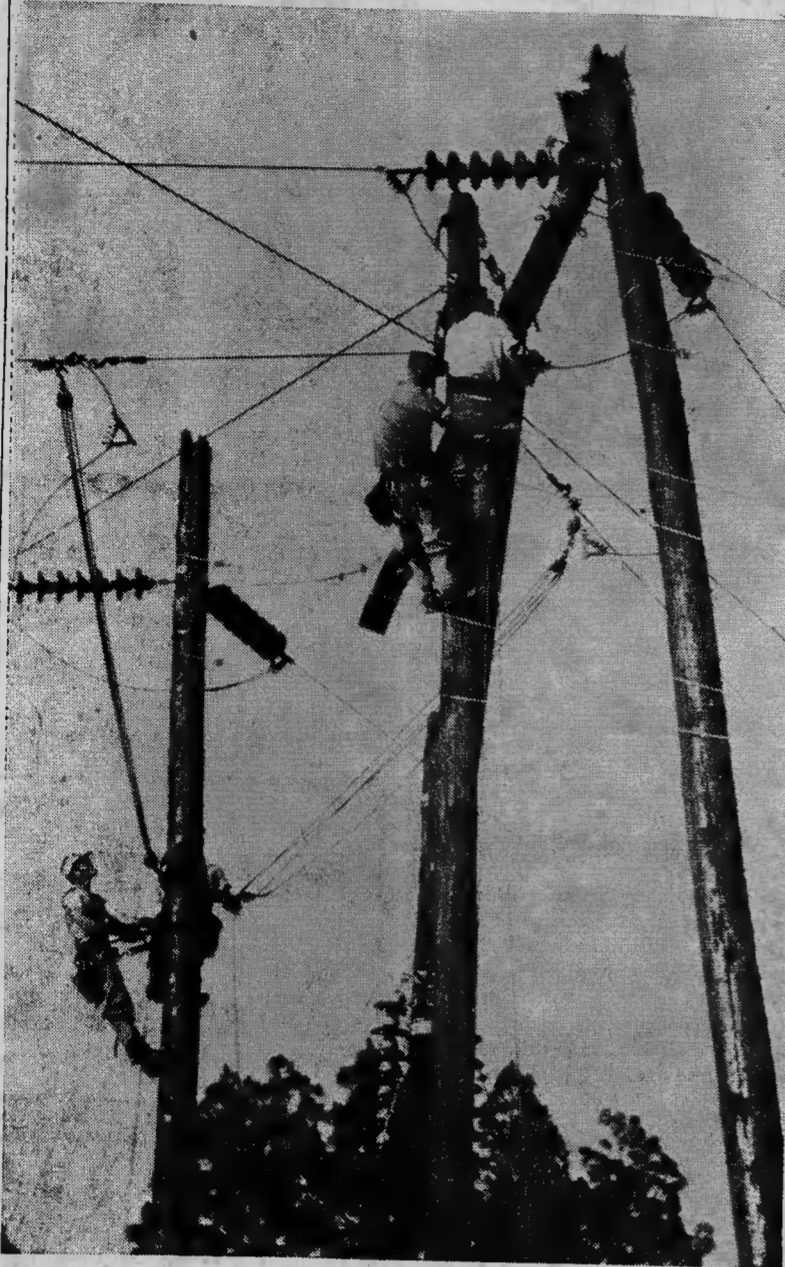
Man Wanted In Local Robbery May Be One Who Assaulted Charlotte Minister

A Negro man who robbed the home of a young Army couple here last week may turn out to be the hitchhiker who beat up a Presbyterian minister near Charlotte last Thursday night.

The man's name is Lucius Chambers, his home town, Bishopville, S. C. Investigation by city police following the local robbery, assisted by Mecklenburg County and Bishopville police departments, located Chambers this week in a safe spot: in jail in Washington, D. C., where he was placed last Saturday to serve a 60-day sentence on conviction of pilfering with an auto.

Chief C. E. Newton filed a detainer Tuesday with a Washington police, to secure Chambers' return here for trial on the robbery count on expiration of the 60-day sentence.

Chambers, if he is the wanted man, moved fast only to get caught in the end. The robbery of the home of Sgt. and Mrs. Truman



UP THE POLES they go to repair the damage which caused the prolonged power interruption Tuesday. The broken 110,000-volt line is clearly visible at left, also the tops of the broken poles. Workers are, from left, Howard Allred, Elwood Blake, Ted Klingenschmidt. (Photo by Geo. Sherrerd)

Sandhills Swelter As Linemen Labor; Power Lapse Longest In Local History

In the depths of a swamp between Aberdeen and West End Tuesday at 11:16 a. m., a guy wire snapped. It was a little thing, but the results were far-reaching.

The guy wire braced a support of an angled superstructure. The superstructure's three main poles—two tall ones crossed by another—carried a 110,000-volt main line of the Carolina Power & Light Co. Through the line flowed all the power for Aberdeen and Southern Pines, from the West End substation.

When the guy wire broke, the pole it braced also broke. The other two poles fell and broke. The high-voltage line parted. The switch was blown at the substation. The power went off in an instant in Southern Pines, Aberdeen, Carthage, Pinehurst, Pinebluff, West End, Cameron, Lakeview and Vass, and all intervening rural territory.

The kickback was felt as far as Bluetts Falls, supply station for the West End unit below Rockingham.

Nobody Worried

In the nine towns and their surrounding area nobody thought anything about it at first. Though there is seldom a failure of CP&L power, everybody knows those things happen once in a while. But it always comes back on again in a few minutes.

At gas stations attendants told motorists, "Sorry. Can't pump any just yet. Wait till the power comes back on."

In offices, machines were still. Employees said, "We'll have a coke while we're waiting." It happened to be the hottest day of the year so far.

Things were far from calm, though, with the CP&L. At the West End substation the trouble (Continued on Page 8)



THAT'S THE LITTLE GUY that did all the damage—not Jimmy Springer, above, but the broken guy wire he is ruefully regarding. (Photo by Geo. Sherrerd)

Local Juniors Will Enter State Tennis Tourney

Kenneth Tew, who won the boys' singles title at the N. C. Junior tournament at Greensboro last year, will not go to this year's tournament, which opens Tuesday.

Kenneth, at 15, cannot compete in the boys' division any longer and must let his title go by default. He is not yet ready to compete successfully against the older boys, say senior advisers to the youthful tennis group. They have counseled another year of development and practice for him on the local courts, restricting his tournaments to the ECTA and Junior Sandhill this summer.

Lillian Bullock, local girls' champion, and Gail Hobson of Pinehurst, junior girls' champion (high school division) will compete in the state event, also Patty Britt, Patty Woodell, Frances Pearson, Johnny Watkins and Julian Pleasants. They will enter both singles and doubles events and observers of recent activities on the municipal courts give one or two of them a good chance to win.

USAFAGOS Signs Lease On Hotel For Another Year

The U. S. Air Force Air-Ground Operations school has leased the Highland Pines Inn from the Stitzer Hotel Co. for another 12 months, its third year of occupancy of the local resort hotel building, according to an announcement from both parties.

The new lease, signed this week, runs from July 1, 1953, to June 30, 1954. Like the first, which ran from June 1, 1951, to June 30 of this year, it gives the government the option of renewal for another 12 months' period on its expiration.

Word of the signing comes as good news to this community, where it was feared that proposed large cuts in the Air Force budget might cause the discontinuance or removal of the military installation. In its two years here it has become an important part of the community life, and, with its \$75,000 monthly payroll, of local economics.

Under terms of the new lease, the Stitzer Hotel Co. continues its responsibility for the usual utilities, maintenance of the building and grounds, servicing of the rooms with linen, and cleaning of the main building. While the Air Force provides the meals and kitchen staff, the hotel corporation maintains the kitchen equipment.

During the past two years the Stitzer corporation, of which Charles W. Stitzer is president, has made numerous physical improvements in the Inn. Metal fire escapes and metal fire doors were installed by the company at all stairways. Many of the rooms have been redecorated.

The government has put in temporary equipment, which may be removed on termination of the lease, for facilities not normally required for the winter-resort hotel guests. These include lecture platforms and air-conditioned units in the two main classrooms, special fans, etc.

Several additional improvements are planned by the hotel, which is under the resident management of James Hartshorne for the Stitzer company.

The school came to Southern Pines as an interim measure when it outgrew its earliest ac-

Town Lake Open; David Woodruff Is Life Guard

David Woodruff, new graduate and three-star athlete of Southern Pines High school, has been employed by the Municipal Recreation Commission as lifeguard for the town lake. He is a certified Red Cross life saver.

Starting this week, he is on duty from 1 to 6 p. m. daily at the lake, except Mondays.

David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Woodruff. He won the trophy for most valuable football player, and was elected honorary captain of both the football and basketball teams during the past school year. He was also named "most athletic" high school boy. He also won the Danforth Foundation award for outstanding personal development.

With the life guard on duty, the town lake is now officially opened for swimming, according to announcement from the Commission's committee in charge. With bottom freshly sanded, and the beach extended some 400 feet, it should become one of the Sandhills' most popular recreation spots. Picnic benches and tables have been arranged under the trees, and this week the town placed large trash containers near the picnic area, with a request that citizens using the area share responsibility for keeping it clean. Bottles and trash should be placed in the containers, not thrown in the lake nor left on the ground.

Answering some apprehensions stirred when a bulldozer sank into an old well in the lake, while the bottom was being sanded, the committee states that this hole is well into the middle, and is covered over with deep water, now that the lake is filled. There are no holes in the safety area, which is enclosed by a rope on readily-

(Continued on Page 8)

Chamber Moving To Darst Office On Penn. Avenue

The Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce will move Monday morning from its present location next to the Sunrise theatre to 105 East Pennsylvania avenue, it was announced Thursday by Valerie Nicholson, acting president.

In its new home the Chamber will share quarters with Thomas C. Darst, Jr., in the modern, small, air-conditioned building, formerly the Reynolds & Co. office. The Chamber will occupy the two front rooms, Mr. Darst the rear office with separate entrance. Mr. Darst expects to be out of town much of the time.

Through a generous offer made by Mr. Darst, a member, the Chamber will effect a saving in rent and also secure a more central and extremely attractive location. The offer includes phone-answering and secretarial service by Miss Alice Baxter, Chamber secretary.

The decision was reached at a special meeting Tuesday night at which an immediate decision had to be made. A quorum of directors could not be secured so the five who were present were constituted as a committee under Joe Warren, house chairman. Since that time a quorum has been contacted for approval.

Satisfactory arrangements were made with the present landlord, Stewart Theatres, Inc., of Charlotte, through their local representative, J. N. Stringfellow, manager of the Sunrise. The Chamber will retain possession of the present office until July 15, or until disposal of several furniture items which will not be needed in its new home. Artists who have pictures in the Chamber's permanent exhibit should also arrange to get them in the next few days.

The directors will hold their regular meeting at the new office at 8 p. m., Tuesday.

LITTLE LEAGUE

The Southern Pines Little League, with a season record of three wins, one loss so far, will play their next home game against the Carthage team in the Little League next Wednesday afternoon. They will meet first at Carthage Monday. Game time, 5:30 p. m.

There were no games this week on account of the holiday, which is taking many families out of town.

Good crowds are attending the games, and the performance of the youthful players is rated as tops. Concerning the local entry, one observer commented, "I've seen many adult teams not half so good." There is no admission charge, though an offering is taken to help with expenses.

Burns Accepts City Manager Job In Florida City

Howard F. Burns, who served Southern Pines as town clerk and treasurer for 27 and a half years, will go to Lake Wales, Fla., as city manager effective July 15. He plans to move the middle of next week.

The new job represents a promotion, financially, over his position here. He will also have a newly-built home, and the services of a full-time engineer in his work.

Mr. Burns was appointed acting city manager by the new Southern Pines town council, when it went into office in May bringing the newly adopted council-manager plan into effect. He was strongly promoted for the permanent-city manager office.

He informed the council at their special meeting last Thursday night of his new position, and his wish to get to Lake Wales early in the month. He offered his full cooperation in indoctrinating the new city manager into the local job, if one should be selected while he still had time to do so.

Mayor L. T. Clark led the council, and all members followed suit, in commending Mr. Burns' work, and his cooperative spirit in the transition period, and offering their best wishes for his success. They voted unanimously to give him a month's vacation pay in severance.

Lake Wales is a thriving industrial-resort town in central Florida, about 70 miles from the east coast. It is in a boom period of growth and its population of 6,870 in the 1950 census is already considerably outdated. For the city manager position, Mr. Burns was selected from a field of candidates from as far away as Texas, Missouri and Rhode Island.

A native of Carthage, he attended Oak Ridge Military Institute and the University of North Carolina. He came to the South-

(Continued on page 8)

City Council Names T. E. Cunningham To Manager Post

Trained In Budget, Management; Choice Is Unanimous

The town council's search for Southern Pines' first city manager appeared to be ended Wednesday night. After reviewing scores of applications and interviewing a dozen applicants, the five members united on a choice.

He is Thomas E. Cunningham, 28, at present in a \$8,000-a-year position as principal budget and management officer for the City of Richmond, Va., in the office of the city manager.

Notified of the council's choice by telephone after the Wednesday night vote, though with no advance over his present salary, Mr. Cunningham made tentative acceptance. He made it plain he wished to come, and it was arranged that he would spend Saturday here "learning the ropes" from the acting city manager, Howard F. Burns. Mr. Burns consented to give up his July 4 holiday for this purpose.

Mr. Cunningham visited the council at a special session Monday night. Three candidates, two from Virginia and one from North Carolina, were interviewed that night, and the council met again Tuesday to interview another who flew here from Mexico, Mo.

A half-dozen others had previously been interviewed. By the final meeting only four were left in the field, one of them a local man and three from Virginia. In a "straw vote" taken at the start of the meeting, all placed but Mr. Cunningham was in the lead.

The council agreed that, as important as it was to secure a good man, it was equally important for the council to be unanimous in their choice if possible, so the new manager would be assured of their undivided support. When the selection was made later it was by acclamation.

Mr. Cunningham is a native of Erlanger, raised in Winston-Salem, a graduate of the University of North Carolina, where he majored in public administration and also did graduate work in this field. He then attended the graduate school of public administration at Syracuse university, New York, where he secured his masters degree in municipal management.

The New York State executive department selected him as an administrative intern in 1950 and he spent a year as an intern in management at Albany.

He was administrative assistant city manager for one year at Martinsville, Va., where he came in day-to-day contact with problems approximately the same as those

(Continued on page 8)

Cad Benedict Will Join Editorial Staff Of Pilot, Succeeding Mrs. Nicholson

Cadwallader (Cad) Benedict, of Pinebluff, will join the staff of The Pilot as news editor next week. He will succeed Mrs. Valerie Nicholson, who has resigned effective Saturday, July 11.

Mrs. Nicholson has been with The Pilot since January, 1947. Though retiring from her newspaper job, she will continue to live in Southern Pines for several months and will free-lance for several state papers and other publications. She plans to move early in 1954 to Kinston, where her husband is employed.

Mr. Benedict, who is 39, comes to The Pilot after nearly eight years of editorial and news work with newspapers in this area. Soon after his separation from military service in 1945, he became city editor of the Sanford Herald. He remained with The Herald until September, 1949, when he resigned to move to Pinebluff where he had lived before the war. He then became news editor of The Sandhill Citizen at Aberdeen, resigning there recently to join The Pilot staff.

The new news editor has called the Sandhills home since 1926, when he came to Pinebluff to live



at the home of his grandmother, the late Mrs. J. A. Cadwallader. His mother, Mrs. Mary C. Benedict, remains a resident of Pinebluff. In 1942, he was married to Miss Peggy Holt-Smith, daughter of the late Mrs. Mary W. Holt-Smith of Pinebluff and Southern Pines. They have one son, Chris-

(Continued on Page 8)