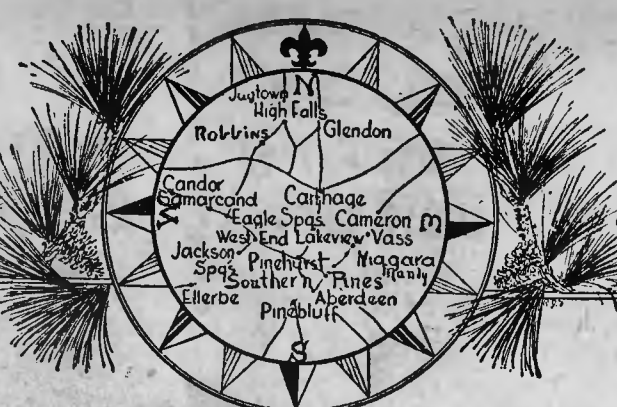




THE PILOT



No Road Bypass Set For County

Lane To Be Added On No. 1 Between Here And Aberdeen

There are no plans for relocating any portion of U. S. No. 1 highway in Moore County, Forrest Lockey of Aberdeen, eighth division highway commissioner, said this week.

The commissioner made the statement in reply to the question whether there were plans to bypass any Moore County towns in the major improvement program that has been planned for No. 1 highway throughout its length in North Carolina.

Lockey also revealed that another lane will be added to the three-lane highway that now runs between Southern Pines and Aberdeen. He said another lane is "needed badly" as this stretch of road handles over 5,000 vehicles every 24 hours.

Bypasses around Henderson and Sanford were proposed when the over-all plans for No. 1 were announced in Raleigh several weeks ago and are being strongly opposed within the towns. Moore County and Sandhills residents have been wondering if there were any by-pass plans for Southern Pines, Aberdeen or other communities and there have been some rumors that such bypasses were contemplated. Lockey's statement this week set these rumors at rest.

Commissioner Lockey's statements about No. 1 in Moore County were made in an interview with William B. Whitley, staff writer of The Durham Morning Herald. Whitley's story of the interview and an inspection trip in the Sandhills continues, in part:

Unlike many towns on the heavily traveled highway, however, Southern Pines could avoid a bypass. U. S. 1 traffic is now carried by May Street, a north-south street several blocks east of the business district. Ashe Street which runs parallel to May, could be used to carry part of the traffic with only minor repairs. Thus Southern Pines could offer a system of one-way streets within the city limits as a substitution for a bypass around the town.

Aberdeen is in as good or better position than Southern Pines. U. S. 1 now lies one block west of (Continued on Page 4)

A. L. McLeod In Veterans' Post

A. L. (Arch) McLeod of Carthage was appointed Veterans Service Officer for Moore County at a special meeting of the board of county commissioners Wednesday. He succeeds Mrs. Catherine Wilcox Hume who resigned recently after holding the post for several years. The officer, with an office in the courthouse, is paid by the county and gives free assistance and advice to any war veteran on claims, insurance, hospitalization or other problem.

Legion Will Sponsor Dance Saturday Night

The Sandhills Post, American Legion, will sponsor a square dance Saturday night at the Legion Hut on Maine avenue, starting at 8 o'clock. Proceeds will go to the post's Christmas cheer fund.



A TATTERED FLAG that flew over "Sandbag Castle," a front line fortified position in Korea, is held in this photo by Master Sergeant Robert G. Woodall and his wife, Mrs. Octavia Woodall, who live at 140 West Vermont Avenue. Sergeant Woodall sent the flag to his wife last summer. He returned from Korea last month. (Pilot Staff Photo)

General Arnold Urges Interest In Civil Defense

Head of Program In Moore County Speaks At Civic Club Meet

Speaking before a crowded Civic Club audience, Monday afternoon, General A. V. Arnold, chief of Civil Defense for Moore County, told the women that they could be of vital help in the system being set up for the defense of the nation.

"Block leaders," the General said, "are the most important members of the Civil Defense personnel. Women can be block leaders, too. . . if they have the time."

Whether the speaker meant to imply that women have less time on their hands than men is a moot question, clearly taken in the affirmative, however, by the women audience, to judge by the applause.

General Arnold outlined the devastation wrought by the various types of atomic bombs, and quoted scientists' estimates of those gigantic agents of destruction still to be produced. He gave his audience a picture of the danger from bombing to which this area might be subjected through its proximity, according to jet-plane standards, from the Savannah River atomic plant, as well as the five largest cities of the state, named as target areas.

In describing the civil defense organization of which he is the head, General Arnold emphasized that, whereas the county system was well-established, difficulties had been encountered in almost every individual community. It has been very hard, he said, to persuade people that civil defense is important and they must be willing to bear their share of the work. Block leaders, in particular, who are the keystone of the whole (Continued on Page 4)

Bank To Be Open On Christmas Eve

The Citizens Bank and Trust Co. will be closed December 25 and 26, it was announced today. To accommodate merchants the bank will be open Christmas Eve from 7:30 to 8:30, to receive deposits.

Program For Needy Advances

Members of the John Boyd Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will meet at the VFW Post Home Monday night to prepare Christmas baskets of food, toys and gifts for delivery to needy families of this area on Christmas Eve, Fred Hall, chairman of the annual cheer program, said this week.

'Sandbag Castle' Flag Cherished By Korean Vet

A Southern Pines soldier who came home from Korea recently with the Silver Star, for gallantry in action; the commendation ribbon with metal pendant for outstanding devotion to duty; and the Purple Heart, with cluster, for twice being wounded in action has for a prized memento of his overseas service a United States flag, torn by Communist bullets, that was flying over his front-line position when the truce was declared last summer.

Master Sergeant Robert G. Woodall, a former paratrooper who served in Korea with the 224th regiment of the 40th Infantry Division, keeps the flag folded in the approved manner and will no doubt treasure it for the remainder of his life. The flag played a short but dramatic part in the saga of "Sandbag Castle," the closest UN regular front line position to the Communist Chinese enemy—only about 25 yards separated the U. S. and Chinese troops at this point which was in rocky mountain terrain.

The particular flag that Sergeant Woodall sent to his wife last summer flew only about a month over Sandbag Castle—the last of several flags that occupants of the (Continued on Page 4)

Blue Will Head March Of Dimes

Paul C. Butler, chairman of the Moore County chapter, National Infantile Paralysis Foundation, has announced the appointment of H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen as chairman of the annual polio fund drive, to be held in January.

This will be Mr. Blue's 11th year as "March of Dimes" campaign chairman. Closing a decade of service to this important cause he offered his resignation a few weeks ago but was induced to continue for another year, the chapter chairman said.

"In view of the experience he has gained, which serves us so well, and the fine organization of workers which he can call on almost 100 per cent, each year we simply could not let him go at this time when a great concerted drive may actually bring about the long-sought victory over polio," Mr. Butler declared.

Opening the 1954 campaign will be the dinner for chapter officials (Continued on Page 4)

VFW Santa Party Slated Sunday

The annual Santa Claus party given by John Boyd Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will be held at the Post Home on New York Avenue Sunday afternoon, starting at 2:30 o'clock, Louis Scheipers, Jr., commander, announces.

Inquest Rules Fatal Shooting Was Justifiable

Officers Exonerated As Jury Says They Fired In Defense

A coroner's jury meeting at the courthouse Monday night exonerated Carthage Police Chief John W. Joyce and state highway Patrolman Johnnie A. Lowrimore in the fatal shooting of James Worthy, 47, while they were attempting to arrest him Friday afternoon, December 4. The jury ruled that the officers' actions constituted "justifiable homicide" committed in pursuit of their duty and in defense of their lives.

The inquest was delayed pending hospitalization of Patrolman Lowrimore, who was shot by Worthy in the foot and sustained an operation Tuesday for fracture of a metatarsal bone. Discharged last Friday, Lowrimore appeared with his foot bandaged.

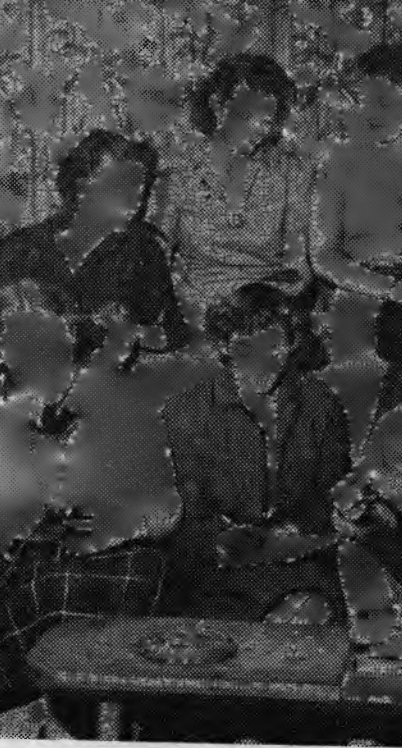
Coroner Ralph G. Steed of Robbins presided at the inquest. The jury was composed of C. M. Patterson, Eugene Stewart, W. B. Kelly, John Harris and Dave Ross, of Carthage, and Ed Kennedy of Robbins. Harris and Ross are Negroes.

The evidence of 10 witnesses was corroborative in all salient facts and presented the picture of a crazed giant of a man—six feet three inches tall, weighing 240 pounds—threatening and abusing all who got in his way, and firing the first shot at the officers who were seeking to disarm him. He fired three shots in all, the first hitting the patrolman, before Joyce and Lowrimore fired simultaneously at him. It is not known which fired the fatal bullet. (Continued on Page 4)

Stores To Stay Open Wednesday

As a convenience for Christmas shoppers, local stores will stay open next Wednesday afternoon. Most were open Wednesday afternoon of this week, as the shopping got into full swing, and in accord with the calendar of closings for the year of the Better Business Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber recommends also a full holiday weekend for the stores and their employees next week. It is anticipated that there will be a general shutdown of all except the most essential businesses next Friday, Saturday and Sunday—December 25 through 27—in Southern Pines as throughout the State and nation.



Madrigal Singers, shown here during an informal rehearsal session at Weymouth, the home of Mrs. James Boyd, will present a Bach cantata, "For Unto Us A Child Is Born," in the sanctuary of Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church during the church's annual Christmas program tonight (Friday) at 8 o'clock. The public is invited by the pastor, the Rev. C. K. Ligon. The group, comprising about 40 voices and not all shown in the picture here, will also sing Spanish Christmas carols and "Alleluia" by Randall Thompson. The group is directed by James Cobb of Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, who is shown in the photo, and draws its membership from throughout the Sandhills. A Joy Gift offering will be taken at tonight's service in the church. (Pilot Staff Photo)

Final Action On Sewer Charge To Be Taken By Council December 22

Pro, Con Views Expressed At Public Hearing

After hearing opinions for and against a proposed sewer service charge in Southern Pines and areas outside the town served by the sewer system Tuesday night, the town council set a special meeting at 3 p. m. Tuesday, December 22 to consider adoption of an ordinance that would put the new system in effect.

It is expected that the ordinance will be adopted. Quick action on the matter is sought by the council, so that the new system can go into effect January 1, with the first charge appearing on April 1 quarterly water bills.

If adopted, the new ordinance will: Set a sewer service charge amounting to one-half of the water bill of all property owners living in town and to the full amount of the water bill of persons living out of town who are connected with the town sewer system.

Repeal a sewer rental charge of \$25 per year now imposed on these out-of-town users of the town's sewer system.

Provide, for installation, at the property owner's expense, of meters to measure water used but not put into the sewer system, such as water for lawns and gardens, and also for meters to measure water from a supply other than the town supply, which goes into the sewer system as from a well or other private supply.

At the sparsely attended public hearing Tuesday night, before the full membership of the council, most of the opposition to the proposal came from out-of-town property owners. In-town objecting residents were owners of rental or hotel properties using large amounts of water, who said that their increased water bills, with sewer charge added, would more than offset a proposed reduction in property taxes by about 20 per cent.

The reduction in property taxes for the 1954-'55 fiscal year is a companion measure to the sewer rental charge to which the council is pledged, so far as it is able to do, when the budget for the next year is made up toward the end of the current fiscal year next June 30.

First spokesman at the hearing Tuesday night was Charles Sadler, manager of the Park View Hotel, who estimated that the sewer charge would cost the Park View about \$130 per year more, allowing for a 20 per cent reduction in property tax.

"Business is not increasing enough to take care of all these costs that keep piling up," Mr. Sadler said. "These things will make it hard to do business here pretty soon. I think I'll be stuck a little more than my share for (Continued on Page 4)

Elks Party Is Set Wednesday

One of the highlights of the holiday season, the annual Christmas party for children given by the Southern Pines Elks Lodge, will be held at the Country Club Wednesday, December 23, from 2 to 5 p. m., it was announced today. All children are welcome. There will be presents and candy for all. If transportation to the Country Club is not available, parents are asked to call 2-8911 or bring children to the fire house on New Hampshire Avenue.

Schools To Close Today, Open Jan. 4

Southern Pines schools will close at noon today (Friday) for the Christmas holidays, to reopen January 4, Supt. A. C. Dawson, Jr., reports. The annual Christmas program for elementary and high schools will be held at 11 a. m. today in Weaver Auditorium. The Glee Club will sing and students will, if they wish, contribute a gift of food for distribution to needy persons. West Southern Pines schools will observe the same holiday vacation schedule.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS planning the Christmas Ball sponsored by the Moore County Hospital Auxiliary, to be held at the Pine Needles Country Club December 29, are shown here as they met at the home of Mrs. Lawrence Johnson at Aberdeen. Proceeds of the event will go to further the work of the Auxiliary at the hospital. Mrs. John Ponzer is chairman of the ticket sale in Southern Pines and other Auxiliary members also have tickets for sale.

Front row, left to right: Mrs. Lawrence Johnson, general chairman; Mrs. James Tufts, Mrs. Hoke Pollock and Mrs. Roy McMillan; second row, same order: Mrs. John Ponzer, Mrs. W. F. Hollister, Mrs. Harold Peck, Miss Laura Kelsey and Mrs. J. S. Hiatt. Other members of the committee not in the photo are: Mrs. William D. Campbell, Mrs. L. C. Butwell, Jr., Mrs. Voit Gilmore, Mrs. John Zelle, Mrs. John Ostrom, Mrs. H. A. Page, Jr., and Mrs. Paul Butler. (Pilot Staff Photo)

CORRECTION
Through error the address —SANFORD— was omitted from the Penney Store ad on page 16.

TO PUBLISH EARLY
For the convenience of readers and staff, The Pilot plans to publish Wednesday of next week, December 23. Advertisers and correspondents are asked to have their copy in early — preferably Monday — to insure that it will appear in next week's paper. Because of the Wednesday publication, most readers of The Pilot will have the paper one full shopping day before Christmas.