

THE NEW FIREHOUSE building at Vass is complete except for metal lettering on the front and installation of showers in a room for firemen at the rear. The room at left front, with Venetian blinds on the windows, houses the Vass town office where Mrs. Irene Mullinix, town clerk, keeps her records. The office is also

police headquarters. The little dark object between door and window on the front of the building is a switch that will sound a fire alarm at night if the office is closed. A group of firemen and the Vass fire truck are pictured in front of the new building. (Pilot Staff Photo)

## Modern Vass Firehouse Completed

### Volunteer Labor By Firemen, Others Aided Construction

The town of Vass is proud of its modern new combination firehouse and town hall recently completed.

Members of the volunteer fire department—who have the notable record of not having let a Vass house within reach of water burn down since 1925—look with special pride on the building which they and other willing citizens helped to construct, doing a large part of the labor on the concrete block structure.

Apart from the volunteer labor, cost of the building was borne by the town treasury. And there is not a person in Vass who does not consider this a well justified expenditure.

Mayor A. G. Edwards, Jr., who is also a volunteer fireman, himself drew plans for the 30 by 40 foot building. The fire house sec-

tion runs the full length of the building and takes up 18 of the 30 feet in width. It has large overhead door openings at each end and houses the town's well equipped small truck which Chief P. T. Smith says he is not afraid to take with confidence to any fire, an old hose reel which the town owned before it got the truck a year and a half ago and a rack for drying hose.

Above the concrete block walls, the gable ends of the building are neatly finished with asbestos shingles. A sign in front indicates the office of the town clerk within.

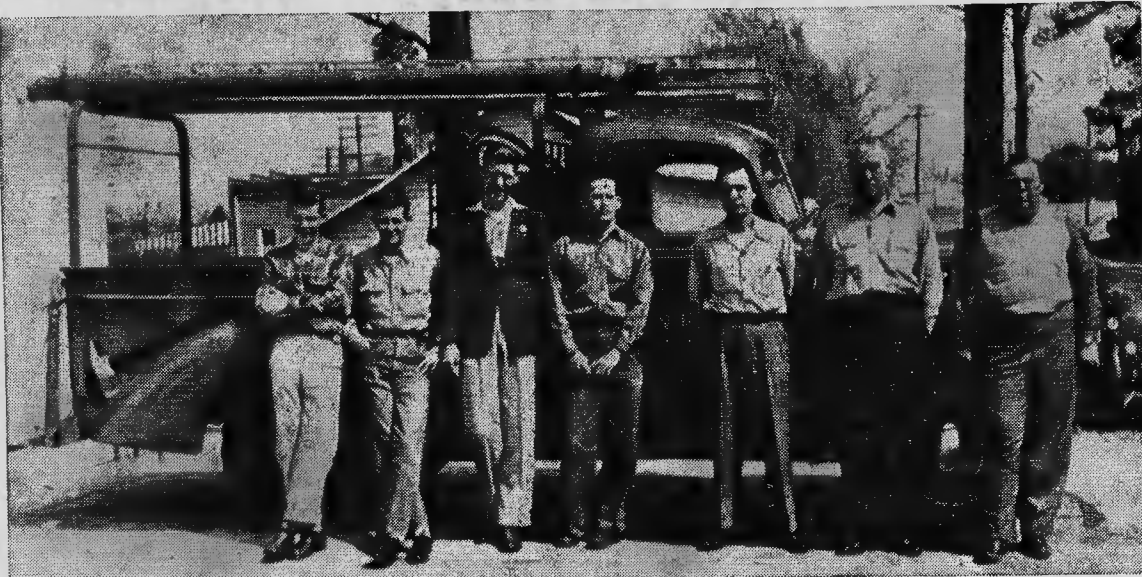
Chief Smith says the Vass volunteers are prepared to fight any type of fire, lacking only foam equipment for oil and gasoline blazes—something the department hopes to obtain when it can. Equipment on hand and stowed on the small truck includes:

Extension and roof ladders, hard suction hose, 800 feet of two

and a half inch hose, 200 feet of one and a half inch hose, two straight nozzles, 200 feet of boost tank hose, a pump on the front of the truck and a fog nozzle, a fireman's axe, a pike pole and a wrecking bar. In reserve on the old reel are 500 feet of two and a half inch hose.

Mayor Edwards figures that the town saved at least \$2,000 on construction of the new building because of the amount of volunteer labor given to the project.

In addition to Chief Smith and others in the fire department mentioned in this story, members of the department include: Pete Mashburn, C. C. Loftin and A. G. Edwards, Jr., assistant chiefs; Preston Boggs and James Hudson, captains; Mack Callahan, secretary and treasurer; four drivers—Henry Borst, Billy Jessup, Charles Parker and Bill Caddell; and Pete Boggs, Horace Mullinix and James Key. Two members of the department, Hugh McLean and Jimmy Gilmore, are serving in the armed forces.



SEVEN MEMBERS of the Vass Fire Department pose here with their truck which, though small, is equipped for effective fire fighting. Left to right: Walter Boggs, Billy Jessup, Her-

bert Kimball, Charles Parker, A. G. Edwards, Jr., mayor of Vass and also a fireman; Chief Smith and Henry Borst. (Pilot Staff Photo)

## Welfare, Health, Housing Reports Heard By League

### Women Voters Meet To Discuss Problems Of Town And County

With Mrs. Katherine N. McColl and Mrs. George Pottle as discussion leaders of two "study units," members of the League of Women Voters, meeting at the Civic Club Thursday night of last week, heard and discussed reports on housing, public welfare, health and sanitation. The reports were made in connection with the town survey being made by committees of the League.

The members showed considerable concern over unsanitary conditions in West Southern Pines. Mrs. Curtis Townshend pointed out that this could be a real danger to the whole town in case of an epidemic.

It was reported that a proposal had been made for a bond issue of \$150,000 to be paid for from sewer rates as a quick and practical way of extending sewer service. Some members argued that the town could not afford this as it was already in debt; others emphasized the point that this project could be made self-liquidating, and money would not go into the General Fund.

**Delinquency Discussed**  
In discussing Mrs. Davis' report on welfare, the groups showed interest in the lack of any specifically assigned truant officer or child welfare worker in either Southern Pines or the county, the absence of a juvenile court, or any place to send delinquents except a reformatory which is not organized for rehabilitation. It was felt that something more in line with modern psychological and sociological practice might make good citizens of many youthful delinquents, instead of hardened offenders.

Other matters which attracted attention included the condition of the clinic in West Southern Pines for immunization shots, health cards and maternity cases, which needs repairs; the lack of rodent control in the county and carelessness of citizens in dumping trash at places other than those set aside for the purpose.

**County Home**  
The liveliest discussion in each group was on the Public Welfare report. The members wondered if the taxpayers knew that \$12,000 was allocated last year to the County Home and that the average occupancy during the past year was 12 inmates. Mrs. Walter Cole, County Director of Public Welfare, said that she was in favor of changing the County Home into a nursing home.

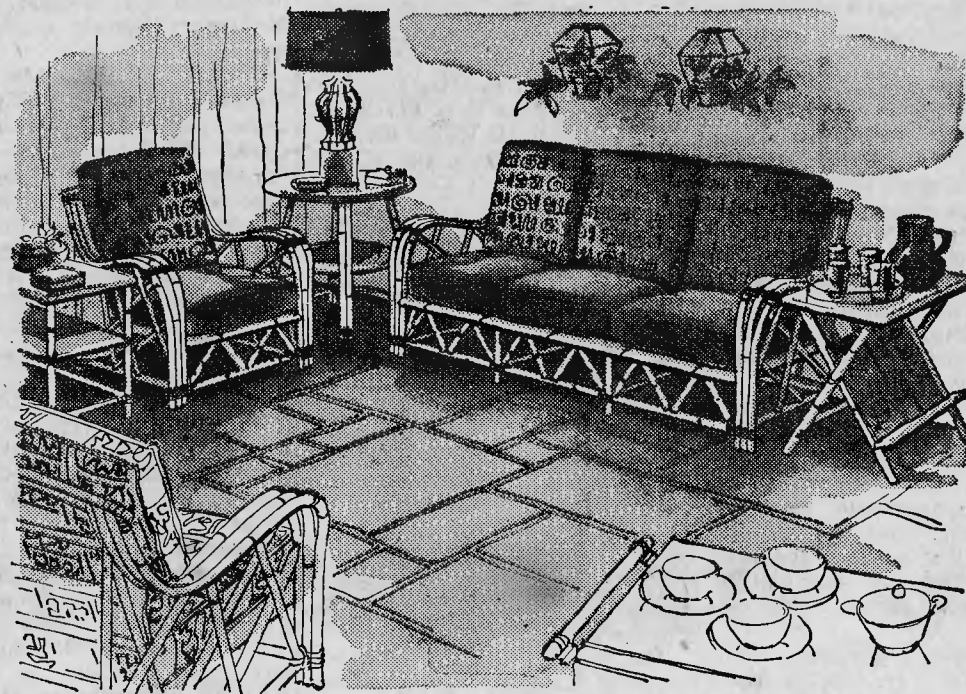
The growth of North Carolina's livestock industry represents one of the most important changes in the history of southern agriculture.

The Army's new ground to ground guided missile the "Corporal" is scheduled for participation in Exercise Flash Burn in the Fort Bragg area this spring.

The "Honest John," new heavy field artillery rocket, will be used on Exercise Flash Burn for the first time in an Army field exercise.

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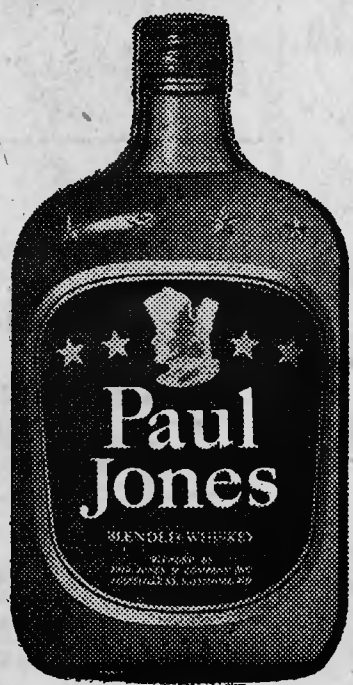
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