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TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

SOUTHERN PINES, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1956

TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

PRICE TEN CENTS

SCHOOL BOARD BACKS STAFF

Leonard Convicted For Assaulting Student; Files Notice Of Appeal

Irie Leonard, principal and head football and baseball coach at the high school here, was convicted in Moore Recorder's Court Monday on charges of assaulting one of the students and fined \$1 and court costs.

He filed immediate notice of appeal to Superior Court and was released under \$100 bond. Leonard, who is in his sixth year as principal of the school, had been charged in a warrant sworn out by Mr. and Mrs. Ray McDonald of Southern Pines of assaulting their son, William, November 13. He entered a plea of not guilty to the charges.

The trial was attended by a large number of parents and students who filled the courtroom to about one-half capacity.

Judge Rowe, in passing sentence, said he regretted the case had been remanded to his court and that it should have been handled in the school. "But since it is here, it must be handled like any other," he added.

The case centered around an incident that took place in a room adjoining Leonard's office after school hours November 13. He had, testimony indicated, summoned a number of boys to the room to lecture them about calling a member of the faculty, Miss Sally Coles, by her first name.

Young McDonald was the last to enter the room. He testified he had been sent there by Miss Coles but said he did not know why.

When he entered the room, he said, he asked another of the boys there: "What am I doing here?" He testified that Mr. Leonard, who was at the front of the room, said: "What did you say?"

When he answered, using the same words, he said that Mr. Leonard came to the chair in which he was sitting "in something more than a walk" and grabbed him by the throat and said: "I'll tell you why you're here."

The six other boys who were in the room at the time gave substantially the same testimony.

All said that, in their opinions, Leonard had been "pretty upset" (Continued on Page 5)

STATEMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD

"In recent days a great deal of attention and public interest has been focused on the matter of discipline in the Southern Pines High School. For several months the Superintendent and the Board of Education have considered reviewing and restudying all policies and the recent incident emphasizes the advisability of such a study with particular emphasis on discipline. This will be undertaken immediately. We are confident that we may count on the complete cooperation of the pupils, teachers, and parents.

"In regard to the present situation, the Board has always expected teachers to maintain good order and discipline and the Board reiterates its statement that the Superintendent and School Board have always supported all teachers in matters pertaining to good discipline while not condoning any practice which is not in the best interest of the child and the school.

"The Superintendent and Board stand squarely behind its present staff and respectfully request that all persons in the community cooperate to the fullest extent with the school and school officials on the question of discipline and all matters pertaining to the successful operation of the schools.

"Further, the Board wishes to point out that there has been no change in the state laws requiring teachers to maintain good order and discipline in the schools or in their rights in performing these duties even to the extent of corporal punishment under such circumstances as the law permits."

County Republican Party Votes Ewing President For '57

Promises To Help Build Strong Party

Robert S. Ewing, of Southern Pines, was elected Chairman of the Moore County Republican Executive Committee at a dinner meeting of the party, attended by 150 from all sections of the county, at the Pine Needles Club Tuesday night.

His unanimous election followed the resignation of R. Gart Wallace of Carthage and Pinehurst who guided the party in carrying Moore for Eisenhower in the recent election.

Ewing, a former official of Amerotron, Inc. was co-chairman of the Citizens for Eisenhower Committee which played an important part in cooperation with the county committee during the Ike-Adlai campaign.

Elected vice chairman was Mrs. Katherine McCall, of Southern Pines, who served with Ewing as co-chairman of the Citizens for Eisenhower group. George H. Leonard Jr. of Southern Pines was elected treasurer, and Baxter W. Paschal of Carthage, was re-elected secretary.

Named to the County Executive committee were Mr. Wallace, C. H. Gordon of Mineral Springs, A. B. Atkins of Cameron, and Richard L. Greer of Aberdeen, with Mrs. Evelyn Garner Garrison of Aberdeen as alternate. Former County Chairman W. Clement Barrett was named legal counsel to the committee.

Retiring Chairman Wallace thanked all present for their efforts in the recent campaign before submitting his resignation, and called upon Colin Spencer to act as chairman of the meeting. Following the election of officers, Ewing outlined future party plans as (1) reorganizing for a more ambitious program in the county; (2) formation of a woman's auxiliary and a young Republican organization, and (3), registration as Republicans of many now registered as Democrats with a view to launching a Republican primary and to offering a full slate of State and county candidates for coming elections.

"The famous Eisenhower jacket has no coat tails. We must provide some," Ewing told the group. "We have to develop precinct organizations, offer strong candidates, make the GOP mean something in North Carolina. It is time to end the one-party system." (Continued on Page 8)

TIP-OFF DINNER

A "tip-off" supper to precede the Southern Pines basketball game next Friday night, December 14, will be held in the high school cafeteria under the sponsorship of the Blue Knights Booster's club. Tickets for the supper may be secured from any member of the club, from players on the squad or from Tate's Hardware Store.

Dramatics Club At High School Will Present Comedy

The Masques, Southern Pines High School dramatics club, will present its first play of the season tomorrow (Friday) night.

The play, entitled "The Birds and the Boys," is a three-act comedy by William Davidson. It is being directed by Mrs. Joan Ripple, sponsor and director of the club.

Adam Martin, one of the principals in the cast, is played by Steve Smith; his wife, Crickett, is played by Jean Franklin.

Others in the cast are Philip Guin, John Grover, Nancy Jo Traylor, Greta Newkirk, Joan Howarth, Lucy McDaniel, Mary Jane Deadwyler, Connie Clark, Richard Renegar, Gail Given, John Chappell, David Riddle, David Prim, Ginger Aden, Carol Staples, Patti Hobbs and Howard Morgan.

The play will be presented in the high school auditorium at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are priced at 35 cents for school children and 65 cents for adults, may be secured either from a member of the dramatics club or from the box office.

Christmas Postoffice Hours

Windows at the Southern Pines post office will be open all day Wednesday, December 12 and 19, and Saturdays, December 15 and 22 to take care of the heavy Christmas mail, Garland Pierce, postmaster, said this morning.

At the same time, he said that "local" and "out of town" labels are being distributed this week to all post office patrons. He asked that people separate their cards

in local and out of town packages and tie them with the proper labels.

All out of state Christmas packages should be mailed by Tuesday, December 11, he said, to insure delivery by Christmas Day.

He suggested that patrons anticipate their needs in two-cent and three-cent stamps and buy them in rolls or sheets not later than next week.

Jaycees To Sing Christmas Carols At Two Hospitals

Prizes for the most attractive outside Christmas decorations in the Southern Pines residential area will be awarded by the Junior Chamber of Commerce during the coming holiday season, it was announced following a meeting of the Jaycees this week.

The decorations prizes are one of four Christmas projects adopted by the group.

Other activities approved by the club include a Christmas carol sing by members and their wives for children and other patients in Moore County and St. Joseph's Hospitals; distribution of Christmas presents to the children confined in the hospitals; and a public dance during the week between Christmas and New Year's.

Bob Dunn, chairman of arrangements for the dance, said this morning that an orchestra headed by Lynn Ledden of Southern Pines had been contracted for the dance.

A complete list of rules for the Christmas decorating awards will be published next week.

At the meeting, held at the high school, the Jaycees also agreed to help complete the Ground Observer Corps defense tower on Weymouth Estate this Saturday. David Drexler, Moore County coordinator of the GOC, announced at the meeting that all necessary material for completion of the project was on hand.

Fred Hall, Jr., has volunteered to head up the construction work. Volunteers are requested to be on hand at the appointed hours.

Girl Scout Fund Drive Lagging, Leader Reports

Less than one-third of the letters soliciting funds for the annual Girl Scout drive have been returned to date, according to Robert S. Ewing, drive chairman.

"The goal for Southern Pines is \$2,200," he said, "which needs to be raised to help support the activities of 11 troops with 165 girls participating. It is a small sum when one considers the many things it can accomplish."

The local drive is part of one being conducted throughout the Central Carolina Girl Scout Council, which has 1,600 members.

Howard Johnson's Formal Opening Saturday

Howard Johnson, Boston businessman whose name is on more than 500 restaurants, the largest chain in this country, will attend the grand opening of the Howard Johnson Restaurant and Motor Lodge on US Highway 1 between Southern Pines and Aberdeen Saturday.

Johnson will be accompanied by a number of other high ranking officials and leaders of the business world at ceremonies marking completion of the \$500,000 project, which was started last June.

Opening day ceremonies will include an "open house" with conducted tours of the motor lodge and the restaurant between 10 and 2 p. m. The owners of the new facilities have also announced that a number of free gifts, including orchids, soft drinks and other items would be available to visitors. Typical rooms in the motor lodge will be thrown open to visitors and the kitchen and dining area of the restaurant will

be open for inspection.

Other visitors who will attend include Howard Cummings of Miami, Fla., executive vice-pres-

ident of the vast chain; C. K. Dwinell of Boston, vice-president of the Howard Johnson Motor Lodges; Everett Johnson, Democratic National Committeeman of North Carolina; Harold Makepeace, mayor of Sanford, Ed Washburn of Rocky Mount, president of the North Carolina Motel Association; Thomas Pearsall, also of Rocky Mount, a former state legislator and head of the Governor's Advisory Committee for Public Education; W. P. Saunders, of Raleigh and Southern Pines, chairman of the N. C. State Department of Conservation and Development; and Bill Sharpe and Carl Goerch, publishers of the State Magazine.

They were invited here by Mayor Voit Gilmore, one of the principal stockholders in the new establishment, and will be honored at a special luncheon during the course of the opening day ceremonies.

Newest in the national chain (Continued on page 22)

Cunningham Quits City Manager's Post

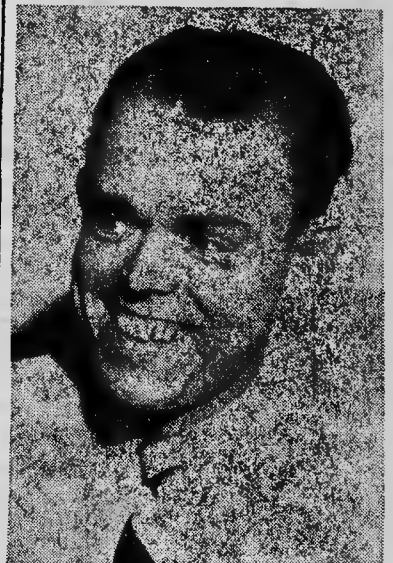
Scheipers Will Assume Position First Of Year

Tom Cunningham, city manager here for the past three and one-half years, has resigned, effective January 1, to accept a teaching position in South America.

He will be succeeded by Louis Scheipers, Jr., who has held the position of town clerk since the adoption of the city-manager form of government.

Cunningham, the first city manager the town ever had, submitted his resignation at a special called meeting of the Town Council Tuesday morning. In a letter addressed to the Council, he wrote:

"After considerable thought, I have decided to accept a position with the University of Tennessee and the International Cooperation Administration. I regret leaving the wonderful town of Southern Pines where we have



TOM CUNNINGHAM

been so generously received; however, I do not feel that I can refuse to pass up the financial and cultural opportunity which has been offered me."

The Council reluctantly accepted the resignation.

"We are sincerely sorry that Mr. Cunningham is leaving us," Mayor Voit Gilmore said, "but we are happy that he is taking up a position of such vital importance to good international relations. Since the inception of the city manager form of government here, Mr. Cunningham has been primarily responsible for its acceptance by the people of Southern Pines. The Council wishes him success in his new endeavors and would take this opportunity to publicly thank him for the outstanding accomplishments he has made here over the past few years."

Scheipers, whose resignation as town clerk was announced last week, was immediately offered the position.

After contacting officials in Tarpon Springs, Fla., where he was to assume the city manager's post after Christmas, and obtaining their understanding and cooperation in the new development, he accepted the position here.

Cunningham, a native of Winston-Salem, will teach financial administration and public budgeting at the University of San Andreas in La Paz, Bolivia, the highest capital city in the world.

Actually, he was employed by the University of Tennessee, which is under a contract with the International Cooperation Administration, an agency of the Federal Government, and the Bolivian University.

The University of Tennessee provides specialists in many aspects of public administration for the purpose of setting up a school at the University of San Andreas and to teach various government officials in Bolivia the aspects of

(Continued on page 8)

Builders Cup To Be Awarded Friday

The Sandhills Kiwanis Club yesterday reported a "sell-out" for its annual Ladies Night program Friday at the Pinehurst Country Club, starting at 7:30.

Feature of the evening will be the presentation of the Builder's Cup, awarded annually to a person who has performed outstanding service to the community. Who the recipient will be this year will not be known until the presentation.

Following dinner a program of varied entertainment will be presented, but "no speeches," says Thomas A. Howerton, who will act as master of ceremonies. The nature of the program has been kept a secret as to the name of the Builder's Cup winner, the committee in charge offering no clues. Dress for the dinner is optional.

Cameron Named Chairman of Board Of Commissioners

Gordon M. Cameron of Pinehurst, longtime chairman of the Moore County Board of County Commissioners, was re-elected to head the Board by the other commissioners at a regular monthly meeting Monday.

L. R. Reynolds of Highfalls was named vice-chairman.

Several other county officials were sworn in, including Judge J. Vance Rowe of the Recorder's Court, Solicitor W. Lamont Brown and Haywood H. Fry, who is county surveyor.

At the meeting, which was consumed mostly by routine reports from the heads of the various county agencies, the commissioners also heard a request from Captain William Wilson of Southern Pines, who is commander of the local National Guard detachment, asking for an additional \$2,500 appropriation for construction of a new armory on the outskirts of Southern Pines.

The request was necessary, Wilson pointed out, because of the increased cost of the building since the commissioners had earlier allocated \$10,500 for the project.

The new armory, he said, would have considerably better facilities and would be constructed according to requirements laid down by the National Guard Commission in Washington.

Local units must put up 10 percent of the funds necessary for armory construction.

The commissioners indicated they would be favorable to such a request the next time the budget is prepared, but held off until that time.

The board also voted to take \$10,000 from a \$25,000 agricultural building fund and apply it towards a new fire truck for rural fire protection.

NEW EXHIBIT

"International Art" is the title of the exhibition now being shown at the Library Gallery, to remain on view until December 15.

The works shown cover a wide range: from early Byzantine icons, a drawing by the contemporary surrealist artist, Salvador Dali, to an oil of a familiar golf course scene, by the American painter, Erwin Barrie.

It includes a wash painting by Mme. Chiang Kai Chek, loaned by Mrs. George C. Marshall, and loans from the home collections of Mrs. Donald Cooke, Mrs. W. Fred McBride, Mrs. C. E. Denny, Mrs. J. S. Bertrand. The icons belong to Arch F. Coleman and Mrs. Alwin Folley.

A stimulating show, this; strong testimony to the love of art in these parts. A detailed account will appear in next week's issue of The Pilot.