

# THE PILOT

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## Conspiracy Suit Continued When Defendant Beaten

Mrs. Nicholson Says Story Is 'Fantastic Hoax'

Edwina Hallman, Washington resident and one of the principals in a \$50,000 civil suit that was scheduled to be tried in Carthage Monday, claimed to Washington police over the weekend that she had been beaten up by two men posing as government agents.

Judge J. Braxton Craven, presiding at the two week term of civil court in Carthage, allowed a motion for continuance of the trial over the objections of lawyers for Mrs. Valerie Nicholson, Southern Pines newspaperwoman, who brought the suit.

Miss Hallman, secretary to V. J. Daly, who formerly practiced psychology in Southern Pines, and Martha Dixon Underwood, an associate, were the defendants in the suit in which Mrs. Nicholson charges the trio with conspiracy.

Miss Hallman told police two thugs tied her up while searching her apartment for documents. The documents, she added, were related to the suit scheduled for trial Monday.

When the pair left, she said, they warned her: "If you testify Monday, you'll get worse than this."

Mrs. Nicholson said today that she looked on the whole incident as another of the "fantastic plots which have been woven in and out of one another, each more preposterous than the last."

She said this was "probably the sixth plot the trio has hatched up and shouldn't be given the dignity of any recognition whatsoever."

"If those people want to eat each other up, that is all right with me," she continued, "but they needn't try tying it in with the trial or anything else with which I'm connected. I don't believe it, of course, nor do I think anyone else in the world believes it. I certainly don't think the Washington police, who I understand are now investigating the matter thoroughly, can possibly believe I had anything to do with it. No one at all has approached me about it."

Mrs. Nicholson said her lawyers had all the documents she needed for the trial, which she said had been collected over the past year and a half and represent "far more than enough to prove my case."

She did say, however, that Daly is in possession of three or four other documents which her lawyer, P. H. Wilson, wanted and which Wilson last week issued a duces tecum for. Such action, Wilson said, is a proper and orderly process of the court.

Mrs. Nicholson said she expected that Daly would claim the documents had been stolen.

"As an example of the continuing plot these three people are engaged in, last week in the fed-

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## To Head State Polio Drive

Paul C. Butler, of Southern Pines, has accepted appointment as North Carolina chairman of the 1958 March of Dimes campaign, to be held January 2-31 in every county in the state.

The announcement of Butler's appointment was made today by Basil O'Connor, New York, President of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Butler has served the Foundation as a volunteer since 1938, the year it was founded, and has acted as chairman of the Moore County polio chapter for the past 15 years. During the 1948 polio epidemic in North Carolina, when more than 2,500 persons were stricken, he served as state treasurer of the polio Epidemic Emergency Fund which disbursed hundreds of thousands of dollars across the state for patient care. He is a member of the County Board of Public Welfare.

Butler is past president of the Sandhills Kiwanis Club and has held the office of Lieutenant Governor of the state organization. He is also an Elk and a Mason. Several years ago he received the Sandhills Kiwanis Club Builders Award, which is



PAUL BUTLER

given each year to the person in the county contributing the most personal time and effort to up-building the county, with no thought to personal gain.

"I am happy to offer my services to the March of Dimes, one of the most worthwhile organizations in the country," Butler said. "I appeal to all our citizens to give their usual generous support to the March of Dimes campaign next January."

## IN HEART OF 'RESEARCH TRIANGLE'

### Former President of Robbins Mills Acquires Tract For Research Park

### Prizes Announced For Poultry Show At Highfalls

Prizes for the annual Poultry Day program at Highfalls were announced today. Though they are not as high as in some other contests, competition is expected to be keen when dozens of poultry growers gather at the Highfalls school gym for the activities beginning at 8 a.m. September 21.

The program has the following events: entry of broilers and eggs, 8 to 9 a.m.; judging, broilers, eggs and 4-H pullets, 9 to 11 a.m.; announcement of winners, 11 to 11:30 a.m.; sale of 4-H pullets, 11:30 to 12:30; free lunch, 12:30 to 1 p.m.; community events (bingo, horseshoes, and concessions), 1:30 p.m.

Five classes will be judged in the broiler exhibits, with two pullets and two roosters in each class. The classes, from five to nine weeks of age, have \$8 for first prize, \$5 for second, \$2.50 for third, and \$1 for fourth.

In the egg exhibits, each of which must consist of one dozen eggs, there will be two classes, white shell and brown shell. First prize in each is \$5, second prize is \$4, third is \$2, and fourth \$1.

A prize of \$15 will be awarded for the grand champion broiler.

Karl Robbins, formerly principal owner of Robbins Mills before the chain was acquired by Amerotron, has acquired a large acreage in the heart of North Carolina's "Research Triangle" which will be converted into a research park.

The announcement of Robbins' project was made by Gov. Hodges this week. He said the land, which consists of approximately 4,000 acres, will be utilized by leading industrial firms for research laboratories. None have signed up for space yet, Gov. Hodges said, but a number of companies have expressed interest.

The land is in the middle of a triangle formed by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University at Durham, and North Carolina State College at Raleigh. Each of the institutions is equipped with research facilities that the state has been promoting as conducive for the future assistance of companies who wish to locate laboratories in the vicinity.

Robbins will have sole control of the properties, however, and the state will have no official connection.

Robbins joined Spencer Love of Burlington Mills about 30 years ago in the purchase of what was then known as the Pinehurst

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## PTA To Hold First Meeting of Season Thursday Night

Mrs. Woodell Says Committees Almost Complete

First meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association of the East Southern Pines schools will be held Thursday, Sept. 19, at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium, it was announced today by Mrs. I. A. Woodell, president.

Urging all parents to join the PTA, Mrs. Woodell said that the topic for the first meeting will be "Your PTA." New teachers in the elementary and high schools will be introduced and new and former teachers will be welcomed. A social hour will follow the program.

An important decision to be made at the meeting next week is the meeting time to be used during the coming school year. Heretofore, the PTA has met on the third Thursday night of each month. At an executive committee meeting held recently, it was suggested that the first Monday night of each month might be a more convenient time for many persons. This suggestion, with any others that may be made, will be considered by the membership at the Sept. 9 session.

All Can Join  
Any one interested in the schools can join the Parent-Teacher Association, Mrs. Woodell pointed out. Dues are 50 cents per year per person. Of this amount, 35 cents stays here, 10 cents goes to the state association and five cents to the national association.

Local PTA officers, elected at the last meeting in May, are, in addition to Mrs. Woodell: Mrs. J. S. Hyatt, Jr., first vice-president; Mrs. Charles P. Cole, second vice-president; Mrs. R. E. Franklin, secretary; and Robert M. Leland, treasurer.

Mrs. Woodell has appointed chairmen of standing committees and membership of most committees is complete. They are:

Chairman of Room Representatives: Mrs. Norman B. Calcutt. Co-chairmen are: For the High School—Mrs. W. M. Mitchell and Mrs. Fred Pollard; for the Elementary School—Mrs. Charles Phillips.

Membership: Mrs. Ward Hill and Mrs. Graham Culbreth. Program: Mrs. Ralph Chandler, Jr., chairman, and Mrs. W. T. Huntley, Mrs. R. M. McMillan and A. C. Dawson, superintendent of schools.

Hospitality: Mrs. W. Lamont Brown. Room representatives from various grades will assist at request of the chairman.

PTA Magazine: Mrs. J. B. Tolison, chairman, Mrs. W. K. Caton and Mrs. Alfred G. Chis-

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## Dawson Reiterates School Board Plan On Young Students

School Superintendent A. C. Dawson today reminded parents of children who are just beginning school that definite rules about their admittance had been adopted by the school board and would be strictly adhered to.

Dawson said he had received a number of telephone calls from parents requesting information about the admittance of six-year-olds.

The school board has ruled, he said, that in order for a child to enter the first grade, he must be six years of age on or before October 15 of the year to be admitted. In order for a child who has attended a private first grade class to enter the second grade of the public school, he must have reached his seventh birthday on or before December 1 of the year to be admitted.

"This rule was adopted on the recommendation of the faculty administration," Dawson said, "and is based on the best professional research we could find. Most larger schools follow the practice."

## CHARGES NEGLIGENCE

### Victim of Traffic Accident Brings \$300,000 Suit Against vonCanons

A \$300,000 damage suit, which grew out of an automobile collision near West End ten days ago and which caused the death of a young Denton resident, has been filed against J. B. vonCanon, Jr., and his wife. Papers were served today on behalf of William Wayne Brackett of High Point, who was injured in the accident.

Sheriff Charles McDonald said that papers would be served later on Richard vonCanon, son of Mr. and Mrs. vonCanon, who is now in Fort Bragg Hospital as a result of injuries he received in the accident.

The accident, in which Bobby

J. Morris, 24, of Denton, was killed, occurred near West End August 31. Five people, including Brackett and young vonCanon were injured, one of them critically.

There has been rumor that several other suits would be brought against the vonCanons but none have been received in the Sheriff's office at present. Attorneys for Brackett indicated in Greensboro last week, however, that a total of \$485,000 in suits would be filed.

In the papers served today, Brackett claims that the accident was caused by the negligence of Richard vonCanon.

## Knights To Play At Elizabethtown Tomorrow Night

The Blue Knights, soundly trounced in their debut in 11-man football ranks last week, have another tough one coming up tomorrow night.

They face Elizabethtown, a team that Cape Fear Conference coaches have already conceded third place in the loop.

"They have an awfully good bunch of players over there," Blue Knight Coach Irie Leonard said this morning, "and we're still getting our feet on the ground. Two of their backs are rated pretty high in the conference and it will be hard to stop them, but we learned a lot last week and maybe we'll give them a few surprises."

Leonard was referring to Larry Mann, small (140 pounds) but exceptionally fast, and Ronnie Calhoun, a bruising 180-pound fullback. Both were outstanding last week when Elizabethtown won its opening game against Hope Mills, 19-7.

There was only one serious injury on the Blue Knight squad last week, Leonard reported. He said that Robert Woodruff, a back, had a pulled muscle and would not dress for the Elizabethtown game.

Otherwise, the team appeared in good condition after the game.

Local fans who expect to attend the Elizabethtown game were advised by Leonard to allow at least an hour and a half to get there. The shortest route, he said, was by way of Raeford and St. Pauls.

## So. Pines? Terrible, Citizens Say; State Requested To Redesign Signs

The designation "So. Pines" is not pleasing, apparently, to a great number of Southern Pines residents.

And the Town Council, also noting its displeasure, has adopted



LIKE THIS . . .

ed a resolution calling on the state to re-design several of its signs on the new parkway and henceforth spell out the town's proper name.

At the regular meeting Tuesday night, Town Clerk Gary Head read a long resolution which "whereas-ed" (in several UNabbreviated paragraphs) the town's official feeling that state sign engineers were doing an effective job in installing good traffic signs—sound, easily read, hard to knock down, easily maintained—and commended them for their efforts in controlling and guiding traffic.

But in the next breath (or gasp, as one wisacre commented later) Clerk Head started reading the "now therefore be it resolved" clauses: the townspeople, in short, were sore at the "So. Pines" designation and wanted the engineers to spell out the words.

"Good public relations" was given as one reason.

Councilman J. B. Tollison (oops,

## Two Injured When Car Smashes Into Cafe Parking Lot

A car running wild after a collision on US 15501 about a mile east of Carthage Saturday smashed into two other cars and seriously injured two people and caused thousands of dollars worth of property damage.

Cpl. Jim McColman, who investigated, said that Will Gunter, 70, of Route 1, Cameron, was rushed to Moore Memorial Hospital in critical condition, and Daniel Patterson, 35-year-old resident of Utica, N. Y., was hospitalized with spine injuries.

McColman said the accident apparently occurred when Gunter drove out of an unpaved street into the path of a car driven by Rudolph Blue, 29, of Pompano Beach, Fla. Patterson and Oscar McKenzie, of Utica were passengers in Blue's car.

The impact spun Gunter's car around and it crashed into the parking lot of J. C.'s Grill where it struck a car owned by W. M. Needham, of Route 2, Carthage, Ricocheting again, it careened across the Union Church road running behind the restaurant and through W. H. Spivey's yard, missing the back porch of Spivey's house by less than two feet, and smashed into his car.

From the point of the initial collision, McColman said the distance was about 350 feet. No one was in the two parked cars he said.

## So. Pines? Terrible, Citizens Say; State Requested To Redesign Signs

James Broner (Tollison) commented as how he was proud as all get out of Southern Pines and bemoaned the fact that "So. Pines" was being used on signs.

"We're trying to promote the town and get people to come here," he said. "In my travels I've seen a lot of signs where the name of the town is abbreviated. None of them appealed to me at all."

He added: "So. Pines isn't our name, any way you look at it."

And Mayor Walter E. (Emmett) Blue said he had heard more peo-



. . . NOT THIS

ple express themselves about the abbreviated signs than on any other matter concerning the parkway.

"It appears that people want it spelled out," was his final comment.

General Pearson Menoher abstained when time for voting came along. "Two signs have already been changed," he said, "and I seriously suspect that changing them was the direct cause of two serious accidents that occurred on the parkway. Anyhow, I doubt very much if the state will change them."

Will the state change them? We'll see.

## Council Decides To Retain Present Parking System

Citizens Join In Lively Discussion

Common sense spoke up regularly and was listened to at the regular open meeting of the town council which took place Tuesday night.

Held at the Library, the discussion centered around the problem of traffic and parking in the business sections of Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and Connecticut Avenues. At the request of Mayor W. E. Blue, many of the citizens present offered their views, with opinion virtually unanimous that the present system of diagonal parking should not be changed.

The parking matter came up, it was explained by Town Manager Louis Scheipers, Jr., because of a request from the State Highway Department that Pennsylvania Avenue, now a part of the state system from the bridge to May Street, should be restricted to parallel parking. At the suggestion of Robert S. Ewing, newly elected councilman who was attending his first meeting, the letter was read in which the plea was made that because of an anticipated increase in traffic on this part of the avenue, parallel parking would be advisable, "to speed the flow of traffic."

Graham Culbreth, owner of the Southern Pines Pharmacy, led off the citizens' opposition. Protesting that parallel parking would greatly reduce the space available to his customers, he said:

"We're driving people away right now because there is so little room to park." He said he was "unalterably opposed to any change that will make things worse."

Harry Pethick, a former councilman, expressed firm agreement and added a further argument.

"It's true," he said, "that there is some congestion at times, especially in front of the A&P store, but if you have parallel parking, things will be ten times worse. There will be just that many more people driving around there looking for a place to park and, with parallel parking, a lot of them wouldn't be able to park if the space was there. Parallel parking is a difficult trick for many drivers. Besides," said Mr. Pethick, "why should there be a need to speed things up? We want people to drive slowly in town, not make it any easier to go fast."

Joe Montesanti, of the Broad Street Pharmacy, said he had talked to a great many people in town and had found hardly any who wished to have the present diagonal parking system changed.

They Back and Turn  
C. S. McLaughlin, of the Style Mart, was another who agreed. "I don't see how parallel parking would increase the flow of traffic," he said. "I've watched people, some of these retired people we have, trying to park parallel on Broad Street. They back and turn, have to try three or four times before they make it. That just holds up traffic. Anyway, you don't want traffic to be speeded up on business streets."

Upon a question from L. D. Blue said he had heard more peo-

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## Wildlife Club Has Picnic, Hears Law Enforcement Talk

A basket picnic at Mile Away Farm, home of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Moss, provided an appropriate setting for Tuesday night's meeting of the Moore County club of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation.

Held out in the moonlight by the barbecue outfit, with Mr. and Mrs. Moss acting as hosts, the picnic supper, brought by each member, tasted especially fine. Iced tea and coffee were provided by the hosts.

Following the picnic, the gathering heard a talk on enforcement of the game laws by Ben H. James, chief of the protection division of the state Resources Commission, with Dr. Joseph S. Hiatt in charge of the program. Clyde Auman of West End, president, conducted the regular business meeting.



NEW LODGE at Pine Needles Country Club is being readied for opening October 15. The new buildings, built along the lines of a Swiss chalet, are the nucleus of what owner Warren

Bell expects to develop into a sprawling layout that will greatly enlarge the club's present facilities. The buildings, four are going up at present, consist of five bedrooms each.

(Pilot photo)