

Two Local Men To Tour Antarctic As IGY Observers

Gilmore, Derby
To Leave Sunday
On 6-8 Week Trip

Voit Gilmore, former mayor of Southern Pines, and Vance Derby, news editor of The Pilot, leave Sunday morning for the South Pole area where they will serve as correspondents for several newspapers and radio stations in the state.

The trip is being made to observe the U. S. Navy's functions in "Operation Deepfreeze III," part of the International Geophysical Year (IGY). They expect to be in the Antarctic for approximately one month most of the time at Ellsworth Station, one of eight IGY stations operated by this country.

Invited by the Navy to make the trip, Gilmore and Derby will fly to Cape Town, South Africa, by way of Lisbon, the Belgian Congo and Johannesburg. At Cape Town, where they will spend Christmas Day, they will board the USS Wyandot, a Navy transport, for the trip to Ellsworth Station. Naval officials said the ocean trip would require about 15 days, half of which will be through open sea and the remainder in "ice."

While aboard ship and in the Antarctic, they will write articles for state newspapers and The Pilot. Gilmore is representing The Raleigh News and Observer, the Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel, and the Charlotte Observer. Derby will write for the Asheville Citizen-Times, the Greensboro Daily News and Radio Station WPTF. He will also file articles for The Pilot and other newspapers when and if items of local interest are developed.

(Cad Benedict, former news editor and now associate editor of The Pilot, will fill in for Derby during his absence.)

"Of course, we're both thrilled at the prospect of visiting the South Pole," they said today. "Seldom does one have such an opportunity for adventure, and it was impossible to turn down the Navy's wonderful offer, particularly in view of the fact that the IGY program will end next December. Winter comes down there in February and not much travel will be permitted after that."

Actually, summertime at the South Pole is pretty cold. Temperatures range from about five or ten below to five or ten above. At Ellsworth, closed in by ice the year around, cold winds and snow make living conditions unpleasant, to say the least.

Ellsworth Station was constructed this year, the last such station to be erected by Naval forces. It comprises 18 buildings closely grouped on the Weddell Sea. It is about 700 miles from the South Pole itself. Thirty nine men are there at present.

Gilmore and Derby have been informed by the Navy Department that trips by plane and helicopter over the South Pole will probably be arranged. There is also an outside possibility they will visit Little America, McMurdo Sound station, and facilities operated by Great Britain, Argentina and Chile.

IGY, a cooperative effort by many countries, is designed to give to the world, for the first time, an understanding of the weather that flows out of the "arctic refrigerator." Scientists say there is no question but that antarctic cold affects the climate of southern continents. Because exchange of atmosphere takes place globally, it may affect even the Northern Hemisphere.

There are 46 IGY stations, eight of them established by the United States.

Gilmore and Derby will make the trip back to this country by way of South America, though the point of entry has not been determined as yet.



PARCEL POST and mail hit a peak here Tuesday as postal clerks handled more than 150 bags going out and a similar number coming in. Dwight Hoskins, shown here packing up some of the packages for delivery, said the load was handled with neat dispatch and that patrons, for the most part, had cooperated fully with the Post Office Department's plea for early mailing. (Pilot photo)

JUST 5 DAYS LEFT

Christmas Season Programs Varied; Most Places To Close On Wednesday

Christmas is a short five days away and almost everybody in this town got down to serious preparation for it this week.

Church services, civic club parties and last minute shopping, together with an eye out for the weather, have occupied the collective mind of the entire town.

Announcements of closing hours for businesses, governmental agencies, and schools piled in today and, though the list is not complete, it indicated that most establishments would be closed Christmas Day and, in some instances, for as much as three days.

Maxwell Rush, postmaster, said the post office would be open all day Saturday, from 8:30

to 5, and on Sunday from 12 to 1 for receiving parcel post. Mail and parcel post will also be delivered Sunday.

Mrs. S. H. Lambourne announcing the library would be closed Wednesday and Thursday so the staff might enjoy a holiday. It will re-open Friday as usual.

Two community parties are scheduled Sunday to which all children are invited.

At the VFW house on New York Avenue, Santa Claus will arrive at 2 o'clock and distribute

stockings to all children present. Officials of the organization also said they hoped to have the fire truck there, as in years past, to take the children for a ride around town.

At the Elks Club, the party, complete again with Santa Claus and presents for all present, will also begin at 2 o'clock. Children in the entire area are invited.

The Town administrative offices will be closed Christmas Day as will offices in the courthouse in Carthage.

Most business establishments will be closed Christmas Day and many will remain closed the following day.

The Pilot will publish Monday in order to allow its employees a longer Christmas holiday.

Christmas Program At Moore Hospital

Moore Memorial Hospital, decorated by the Women's Auxiliary, and aided by the Southern Pines and Aberdeen garden clubs and Girl Scout troops, will be the scene of several Christmas programs in the next few days.

Some events have already been held, including a party yesterday for Negro members of the staff.

Tonight is "family night," and beginning at 7 o'clock nurses and employes and their children will gather for carol singing, games, contests and the traditional visit of Santa Claus.

The Auxiliary is sponsoring the Christmas Day program at the hospital, complete with a Santa Claus making the rounds of wards and rooms, music, and gifts for all patients.

To climax the program, the medical staff is having a buffet dance at Southern Pines Country Club Saturday night, December 28, for all members of the hospital's board of directors and hospital personnel.

Hobbs Wins Place In Millionaire's Club

J. D. Hobbs, district supervisor here for the Occidental Life Insurance Company of Raleigh, has qualified for Occidental's exclusive "Millionaires Club," a top Occidental production honor.

BOND ELECTION OR NO?

Last week the Town Council voted to set machinery in motion for a possible bond election which would, in effect, put any further decisions concerning completion of the municipal center, also called the Town Hall, squarely into the hands of the public.

By unanimous vote the Council authorized bond attorneys to draw up initial documents which would pave the way for the election, and unofficially selected this coming spring as a target date for such a vote.

Why an election at all? Gen. Pearson Menoher, who has carried on a running battle in opposition to the building—first its location, a little later the type of construction, and now the cost—said last week that he felt the entire Town Hall matter had been handled in a "most unbusinesslike manner since its conception."

He said also that only \$100,000 had been authorized by the people for the building and cited current estimates of \$200,000 eventual costs as "plain ridiculous."

He added, however, that "something" had to be done since the building would be only partially completed when the current contract expires next summer.

"If the people here want to see it completed like they envisioned when the thing first came up, then they'll have to authorize the spending of more money," he said. "I personally feel it's a shame that the portion now under construction, and which, incidentally, will require the expenditure of about \$31,000 more than was authorized in the bond election, will have no good jail facilities or fire station."

Gen. Menoher's opposition is not all that has been voiced. Others

Annual Basketball Game Between Hi School, Alumni Set

Alumni Favored
To Win In Both
Games Dec.

The annual alumni basketball games, in which ex-students play members of the present teams, are scheduled at the high school gymnasium here December 30 and the alumni teams are favored, according to Coach W. A. Leonard.

Notwithstanding the fact that some of the ex-students are out of condition, he still looked for a good game because of the large number of standouts from previous teams who have indicated they would play.

In the boys' game some who have said they would play are Roger Verhoef, Tony Parker, Bobby Parker, and Billy Hamel—all from last year's squad; James Humphrey, Julian Pleasants, Bobby Cline, Bill Marley and Johnny Watkins, 1956; David Page, Joe Marley and Tommy Ruggles, 1954; David Bailey, 1953; and Roy Newton, Gary Mattocks, Billy Baker and Andy Page, representing other classes.

Last year the alumni won the boys' game 50-36 to pull about even in the series.

In the girls' game, won last year by the high school, 65-42, Coach Leonard said he expected the alumni girls to be the strongest in recent years and gave them an outside chance of winning.

He can count on Patti Hobbs, Carolyn Bryant, Anike Verhoef and Lillian Bullock from last year's squad; Jacque Davenport, 1956; Kay Davis, Betty Morris and Dorothy Newton, 1955; Sieger Herr, Patti Woodell Campbell, Peaches Cameron and Janet Hamel, Class of '53, and Pete Dana, Betty Worsham and Barbara Guin, representing other classes.

Both alumni squads have a number of all-county players.

The game is one of the highlights of the Christmas season and annually attracts a large crowd.

Coach Leonard said that some other features would be arranged along with the games and promised a good program.

Negotiations For New Lace Plant Continue

Local Development
Corporation Names
Ewing President

Negotiations for the location of Mozur Laces, Inc., of Trenton, N. J., were still going on this week as officials of the company and the Southern Pines Development Corporation checked into a myriad of details.

No announcement was forthcoming as The Pilot went to press and details of the meetings have been shrouded in secrecy. Officials of the company have indicated they wished to locate a plant here, however, and members of the local group hoped a decision would be reached at an early date.

Pledges to date total more than \$175,000, according to a count made this morning, and came from almost 200 individual subscriptions.

The drive, conducted last week, had an original goal of \$150,000. Officials said today that the door still is not closed on further subscriptions and the more pledges the better the local situation.

Last week, two members of the local committee, Robert Ewing and Norris Hodgkins, Jr., visited the company's plants in Tennessee and reported both were "excellent" and a credit to the communities in which they are located.

The Southern Pines Development Corporation, reactivated in view of the prospect of new industry in this area, held a meeting last Friday and elected officers, naming Ewing president.

Others are James D. Hobbs, vice president; N. L. Hodgkins, Jr., secretary-treasurer; and John Ponzer, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Members of the board of directors are R. F. Hoke Pollock, Harry Fullenwider, D. A. Blue, John Ostrom, N. L. Hodgkins, Sr., and L. B. Creath.

Christmas Note From Editor

Dear Town:—

To come back home after too long an absence and then have to go away just before Christmas—What a fate!

The sun shines, the air is crisp and good and piney. Folks come rushing up to you: "So glad you got down in time for Christmas!" they shout.

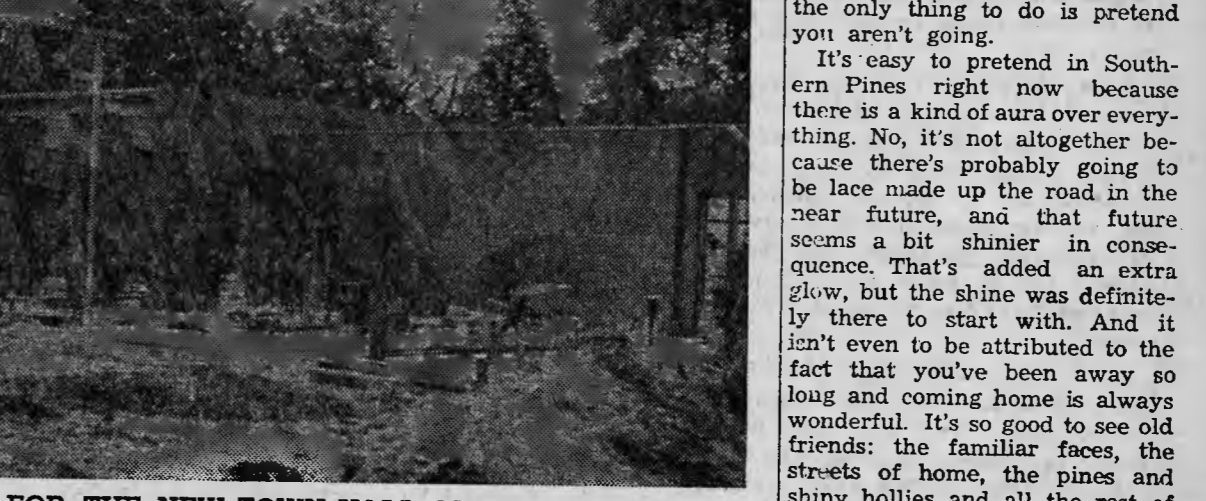
You think of those three short days ahead before you board the old Palmland again and—well, the only thing to do is pretend you aren't going.

It's easy to pretend in Southern Pines right now because there is a kind of aura over everything. No, it's not altogether because there's probably going to be lace made up the road in the near future, and that future seems a bit shinier in consequence. That's added an extra glow, but the shine was definitely there to start with. And it isn't even to be attributed to the fact that you've been away so long and coming home is always wonderful. It's so good to see old friends: the familiar faces, the streets of home, the pines and shiny hollies and all the rest of what makes Southern Pines. Even the racing colliers on Ridge Street share in your delighted gaze.

Perhaps it's the new look you get of an old familiar place when you see it again the first few minutes after arrival. And whether you're seeing it differently or just remembering it all over again for the ninety-ninth time: Southern Pines is a pretty town—you can't get around it—if anybody had such a subversive desire.

Sometimes, it seems as if we get too used to our town, so used to it that we forget how pretty it is, how truly different it is from the average town. And you don't need to run down other towns when you say that. It's a fact, without question. Southern Pines got started on (Continued on page 8)

Financing Of Town Hall Has Council In Quandary



SUPPORTS AND WALLS FOR THE NEW TOWN HALL ALMOST COMPLETE

have spoken out from time to time, including at least one member of the present Council.

The best picture of what is currently being done, financially, is contained in a report made to the Council in September, in which Town Manager Louis Scheipers, Jr., examined the entire situation, analyzing the contracts which are currently in effect, outlining the amounts involved in completed construction of the building, and analyzing the present and future bond indebtedness of the town.

The current picture shows the town has signed contracts for \$127,420, which includes the general contract base bid, a "shelld-in" jail, and heating and plumbing and other items. Deducts included paving at the building, jail cells, air conditioning, and some plumbing.

With the architect's fee, furnishings and landscaping, the town owes, payable in August of next year, \$145,204.

Scheipers pointed out that interest had run the bond account up to \$101,000, leaving a balance of \$44,204.

The last Council decided to exercise its prerogative to borrow two-thirds of the amount of net indebtedness of the preceding year, an amount calculated at \$31,333. (That sum can be borrowed by the town July 1 and, under present plans, will be unless a bond election is held and more funds secured.)

After borrowing the \$31,333, the town will still be almost \$13,000 made at all for a fire wing on the building. The previous Council recommended (Continued on page 8)