

One observer
of the missile-caused light in the sky early Monday night tells how it looked. Page 19.

A mink ranch
in the Sandhills? Yes, and it's proving successful. For a report and photos, turn to page 20.

WAS LAST SEEN SATURDAY NIGHT

Body of James Herbert Briggs, 33, Recovered From Car in Little River

The tip of a car hood, showing five or six inches above the flood-swollen water, Tuesday afternoon was the clue to a car which had submerged, drowning its driver, at the Little River bridge on US 1 between Lakeview and Vass.

workers replacing a highway sign at the bridge alerted the Highway Patrol about 4 p. m.

Nearly two hours later, the car with the body of James Herbert Briggs, 33, of Cameron, Route 1, had been drawn out with great difficulty by a wrecker.

Coroner Ralph G. Steed rendered a verdict of death by drowning but said that, because of the coldness of the water, it was impossible to tell how long the body had been submerged. Investigation by Patrol Sgt. J. S. Jones and Trooper H. A. Hight, Jr., indicated it had been there since Saturday night.

Trooper Hight said Briggs, who was unmarried and lived with a brother, had not been seen by members of his family since early Saturday evening, though he was reported seen later that night at

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School Absences Declining After 23 Per Cent Top

An outbreak of illness that on Wednesday caused absences of 23, or 23%, of the students in the East Southern Pines schools appears to be on the decline, Supt. Luther A. Adams said this morning. He said there is now no question of closing the schools.

Today's absences in East Southern Pines schools numbered 228. Monday's absentee count was 168, 16% of the students, jumping to 205 on Tuesday.

There have been only one or two faculty absences, Mr. Adams said.

Illnesses have included a light type of flu and various virus infections.

Absences in West Southern Pines schools have been normal, for this time of year, all this week, Mr. Adams said, reflecting no serious outbreak of illness in that part of town.

Cameron Youth Named Candidate For Annapolis

John Atlas Phillips III, a senior at Cameron High school, is very happy to have received Congressman A. Paul Kitchen's nomination as a principal candidate for the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

He said this week he knows he will have a hard row to hoe to meet all the requirements, but is going to do his best. Judging from past performance, his best is going to be mighty good.

In senior superlatives this year, Johnny was voted "most likely to succeed," and said he hopes this will hold true for the Naval Academy exams. He is awaiting instructions as to when these will

Beck Succeeding Swaringen in Post

The State Highway Commission has announced the appointment of Fred H. Beck of Carthage as District Two engineer for the Eighth Highway Division.

Mr. Beck is being promoted from a position as resident engineer in Asheboro, to replace District Two Engineer Sam Swaringen of Aberdeen, who died recently.

As District Two engineer, Mr. Beck will be responsible for road work in Hoke, Moore and Lee Counties, with district headquarters in Aberdeen.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Beck of Linwood, Mr. Beck is 43 years old, and began working with the Commission in 1945 as a rodmann.

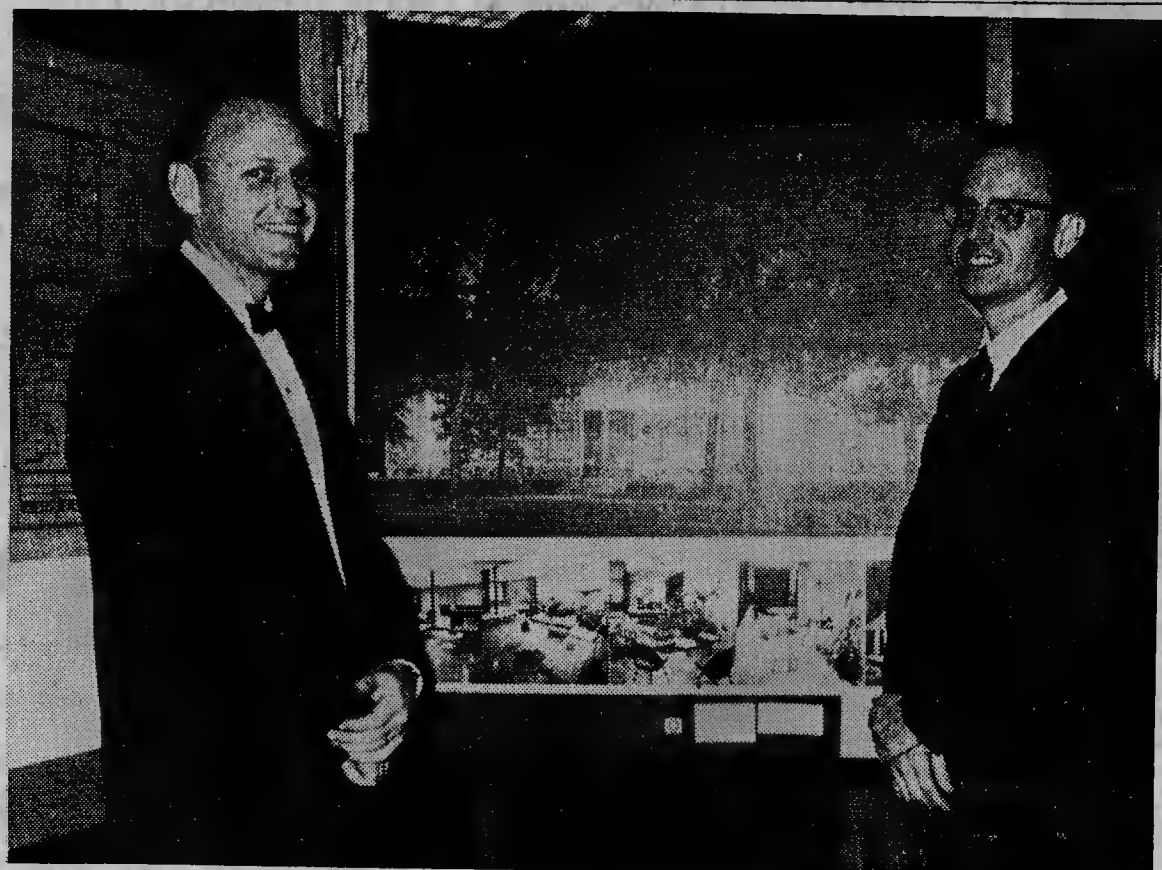
He is married to the former Miss Bessie E. McDonald and they have two children, Fred Henderson Beck, Jr., and Lauree Beth Beck.

Though working out of Asheboro, Mr. Beck has maintained his home at Carthage. He is active in Boy Scout work at Carthage.

THE WEATHER

Maximum and minimum temperatures for each day of the past week were recorded as follows at the U. S. Weather Bureau observation station at the WEEB studios on Midland Road.

| | Max | Min |
|------------|-----|-----|
| January 25 | 68 | 45 |
| January 26 | 76 | 58 |
| January 27 | 73 | 54 |
| January 28 | 59 | 29 |
| January 29 | 53 | 19 |
| January 30 | 51 | 22 |
| January 31 | 41 | 21 |



FIRM WINS AWARD—Thomas T. Hayes, Jr. (left) and W. Calvin Howell, of the local architectural firm, Hayes-Howell and Associates, are pictured with enlarged photos depicting exterior and interior views of the Southern Pines Savings and Loan Association building, designed by the firm, which has received a Merit Award in a contest sponsored by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. This and other awards were presented at last week's convention of the Chapter at the Mid Pines Club here. Out-of-state judges picked the winners of the architectural awards. Meeting with the architects was the Tar Heel Chapter of the Illuminating Engineering Society, of which John L. Ponzer of Southern Pines is president. (Hemmer photo)

Two State Troopers Assigned Here

Two troopers arriving here today, assigned to Southern Pines, bring to six the strength of the State Highway Patrol in Moore County.

Sgt. J. S. Jones, who heads the three-county district patrol office at Siler City, said the troopers assigned here are:

Pfc. Jack F. Cardwell, a native of Ellerbe, who was transferred here from Parkton in Robeson County; and Pfc. F. Ray Wicker, a Sanford native, who comes here from Wendell.

Both of the officers said this morning that they had not yet found living quarters here.

Pfc. Cardwell is married to the

former Essie Dawkins of Rockingham. They have two sons, Jack, 7, and Bobby, 5.

Pfc. Wicker's wife is the former Carolyn Spinks of Burke County. They have twin daughters who will be six years old next month, Leslie Carol and Lisa Anne, and a son, Ricky, 9.

Today's assignment of two new troopers to Moore County increases by one the allotment the county has had for a number of years. A request for an additional trooper was officially made by the county commissioners at their December meeting.

Pfc. W. R. Austin, who came from Ansonville, went on duty

December 15 and is now living in Pinehurst.

Former patrolmen now not on duty in Moore are E. G. Shomaker, who was transferred December 15 from Southern Pines to Salisbury and J. Frank Swaim of Aberdeen who was suspended, at first temporarily and then permanently, late last year, on charges never made public by the Patrol.

Troopers who have been serving in Moore and remain are Pfc. R. R. Samuels of Southern Pines; Pfc. Henry Hight of Carthage; and Pfc. Tommy Clark of Robbins.

Old Man Acquitted by Jury on Murder Charge

Alec Everett, past 80, was acquitted Wednesday by a jury of second-degree murder in the fatal shooting of Henry Boggs, 49, last September. The trial took place in Moore County Superior Court at Carthage.

The little old man with grey hair fringing his bald pate, wearing a battered brown jacket, regarded at the elbows, had freely admitted to the shooting at the time of his arrest, but said it was in self-defense.

The jury was out only 30 minutes at the close of a day and a half of testimony, most of it taken up with Everett's rambling and hair-raising tale of terror covering a period of several months.

Cupping his hand at his ear to hear the questions, jabbing the air with his forefinger to emphasize his answers, he got lost in his own testimony several times, admitting that "I don't remember very well." Apologetically he told Judge John D. McConnell, "My intellect comes and goes."

As defense counsel H. F. Seawell tried to keep him on track under examination, but his client admonished him briskly, "Well, all right. I'm gittin' there, I'm gittin' there!" When his defender intimated at one point that Ever-

ett was repeating himself, the old man retorted, "I ain't begun to tell it all. I ain't made a hole in it, even. I got it all banked up."

The tale he had to tell was of an invited guest, who moved in on him at his isolated farm home, shared his meager food without repayment, wouldn't leave when asked to "find another place to board," then began "drinking wine," hiding bottles in the woods, and beating, choking and injuring his unwilling host.

Referring to Boggs, who had been a Butner Hospital patient, Everett said, "He wasn't crazy at all, he was smart as the very mischief. He wanted to kill me but so as the law wouldn't find out he had done it."

After several beatings, he said, he armed himself with a pistol, then when Boggs started choking him on that September day, told him, "Turn me loose or I'll shoot." It took three shots, he said, to make Boggs "turn loose" and fall face down in the sandy road.

Everett went into his house and sat with his shotgun on his lap, afraid "he'd get up and come after me." The next day he went out and looked and Boggs was still breathing. Everett waited another night, and went in the morning

to poke Boggs with a stick and watch him a while. He "warn't gettin' any air" so the old man went to a neighbor's to phone the sheriff a man had been "found dead."

While the shooting might have been in self-defense, Solicitor M. G. Boyette told the jury—and Judge McConnell indicated in his charge—leaving the man two days in the hot sun to die was a different matter.

The not-guilty verdict perturbed Judge McConnell, who asked the jury foreman, "What do you think we should do with him?" The foreman answered, "We think he ought to be put some place

he can be cared for, but we don't think it is up to us to say." To defense counsel the judge commented, "We don't want people to think that in Moore we condone shooting people and leaving them in the road for three days to die."

"We don't condone it but this old man had lived there 40 years and hadn't given anybody a speck of trouble, and he isn't going to now," said Seawell.

In his youth, Everett admitted, he had killed another man, and had served 15 years at hard labor in prison at Raleigh till 1919. A couple of years later he bought

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JUDGE JOHN D. McCONNELL . . . at Carthage

FIRST TIME IN MOORE COUNTY

Judge McConnell Presides at Court

Snowy weather brought a welcome surprise to Moore County this week—Judge John D. McConnell of Southern Pines presiding over the Superior Court term at Carthage for the first time since he was sworn in as a special judge last July.

Judge Robert M. Gambill of North Wilkesboro, who presided over last week's civil term, was expected back for the criminal term this week but found himself pretty well snowed in Monday morning, with travel precarious in his mountain area. Judge McConnell, slated to hold court in

Wilkes, didn't care to travel so far from home either, so the two judges arranged a swap of commissions.

Judge McConnell, in his home county courtroom, found himself amid familiar surroundings and friendly faces. He also conducted his court under a portrait of the late Judge W. A. Leland McKeithen, his former law partner. The portrait hangs on the courtroom wall. The Pinehurst firm of McKeithen and McConnell is believed to be the only one in the history of the State in which both partners were appointed to the Superior Court bench.

Democratic Officials To Seek Renomination

AT CARTHAGE TUESDAY

Collection Of Blood Set Here Monday

A bloodmobile from the Red Cross blood center at Charlotte, will be at St. Anthony's School auditorium from noon to 5:30 p. m. Monday, to give residents of the Southern Pines area an opportunity to give blood in the continuing program that supplies Moore County's two hospitals.

The Jaycees, with President Tom Ruggles as chairman of the project, have taken over sponsorship of bloodmobile visits here and are busy lining up donors to meet the 125-pint quota for the collection. Mr. Ruggles urges that all persons who have signed donor cards previously honor their signatures by giving blood Monday.

He pointed out that Moore County, whose residents have failed to give as much blood as the amount used by the county's hospitals from the Charlotte center, will lose its blood program, if quotas are not surpassed, to make up a large deficit, in forthcoming visits of the bloodmobile.

The bloodmobile will visit Carthage Tuesday, stopping at the high school gymnasium from 11 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. T. Roy Phillips is donor chairman.

GOP Convention Set for Feb. 10; Races Expected

Moore County Republicans will hold their 1962 county convention at the courthouse in Carthage at 2 p. m., Saturday, February 10, James E. Harrington, Jr., of Pinehurst, county chairman, announced this week.

The convention will elect county officers for 1961-62 and delegates to the 8th District and State conventions.

Current county GOP officers, in addition to Mr. Harrington, are Mrs. Katherine McColl of Southern Pines, vice chairman; and Arnold Garner of Robbins, secretary and treasurer.

"Some years ago," Mr. Harrington said in announcing the meeting, "these conventions were considered nominating conventions. However, it is now our policy that nominees be selected by individual filing and primary elections where there is a contest for any particular office."

"A number of people," he continued, "have indicated to me their interest in running for various offices, and there appears to be a good possibility of several primary contests."

Harding Speaks to Historical Group; County History to Go to Press Soon

Edmund Harding of Washington in Beaufort County, who is nationally known as an after-dinner speaker, entertained the Moore County Historical Association with many of his humorous anecdotes Tuesday night, while urging them seriously to "keep history green" by revering "a heritage of which we can be proud" and by working untiringly and enthusiastically to preserve the best of the past.

The Association, with nearly 100 members and guests attending, met in the court room at the municipal center, with Norris L. Hodgkins, Jr., president, presiding.

Mr. Harding was introduced by Mrs. Ernest Ives and by J. Talbot Johnson of Aberdeen, an old friend.

The Beaufort County man is chairman of the Historic Bath Commission which is restoring the old community of Bath and is immediate past president of the North Carolina Society for the Preservation of Antiquities. A specific suggestion made by

It's early in this election year, but at least five county officials were found this week ready to state they'll be running for re-nomination in the Democratic primary in May.

In fact, one of them, District Superior Court Solicitor M. G. Boyette, who files with the State Board of Elections, has already filed as a candidate for a fourth four-year term.

Sheriff W. B. Kelly, who won the office in a race and runoff in 1958, said, "Yes, I will be a candidate, and if you'd asked me four years ago I could have told you the same thing." Nothing has happened since, he noted, to make him change his mind.

Clerk of Court C. C. Kennedy, elected in 1950 and twice reelected since, answered, "Indeed I do want to keep my job—preferably without any opposition!"

This was in essence the same answer as that of Mrs. Audrey B. McCaskill, register of deeds, who is completing her first term. She had worked at various times under two previous registers and noted, "There is more and more to learn about this job. I feel I have learned a lot and want to keep on using it."

Rep. H. Clifton Blue, who is in a race for speakership of the House in 1963 and from reports all over the State—well in the lead, noted, "I am definitely planning to be a candidate for re-nomination."

After eight terms, Rep. Blue is currently the second in length of service in the House.

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Democrats Will Recommend 2 for Elections Board

A meeting of the Moore County Democratic Executive Committee has been called for Monday, February 12, at Carthage at 5 p. m. it is announced this week by County Chairman Lamont Brown of Southern Pines.

The meeting has been called for the purpose of recommending appointees as Democratic members for the Moore County Board of elections. The county executive committee will select the names of three Democrats to submit to State Chairman Bert Bennett, who in turn will make recommendations to the State Board of Elections for appointment for two-year terms.

In a letter to all Democratic county chairmen, Bennett asked that the county committee submit the names in the order of local preference, since two will be recommended. The third member of the local elections board is a member of the Republican Party selected in a similar manner.

The State Board of Elections will meet in March to make the official appointments, for both parties.

the speaker was that members of the Historical Association search out old neglected grave yards and try to clean them up. "We owe something to those who have gone on," he said.

A unique and entertaining feature of his talk was his rapid-fire commentary on the lives of all 69 sons fathered by the 24 presidents of the United States who had sons, many of whom were apparently considerably less distinguished than their fathers.

Reporting on various aspects of the Association's work, in the business session, were:

E. T. McKeithen who said that the completion of the second volume of the County history by Manly Wade Wellman had been delayed because he (Mr. McKeithen) had been injured in a fall and that it is now expected that the completed work will be in the hands of the printers by the middle of February.

Mrs. Katherine McColl who announced the opening of the Shaw House, with several improvements

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