

## Two Congressmen Attend Legion Meeting

From left to right above: Second District Congressman L. H. Fountain of Tarboro, Joseph Dixon Reintree Post Commander, Allen Curtis, Post Commander A. H. "Dooty" Jefferson and "Senator" Ben J. Wiley of Raleigh, looking on as the speaker makes his remarks at the local American Legion meeting.

Thursday night, the two congressmen, accompanied by their wives, attended the local American Legion meeting at the local Legion hall. Congressman Fountain, who recently finished his first session of Congress as the representative from the Second North Carolina Congressional District, spoke briefly on the need for a national festival in America. (Fountain spoke for a minute by Jack Rider.)

Two representatives at "Her's Nation." Congressman Fountain, who recently finished his first session of Congress as the representative from the Second North Carolina Congressional District, spoke briefly on the need for a national festival in America. (Fountain spoke for a minute by Jack Rider.)

September 14 at 8 p. m. at the Emma Webb Recreation Building.

There are many and varied activities connected with theatre work in addition to acting; and among these activities one may find one that interests him. This is not a one-shot venture but is planned as a permanent institution; so join

The plays to be given are among the best Broadway hits of the present and past seasons and will offer a real challenge to the ability and will of every actor. It is hoped that two or three plays may be done this season in public performance, and in addition there is to be a series of private "workshop" performances as well as play readings to

If interested in theatre work of professional caliber, come to the organizational meeting Monday night, September 14, at 8 o'clock.

United States farmers produced an estimated 1,203,000,000 bushels of wheat this year, 10 per cent above average.

## Football Begins on Friday

The 1953 high school football season gets officially underway Friday night for the Grainger High Devils who play their first game of the season on Friday night when they meet the Eastern County High Eleven at 8 o'clock at Grainger Stadium. Coach Frank Meek is making no pretensions as to how good or bad the 1953 squad is, but he says it will have to be some to be worse than the 1952 team which won just one game and came very close to losing that.

Jones Central High School's football team begins its second year in the pigskin wars on Friday night as it travels to Mount Olive for the opening game of the 1953 season. Starting football from scratch last year the 1953 squad is big and strong looking but lacks depth, but those who have seen the eager Jones County boys working out believe that they will hold their own very well against the teams they are scheduled to meet. The game gets underway at 8 in Mount Olive.

## Jones Farm Bureau To Hold First Fall Meeting on Friday

The first regular monthly meeting of the Jones County Farm Bureau since June will be held Friday at 7:30 in the ag-building in Trenton.

The annual membership drive of the Jones Bureau is just getting under way. President Harold Mallard points out, and he reminds that the help of everybody in the county will be needed to reach the goal of 700 members which has been set for this year.

Mallard reminds that the Farm Bureau is far more important to the average farmer today than it has ever been before and he urges a full turnout for this Friday night meeting, both of members and non-members who would like to become members. He says that the Farm Bureau works all of the time for the farmer.

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for most feed items have changed little this year.

Milk cows on United States farms totaled 22,100,000 in June, 2.6 per cent more than a year earlier.

## Brief Monday Session

At one of the briefest sessions held in recent months the Jones County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution which will place all county employees under the Social Security System and heard reports from the farm and home agents.

## Four Jones Arrests

Sheriff Jeter Taylor reports four arrests during the past week in Jones County in which the following were indicted: Fred Lewis King of Maysville for breaking, entering and larceny who is under \$150 bond, Moses Hargett Jr. of Brooklyn who is under \$350 bond charged with speeding, reckless driving and violation of the liquor laws, William James Kellam of Hubert is under \$200 bond charged with drunken driving and Charlie Richardson of Pollockville was indicted for trespassing.

During the tobacco marketing year just ended the United Kingdom imported about 110,000,000 pounds of United States flue-cured tobacco; purchases for the 1953 crop are expected to be slightly less.

# Police Work Is Not All 'Cops and Robbers'; Other Jobs To

Police work is not all "Cops and Robbers."

And most any cop that will stop to talk—and most of 'em will—will tell you that far more of his time is spent in routine, relatively unexciting chores than in chasing the criminals that make up such a small percentage of our population.

A perfect case in point was about 18 hours of "police work" last week in Lenoir County which ran about like this, to put things in their proper order.

Martin Luther Pridgen and his wife, Sarah, of the Graingers section in Upper Lenoir County, decided to go fishing at about 11 a. m. last Thursday. Which was not unusual, since both were fond of fishing and Pridgen, a carpenter was temporarily "at leisure."

As Pridgen retold the events of the day to officers, and to others:

The fishing trip went all right until late in the afternoon when his wife said, "I'm not going back to the house." They were fishing in Neuse River not too far back of their home which is just south of the Du Pont plant on the Greenville Highway.

Mrs. Pridgen, so her husband said, and so her doctor later repeated, suffers from migraine headaches—the most painful kind of headaches known. She had two bottles of medicine with her on the fishing trip and was apparently "laying it" in considerable quantity in an effort to ease the pain in her aching head.

On nearing the landing where they kept their boat, Pridgen says his wife jumped out of the boat and onto the shore and the last he saw of her she was running up the river bank and refusing to answer his call.

Pridgen says he went out to their car and had trouble starting it and finally had to walk out to his house to get an older daughter and another car to push the car off. On returning to the car, he then became alarmed, since his wife had still not "showed up."

Then on getting the other car started he drove to Graingers where from Roy Hamilton's filling station he called the sheriff's office and asked for help in finding the lost wife. He told officers that he did not believe she was "in the river, because I don't believe she's got nerve enough to jump in" another bystander said, "Low as Neuse River is now, she'd have to hunt for a hole deep enough to drown in."

Along with the officers, were many neighbors, and just plain curious. In the dark it was all but useless to walk around looking for a small woman who apparently had no desire to leave the mosquito-infested swamp. But some expressed the feeling that a bloodhound might "find her if she ain't in the river."

So Deputy Sheriff D. F. Wilcox, who was in charge of the search at that time, decided to send to the Greenville Prison Camp for a bloodhound. The dog was obtained and taken to

the spot where Pridgen said his wife had jumped ashore. The dog and his human friends equipped with flashlights could find no tracks in that vicinity.

So rambling around until after midnight the hunt was called off until the next morning, when with the aid of daylight, the officers felt they could do "more good."

At shortly after noon time Friday G. T. McArthur, who lives near the Pridgen home and who had been a member of the searching party both the night before and the following morning was nearly two miles downstream from the point where Mrs. Pridgen was said to have gone ashore. He suddenly came upon her.

She recognized him and reportedly said, "I reckon Luther has roused the whole neighborhood."

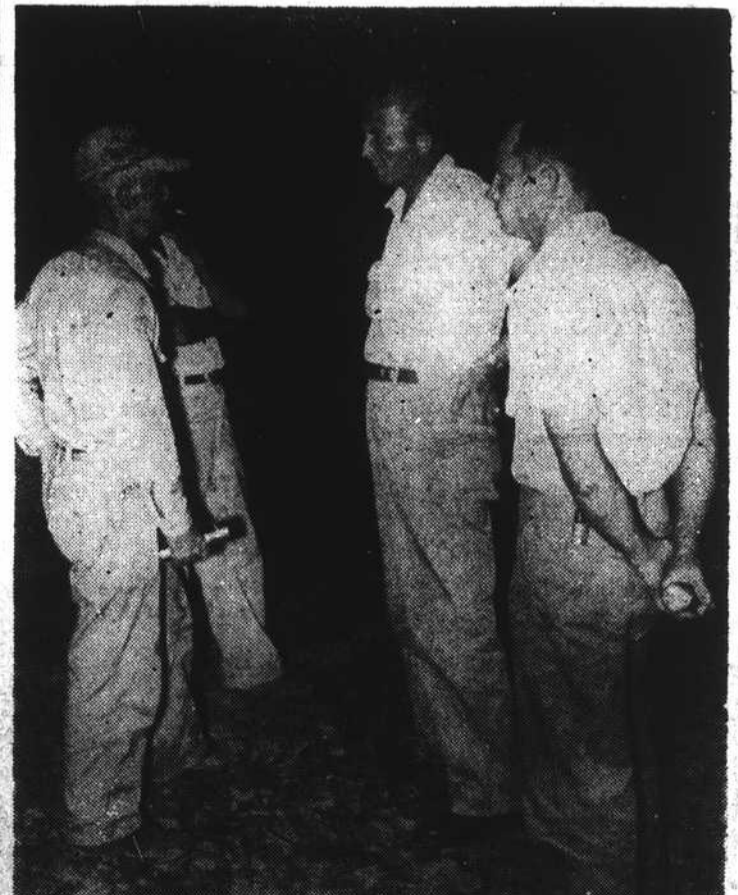
But beyond that she was not coherent.

She still refused to come out of the woods.

MacArthur ran out of the woods and got enough help to "bring her out" and went back.

This time the heavily drugged woman was brought out, much against her will.

Taken to the court house for examination by District Health Officer Dr. R. J. Jones, Mrs. Pridgen was found not to be too much the worse for her all-night-and-most-the-day stay in the Neuse River swamps. Dr. (See POLICE Page 8)



Above Deputy Sheriffs D. F. Wilcox, Jr., and Claude Bullock are listening to Martin Luther Pridgen tell of the disappearance last Thursday evening of his wife in the Neuse River lowground back of the Du Pont plant. Pridgen at left, Wilcox in the center and Bullock at right. (Polaroid Photo-in-a-minute by Jack Rider.)