

# THE BELHAVEN PILOT

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## GUNS TAKE LIFE AND INJURE TWO DURING WEEK

Field Boy Dead; Hunter Loses Fingers; Pantego Girl Injured

Firearms have taken a costly toll in the area during the week, the most serious mishap being the death of Daniel Webster Sears, Jr., 19-year-old Fairfield boy who was accidentally killed while hunting near his home. He was found dead with a wound in the chest and was thought he had stumbled a toe while crossing a canal bank.

On November 27th, a hunter from Lumberton, Jack Ashley, went to pick up a gun by the end of the barrel, the trigger caught, and the load blew off the thumb and forefinger of the left hand. He was treated at Pungo District Hospital, in Belhaven. He had been hunting with a party of friends, including some highway patrolman, near Fairfield.

On Saturday at Pantego, Susie Spencer, a 12-year-old girl suffered serious injuries when a gun in the hands of an eight-year-old boy neighbor went off and punctured her liver, penetrated a kidney, and required a major operation in the Belhaven hospital, causing the removal of kidney and gall bladder. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold S. Spencer of Pantego.

Young Sears was the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Sears of Fairfield and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore B. Gibbs of Sladesville. He was buried in Fairfield following services conducted Wednesday by Rev. Edward Sharp, Episcopal Rector in the Fairfield Church. Besides his parents he is survived by five sisters, Marie of Henderson, Marlin, Sara, Mary and Amanda, and a brother Nathan, all of Fairfield.

## HERBERT PEELE, 70, DIES SUDDENLY IN ELIZ. CITY

Had Been Newspaper Man Nearly 40 Years in Elizabeth City; Owner of Radio Station

Funeral services for Herbert Peele, veteran newspaperman of Elizabeth City who died Tuesday morning, were conducted Thursday morning at 11 o'clock at Christ Episcopal church. The Rev. Geo. Frank Hill, rector, officiated, assisted by the Rev. R. W. Kicklighter, pastor of Blackwell Memorial Baptist church, and the Rev. W. W. Finlator, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

Mr. Peele's body was found on the sidewalk in front of the Kramer Building on E. Main street Tuesday morning by Irvin Shannon, colored janitor of the Carolina Building, who reported the finding of the body to police headquarters at 6:49.

Mr. Peele had gone downtown with Mrs. Peele to gather news for the early morning newscast over his radio station WGAI. He had gone to a cafe for a cup of coffee and was stricken just before reaching the entrance to the Kramer building in which the radio station studios are located. No one saw him when he fell to the sidewalk and died.

Dr. W. H. C. White, coroner, who viewed the body, said that he was of the opinion that the death of Elizabeth City newspaperman died of coronary occlusion, and the death was instantaneous. The time of death was believed to have been a very few minutes before the body was found, as he had left the cafe at about 6:45 to go to the radio station.

Mr. Peele was 70 years old, and was well known throughout North Carolina through his newspaper work. He was for 37 years publisher of the Daily Advance in Elizabeth City, which he sold in September, 1949.

He came to Elizabeth City in May, 1911, and leased the Tar Heel, a weekly paper, from F. F. Cohoon, with the privilege of purchasing which he did at a later date. From this he established his daily.

Since selling the paper in 1940, he had been actively engaged in radio work with Radio Station WGAI which he established a few years ago.

Mr. Peele was active in the state press association and served as vice president and later as president of that organization in 1946 and 1947. He also served as secretary, treasurer of the North Carolina Railroad from 1933 to 1937, having been appointed to that position by the late governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Kate Ford, Peele, of Elizabeth City; one son, Thomas, three grandchildren, Tommy Herbert, Julian and Jean of Selma, Ala.; one sister, Mrs. Lauchlin McNeil of Anrillo, Texas; three brothers, R. V. Peele of Clarksville, Va. See PEELE, Page Eight

## PLAIN LANGUAGE BY STUDENTS OF BELHAVEN HIGH

Students Issue Interesting High School Paper Which Talks Bluntly

Belhaven's High School paper, the Spirit of BHS came out last week, and is a forthright bulletin, written in plain language. It is forthright and bold, and it turns criticism on the students of its own school, as well as giving praise where deserved.

Mindful of the true spirit of the season, it has this to say of Thanksgiving:

Hearts and hands are full of God's bounty to us at this season. Let us remember to give voice to our thankfulness.

Our freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom of fear are blessings too sacred to overlook.

Our kind neighbors, and the friendly community make us grateful that Belhaven is our home.

Our noble state with its rich resources adds to our measure of contentment.

Our teachers and our students both give us heartfelt thanks that school work is our chosen pathway.

May we each endeavor to make known to some of those about us our gratitude and happiness at this have meant to us during the year.

Speaking of school improvements, it reminds the students of the value of a little thoughtfulness in making the school more interesting:

It seems to us that there are many improvements that could be made in the high school, by the students themselves. For instance, every day between third and fourth period there is a blockade in the hall between Mr. Chapin's and Mrs. Midyette's home rooms. This could be prevented by cooperation from all students!

We know it's fun to sail the paper covers from the straws across the lunchroom, but after all, look who has to pick them up—the lunchroom staff! So let's repress that tempting urge!

Do you like noise when you're trying to study? No, you don't; neither do the teachers like it when so much noise goes on in the hall: Let's all consider this fact and try to do better in the future.

The lawn is now beginning to show some results of Mr. Andrews and his boys efforts at fertilizing and reseeding it. Soon we should have that green carpet to brighten the dull winter days. Four redbud trees have been purchased for the campus in front of the high school building and a pair of flowering crabapples for the entrance to the agriculture building.

Getting right down to cases, a vigorous letter by Betty Lou Doughty, takes the students to task for the poor conduct which prevails too often. This is a subject that might be well carried further in many communities. She says: Dear Editor,

The conduct on school buses is terrible. I realize the bus driver does all he can to make the students behave. It looks as though the students would realize the danger of throwing things, and attracting the attention of the driver from the operation of the bus. Some students are so impolite they shout rude remarks to people they pass on the street. If you have any trash paper, take it home with you or leave it at school. Please don't throw it out the school bus windows; people don't like to have paper in their yards.

Students, the driver is good, why don't you be a good passenger? Viola Marslander Gladys Midgette

Dear Editor,

I am writing my personal opinion on the behavior of the students of our school. It is the worst this year that it has ever been. Behavior in the halls is terrible this year. The students in our school act as if they didn't know how to behave in the halls. You can always look and see three or four girls walking, arm in arm down the hall, and the boys are chasing each other down the hall, paying no attention to where they are going. It really is embarrassing when we have a visitor, because the students try to show off and see exactly how much noise they can make. All of us should cooperate, and see if we can't have better conduct in the hall. It would be terrible if we had to have our teacher lead us up and down the hall as if we were first graders.

There is supposed to be a limit to a person's talking, but the students of our school don't realize it. The students of our school make as much noise as you would expect from ten schools combined. It would be a miracle, if I could walk into the school building, and see PEELE, Page Eight

## ONCE BIG, WARM HEART NOW STILL AND COLD



REV. LOUIS T. SINGLETON, 75, died suddenly Sunday afternoon at three o'clock at the home he had recently bought on Front Street, Belhaven. Thus ended his career as a minister of more than 50 years. He had been for five years pastor of the Belhaven Methodist Church and he had retired in November.

With his wife, Mr. Singleton had attended the Belhaven Methodist Church Sunday, and together they had planned to go for a ride, after lunch in Arthur Zambo's cafe. He had enjoyed his dinner, and leaving the cafe they had stopped at their new home, where he went inside for something. When he did not return immediately, Mrs. Singleton went in to see about him and found him sitting on a couch, and complaining of being dizzy. He soon asked her to send for a doctor, and went unconscious. Before Dr. C. C. Byrum arrived, he was dead.

Mr. Singleton was born at Roper, October 20, 1877, the son of John Edward and Mary Louise Osborne Singleton. On October 19, 1910 he married Miss Mary Lawrence of Murfreesboro who survives him. Also three daughters survive, Miss Mary Clyde Singleton and Mrs. Simon Rose of Durham and Mrs. Wm. B. Ligon of New York. One brother, D. T. Singleton of Elizabeth City, and two sisters, Mrs. John Raney of Norfolk, and Mrs. Floyd Johnson of Whiteville.

Funeral services were held in the Methodist Church in Belhaven Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock. Services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. L. P. Jackson, assisted by Rev. George Downey, of the Christian Church; Rev. J. T. Byrum of the Baptist Church; Rev. A. J. MacKie of the Episcopal Church, and Dr. Frank S. Love, Methodist Supt. of Elizabeth City. Pall bearers were Clyde Burgess, James Younce, Lee Andrews, Leon Smith, J. L. Lancaster, and Harold Lupton. There were many floral offerings. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery in Durham Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Singleton was educated at Warrenton High School and Trinity College, Durham. He was made a minister at Manteo in July 1902. Among the many churches he served during his 50 years of ministry are Rocky Mount, Nashville, Swan Quarter, Troy, Red Springs, Selma, Oriental, Moyock, South Mills and Mt. Olive.

Few men who have served pastorate in Eastern Carolina have been more loved or admired than Mr. Singleton. Until the day before the sudden attack which ended his life, he had been a constant visitor of the sick in the hospital at Belhaven. During the summer, he suffered a severe attack and was in the hospital himself for several weeks. He was long an active member of the Rotary Club, and was a member and a past Master of the Masonic Lodge.

## SCOTT TOPPING HEAD OF PANTEGO RUITANS

Scott Topping, Pantego's famous sausage manufacturer, is the newly elected president of the Ruritans Club at Pantego, and will take office on Thursday night, December 11th. He will succeed John Ratcliffe, president for the past year. The club has more than 50 members, and is less than a year old.

Other newly elected officers are Reuben Paul, Pike Road, Vice-President; Charles Elks of Pantego, Secretary, and Dave Brinn, Treasurer.

## ENGELHARD HIGH SCHOOL WILL PRESENT PLAY

The Junior Class of Engelhard High School presents a play entitled "Girls Are Like That" in the School Auditorium, Friday night, December 5, 1952. Starts at 7:30 P. M.

A small admission will be charged.

## COCHRAN CHOSEN TAX SUPERVISOR IN HYDE COUNTY

Board Recommends Stabilization of Makelyville Road; Herbert Sadler, Chairman

William I. Cochran, Swan Quarter insurance man and former Superior Court Clerk was approved by the Board of Commissioners in Hyde County Monday, for the position of Tax Supervisor, County Accountant and Delinquent Tax Collector. The post has been held for the past ten years by Mrs. Maude W. Jones.

Herbert Sadler succeeds himself as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, the old board coming back in office, the two others being Seth Crede of Swan Quarter and Pat Simmons of Fairfield.

Sheriff Charlie Cahoon was appointed Custodian of Public buildings. George T. Davis was reappointed county attorney.

Various county officers filed bonds and made reports as required by law.

The board was in session again Wednesday, continuing arrangements for appointments of tax listers, etc.

On Monday the Board approved a request for the stabilization of one and a half miles of dirt road in Currituck Township to Makelyville landing.

## NAGS HEAD MAN PICKED TO RUN LOST COLONY

Dick Jordan To Succeed Bill Hardy and Attempt to Get Show Back on Its Feet

By AYCOCK BROWN

R. E. (Dick) Jordan, veteran showman and Nags Head business man, was named manager of Paul Green's symphonic drama, THE LOST COLONY, at a meeting of the Raleigh Island Historical Association held in Raleigh on Wednesday. He succeeds William Hardy, manager for the past two years who resigned as of December 1, Jordan, a native of Lenoir County, N. C., had lived in Newport News where he had been employed by Newport News Shipbuilding Corporation for the past 18 years, heading the organization's sheet metal department or before resigning in 1949 to enter business for himself at Nags Head.

He established and is owner of Jordan Concrete Products on Nags Head. Always interested in dramatics he has assisted in the staging of scores of shows and for many years owned and directed an orchestra in addition to his shipyard duties. During the past several months he has been a featured pianist on a daily individual program featured by WTAR-TV in Norfolk, in addition to directing the affairs of his concrete business at Nags Head where he lives with See COLONY, Page Eight

## Two Sides Offer Opinions In Case of Dismissed Hyde Welfare Worker

HYDE WELFARE SUPT. DISAPPROVES REPORTS

To the Editor:

I am enclosing an article which I would greatly appreciate having published in the next issue of the Hyde County Herald. I would consider it a courtesy if you would put it on the front page as the article which it corrects was a front page article.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,  
BINA S. ROBERTS  
Mrs. R. C. Roberts  
Superintendent.

By way of reply to an article published in last week's HYDE COUNTY HERALD, we feel that the writer should have become acquainted with the facts before going to press. The resignation of Mrs. Esther Williams was not "summarily requested" as was stated without "notice" as she was told a full twenty days before the resignation is to be effective that a joint meeting of the County Commissioners and Welfare Board had been held and that by a majority vote of those present it was decided to ask for her resignation.

On the day after she was told orally of the action of the joint boards she was notified by registered letter of its decision which gave her nineteen days notice—four to spare over the fifteen which are required by rules governing dismissal of a worker in our department. Thus a resignation was See WELFARE, Page Eight

## \$15,000 CARGO OF OIL WITH TRUCK PLUNGE IN PUNGO

Negro Rescues Driver With Broken Leg at Leechville Sunday Morning

A 5,000-gallon cargo of oil, destined for P. D. Midgett's power plant at Engelhard, and truck plunged into the Pungo River at the Leechville Bridge Sunday morning, causing the driver to be injured and fortunately rescued by the prompt action of Clifton Mackey, a colored preacher of Scranton who was riding on the West Bound Bus which had just come over the bridge from Hyde County.

James Edward Adams of New Bern, driver of the Southern Oil Transport Truck out of Morehead City, was the driver, and had dozed off to sleep, and awoke to find himself unable to make the turn for the bridge across the river. It is one of the most dangerous spots on U. S. 264, the scene of many accidents and where nine lives are said to have been lost through the years in automotive mishaps at this spot.

The Engelhard Washington Bus had just crossed the bridge about 8:45 Sunday morning, when Mack Carawan, the driver, on rounding the curve saw the oil truck coming unable to make the curve. He pulled his bus off the road, and Clifton Mackey a Sladesville colored passenger on the Hyde County bus jumped out and rushed to the shore, got a boat and pulled out in the stream.

Some three years ago, the Highway Commission rebuilt the bridge but failed to relieve the curve which is so risky to motorists. Persons unfamiliar with the road may continue to come to grief at this spot until the curve is eliminated, or made easier.

The colored preacher, Mackey, is said to be noted for doing good turns. He is reported to have found some \$700 belonging to Arlie Noble of Belhaven, and he returned it safely to the owner.

## BELHAVEN PRINCIPAL APPEALS FOR FUNDS

Principal W. Erwin Tilson of the Belhaven High School has issued a letter appealing for contributions towards Belhaven's quota of \$250 to assist in the purchase of a new bookmobile for Beaufort, Hyde and Martin Counties, which is to cost nearly \$6,000. Various organizations are assisting in raising the funds which will supplement county funds. The vehicle now in use is about worn out. Mr. Tilson asks for contributions of any amount.

## DRAFT BOARD OFFICE IN HYDE CLOSING DEC. 22-JAN. 5

The Hyde County Draft Office in Hyde County will be closed from December 22 to January 5th, according to announcement by Mrs. Frances S. Gibbs, Clerk.

## SOUTHERN ALBEMARLE ASSOCIATION INCLUDES BEAUFORT AND MARTIN

Two of Larger Counties in Area Join With Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington in 18-Year-Old Betterment Organization; Committees Named by Boards.

The dream of many people in all the counties involved came true Monday, when the County Board of Commissioners of Beaufort and Martin, both unanimously voted to accept the invitation of the 18-year-old Southern Albemarle Association to become members and join in the program for betterment in all six counties.

The Southern Albemarle Association was formed in October 1935 at Columbia by the counties of Tyrrell, Washington, Dare and Hyde, as a means for a campaign for rural betterment, particularly roads and other improvements. At that time, these three counties had not been adequately connected with modern highways, the only counties in the state so situated.

In October of this year, a motion was presented at the annual meeting in Columbia by Victor Meekins, a former president of the association, to invite Beaufort and Martin to join. On Monday of this week, Meekins, now Secretary of the Association, with Lawrence Swain, the President, and Melvin Daniels, the vice-president for Dare County, visited Washington and Plymouth to formally extend the invitation.

The Martin County Board immediately named Elbert S. Peel, Williamston attorney, a former State Senator and political leader, to be pro-tem Vice-President for Martin County to serve until the next regular date for election of officers.

Beaufort County's officials on the Executive Committee of the Southern Albemarle Association named Monday are as follows: Allen D. Swindell, Vice-President; Mrs. Scott Topping of Pantego; Mrs. Essie Barr Waters of Chocowiny; J. Irving Hodges and Mrs. Dan Taylor of Washington; Mrs. Dan Windley of Aurora; Mark Taylor of Chocowiny; L. Carmer Allgood of Pinetown; Dr. W. T. Ralph of Belhaven; Bill McGhee of Aurora.

Both county boards seemed much interested in joining the Association and intimated they would have been glad to be in it long ago, had opportunity presented.

However, it was explained that the original purpose of uniting was because the original three counties had planned a joint meeting to discuss ways of solving a problem acutely common to these counties, which alone of all the counties in the state had no highway connections suitable for all year use at that time.

Now that these counties have become in a broader sense through improved roads, a part of the whole area, and its citizens able to get out in the world, it is considered to advantage for a broader union of counties to work for the betterment of all.

When the Association was formed 18 years ago, it was often impossible for many months in the year to travel over the roads between the county seats of Tyrrell, Dare and Hyde. Now all are connected by hard-surface save for the gaps served by ferry over Alligator River and Croatan Sound. Bridging of these waters is a part of the Southern Albemarle Association. See SAA, Page Eight

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## YACHTSMAN SPENDS TWO NIGHTS IN SWAMP

New Jersey Man's Boat Ashore at Mouth of Alligator River; Unhappy Thanksgiving

Frederick Griffith of New Jersey, who was on his way to Florida, ran his boat on a stake at the mouth of the Alligator River on Thanksgiving Day. He spent two nights in the Alligator swamps before finding his way out. He was found by some hunters Saturday night, wet, hungry and barefooted. They brought him to Columbia immediately. He stated that his feet would have frozen, had it not been for a stray dog he ran across Friday night. The dog slept on his feet, which were extremely swollen from exposure.

## FEW DEER KILLED ON HATTERAS THIS SEASON

Buxton.—Only a few of the tiny deer in the Cape Hatteras Woods were killed during the one month open season which began November 1, and ended November 30. Residents of the area who hunt the little animals with beagle hounds, stated that there were more deer in the woods there this year than ever before. One of the reasons fewer deer were killed was because of unusually good commercial and sportsfishing which claimed attention of local hunters.

## BAPTISTS MEETING AT ELIZABETH CITY CHURCH

The well balanced program for the annual "M" Night Rally of the Training Unions of the Chocowiny Baptist Association is to be climaxed with the inspirational address by Dr. R. Stuart Grizzard, popular minister of the First Baptist Church in Norfolk. His subject is "That All May Learn." Dr. Grizzard's message will bring to a close the annual "M" Night Meeting held with the Blackwell Memorial Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, Monday night, December 8th, at 7:30 o'clock.

Other features of the interesting and helpful program are a screen projection "Learn From Me", special music by the Youth Choir of the First Baptist Church of Elizabeth City and a demonstration conducted by Miss Jennie Lou Newbold, Educational Director at the First Baptist Church in Elizabeth City. Miss Carol Jean Bizell, Minister of Music, at the Blackwell Memorial Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, will lead the singing and Mr. J. C. Newbold, Training Union Director of the Blackwell Memorial Church, will conduct the period of devotion.