

Fire Destroys Wilson Home

This photo shows all that was left of the Johnnie Wilson home on the Clinton-Laurens highway after a fire gutted it on Monday morning, Dec. 23. Just recently completed, it had been occupied only four months. The loss was estimated at \$35,000. It is understood that Mr. Wilson plans to rebuild.—Photo by Paul Quinton.



Babson Forecasts

Prosperous Economy For U. S. in 1964

These are the comments and predictions of Roger W. Babson, well-known financial adviser and business analyst, on business conditions for the coming year.

Mr. Babson's articles appear regularly in The Chronicle. In making his annual forecasts on business conditions, Mr. Babson has compiled a record of 86 per cent accuracy. His score for 1963 was 87 per cent.

Published widely over the country, Mr. Babson's outlook for conditions expected to prevail during 1964 is presented for the information of our readers.

I am still emotionally upset as I make this forecast after the brutal assassination of President Kennedy. I, however, will try to submerge my emotions and base this forecast of 1964 on the facts as I interpret them.

1. OUR NEW PRESIDENT I state emphatically that President Johnson may accomplish far more constructively before November, 1964, than our late President would have been able to do. President Johnson understands better how to handle Congress, and has the confidence of businessmen. Therefore, I am reassured as to the first few months of 1964.

2. ELECTION IN NOVEMBER. At the Republican Convention in the summer of 1964, there will be a conflict between Goldwater and Rockefeller, and perhaps others. For this reason, Mr. Nixon may slip in and get the Republican nomination. Certainly President Johnson will secure the nomination of the Democratic Party; he is a far-sighted man, and knows politics. Therefore, with the Republicans nominating any one of the three leading names mentioned above I now forecast that President Johnson will be elected President of the United States in November, 1964. All of this gives me more assurance that 1964 should be a good year.

3. TAX CUT A tax cut will be enacted sometime during the coming session of Congress, and it will surely be made retroactive to January 1, 1964. The tax cut should help consumer buying, it may even increase general business.

4. CIVIL RIGHTS. Some sort of a civil rights bill will be passed by Congress during 1964. The Administration wants to please the South and hold its Democratic votes there, but the civil rights bill now before Congress is not satisfactory to the white people of the North. Therefore, I forecast that whatever civil rights bill is passed before the election of 1964 will be considerably watered down.

5. NEGRO PEOPLE. The Negroes will continue to make progress and get more, but I predict that the gains will have to come largely through changing attitudes of the people. Otherwise, the situation will be much like the prohibition problem which the good people of the nation thought could be solved by legislation. Such reforms take place only as the minds and hearts of the people are changed for the better.

6. GOVERNMENT SPENDING. Of course, in the long run, the survival of a nation should depend upon its spending less than it takes in. Nowadays, however, it is unfashionable -- for consumers or government -- to have balanced budgets. Therefore, I predict that 1964 will see a bigger deficit than this year's.

7. DEPRESSION. Whether for better or for worse, the voters have been taught to believe they can and should get something for nothing, and only a severe depression could ultimately change this belief. I, however, look for no depression in 1964.

8. AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK. Although crops, prices, and farm income may be basically dependent on the weather, much of the world is short of food. Russia's and China's heavy purchases of grains will do more to bolster U. S. farm income than will government-supported prices in 1964.



SENATOR KING DIXON

Dixon to Introduce Bill to Construct Arenas at Colleges

Laurens County Senator King Dixon announced Monday he will offer a bill during the 1964 legislative session authorizing construction of \$4 million field houses at the University of South Carolina and Clemson College. "I'm definitely going to introduce this legislation and several other senators will join me in sponsoring it," Dixon declared. "Now is the time to do it. It's badly needed at both colleges."

Senator Dixon said he agreed with USC trustees, who last week announced they would settle for nothing less than a multi-purpose building seating from 10,000 to 15,000 persons.

In addition to basketball games, the building would provide space for dances, student assemblies, cultural events and a facility for lease to outside groups, the USC trustees suggested.

Senator Dixon said his bill would call for "no frills," but buildings adequate for years to come. The proposal already has attracted "considerable" support among members of both legislative houses, he said.

It is expected that introduction of the bill will set off a battle in General Assembly.

Already two legislative stalwarts in the Assembly—Speaker of the House Solomon Blatt and President pro Tem of the Senate Edgar Brown have voiced opposing opinions.

Speaker Blatt said "every other state university in the country has one. Of course, we can't have everything other states have, but this is one thing we can have." Mr. Blatt called it a "terrible thing" that USC has no place where the entire student body can meet.

Senator Brown, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said bluntly that he was against issuing general obligation bonds without a source of revenue to pay the moff. "I'm not going to build basketball courts, dance

halls and the like."

"There are too many other priorities," he explained. "First things must come first and there are too many other things we need more urgently in the field of education."

New Wilson Home Destroyed By Fire

An unidentified motorist tossed a rock through a window of a burning home near Laurens Monday morning, Dec. 23, the warning possibly saving a family of five from fiery death.

Johnnie Wilson, the father, was not fully awake when he heard the window shatter about 7:30 a.m. He arose to investigate and saw smoke billowing from the dwelling's utility room, which already was engulfed in flames.

He alerted his wife and three sons, ages 14, 16 and 18, and all five safely evacuated the house, pulling only to grab pieces of clothing for warmth in the sub-freezing weather.

The fire destroyed the eight-room brick house, located on the Laurens-Clinton Highway just east of the Laurens city limits. The dwelling was completed only a few months ago.

Wilson estimated the damage at between \$30,000 and \$35,000 and said a 1962 Pontiac which was parked in the carport, also was destroyed by the fire. He said the loss was covered by insurance.

The Laurens Fire Department dispatched a truck to the scene but the flames had made such headway that firemen were unable to save the house.

Members of Laurens County Sheriff R. Eugene Johnson's staff and volunteers also assisted in fighting the fire. Only a few household furnishings were saved, according to Wilson.

33 PC Gridmen Awarded Letters

Thirty-three varsity football letters are being awarded by Presbyterian College for participation during the 1963 season. Athletic Director Cally Gault announced.

He said the monogram group includes five gridmen each among the ends, tackles and guards, three centers, six halfbacks, four quarterbacks, two fullbacks, two managers and the trainer.

The Blue Hose football lettermen for 1963 are:

ENDS — Louis Ridinger of Charlotte; Garnet Welch of Logansport, Indiana; Jimmy Bankhead of Chester; Joe Lawryson of Union; and David Welborn of Easley.

TACKLES — Frank King of Valdosta, Ga.; John Harvey Edwards of Washington, Ga.; C. W. Snyder of Manning; Sam Lyons of Atlanta, Ga.; and Enoch McCarter of Honea Path.

GUARDS — Randy Fitzpatrick of Atlanta, Ga.; Pat Sudluth of Greer; Mike Lowrance of Macon, Ga.; Bernard West of Moultrie, Ga.; and John Monk of Atlanta.

CENTERS — Keith Richardson of Chester; George Lokey of Thomson, Ga.; and Billy Love of Gaffney.

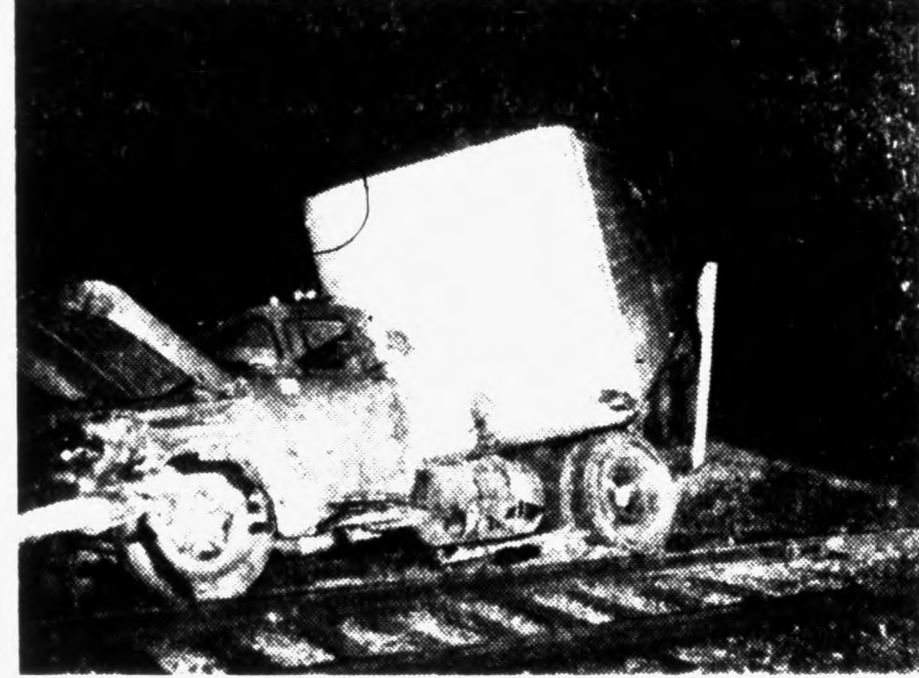
QUARTERBACKS — Bill Tyson and Jackie Nix, both of Bambridge, Ga.; Leighton Grant of Easley; and Olin Grant of Chester.

HALFBACKS — Bill Riner of Port of Port, Ga.; Sandy Hagood and Rut Galloway, both of Easley; Don McNeill of Thomson, Ga.; Wade Stewart of Picayune, Miss.; and Jim Johnson of Georgiana, Ala.

FULLBACKS — Randy McCranie of Eastman, Ga.; and Jimmy Elliott of Savannah, Ga.

MANAGERS — John Hope of York; and Bill Degner of Gaffney.

TRAINER — Bennie Crabtree of Graham, N. C.



Poultry Truck Hits Train

This poultry truck from Elberton, Ga., collided with a Seaboard train Friday night at 12:35 at a crossing between John T. Young's store on Highway 72 and Lydia Mill. Two drivers in the truck were said to be unharmed. The driver of the trailer type truck attempted to swerve at the crossing but did not entirely miss the train.—Photo by Quinton.

Clinton Area Begins New Year Under Sheet of Ice

The Clinton area, along with most other sections of South Carolina and the South, started off the New Year under a coating of ice.

Gray skies on Tuesday morning the final day of 1963, finally unburdened themselves and, accompanied by high winds, brought a driving sleet storm shortly before noon. After a brief let-up, the storm increased in intensity and by late afternoon had dumped a thick coating of sleet over the entire section.

Fusing together and freezing hard as it fell, the ice created extremely hazardous driving conditions. Streets and highways were as slick as glass, and ice on car windows and windshields added to the dangers of driving.

Drivers returning to their homes in the early evening were noticeably careful, greatly slowing their pace because of the ever present danger of skidding.

After midnight, traffic in the city practically came to a standstill. Only those who found it necessary to be out braved the storm as it continued into the night.

Yesterday (Wednesday) was observed as a holiday by most businesses in the city, including banks and the post office.

One-Third of Those Tested Show TB Infection Present

The health departments in Greenwood and Laurens Counties made more than 1000 X-rays during October and November. Of these, 799 were made in Greenwood County and 257 in Laurens County.

Tuberculin tests were administered to 657 persons in the two-county area with nearly one-third of these showing infection with TB germs. Greenwood County reported 345 tests with 110 positive reactions. Laurens County reported 312 with 79 reactions.

One new case of moderately advanced tuberculosis was diagnosed in Greenwood County.

These figures were released by the Tuberculosis and Health Association.

Riley said the chamber's prediction was based on consistently optimistic reports reflected in various economic indexes plus a cross-section of opinions from officials of trade groups.

He said "all indications are that the state comes to the end of 1963 in the healthiest condition it has experienced in its history."

The chamber president said state government revenues were at a new high level. He said this indicated satisfactory profit structures for business and individual income.

A record \$263 million was committed in 1963 to investment in new and expanded industries, indicating, he said, that businessmen have confidence in the state's economic climate.

The chamber's business index showed increases ranging from 5 to 15 per cent for 1964 over 1963.

Month of Activity Opens In March of Dimes Drive

With the coming of January, the 1964 March of Dimes ushered in a month of activity to raise funds to combat polio, arthritis and birth defects.

Multiple events are scheduled both statewide and at the local level in all communities in South Carolina.

Heading the drive in Laurens County will be Larry Gar of Laurens, who has set up a county-wide organization.

A special gifts chairman to lead the campaign in the Clinton area is yet to be named. The Mothers March chairman is Mrs. Michael Turner; leading the effort in white schools will be R. E. Martin, assistant principal of Clinton High School. Teen-Age activities will be headed by Mary Locke Simons and Jane Johnson.

Work among civic clubs in the Clinton area will be led by several persons, with Dr. Fred E. Holcombe of the Lions Club being the only one named thus far. Institutional drives will be led by Cally Gault at Presbyterian College, Dick Templeton at Thornwell Orphanage, and Phil Rogers at Whitten Village.

Small business and industrial activity will be led by George Frady of C.W. Anderson Hosiery Co.

Collection of funds in Clinton area colored schools will be handled by McQuilla Hudson, principal of Bell St. High School, and David E. Denny, principal of Martha Denny Elementary School.

Campaign treasurer will be Leaman Jones of the Bank of Clinton.

Coin boxes will be distributed by the Clinton Jaycees, who will also hold a road block to collect funds the last Sunday in January.

Louie Nabors will serve as chairman in the Joanna area, with the Mothers March headed by Mrs. Mary Lehman, special donations by Mrs. Louis Murphy, and coin boxes by Cy Abrams.

Mrs. Bill Pinson will lead activities in the Cross Hill section, and Mrs. Dollie Wham in the Mountville area.

Mr. Gar has announced similar organization setups for the Laurens, Gray Court and Hickory Tavern sections.

County Supervisor Thanks People For Gifts at Christmas

County Supervisor Furman E. Thomason has expressed his appreciation to the people of Laurens County for assistance in making the Christmas season more enjoyable for the residents of the County Home and those at the prison camp.

Christmas programs and singing carols by various groups were enjoyed, and gifts of all kinds including fruits, candies, cakes, etc., were generously supplied.

Mr. Thomason's letter of appreciation follows:

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank each individual and group who so generously provided Christmas programs as well as an abundance of gifts, fruits, candies, cakes, etc., for the inmates at the county home; also for the prisoners at the chaingang camp. To me the greatest joy of Christmas is seeing the less fortunate provided for. I am sure that these gestures of love will pay off in the future.

"Again, I say thank you and may each of you have a happy and prosperous new year."

TB Annual Meet Slated for Jan. 30

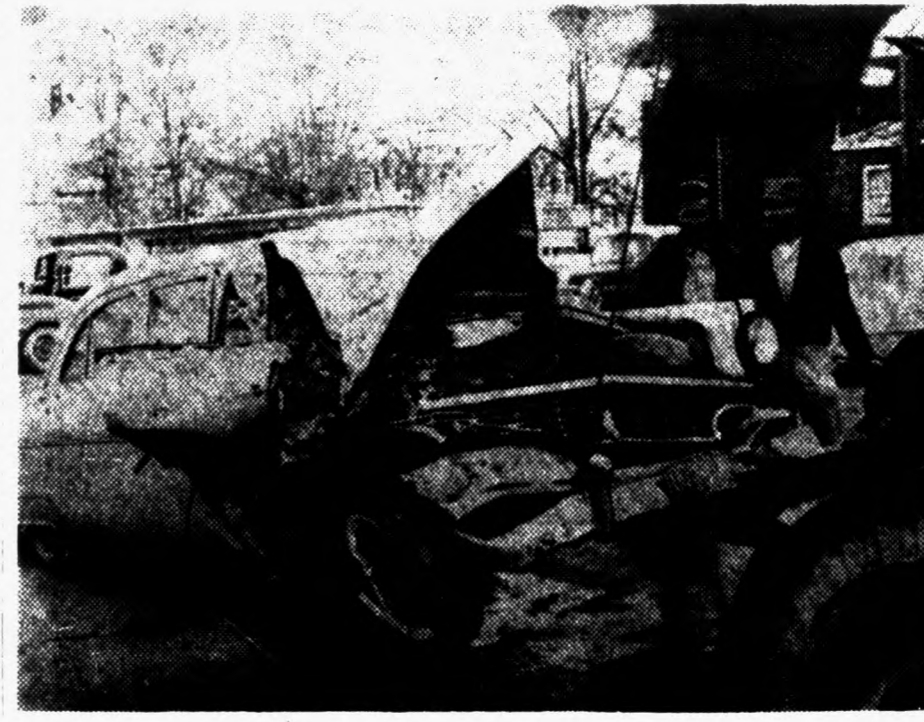
President James A. Bowers announced January 30 as the date for the annual meeting of the Tuberculosis and Health Association of Greenwood-Laurens Counties.

He stated that Wade C. Harrison, Jr., is chairman of the planning committee. Invitations to attend the meeting will be issued in the near future.



Tenant House Burns

Fire completely destroyed this house on Tuesday, Dec. 24 shortly before noon. It was occupied by Eddie Jeter, about 62, tenant on the George A. Copeland farm, near the southeastern edge of the city.—Photo by Quinton.



Chaney Injured When Car Crashes

Roby Chaney suffered injuries of an arm and leg when this car crashed into a pole Friday at 7:30 a.m. on Highway 72 at the N. Broad St. entrance to the city. The car failed to make the curve. Chaney was hospitalized at Bailey Memorial Hospital.—Photo by Paul Quinton.