

Devoted to the Upbuilding of Vass and Its Surrounding Country

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VASS, N. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1922

PRICE FIVE CENTS

LOOKING OVER THE COUNTY

On Sunday at the Highland Pines Inn in Southern Pines the Seaboard officials held a meeting of the management and operating forces to the number of about 150 representatives of the various departments, from the president down to the various traffic managers of the different offices from Boston to Tampa. It was the biggest assemblage of Seaboard officials that ever got together, and it is said the meetings will be made an annual affair at Southern Pines from now on. During the day the people of Southern Pines took the visitors out to see the Moore county Sandhills. The route was over Weymouth Heights, to Mid-Pines Club to Midlands, Pinehurst, where the big hotels and the dairy and the Berkshires were shown, to the fair grounds, the polo fields, the orchard development in the Garran hill section just out of Pinehurst, and then they were taken down by the new orchard that Chapin is making near Vina Vista, by the new Marlboro orchard that is to be the model institution of its kind in the Sandhills, back by Aberdeen, the country club at Southern Pines and to the hotel. It was a big exhibit of Moore county to a big crowd of big men. It was desired to get around by Vass and Lakeview but the limited amount of time did not allow this extension of the journey, but both these towns are on the Seaboard note book, and will profit by anything the Seaboard sees while its officials are in the neighborhood.

ABOUT OUR ROADS

The roads of this section are coming to be more and more of a problem. With traffic getting heavier all the time, and the demands on the highways becoming correspondingly heavier, what is to be done and how it is to be done, and especially how it is to be paid for are matters in which every citizen of Vass and community is interested. We are going to have to stay on the earth. Flying machines do not seem to be coming into such common use that they will do for hauling farm produce and live stock, but it does seem that every week sees the motor truck bringing something new to our doors. They take up a good deal of the road, it is true, but the roads are public and we can't forbid them their usage. We can, however, secure better roads by taxing the trucks according to weight or size of tire-spread. And we fully believe that now that the trucks have entered into open competition with the railroad companies they should be made to keep up the roads, just as the railroads are forced to keep up their roadbeds. We believe the proper taxation of truck traffic will go a long way toward solving the good road proposition in this country.

Bring us your job work.

FARM CONDITIONS IN MOORE

"What is the condition of the farmers in this part of county?" The Pilot asked some of the business men of the territory in the last few days, and the answer is right satisfactory. Mixing the responses in one kettle it would appear that the most of the farmers have come through the financial tribulations of the last few years in fair shape. Most of them have added to the comforts and conveniences around the farm and home, many have bought automobiles, organs, phonographs, new machinery, home comforts, and various things, some of them buying what they could pay for and some what they paid for on time and some have bought what they have not paid for.

The installment plan has led many farmers as well as others to buy perhaps more than they should have bought, and in that way made conditions now a little harder than otherwise. Yet most of the things bought have been paid for as far as the general opinion indicates. One result of this buying has been that the farm home are a little better equipped with things than they were before the war and rural life appears to be somewhat more attractive.

Some farmers still hold some cotton. Some who have sold have not fully paid their accounts. Some have cleaned up all debts and are in fair shape. Some, although not many, have not paid out yet and do not know just how they are to come through. Some of those who are in

debt have a prospect of getting out in a year or so, but most farmers are going to watch the corners more closely in the immediate future than they did in the past according to the men who have expressed an opinion. Taking it all around it looks as if the farmer has saved some of his easy money and put it to good use, and that he will be the better for his experience. But some of the farmers have not been successful under any conditions and a limited proportion of them may face considerable trouble, but not many. A few who bought high-priced land and did not pay enough on it to make it safe may meet with difficulty. At least this is the way opinion of observers is running.

As to the coming crop it is suggested that there is a danger of too much tobacco and cotton this spring owing to the favorable prices paid for last season's crop. It is intimated from some sources that some farmers who have not paid fertilizer bills already overdue and who have not the money to pay cash will find the dealers unable to carry them through another year, and that is predicted as an influence on the crop. But in spite of this and other obstacles the opinion is that the farmer has more certain condition of prosperity ahead of him even though he has to watch the corners closer than for the last two or three years. He is going to have a bigger, thrifty crop than ever in his life before.

DELEGATES FOR MOORE

At a meeting of the Moore County Executive Committee of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Marketing Association the following delegates were nominated:

J. R. McQueen, D. Al. Blue, Geo. R. Ross, W. S. O'Briant, Z. V. Blue, and H. C. Buchan.

There will be a ticket prepared with the above names printed thereon and each signer of the contract is allowed a vote. There will be three (3) elected out of the six (6), or in other words each member can vote for any three of the above or any other three in the association. Moore county is entitled to three delegates.

The election will take place January 30th, and three delegates will attend the district meeting thereafter and elect a director who will represent this district. This district is composed of Alamance, Durham, Orange, Chatham, Lee, Hoke, Moore, Montgomery, and Richmond counties. There will be 12 directors for the state elected by the members and appointed by the Governor.

Up to the present there are 283 members in the association which control 2,224,856 pounds of tobacco. The campaign will continue until January 30th; any one who has not yet signed

BASKET BALL

The girls' basket ball team of Vass graded school has won a very enviable record. They have had the following games this season and came out victorious in all except the one with Cameron:

Farm Life School, 2 games; Southern Pines, 2; Jonesboro, 1; Jackson Spring, 1; Carthage, 1; Cameron, 1.

The team is composed of the following players: Helen Parker, center; Vivian Matthews, left forward; Lois Sanford, right forward; Ila Evans, left guard; Glennie Keith, right guard. Substitutes: Ruth McNeill, center; Mildred Thomas, forward; Agnes Smith, guard; with Jesse Brooks as school coach.

When a man gets ten years in the penitentiary his wife can truly lay claim to being legally separated from him.

can do so by that date.

Moore county has 77 members in the cotton association which control 1,193 bales of cotton. The cotton association members meet next Monday, January 16th, to elect a delegate which will represent the county at Hamlet, January 18th.

M. W. WALL,
Secretary.

HOME OWNING MILL HANDS

The value of home ownership by employees in industrial communities, to both manufacturers and employees, was clearly set forth in a report by Mr. S. O. Bondurant, of Rockingham county, at the last meeting of the North Carolina Club at the University, which is this year making a comprehensive study of home and farm ownership in the state and the nation.

According to Mr. Bondurant, there is growing concern among leading manufacturers over the home ownership question, due to its direct relation (1) to the labor turn-over, (2) to strike troubles, and (3) to industrial security, as based on stable, responsible, property-owning and therefore conservative citizenship in industrial centers.

These considerations are causing a change in the attitude of some of the leading manufactures of the nation toward home ownership, as is seen by recent activities in favor of home-owning employees by Henry Ford, the Standard Oil Company, the Goodyear and the Firestone Rubber and Tire Companies in Akron, Ohio, The Himler Coal Mine Company in West Va., and Kentucky, the Endicott-Johnson Shoe Company at Johnson City and Binghamton, New York State, the N. O. Nelson Company at LeClaire, Ill., and the R. J. Reynolds Company in Winston-Salem.

The old attitude, according to Mr. Bondurant, has been, as a rule, one of antagonism to home ownership. Industrial corporations, he said, have felt that they and not the employees should own the mill village dwellings; that this policy is essential to community morals, law and order, and in general to company regulation and control of employees, that it prevents strikes, and that strikes when they occur can be ended by evicting the strikers and bundling them off the company preserves. These reasons for corporation ownership of village dwellings have been proven to be without foundation. Factory ownership of mill village homes has never yet prevented a strike, so far as we know, and the eviction of strikers from company dwellings is one of the surest ways of provoking violence and bloodshed in strike situations.

This attitude, he continued, has been maintained notwithstanding the almost universal fact that company houses, as a rule, yield little or no dividends in rents. They are owned and maintained with small profits or no profits at all, and commonly at a loss. As a rule they are a company liability rather than a company asset. At best they are what the corporations call a necessary evil.

Very few, if any, Vass women have taken up law. But most all of them know how to lay it down.

A clever woman tells a fat man that he is much thinner than he is.