

Is a Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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DR. HIGHSMITH NOT AFRAID OF TAXES

Says North Carolina Has Ample
Money to Pay for Schools
and Never Miss It

Commencement exercises were held in the auditorium of the Southern Pines high school last Friday night when five students received their diplomas from John R. McQueen, member of the Moore county school board, for the completion of the high school course.

The fine new building is a model one and ranks far above the average built in any village the size of Southern Pines. The building with its equipment, its force of educators, its commodious size and arrangement, its style of architecture, the attractive grounds and shrubbery that surround it, give a feeling of pride to the townspeople as they gathered there Friday night to hear Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, State Supervisor of high schools, deliver an address on schools and education, and what a school house means to any community.

Dr. Highsmith made a mighty interesting talk and one that gave cause for thought. He went on to say that there is a great cry for reduction of taxes. We need taxes, and higher taxes, or more taxes in order to get money from the people that can be collected in a systematic way in order to have funds from some sort to be able to build the school houses that we are as a state so much in need of. He pointed out the fact that North Carolina has wealth. As a state we are prosperous, and have incomes from varied industries that make us a member of the Union that is ranking nearer the top than it did some twenty years ago. We have over 250,000 automobiles in our state representing an enormous figure. We spend millions for soft drinks, tobacco, chewing gum and various other things, showing that we are not cramped for money and that the school houses could have their share, or at least a figure far above the small percentage that is allotted to education purposes when compared with any other item of expenditure. Not more than 1 1/4 per cent of all the money we dispose of goes towards the progress of our schools and fitting boys and girls of our state with an education. So we aren't being robbed to a great extent when we pay out a few dollars to the tax man.

With modern up-to-date school houses in the county, the county will lead in progress faster than with any other development. Illiterates don't lead. Bigger and better schools offer a broader field for every individual. And here the boy and girl pick out what they incline towards without a long list thrust upon them that will never bring in a return, except perhaps a medal saying that they have completed so much work and spent so much time in doing something they will never follow once they have escaped the narrow condition that held them there. Dr. Highsmith added that Latin and other subjects should be offered in school, but required of no one. To be required of no one, schools must offer enough in their course of study, to give the student a chance at making his own selections to be a success. Little schools are restricted by modest funds. It takes money to build up an equipment. As the money must come from the people, taxes must be paid. There is not much excuse of poverty today in North Carolina. And poverty seldom comes to the man equipped with intelligence and health. He is in possession of trained ability and competency, which brings to him the well paid salary that adds to prosperity. There isn't much reason why every boy and girl in North Carolina today can't be ranked as a success if started out with a fair education from our own public schools and poor farms be few and far between. To the child that is given a fair start in life with educational advantages the world is his, and ambition and ability are developed with



HON. A. W. McLEAN
Candidate for Governor in the Democratic
Primary, Saturday

THE CAMPAIGN FOR GOVERNOR

The campaign for a candidate for governor for the democratic ticket will close Saturday night when the election takes place. The fight is between J. W. Bailey and A. W. McLean. Many factors enter into the contest, but after all is said but one should govern, and that is that the most efficient man should win. The Pilot does not subscribe to the theory that this is Bailey's fight or McLean's fight. Rather it is the fight of the people of the state to secure a man who is capable of best directing the business of the state of North Carolina. The Pilot has been disposed toward Mr. McLean, and purely because from what knowledge it has of the two men, and of the conditions that prevail. Mr. McLean is a better man to fit the requirements of the work than Mr. Bailey is.

A. W. McLean is a man who has risen from a place on the farm to a place high in the business horizon of the whole nation. The Pilot takes no stock in that sentiment that because a man comes from the farm he is any better qualified than the man who comes from the palace, and has no reverence to offer the man born in the log house. It does not believe a poor man is better qualified to handle a big business responsibility like the management of a populous and busy state like this one any better than a man born to a business experience and trained in it. Its opinion is that McLean is a qualified man because he has grown into business contact with public and industrial life, and that he has made a success in his business.

Moreover, business is business, and the business of North Carolina, involving millions of dollars annually, is one that calls for the intelligence of a man who has big business experience. The state government is the biggest business in North Carolina. It is absurd to talk about carrying it on by any but a business man. Mr. McLean is a business man, and he is a candid one. He deals with people in a business way. There The Pilot prefers him and his methods to Mr. Bailey. The latter has not played a square hand. He has told of things that he proposed

the help our schools give. We ought to meet the tax man with a willing hand.

and favored, which he has certainly known could not be influenced by a governor, nor by any contact a governor could establish. He has, or his friends have without his interference, caused it to be noised abroad vehemently, that McLean has worked against the interests of the farmers. Now to begin with as McLean is a farmer, and his principal business is farming, it is a simple fact that to interfere with anything that brings prosperity to the farm would hit him vitally. But no sane man in either public life or business, is antagonizing any industry, especially one as large and important as the farm. Such a course would be as idiotic as it would be useless, and it is not honest nor intelligent for the Bailey forces to lay such a charge at McLean's door. That is one reason The Pilot does not look with favor on Mr. Bailey. His policy is that of the demagog, playing to the sensational, and that does not seem to be the character that a man should possess who wants to administer the business affairs of this state.

Mr. McLean has made his campaign on business grounds. He has not grown emotional at any time, promising the things he knows can not be accomplished, and although Mr. Bailey's house has some glass in it Mr. McLean has thrown no stones. Such tactics do not have any proper place in applying for a job as head of the state government.

Freight rates in North Carolina are unfair in many ways. When Mr. Bailey intimates that he will lower freight rates he deceives the people, for freight rates are governed solely by the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington, and Mr. Bailey has been sadly remiss in his duty in the past if he can influence that body and has let the matter stand until he wants to be elected governor. If he could change rates why has he not done it long before this? Certainly he knows he cannot as governor do any more than other governors have done. Morrison and his predecessors have fought for lower rates, but the changes in rates in the last fifteen years have been upward rather than downward. Mr. Bailey is well aware that he can not make a change the other way, but he plays on the impressionism of a certain group of people, and that is one reason The Pilot prefers McLean. McLean is not handing out gold bricks. A thoroughly dependable man is extremely important in the governor's office.

Mr. Bailey also intimates that he will reduce taxes on land. He has as much power to do that as the man in the moon. The tax on land is fixed by the county commissioners when they have considered after looking over Auditor Bell's statement of how much money the county needs, what taxes are necessary to meet the amount called for. Every county in the state has a different rate of tax on land. It is purely a matter with the counties, and Mr. Bailey is offering another gold brick when he hands that line of talk to the taxpayers.

The Pilot does not like that sort of stuff. It is not fair, and it has no purpose except that it may delude the voters and elect Mr. Bailey to office. If such as that are his qualifications he is not the man The Pilot would like to see engaged for the work of being governor.

Governing North Carolina in the days that are ahead of us is work for a broad-minded conservative, capable business man, not for a promising dodger, for we are moving forward faster and farther every year, and 1925 will have its weighty problems. They cannot be met by sensationalism, but by dispassionate hard sense. Mr. McLean has shown all his life a keen business intelligence of a broad gauge. That is why The Pilot inclines to him in this campaign. It believes he is the capable man, and it is we who vote and who are governed who are concerned in the proper handling of state affairs. The Pilot favors Mr. McLean because it believes it will be best served by a man of his type in the high office. The situation is a business proposition and nothing else. This paper would be glad to favor either man in a personal way, but when it comes to hiring a business man for the business job of governing North Carolina it decidedly prefers McLean.

MR. TUFTS WRITES

Pinehurst, N. C., June 2, 1924.
The Pilot
Vass, N. C.

Gentlemen:—I have heard of several people criticising Mr. Shaw because he induced the State Highway commission to make a hard surfaced road from Carthage to Pinehurst. I am pretty familiar with the work that Mr. Shaw did at the time and I want to correct this impression.

In the first place Mr. Shaw paid his own hotel bills, gave his own time and paid for the gas and oil in his own car to go up and see if it were not possible to get a road from Carthage north, as he believed this would be a great thing for Moore County as every one will agree that it would do more to advertise the northern end of the county than anything that could be done. He worked hard on this but found that in the state highway law there was a map showing the roads that were to be built by the state under this bill and that the commissioners could not build any roads other than those shown on this map.

He did find, however, that Moore County was not getting its share of the appropriation and the only thing that he could do was to try to induce the State Highway Commissioners to hard surface one of the roads in the county. The road from Carthage towards Raleigh the Commissioners refused to hard surface because they had already spent a large amount of money and had an excellent road there. The Southern Pines people had already planned for a hard surfaced road from Aberdeen to Southern Pines but he found that he could arrange to have the road that was still to be constructed from Carthage to Pinehurst hard surfaced. He worked hard and made this arrangement.

If Mr. Shaw had not done this the Moore County portion of the state highway would have gone to other counties. As it is there will be spent on this road as much as the entire taxes of Moore County for a year. All of this money would have gone elsewhere if it had not been for Mr. Shaw.

The fact that he got that money spent here has not added one cent to Moore county taxes for the roads are built from the sale of bonds, the in-

EUROPE WILL BUY MORE CO-OP COTTON

The Associated Tobacco Growers
Gain New Markets by
European Expedition

Enlarged markets for the tobacco of the 260,000 American planters of the Carolinas, Virginia and Kentucky who are united in co-operative marketing associations will unquestionably result from the work of their commission which is now in Europe for the purpose of shortening the bridge between the organized American producers and the millions of European consumers of tobaccos from this country, according to Oliver J. Sands, executive manager of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association, who has just arrived from overseas and is the first member of the commission from the tobacco farmers of America to return from Europe.

According to Mr. Sands, the co-operative associations will undoubtedly increase their deliveries of tobacco to Great Britain as a result of the visit of the commission to trade centers of England, Scotland and Ireland. The officials of the Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain received the commission from the co-operative associations with every courtesy and consideration on May 15 at Bristol, England, another meeting of the Imperial officers and the officials of the tri-state association of Virginia and the Carolinas and those of the Kentucky Burley and Kentucky Dark Associations will be held following the arrival in England of Judge Robert Bingham, of Kentucky, founder of the Burley Association.

The French minister of finance and the minister of commerce who direct the affairs of the French government monopoly in tobacco gave the commission a most encouraging reception which resulted in assurance of co-operation and continued purchases of the tobaccos produced by the associated growers.

Every encouragement to the commission is expected from the other European countries which sell through government monopolies and very favorable connections have already been established in Germany, according to the latest cable to reach the offices of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association at Richmond.

The tri-state association has just completed delivery of approximately twenty million pounds of its redried tobaccos to three of the largest manufacturers of the world trade, according to the latest statement of Richard R. Patterson, the co-operative's leaf manager who says that several other large sales will probably be made within the next few weeks.

Checks which total more than a million dollars are almost ready for distribution to the members of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association in Eastern North Carolina, and will bring the receipts of the associated farmers in the Eastern Belt to seventy-five per cent of the bankers' valuation upon deliveries of the 1923 crop. This payment will be made to association members not later than June 15 from all association warehouses in Eastern North Carolina. Each member of the association in the Eastern belt who delivered his 1923 crop to the association will receive a half of the total amount of cash which he was paid for all deliveries during the past season. S. D. FRISSELL.

SPECIAL MEETING OF EPWORTH LEAGUE

There will be a special meeting of the Epworth League, Sunday evening, June 8, for the purpose of re-organizing the society. All members are requested to be present. There will not be a joint meeting of the Epworth League and Christian Endeavor societies at this time.

come and sinking fund of which are paid by the gasoline tax and the automobile tax, and the roads are maintained from the same sources.

Yours very truly,
LEONARD TUFTS.