

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

Address all communications to
THE PILOT PRINTING COMPANY, VASS, N. C.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1924

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.00



CHRISTMAS DAY

This is Christmas Day, possibly the greatest period of the year, for in Christian countries it is a day dedicated to the broadest form of human fellowship. The Pilot would like on this day to be able to wave a magic hand that might shower blessings on every living creature to the uttermost ends of the earth, but the powers of a one-horse country newspaper do not include the wealth nor the magic to reach far beyond its own walls. Therefore good will, which after all is not without its value, is about the most this modest journal can pass along to its friends, and I like to believe, whether it may be so or not, that everybody is a friend to pretty nearly everybody else. I don't believe much in enemies. Our enemies are largely the result of our own creation and our own imagination. Especially on Christmas Day. The Pilot wants to be the friend of men in its modest way, not expecting to revolutionize anything, nor to lead the big world very far into any better lines, but merely as far as can be done to help where the field is not too big to exert our limited influence. Good will to men, helping where we can in our unassuming way, doing something, and doing it every week if possible, that is our notion of good will to men, and that is the wish that is today extended as widely as our facilities permit. And that is the sum of the law and the prophets and ambitions that The Pilot cares for or is moved by.

HE WANTED IT READ

Weekly papers often carries short notices calling attention to the value of advertising in the home town paper, but a recent experience of an editor as reported by a paper in South Dakota again shows that newspaper advertising is more effective than secured through the use of billboards. This experience as given by the Division of Publications of the State College Extension Service is as follows:

An editor and a merchant were discussing the virtue of billboard advertising. The merchant contended that more people read the billboard than the newspaper. After a lengthy conversation in which neither man would give in, the men parted.

The next week the merchant came tearing down the street to the newspaper office wanting to know why the obituary of his wife's mother was not in the paper, especially after he had seen that a copy was taken to the newspaper office.

"Well," said the editor, "I know you wanted the obituary ready by the people, so I took it out and nailed it up on your billboard."

EXPERIMENT FARM
FOR SANDHILLS

State Proposes Station for Purpose of Studying Local Conditions

The State Agricultural Department is asking for a state appropriation for an experiment station in the Sandhills to study insect depredation, fertility, tobacco, fruit, and other things pertaining to this section.

The proposed program of the work outlined was given as follows:

"Horticulture should hold an important part in the station activities, and should deal with both fruit and truck crop investigations. A trained horticulturist should be located at the station and conduct the work of this class under the supervision of the Division of Horticulture.

"Entomology: There are now two entomologists stationed temporarily at Aberdeen conducting investigation on boll weevil control, peach insects and other crop pests. These men or other entomologists should be located at the Sandhills branch station and given an opportunity to conduct their experiments where they would have better control over their field experiments and equipment. It is planned to make the station headquarters for our boll weevil laboratory for the southeastern portion of the state.

"Plant diseases: There are several plant diseases present in the Sandhills which are doing great damage to the crops; the two causing the most concern at present are dewberry anthracnose and a bacteria disease on peaches. Facilities at the station should be provided whereby the Division of Plant Pathology may conduct disease control investigations.

"Tobacco is one of the chief money crops in the Sandhills and the soil and climate is well suited to the growing of this crop. The office of tobacco investigation, Washington, has already approached us with the view of co-operative tobacco investigations in our proposed Sandhills station.

"Soil fertility and field crop rotation of corn, tobacco, cotton, hay crops and others is a very important phase of the agricultural program for the Sandhills and provisions should be made at the station for the conduct of this work. Very little is known at present of the fertilization of the crops and value of rotation in the Sandhills.

"The determination of better field crop varieties and the selection and improvement of seed is an important problem for any agricultural section, and should be a part of our program at the Sandhills station."

Plans for the expansion of the work in handling the boll weevil and other insect pests cover a wide range of activities by the state and in co-operation with the federal government as well. While there are now stations in other parts of the state for carrying on of experiments with these pests, the directors maintain that there is need for such a station for this work in the Sandhills section.

These plans were outlined as follows:

"(1) It is proposed to enlarge the boll weevil work at our two temporary laboratories and to add workers and equipment for further studies, experiments and demonstrations pertaining to the boll-weevil problem or any other important insect problems in North Carolina.

"The severe losses in all to the south and in this state render it needful to find, develop and disseminate widely the most reliable methods of control. The fact that in certain sections the losses have been relatively light warrants a study of all factors on the problem and that while advising proper repressive measures, advice may be given to avoid wasteful effort.

"(2) One of these laboratories is now located at the upper coastal plains station in Edgecombe county, near Rocky Mount. This laboratory represents the eastern and northern

(Continued on page 8)



FROM VENERABLE MASON

(From Orphan's Friend)

Among the Thanksgiving donations was a donation from Rev. W. H. H. Lawhon, of Carthage, probably the oldest Mason in North Carolina—the Masonic patriarch. He writes:—

"Mr. R. L. Brown,
"Oxford, N. C.

"My Dear Sir:

"Find enclosed a check for five dollars, my Thanksgiving offering for 1924.

"I am a member of Carthage Lodge, No. 181, and guess I am the oldest Mason in North Carolina, as I have been a member 62 years.

"Yours in the cause,
Rev. W. H. H. LAWHON."

PETER PAN COMING TO
THE CAROLINA THEATRES

The long heralded, anxiously looked for production of J. M. Barrie's classic fairy story, made famous on the stage by Maude Adams, is scheduled to delight everybody in the Sandhills on January 2nd, and 3rd, at Pinehurst and Southern Pines, respectively.

J. M. Barrie has been for a quarter of a century one of the best loved and most widely read literary men in the world, and his greatest work, by far, is "Peter Pan," produced by Paramount with Betty Bronson, personally selected by Mr. Barrie, in the title role. Ernest Torrence playing Captain Hook, Mary Brian in the role of Wendy, Cyril Chadwick as Mr. Darling and an ideal cast of players in support.

The story is one of a boy who wouldn't grow up—a story of happiness, of youthful romance, of imagination and love. It is primarily a fairy story such as a child might conceive and it is all mixed up with the best of an every day middle class home.

"Peter Pan" is filled with drama. It is a drama of the kind which has the quality of eeriness, a touch of the super-natural.

It takes one out of a wordly frame of mind, makes him a child again and entertains as nothing has ever entertained before.

A special children's matinee will be given at Pinehurst on Saturday, January 3rd, at 3 p. m.

Subscribe to THE PILOT

NO ISSUE NEXT WEEK

In accordance with the custom observed during the Christmas holidays there will be no issue of The Pilot next week. The men in the printing office will have a few days of leisure to lay aside the activities and cares of work to enjoy Christmas and cultivate closer acquaintance with Santa Claus.

We sincerely hope that the great dispenser of gifts will visit each of our friends and bring to them the things desired. We wish that the holidays will be full of pleasure and good fortune, winding up a year of accomplishment and preparing a new year of increased happiness, good fortune and well-being.

SIXTEEN AND HALF
MILLION MORE--UGH

Board Has Not "Definitely Determined"—Sales Tax on Cigarettes, Etc.

(R. E. Powell)

Raleigh, December 23.—Any little boy or any little girl who happens to find in her stocking Christmas morning about the half the toys he or she asked Santa Claus for—and doesn't cry out loud about it—has understanding enough to know how a lot of institutional and department heads in North Carolina are going to feel when the legislative appropriations committees finish pruning the letters they have written to the North Carolina Budget Commission.

For, in short, with some of old Santa's last Christmas bills unpaid, the government's Kris Kringle is being asked to put out \$9,000,000 for maintenance and appropriation when his financial agents say the best they can do is to get him another two million next year and maybe two million more the next year.

"And that doesn't take any account of the deficit, if there is one," Grand Old Man Rufe Doughton, whose deputies bring in the shekels, said before turning toward the snow capped Blue Ridge to spend his Christmas Day. "We haven't a thing to do with that—that's the business of the auditor and the treasurer."

Members of the State Board of Assessment, including Governor Doughton, were astounded when they read that the institutions and departments were asking for \$8,000,000 additional for maintenance and administration during the next bi-ennium and \$7,500,000 for permanent improvements to be made during the same period.

With the assistance, at times, of Attorney Manning and Chairman W. T. Lee, of the Corporation Commission—who, with Governor Doughton compose the board—and of Assistant Attorney General Frank Nash, the Revenue Commissioner has concluded the tentative draft of the next tax raising bill to be enacted by the legislature. The best it can be stretched for, according to the commissioner's own figures, is \$2,000,000 annually.

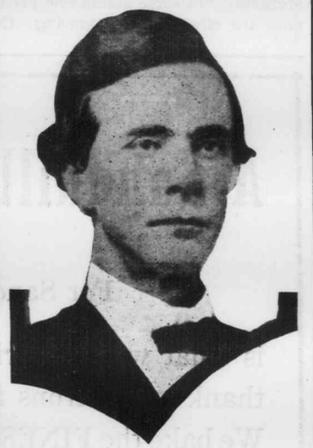
The board has not "definitely determined" to recommend extra draft on inheritance and franchise taxables but the income tax rate, Governor Doughton says, will have to be raised. However, the amount of the raise—the matter of graduating it an so on—is still to be determined.

What Mr. Average Man is going to get as a belated Christmas gift from the legislature, according to all indications now, is a sales tax on his cigarettes, his soft drinks and his movie tickets. Milady is going to be levied upon for her cosmetics, her movie tickets and other luxuries. It will take an increase in the income tax rate and the sales tax to round out the two millions.

One \$250,000 the state will be asked by the board to recall is the quarter of a million now going out of the state treasury to the highway sinking fund. Furthermore, there will be quite an argument over the potential \$250,000 expected from the tax to be levied against the bus lines when these demon carriers are finally brought under the throttle of a commission—and the Corporation Commission it seems it will be.

As has been predicted—to resort to a favorite contemporary's phrase—Dr. E. C. Brooks topped the list of petitioners who asked increases of the legislature. Since its re-organization, it has been quite apparent that the state's technical school would strive to get in a class, financially speaking, at least, with the University of North Carolina. And the J. B. Duke benefaction of some \$46,000,000 didn't move Dr. Brooks to crawl backwards any.

One of the increases asked which seems to have general approval is for the State Sanatorium, last year the storm center of the legislature and latter of the Hoke county superior court.



REV. MARTIN McQUEEN

Few days ago at a meeting in Carthage D. A. McDonald talked of half a century ago in religious affairs, and dwelt with emphasis on the work and influence of Rev. Martin McQueen, for a quarter of a century pastor of Union Church, between Vass and Carthage. Unfortunately Mr. McDonald made no copy of his remarks, as he spoke informally. But The Pilot presents in this issue a picture of Mr. McQueen, who was one of the most influential and popular men in the pulpit in the history of this county. He was a native of Robeson county, and a graduate of Davidson and of Columbia Theological Seminary. He came to Union Church in 1846, at the age of 41 years, a man of positive character and broad education. Twenty-four years he served the church, dying in harness in March, 1888. His work included Union and Carthage churches, and in addition he sent out from Union large delegations to found Cameron church, White Hill and Culdee. It is estimated that he added to his churches through his efforts in the pulpit and his church life at least 1,200 persons. He received 400 members into Union church during his pastorate and 500 into Carthage. For a quarter of a century Martin McQueen was the head of religious thought and action in the country roundabout Union church and the section where he lived. His old home farm between Cameron and Carthage is one of the conspicuous places in the neighborhood, for it was an outstanding home in his day, both as a home of culture and refinement and as a farm development in a location to command admiration.

Mr. McQueen left a family whose individuals are men and women of energy and helpfulness. John R. McQueen at Lakeview is too well known to speak of. Angus McQueen is a clergyman prominent in the Presbyterian church. Flora, a daughter, is a missionary in Korea, and Margaret is a welfare worker in Moore county. Union church, and the several other congregations which are offshoots are expanding powers in the social and religious life of the territory, a broadening memorial of the pastor whose career was so closely bound up in them.

Since the administration of Dr. McBrayer, in name, has changed, enlargement of this institution appears to be heartily favored. Furthermore, the legislature at the special session last August directed Sanatorium to received indigent patients, a requirement which had not previously been made. According to Dr. Tom Long, of Roanoke Rapids, who is taking a keen personal interest in the institution, there are now 385 applicants for admission who have been accepted but there are no beds for them. Again,

(Continued on page 8)