

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

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FORMER MOORE PASTOR HONORED

He Served Seventeen Years As
Pastor of Carthage First
Presbyterian Church.

Rev. John K. Roberts, of Greenville, S. C., attended, this week, the King College commencement at Bristol, Tenn., where the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him Tuesday.

This honor comes to him for services to the church at large, and for his scholarship in the department of Religious Education.

We claim Mr. Roberts as a Moore county boy and rejoice in this honor which comes to him, because Carthage-Union churches were his first pastorate which he served over nineteen years; and for his kinship with more than one Scottish clan by his marriage to the oldest daughter of Hon. A. D. McDonald.

King College celebrated its 60th anniversary this week, and her sons from far and near were there to take part in laying the corner stone of the new administration building.

King College, though a small college, is large in its influence through the number of eminent ministers and leaders it has given to the Presbyterian church. Among her celebrated sons that were present, Rev. James I. Vance, D. D., pastor First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee, delivered the alumni address; and Rev. J. Spruil Lyons, D. D., pas-

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ROUNSEVELLE MAKING START AT IMPROVEMENT

Phillip Rounsevelle at the Archery Club has made a start at the improvement of the property facing the Midlands Road. He has bought a hundred dollars' worth of the various trees that enter into the construction of bows and planted them on the Archery property. These include locust, Circassian Walnut, Yew, and other trees and will be followed by others until he has everything growing that enters into the construction of bows and arrows. The archery plant is coming to be one of the show places of the region, and the variety of trees will add to the attraction.

HAYES FERNINST THE ROAD SIGNS

Would Have All Banished But
Direction and Distance
Signs.

At the Kiwanis Club meeting at Aberdeen Wednesday Claude Hayes started a war on the road signs that obstruct the highway in all sections of the country, and before the President stopped the gunfire a committee was advised to take the matter under advisement and see what can be done to improve the appearance of the county and State highways. The proposition to beautify the roads has been gaining decided headway in the Kiwanis meetings of late, and one of the instructions to the committee given the matter was not to leave it in cold storage, but to report promptly, when the effort will be made to take care of this phase of the highway situation.

Then came up the question of the double road between Pinehurst and Southern Pines. Some talk has been heard of a possible single road, and information was asked of the members as to the reason for a double track. This will be gathered by a committee familiar with the needs of the community, and presented to Mr. Cox and Mr. Page of the State Highway Commission, who are open to conviction on the subject.

Charlie Mason announced that the golf tournament was starting this week, and he hopes to see it one of the most interesting events on the summer course.

EARLY DAYS IN MOORE COUNTY

An Old-Settler Tells the Story of
the Sandhills

By HON. ROBERT N. PAGE.

My work in life has been somewhat versatile; I have tried to do any number of things, but the writing of history is a new venture, undertaken at the request of some of my younger friends, who have shown some interest in the stories told now and then, by me, of the Sandhills of another day. And, really in appreciation of the men and women who have wrought here, it is essential that what they had to start with, be told. I am going to try to paint the picture and sketch in as the tale unfolds, not only stages of development, but personalities, some of whom have made a larger contribution than others, but the memory of every one of them worth keeping green, for what they did, or what they were.



My story must begin with the date when for the first time I saw this section now known as the SANDHILLS.

In January, 1880, my father and I came on a tour of inspection of the long leaf pine timber. For the greater part of his life he had been engaged in the manufacture of lumber, having started in the eighteen forties by cutting and hewing, by axe, the long leaf pine along the lower stretches of the Cape Fear River, and rafting the hewn timbers to market at Wilmington; then back to his native county, Wake, where he was a pioneer in the business of sawing trees into lumber by the use of the steam mill.

Upon the exhaustion of the timber supply in that section, he had started various enterprises, though none of them seemed to win him from his first love. The Seaboard Air Line, then the Raleigh and Augusta Air Line, for the units forming the Seaboard had not then been consolidated, had just been completed to Hamlet. After an all day journey on the only train then carrying passengers, we stopped at Hoffman, in Richmond County, for the reason that a brother of my father, Lewis Page, had just gone there a few months before with a small steam mill. The next day was spent on horse back inspecting various tracts of timber east of Hoffman, bringing us at night fall to a point about midway between where now stand the villages of Southern Pines and Aberdeen. The last piece of timber inspected was the 640 acres, now Montevideo Park, and extending southward to Mill Creek in what is now Aberdeen, then Blue's Crossing, so named for the reason that here one of the few roads of the section crossed the newly constructed railroad, and there Mr. Malcolm Blue operated a turpentine distillery. This piece of timbered land was, a few days later purchased from Captain Archibald Ray, a typical Scotchman, whose forebears had been only a generation or two before, among the Scotch who settled the section. This particular tract of land had come to him through his wife, Margaret Shaw, given her by her father, the settler of what is now known as the Shaw place just on the western edge of Southern Pines, at her birth, he having entered it from the public lands, in her name. He did the same thing, entered a six hundred and forty acre tract, known as a section, in the name of each of the 12 children born in that home. This quantity was the maximum, under the law, that could be entered in one name. This timber had been worked for three or four years for turpentine, and the purchase price was \$3.50 per acre, this value being placed upon the timber, on the land nothing.

This opening up of a virgin forest, large in extent, was attracting people who were interested in the manufacture of lumber, from everywhere, and they were coming in in considerable numbers, some buying for immediate use, others looking to the future. Of the people who came to the section at that time very few remained after the timber was cut, a majority of them following the long leaf pine further South, as it was opened up by transportation facilities. There were no towns south of Carthage excepting the village of

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DEVELOPMENT ON MIDLAND ROADS

Eighty-Acre Tract Near Pinehurst Ready For Market.

The influence of the Pine Needles Inn at Knollwood village is already reflected in expansion projects along the line from Pinehurst to Knollwood. Following the James Barber work, on the new road, the dam and the club house, Harrison Stutts and I. C. Sledge have begun to open and prepare for market a tract of eighty acres they own west of the Shaw home on the Midland road, and there will be made a building section, in which the divisions are about five acres each. These are so planned that the buyer may cut them into smaller units if he desires, or they may be retained, as probably most of them will be, of the larger size, for a sentiment seems to be growing in the Sandhills that with the large amount of land available a man might as well have a few acres around his house as to put a fine building on a limited frontage, and have no room for landscape work about the home.

Mr. Wicker is on the ground this week laying out roads, and making plans for the new project, which will be ready to offer to buyers during the early summer. The old Seals road goes through the heart of the plot, while the Midland road is a portion of the southern boundary, and a series of roads runs into Pinehurst and opens the tract in all directions.

The creation of a State highway of the Midlands road has wakened a decided interest in this neighborhood, and a determination to make of the Midland road the most attractive possible drive in Middle North Carolina is arousing the folks all through the Sandhills. Talbot Johnson driving along the road the other day remarked that it should be planted with pines, dogwoods, forsythia and Cherokee roses from one end to the other, with a bridle path between the two roads, and with the home-makers on either side vying with each other in making their holdings the most interesting the soil and climate here permits. He has some lots on the Southern Pines side of the creek, and there in the woods he has already been doing some planting. And it is so all along the route.

There are 12 important parasites of chickens in this country. There are 40 or 50 parasites of cattle. And there are 50 to 60 found in horses.

WARNS WORLD WAR VETERANS

War-Time Insurance Must Be
Converted Not Later
Than July 2.

Unless World War veterans heed the warning of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau to reinstate and convert their war-time insurance by July 2, 1927, some thirty billion dollars of insurance will become void on that date, and will be lost to veterans.

Although numerous bills to extend this date were introduced during the last session of Congress, none of these were passed, so there is no possibility of the final date being extended as happened in the past, for Congress has adjourned without amending the law in this respect, and the date cannot be changed by Bureau regulation.

On March 1, 1927, the Veterans' Bureau had paid out in disability and death benefits, on term insurance, the huge sum of \$849,936,509. On converted insurance up to that date, they had paid disability benefits totalling \$2,313,265, and death benefits to beneficiaries amounting to \$27,038,929.

The total amount of term insurance reinstated up to March 1 was \$2,649,267,868, and converted insurance which had been dropped and later revived totalled \$76,555,063.

J. S. Pittman, regional manager of the Bureau at Charlotte, N. C., calls

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ATTENTION COTTON ASSOCIATION MEMBERS!

I will be in the court house at Carthage on June 14, at 11 o'clock, for the purpose of distributing checks to the members of the Cotton Association in the county, for the last payment on the 1926 crop. Mr. Blacklock or some one from the Raleigh office who is familiar with the sale of the cotton and the final settlement will be with me and explain fully everything connected with the last year's proceedings.

We are very anxious that the members and all others who desire to attend be present on the above date.

Yours very truly,
L. C. PHILLIPS.

PINEHURST WOMAN WINS TOURNAMENT

Mrs. Rounsevelle Victor In
Archery Meet in Rye,
New York.

Mrs. Phillip Rounsevelle, of Pinehurst, won the ladies' open championship at the Metropolitan Archery Tournament held in Rye, N. Y., on the grounds of the Westchester Biltmore Country Club last week.

The rules of the Metropolitan Archery Tournament read that the Metropolitan championship must be won by a person who lives within 50 miles of New York City, but that the open championship may be won by anyone from any locality. In winning the open championship Mrs. Rounsevelle had to beat Mrs. Owen, winner of the ladies' metropolitan, and thus defeated all contestants in the events.

Mrs. Rounsevelle is the only woman known to kill a deer with her bow since the days of Queen Elizabeth; was the winner of the ladies' third place at the National Tournament last year, holder of the ladies' championship in the South; and holder of the world record practice score for women in the American round.

All the equipment that Mrs. Rounsevelle has been using is made within the bounds of the State. The craftsmanship of the skilled bowyers and fletchers of The Archers Company at Pinehurst is already well known throughout the archery world.

IS THE DEBT THREATENING US?

Reader of The Pilot Says We
Must Economize or
Agonize.

The Pilot sounded a true note of alarm in the leading editorial of last week that should receive the commendation and wide-spread attention of our people before it is too late. Some time ago you commended an address by Max Gardner in which he used the words "economize or agonize" as the climax. The only trouble with it was that you did not publish in full that address and that every other paper in North Carolina did not. I asked half dozen or more thinking men, some of them prominent, what they thought of that address and none of them had even seen it, much less read it. I am sure that most of the people do not realize the true condition that confronts them. North Carolina surely has gotten in the lime light of recent years and if they do not mind they are going to get in the dark before they get through with it.

I mentioned to a young lady some time ago the words that Gardner said as above. She said, "Well, we are already agonizing at our house." I knew they were not, at least not in the way he mentioned it. She along with the other children, while of poor parentage, had been reared with a silver spoon in her mouth in the way of indulgent but foolish parents, and probably she and the others were really agonizing now that this program of spending and having what you wanted was likely to end disastrously, and that they would have to go to work, and it was the humiliation of it that was causing the agony and the fall in pride. Pride any way is at the bottom of it all. Moore County and many other counties built fine court houses because some other county did it, not because they were able. Many school houses the same way, maybe all needed, still the money had to come out of the folks and at the rate it has been coming for the past few years it is not a very inviting prospect. You did not mention the causes of all this extravagance, though of course you knew. What you were after was a remedy, and you named it, in two words: economize, work. I went out the other day after some berry pickers. Driving up to a group of negro shanties I saw a man drive up in a coupe with a bill book in his hip pocket. What business my mind asked would he have at such a place on Monday morning. I soon found out, or at least guessed, for I heard some one knocking on a high grade piano in that house that was hardly big enough to hold a piano. The roof was all but falling in and the house was hardly fit for kindling wood though affording some kind of shelter for its inhabitants. The next door there was a somewhat better house with two cars. Many of these houses have talking machines, radios and many other things bought on time. They are simply weighted down for months ahead with installment debts that are sapping their earnings away. Every week nearly I get inquiries from commercial agencies wanting to know the standing of folks in the community who want to buy such things, I make it a habit to reply they are poor people and not able to go in debt any more. As a result the inquiries have fallen off. They

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CHILDREN'S DAY AT YATES-THAGARDS SUNDAY

There will be a children's day service at Yates-Thagards Church Sunday, June 12, 1927. In addition to children's exercises, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Gibbons, of Lakeview, will tell of their recent trip to the Holy Land. In the afternoon Rev. J. E. Ayscue will preach.

Dinner on the ground. Everyone come. Bring a well filled basket.