

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

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PICTURES FIRST IN SANDHILLS

Moore County Folks See Old
Stuff While in the
North.

That the Sandhills have the most up-to-date moving pictures and handling of such affairs is clearly shown by survey of the bill boards and pictures on the screens of the Northern theatres. Moore county folks have always appreciated the fact that Charlie Picquet has had a way of getting hold of the best in moving pictures and producing on the local screens a high grade of plays that fairly crinkle in their newness.

In a recent trip through several of the Northern states this was noticed in particular. Every visitor in the new country, no matter what direction he finds himself in, is finally headed at some time or another to some movie house by his would be entertainers. In Washington, Philadelphia, Atlantic City and Ocean City, N. J., the bill boards were noticed, and noticed with the fact that a great many pictures were being shown that were an old story to the tar heels from the Sandhills. In one of the big new show places of Philadelphia a picture was advertised for the week following that we had taken some Yankee visitors to see over two months previous in our own home town. In Ocean City the plays were drawing a large crowd of folks, and they were people that came from many states for the summer months. And here again the pair from Moore county saw familiar faces from scenes they knew something about. In Washington at one of the most popular theatres a number on the program was a picture seen in North Carolina three months ago. All this goes to show that we aren't such back numbers after all and that the man in charge of the Carolina theatres to show that we aren't such attractions that aren't too ancient to be of interest here and for the outside world some many weeks and months later.—H. K. B.

MOORE COUNTY FARM NOTES

Interesting Notes on the Red
Spider and Uses of
Fertilizer.

Begin Now to Plan Cover Crops.

Now that all the crops are made and some of it already harvested we should begin thinking about cover crops to put something back into the soil to build it up and to cut the amount of fertilizer that will have to be used next year. This can easily be done now by putting on a good crop of vetch with either rye or oats and in a great many places barley has been used to good advantage.

According to government figures Moore county in 1926 increased her corn acreage 1,045 over the acreage to corn in 1919. The average yield per acre was 16 bushels in 1919 and 20 bushels in 1926.

Yield has a direct relation to production cost; low yield per acre usually means high per bushel cost of production.

Our average yield of corn can be raised materially through a greater use of cover crops, seed selection, better cultural methods, and a more liberal application of fertilizer suited to the needs of the corn plant on our soils.

Through the assistance this year of Messrs. D. A. Dunlap, John Dunlap, Aubrey Dunlap, Charlie Dunlap and S. L. Brown, of the Spies section, we are conducting five one acre demonstrations this year. The purpose of these demonstrations is to increase the yield per acre and if possible to reduce the cost per bushel.

The corn plant needs large quan-

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WHY SLATE CAME TO SANDHILLS

Big Advantages for Tobacco
Farmer in This Light
Soil.

BION H. BUTLER.

Down the Laurinburg road below the Johnson's Mossgiel farm, is a fine big tobacco plantation owned and operated by J. W. Slate, who has put in the curing barns in the last two or three weeks the crop from 75 acres of as fine tobacco as a man needs to concern himself about. "I imagine it will run about 800 pounds to the acre," Mr. Slate said, "and some of it probably more. But if it reaches 800 I will be satisfied. I am pretty well content with tobacco here in the Sandhills," the farmer continued, "for I came down from the mountain country where conditions were harder than here, and that makes this section look pretty good to me. Here a man can care for a larger acreage than up in my old section, and do it with less hard work. The land here is almost level, free from stones and gullies, and where I had been accustomed to small fields of three or four acres because of the limits of the rough character of the ground, here you can see that a field may cover a hundred or a thousand or whatever number of acres a man may care to include in his farm. Then we can use machinery here to better advantage, which makes our crop cost us less in the making. In Stokes county we figured that one hand could account for about four or five acres of tobacco. Here one hand can care for about ten acres, and what is of importance I can get help

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TAXES SAME AS TWO YEARS AGO

Little Higher Than Last Year,
but More Property Values
in County.

The County Commissioners on Monday made the tax levy for the year 1927, and it runs at \$1.18, which is about equal to that of two years ago, but a few cents higher than last year. County is fixed at 15, roads 35, school 61, which is a raise of 6 cents, and vocational school, which is for the Eureka vocational, two cents. The special districts note a slight change in a few districts, but in most cases are the same as previously.

The assessments in the county under the new four-year valuation, disclose almost a million more values in property, but the rates have been raised but little in any of the townships, while in one or two the total has declined slightly. The adjustments were reached with very slight difficulty, and from the sentiment of the people over the county it looks as if the recent assessment was reached with more confidence of the people, for it is believed that a closer inquiry into values all around each district awakened a confidence that an effort was made to get at relative values more thoroughly than under the old methods.

JUDGE WAY STARTING NEW GREENHOUSE PLANT.

Over at Knollwood Village Judge Way has on the ground material for a large new greenhouse, which he will at once proceed to build. Two buildings, one 25x75 and another 16x75 feet, will be the first units of what later will be enlarged to care for a project that is of considerable importance. The site is between his brick house and the Hudson house, both owned by the judge, and the building will be a part of the development plans he has in mind for further unfolding. His whole plant is devoted to orchids, which he finds ready sale for.

BIG DEVELOPMENT AT KNOLLWOOD

Five Miles of Streets in Course
of Construction at
Present.

The newest big thing in the Sandhills section at the present minute is the task Knollwood Corporation has laid out for Talbot Johnson, the vice president, who is the active resident authority of the corporation, and who is taking hold of the job in a way that is changing the whole hill top from the Pine Needles to the Midland road and to the old Carthage road past the former experiment station farm. Mr. Johnson has a bunch of men and mules, a crowd of surveyors, axemen, and everything indicated in a task of this sort, busy on the job, and already he has about five miles of new roads cut out, grubbed, graded, and in such shape that cars can pass over most of the new work. As soon as it is a little more packed down under wheels the whole length of road will be easily passable, and of decided interest to the people who like to get out into the attractive corners of the county.

Three hundred acres have been surveyed for this new plan, and all between the Carthage road and the Pine Needles tract is already pretty well along in road construction. Entrances go in from the Midlands road, the Carthage road, and from the various drives through the Pine Needles property, and cross roads connect all the direct drives. The property is cut into building sites that will run in the neighborhood of an acre each, and every one is accurately marked with permanent monuments. The excellent water of the Southern Pines system is immediately available as the 12-inch mains pass through the Knollwood property as well as through the Pine Needles territory, and the Southern Pines plant is one of the most modern and efficient in the country. It is mechanically and chemically equipped with the most modern devices to provide satisfactory and sanitary water, with reservoir and storage basins that carry on hand a supply big enough to run two or three years ahead, and the engineer who built the plant says it will care for a community several times the size of that now depending on it.

The outlook from the hill top on which most of the building sites have been located, covers the entire country over to Southern Pines, and up and down the Seaboard and over the counties close by as far as the eye can distinguish. The Mid-Pines golf course and the new Pine Needles course, both built by Donald Ross, are within a few hundred feet of the new property, and the privileges of the Pine Needles golf course go with the ownership of home sites in Knollwood. Pinehurst, with all its activities is but a few minutes run, and Southern Pines is on the other side, likewise but a few minutes distance. One of the new roads that has been made will be a short cut from Pinehurst to Pine Needles, and it is as picturesque a drive as anything in this section. The whole area is coming up with young pines, while many big trees are all over the place. Across the old Carthage road James Barber's new golf grounds with the new club house is but a short distance from the new development, thus bringing the entire area from Southern Pines to Pinehurst into one extended project of expansion, and all connected together. The four golf courses at Pinehurst, the two at Mid-Pines and Pine Needles and the two at Southern Pines, all of them 18 holes but the small one at Southern Pines, and with the early enlargement of the small one at Southern Pines, and including the one Mr. Barber is now building give a total of nine courses, which is unapproached by anything any where else. Tournaments engaging nearly

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EX-SHERIFF SAM JONES PASSES

He Was Widely Known Through
This Section of North
Carolina.

Ex-Sheriff Sam Jones' health had not been good for two or three years. Saturday after dinner he lay down on his bed for a rest and fell into a peaceful sleep from which he never awoke, dying about 9 o'clock that night. It was known by all of his friends that he was not in good health but the end was not expected so quickly.

Sheriff Jones' career had brought him in contact with a large circle of people in this section of North Carolina and his physical appearance was such as to impress every one who beheld him.

Born in the hills and clay of western Moore, they seemed to impart their rugged steadfastness to his nature and the integrity and homely virtues acquired in his early days from the homogeneous natives of these hills followed him through life. He did not have the advantage of good school facilities but he got the most he could from the schools in existence in his day and attended a business college for a short course about the time he was entering manhood.

About the time he was 21 years of age he connected himself in business with his elder brother, O. S. Jones, who about that time was in the turpentine and commissary business at Manley. For several years in the early eighties he was active in the affairs of the Sandhills about Manley, Blue's Crossing and Keyser.

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HOTEL MAN LEAVES VASS

J. S. Lancaster, Successful Hotel
Man, Goes to Wake
Forest.

Announcement was made here this week that after September 1, Hotel Vass would be under new management, and that J. S. Lancaster, who has had charge of Hotel Vass for the past two years leaves next Tuesday for Wake Forest, where he will have charge of a boarding house, catering to student and faculty members.

Mr. Lancaster is known throughout North Carolina and Virginia as a successful hotel man, having had charge of numerous hotels in both states. Coming to Vass two years ago from Martinsville, Va., and previous to that successfully running hotels in Newton for 12 years, he was not here but a short while time until he had Vass on the map from a hotel standpoint, for it was not long until he had sopping here with him many of his old traveling friends, who heretofore had given the hotel the go-by, and from the remarks of many of them it will be hard to get some one to run the hotel and keep it up to the standard that Mr. Lancaster had it. Hotel Vass is one of the best equipped commercial hotels in the State.

Since coming to Vass Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster have made many friends, and it is a regret that they are leaving here.

NEW BUSINESS BLOCK PLANNED FOR ABERDEEN

Mr. Straka, of Southern Pines, who has built a number of buildings in his home town, has bought the Heckart corner in Aberdeen and it is his intention to put up a business block there that will accommodate five stores. He has been a progressive builder since he commenced in the Sandhills and his venture in Aberdeen is regarded as an important sign as to the direction of the financial wind in this section, as his judgment is looked on as good.

CONSTRUCTION AT PINE NEEDLES

Most Substantial Type From
Floor to Walls and
Roof.

The excellence of the construction and design of the Pine Needles hotel is a surprise to everybody who sees it as it develops. It was announced at the beginning as a fire-proof structure, but no one had any idea of the complete absence of combustible material that marks its progress. The frame is of structural steel, as was anticipated. The floors are of concrete, the walls are of brick and tile, the stairways of steel, and the partitions as far as they have been set are of tile. No such substantial building has been put up before this in this part of the State, and no building that is so attractive and in everyway a credit to the neighborhood and so efficient for its uses.

It is possibly not wise to advise folks to go over and look at the building as it develops in the heads of the builders, for they no doubt have small need of people around in the way. But it is a good plan for the folks to know what that fine building is like, and perhaps if visitors will keep out of the way, and do most of their observation from points where they do not interfere with the men at work no harm will be done. It is a good thing for the whole community to know as fully as possible just what kind of work is done at Pine Needles and what kind of a hotel it is to be when it is ready for visitors. And the picture from the upper floors is one of the wonders of this Sandhill country. Scarcely half a dozen inhabitants of this country know the remarkable scenery that the hill country affords. We have talked about our many advantages but one of the most important we

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KIWANIS CLUB HAS SIGNS UP

Folks are Warned Not to Cut
Shrubby or Trees Along
Highways.

Frank Shamburger, of the committee to put up signs along the highways notifying folks not to destroy shrubby or trees along the roads, notified the Kiwanis club at the Wednesday meeting that the signs had been posted on all the roads entering the county and that the money was raised and the bills paid for the job.

Mose McDonald told of a trip up into the peach districts of Delaware and Maryland, and while he was not as well satisfied with the peaches up there as he is with those of the West End district, he was impressed with the more rigid methods the states North of us have of handling traffic on the roads. He met with no difficulty in getting through all right, but the North Carolina roads strike him as about right, although he has a leaning to the notion that we might emulate the practice of road police he encountered while away and put a little firmer hand on handling the traffic.

An impromptu discussion of school affairs came up in an informal way, and it was intimated that the next meeting will be given over some to this subject, and possibly one meeting will not settle all of the matters at issue. There are those who think we might improve on school affairs and also on some other features of State management, and possibly some of the bolsheviks may offer some suggestions that will lead the gathering to say things.