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FIVE CENTS

## SCHOOL BILL MAY REDUCE TAXES IN COUNTY 40 CENTS

Six Months Measure Will Not Affect Management, Says H. Lee Thomas

### JUST A REVENUE SHIFT

The McLean bill, making it mandatory on the State to maintain the six months school term from sources other than ad valorem tax, as passed by the General Assembly last week with overwhelming majorities, will have little effect on the organization and management of the local schools, said H. Lee Thomas, county superintendent of schools in an interview given to The Pilot this week.

"It is nothing more than a resolution which directs the Legislature to shift the source of the revenue for school purposes. Instead of passing the responsibility down to the county commissioners to levy a property tax, as in the past, the Legislature has assumed the task and will raise the money from other sources. The money will probably be distributed to the counties in much the same manner as the State Equalization Fund has been distributed in the past," Mr. Thomas said.

"Bases of distribution of the funds, safeguards of economy in their expenditure by setting up uniform standards and other details will be embodied in a machinery bill which is being prepared by sub-committees of the House and Senate Committees on Education. If any salaries are cut or jobs abolished for purposes of economy, it will be contained in this bill. It is generally expected that this bill will be modeled after the famous Hancock Act.

"If the Legislature is successful in passing an act adequate for producing the required revenue to maintain the six months school term without resorting to a property tax, it will result in a reduction of approximately 40c on the hundred in Moore county. The total county rate now being \$1.05 on the hundred, this proposed reduction on schools alone would be more than 38 per cent."

## Yeggs Blow Safe in Postoffice at Vass

Watch and Jewelry, Property of Postmistress, Principal Loot Secured

By forcing their way through two doors, one opening off the street and the second leading from the lobby into the main office, burglars sometime during Sunday night made their way into the Vass postoffice where they blew open the safe and rifled it, broke the lock on the cash and stamp drawer and made a thorough search for valuables. Fortunately, only a small amount of change and a few stamps had been left in the office during the week-end, and the loss to the postal department was negligible. However, quite a bit of personal property belonging to Mrs. Bertie L. Matthews, the postmistress, was stolen. The robbery was discovered at 4:30 Monday morning when J. M. McMillan and his son, Worth, who carry the mail from the postoffice to the station, went in to deposit the mail from an early train. They found that the doors had been opened and fumes of nitro-glycerine which was used in opening the safe were still strong.

Mr. McMillan promptly notified Mrs. Matthews and upon her arrival she found things in a state of general confusion. The safe door was open and money order books, insurance policies and other valuable papers were scattered around on the floor, but they were not damaged. A watch, several pieces of jewelry and other articles, cherished keepsakes of Mrs. Matthews, were missing.

The cash and stamp drawer had been forced open and was considerably damaged. The thieves did not bother the few stamps that were in the drawer, but they removed the small change that had not been deposited on Saturday.

Sheriff C. J. McDonald and the postal authorities were notified and Sheriff

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## Sandhills To See Return of Stage Coach

Webster Knight, Son-in-Law of Vice-President Curtis, an Enthusiastic Horseman, To Revive Ancient Sport.—Buys Estate on Weymouth Heights

The close of the transaction by Arthur Newcomb which conveys to Webster Knight, 11, of Providence, Rhode Island, the home of Walter Maples adjoining The Paddock on the east side of Weymouth Heights, near Southern Pines, is one of the significant events of the winter. Mr. Knight is one of the prominent textile men of New England. For a diversion he is enthusiastically interested in horses. Particularly he is interested in coaching and coach horses. While he will bring to the Sandhills some hunters and will ride in the fox hunts, hunters will not constitute the main factors of his tables. The incentive that brings him to the Sandhills is the cockney horse and a revival of the famous sport of coaching.

Mr. Knight has a force of carpenters at work rebuilding the Maples home for his present uses, and the barn on the place will be adapted for six or eight horses. Four or more of these will be coach horses which will arrive as soon as quarters can be provided for them. With them will come a French coach, which Mr. Knight has had put in thorough repair, as it is from the earlier days. This is a large vehicle with a capacity for sixteen people. In addition to the room inside twelve persons can be carried on top, which is after all the popular deck of the coach. Four horses are driven to this coach. Mr. Knight is a driver of much skill and pleased with the road conditions of the neighborhood.

Like the other horsemen who have been bringing their animals to this neighborhood the sand clay roads appeal to him. They are easy on the horses' feet. This is important in the case of the coach horse, which is a rather large animal, weighing from thirteen to fourteen hundred pounds, and as the coach is toiled along at the rate of seven or eight miles or more the spanking gait requires a road surface on which the horses can get a good footing without pounding him up.

The hard roads will be avoided on this account, the clay roads being numerous enough to afford many miles of agreeable drives over wide territory. Another feature that adds to the interest in this vicinity is the absence of long steep hills which are laborious in the ascent or dangerous

## Page Trust Acquires Bank at Albemarle

Adds 14th Office and \$600,000 in Deposits in Annexing Stanly Institution

Confidence in the future of North Carolina and her citizenry was evidenced in the announcement this week of the acquiring of another bank by the Page Trust Company of Aberdeen, the Stanly Bank & Trust Company of Albemarle. It is getting so the taking over of banks by the Page Trust Company is ceasing to be news. It is almost a weekly occurrence. The local institution has already taken charge at Albemarle.

The Stanly Bank and Trust Company was organized in 1904 with the late J. R. Price as president and J. M. Peeler as cashier. A. C. Heath succeeded Mr. Price and when Mr. Heath died in January 1930, E. E. Snuggs became president. A. R. Harris became cashier in 1913 and deposits of the institution had increased from \$100,000 at that time to more than \$600,000 at the close of business December 31, 1930.

Addition of the Albemarle branch, which will be operated in the Stanly bank building, gives the Page organization 14 banks extending from Zebulon in the east to Albemarle in the west. Combined assets of the banks are given as being more than \$6,000,000.

## BURT MADE HONORARY MEMBER OF KIWANIS

Struthers Burt was honored by the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen when its Board of Directors elected him an honorary member at its monthly meeting held Tuesday night at the Pinehurst Country Club.

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in going down. A skilled and careful driver can negotiate practically any hill in this section with only the rarest recourse to the brakes and without punishment to his beasts.

### Old Time Coach

Mr. Knight has one of the few old time coaches in this country. William H. Vanderbilt, of Rhode Island, drives one, and here and there another fortunate man has been able to secure one, but most of them have passed out of existence. Mr. Knight hunted the country over in hopes of picking up an Old Concord coach but it was impossible. The coach horse is not very numerous in the United States. Great Britain and the continent have given more attention to this type. Mr. Knight's man is now in Holland looking for some animals over there. Before the automobile came on the road the French coach horse had gained considerable popularity in the United States, but of late years he has been neglected.

It is Mr. Knight's desire to have his stables in shape to get his coach on the road by the opening of the Pinehurst Horse Show next month. He feels right confident that if conditions prove to be as satisfactory as they seem the possibilities for coaching will lead other people to unite with him in establishing this new form of outdoor entertainment. In the air is a little talk of a coaching club. As the work develops much skill on the part of the driver, handling a four-in-hand or pair or tandem becomes about as fascinating a game as any of the others that engage the winter population here. Moreover coaching has this added advantage that it gathers a group of a dozen or more congenial people in an exhilarating outing in which they can spin about in all quarters of the country in long or short drives as time or inclination dictates.

Mr. Knight has a park coach which he uses in the North where it is better of more interest in this rural neighborhood.

To those who are old enough to remember the days of stage coaching ter adapted for park and city driving than the large coach. It is doubtful if he brings it down, but certainly not right away as he is of the opinion that the large vehicle will prove

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## Two Killed as Auto Upsets Near Pinehurst

New York Youths Lose Control of Car, Which Turns Over Three Times

Losing control of their Ford roadster in an attempt to pull back on the hard surface after one of the wheels had slipped off the shoulder of the highway, two young men, Hirsh Levow and Nicholas De Carlo, of New York, were killed when their car upset and turned over three times near the Carolina Power and Light Company sub-station between Pinehurst and West End, on Route 70, Tuesday afternoon. The men, both about 20 years of age, were on their way from New York to Florida. Levow died on the way to the Moore County Hospital, De Carlo about three hours after reaching the hospital. Relatives from New York claimed the bodies at the Powell undertaking rooms in Southern Pines on Wednesday.

## HOME OF E. L. PLEASANTS DESTROYED BY FIRE

The residence of E. L. Pleasants on Bethesda Road, Aberdeen, was practically completely destroyed by fire early yesterday afternoon. Fire is believed to have originated around the fireplace chimney. The furniture on the ground floor was saved, but the loss upstairs was complete and the house will have to be completely rebuilt.

### Marriage License

License to marry has been issued to Wm. Claudius Ferguson, Manly and Miss Mary K. Phillips, Manly. Both are popular young people of Moore county.

## TOBACCO MARKET CLOSES AFTER A RECORD SEASON

Million Pounds More Leaf Sold in Aberdeen Than in Any Previous Season

### TOTAL OVER 4,000,000

The Aberdeen tobacco market closed for the season last Friday with a new record for total sales. The actual figures have not been released by the Federal-State Departments of Agriculture as yet, but it is conservatively estimated here that gross sales for the season ran around 5,500,000 pounds, producers' sales around five million. If the official figures show this to be so, the Aberdeen market handled approximately one million more pounds of tobacco this season than in any previous season.

Although the local market can boast of its growth in total sales, it cannot say as much for the average price paid throughout the season. Off to a good start the first month, when Aberdeen led all markets of both the Old and New Bright Belts in average price, it failed to maintain its pace and wound up the season fairly well down the list. Buyers here say the quality failed to materialize, that both the Sanford and Carthage markets handled a better grade of leaf this season. This varies from year to year, dependent upon local conditions.

Efforts are in the wind for the establishment of a re-drying plant in Aberdeen before the opening of the 1931-32 season. It is said that a prominent man in tobacco circles is interested in a proposition to operate in the old plant opposite the Gulf Refining Company, and with some building improvements to take a long lease on the property. The establishment of a re-drying plant here would undoubtedly mean a great increase in tobacco sales on the Aberdeen market. The nearest plant at present is at Durham.

## N. N. McDONALD, ABERDEEN SHOT NEAR LUMBERTON

Robeson county officers are conducting a search throughout that section for Booker T. Currie, colored, charged with shooting N. N. McDonald of Aberdeen with a shotgun last Saturday. McDonald is in the Baker sanatorium in Lumber with some seventy five shot in his right thigh. His condition is regarded as very serious. The shooting followed an altercation between McDonald, who is a sub-contractor at a school building being erected at Orrum, and the Negro, a laborer. It is said they fought during the morning and had to be parted and that McDonald was throwing bricks at the Negro at the time of the shooting.

## NEW FERTILIZER MIXING PLANT FOR ABERDEEN

Aberdeen is to have a new industry in the form of a fertilizer mixing plant, according to announcement made during the week by G. Ober & Sons, of Baltimore. The Ober concern, well known in the fertilizer field, will establish a plant about one and one-half miles from the town on the Aberdeen & Rockfish railroad, near the old Blue Fertilizer plant. It is understood that a new building will be erected, to be about 50 by 60 feet in size. The output will be 100 tons per day, and it is hoped to have the plant in operation by February 16th. B. B. Saunders, head of the Saunders Tobacco Warehouses here, will be in charge.

## INTERNAL REVENUE MEN TO ASSIST TAXPAYERS

Representatives of the U. S. Internal Revenue Department will be in Aberdeen next Monday, February 9th, to assist taxpayers in filing their Federal income tax returns. Those desiring to avail themselves of their assistance should take their blanks with them to the Postoffice.

These government officials will also be in Carthage on February 16th. Residents of the lower end of the county should call at Aberdeen the 9th, those in the upper end at Carthage the 16th.

## General Sales Tax on All Commodities Favored by Chamber of Commerce

### Transport Pilot

George Colton of Knollwood Airport Wins Coveted License from Uncle Sam

Pilot George Colton of the Knollwood Airport is now a full fledged transport pilot, having received this coveted license from the Aeronautics Branch of the U. S. Department of Commerce following a rigid examination and a difficult test.

Henry M. Dingley, of Pinehurst has been granted a private pilot's license by Inspector Lanter of the same department.

Major Lloyd Yost flew in from Asheville at an average speed of a little better than 150 miles per hour.

Pilot and Mrs. Burrell White, Jr., are frequent visitors at the port. Dr. Ruggles, of Pinehurst, holder of a transport pilot license, made a flight Thursday.

## 272 SEEK JOBS AT RELIEF OFFICE IN SOUTHERN PINES

Employment Committee Finding Work for Jobless, Beautifying Town

### TO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN

The Finance Committee of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce held its first meeting last Wednesday at the Country Club. Dr. George G. Herr, chairman, reported that contributions are now received daily and plans are underway for a campaign to be launched within the next ten days. The goal has been set at \$5,000 as the amount of money that will be required to relieve the condition that is now existing among the laboring class of people. To date 272 people, including both men and women, have registered at the employment office in the Bernstein Building on East Broad Street. The larger number of those registered are negroes, however there are a few white men that have applied for work. The work of beautifying the highway is now well underway and a force of men, in co-operation with the town are busily engaged filling in parkways and cutting underbrush. Teams and drag pans are cutting down the sandbanks and filling in the low-places. The construction of dirt sidewalks will start in a short time. E. Morell, who is in charge of the planting for the Chamber of Commerce, expects to start setting out shrubbery within the next few days along the parkways that have been completed.

Teams and a large force of men are going ahead with the extension of the lower end of Pennsylvania Avenue. The work on the avenue is progressing very rapidly at the present and the grading on the east side of McDeeds Creek is making a big change in the appearance of the street. The town has received plans for the construction of a concrete culvert and it is expected that a contract will be let an early date. The street will connect West Southern Pines and will open a new short route to Pinehurst. It will run near the greenhouses of Judge William A. Way.

To date 63 men have been given work on the highway and Pennsylvania Avenue. This represents 63 families or 308 people who have been provided with food and other necessities of life. There has been a total of 88 men given jobs since the work was first started ten days ago. This includes men that have been employed at the Country Club and with private families. All of these people were without funds and many of them in almost destitute circumstances.

The extension of Pennsylvania Av-

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Resolutions Passed After Stormy Session of That Body in Southern Pines

### OPPOSE NUISANCE TAXES

Additional Taxation of Hydro-Electric and Tobacco Companies and Auto Trucks Proposed in Document Forwarded to Representatives in State Senate and Legislature.

Opposing nuisance taxes but favoring a general sales tax on all commodities of not more than one-tenth of one per cent, the Board of Directors of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce passed resolutions at its meeting Tuesday calling upon the State Senate and Legislature to relieve the landowner of the heavy burden of taxation now borne by him. The resolutions were passed after a stormy session of that body, the discussion centering principally upon whether it was fitting and proper for the Chamber of Commerce to take official action in the matter. The vote was five to four for the resolutions. Some directors failed to vote, others voted in opposition on the ground that the subject was not "a Chamber of Commerce matter."

Proponents of the general sales tax held that this tax would fall heaviest on those most able to pay, and was fair and equitable. The resolutions called for additional taxation of the hydro-electric companies operating in the state on the ground that they were using natural resources belonging to the people for profit.

### Tax Tobacco Companies

Another paragraph of the resolutions called for further taxation of the tobacco companies. "These companies ought willingly to share more evenly with the farmers the burdens of taxation," the document reads. Under the terms of the resolutions, passenger and freight carriers using the public roads would come in for heavy taxation, on the basis that they are competing unfairly with the railroads and should come under the same requirements and regulations as do the railroads.

Advertising signs would be taxed and censored under the terms of the demands made upon the Assembly by the Chamber of Commerce. The resolutions call for a board of censorship and control over the road signs, a board comprising men and women who desire to preserve and promote the natural beauty along the highways.

Copies of the resolutions passed at the meeting, which was held at the Southern Pines Country Club on Tuesday noon, are to be sent to the President of the State Senate, the Speaker of the House, Senator M. M. Johnson and Representative U. J. Spence, the latter representing Moore county in the two branches of the General Assembly.

The squabble at the meeting arose over whether the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce should not stick to matters which are purely local in character, rather than entering into affairs of state government and attempting to influence legislation. Those opposing this idea maintained that matters of state taxation vitally affected the residents of Southern Pines and that the matter was therefore one properly before the house.

### The Resolutions

The resolutions adopted were as follows:

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is now in the throes of the greatest financial depression that has visited it in many years; and WHEREAS, the General Assembly in session at Raleigh, N. C., is concerned in reducing the expenditures of our state and county governments and in finding new sources of revenue in order that the overburdened land-owners of the state may be benefitted thereby; and WHEREAS, many proposed measures have been and will be presented to the General Assembly, proposing new sources of revenue for the pur-

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