



A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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FIVE CENTS

## B. B. SAUNDERS TO QUIT ABERDEEN TOBACCO MARKET

Leases Warehouses at Fuquay-  
Varina for the Coming  
Season

### TO DOUBLE FLOOR SPACE

A special despatch to The Pilot from Fuquay-Varina announces the lease of the big Center Brick and Star tobacco warehouse there to B. B. Saunders, of Aberdeen, who had charge of the big local warehouse for several seasons. The despatch says:

Negotiations which have been in progress for several weeks culminated Wednesday, May 13, in plans for a bigger and better tobacco market at Fuquay-Varina for the coming season. B. B. Saunders, one of the best known and most popular warehousemen in the state, has leased the Center Brick and Star warehouses, and his lease calls for an extension to be built on the Center brick house that will double its floor space.

Mr. Saunders has been operating warehouses at Valdosta, Ga., and at Aberdeen, for several years, and last year he had the biggest warehouse on the new Asheville market. He proposes to continue his Georgia and Asheville operations, but has sold his Aberdeen house to come to Fuquay-Varina. His connection with the local market is hailed as a big forward step in its development. W. B. Johnson, dean of this market and long connected with the Center Brick warehouse, will be associated with Mr. Saunders of the Moore County Poultry Association with Mr. Saunders.

Report has been current in Aberdeen for some time that Mr. Saunders would not operate the warehouse which has borne his name here, this coming season. It is understood that it will be operated by men who have been associated with Mr. Saunders in the past, and that an intensive drive for a big local season will be made. More tobacco was sold in Aberdeen last year than in any previous season, and another record is sought this year. Definite announcement of the future management of the local warehouse will be made in The Pilot when pending negotiations have been closed.

## Thursday Class Day at Southern Pines

Dr. Walker of State University  
to Address High School Sen-  
iors on Friday

The program for the Commencement exercises of Southern Pines High School was announced yesterday by Principal W. T. Allen. Class Day exercises will be held in the School Court at 9:30 Thursday, May 28, with the president's address by Carl Thompson, Jr., president of the Senior Class. Others on the program are the Class historian, Clifton Cameron; the giftorian, Ian, Clifton Cameron; the giftorian, Inath Donaldson; the grumbler, Hubert Weatherspoon; the prophet, Gordon Gifford, and testator, Malcolm Grover.

Graduation exercises will be held in the school Auditorium Friday night, May 29th with benediction by the Rev. J. Fred Stimson; Salutatory and Essay, Blanche Elizabeth Sherman; Address, Dr. W. N. Walker, Dean of the School of English, U. N. C.; Valedictory and Essay, William Joseph Woodward; presentation of diplomas, H. Lee Thomas, County Superintendent of Public Instruction; award of D. A. R. Medal for Excellence in American History, by Mrs. J. B. Swett.

Honor students of the class are William Woodward, Blanche Sherman, Clifton Cameron, Evelyn Edson, Rosalind Henderson, Barbara Pierce and Carl Thompson.

### HEAVY RAINFALL

A straight-sided pan placed on a level surface of ground outside his house by Bion H. Butler yesterday morning contained an inch and one-half of water one and one-half hours later. The rainfall Wednesday night and yesterday morning is believed to have been the heaviest in many years here.

## Oldest Hotel in Southern Pines Destroyed by Fire



The Southern Pines Hotel on West Broad Street

## 12 Samarcand Firebugs Go To State's Prison

Judge Schenck Gives Girls Inde-  
terminate Sentences Based on  
Their Good Behavior

### TRIAL HELD AT CARTHAGE

By Mrs. S. R. Smith

"Some of the doctors think you haven't sense enough to know what I'm saying, but I rather think you have," said Judge Michael Schenck in opening his talk to the fourteen Samarcand girls who were before him on Wednesday morning to hear the sentence imposed upon them for their part in burning two dormitories at Samarcand Manor, State institution for delinquent girls in March.

Twelve of the fourteen who had, through their attorneys, pleaded guilty to attempted arson, were sentenced to not less than eighteen months nor more than five years in the State Prison. These were Josephine French, Haw River; Virginia Hayes, Walkertown; Marian Mercer, Ayden; Deloris Seawell, Cove City; Margaret Abernathy, Kinston; Thelma Council, Tarboro; Ollie Harding, Chocowinity City; Bertha Hall, Norfolk, Va.; Chloe Stillwell, Kinston; Estelle Wilson, Lexington; Edna Clark, Halifax, and Pearl Styles, Canton.

Prayer for judgment as to Rosa Mull of Rutherfordton was continued for five years on condition of good behavior. Rosa, who is thirteen and the youngest member of the group, was allowed to go home with her father, who sat beside her as judgment was passed.

Margaret Pridden of Wilmington was given a State Prison sentence of not less than twelve months nor more than three years, suspended for five years on condition of good behavior. Margaret was allowed to return home with her father.

### Undeveloped Mentally

Dr. Harry W. Crane, Professor of Psychology of the University of North Carolina and Director of the division of Mental Health and Hygiene of the State Board of Welfare had testified on Tuesday that he had examined four of the defendants among them being Margaret Pridden who is fifteen years of age, and that he had found her mental development to be that of a child of eight years and ten months.

The case opened on Tuesday morning with the court room in Carthage crowded with the interested and curious, for not in recent years if ever has a trial in Moore county aroused so much interest. The sixteen girls, ranging in age from thirteen to eighteen years, marched into the court room looking much the same as any group of teen age girls, attractively dressed in silk and cotton dresses of various designs. Every one looked to be of reasonable intelligence.

The defendants were indicted on the capital crime of arson and attempt to commit arson. The State immediately took a nol pros with leave as to Mary Bronson of Rocky Mount and Wilma Owens of Waynesville, owing to insufficient evidence. Solicitor Don Phillips stated that he did not feel that society would demand that the State try these young girls for their

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### Drama

All the Elements of Sensational  
Novel or Play Involved  
in Samarcand Trial

It will be a long time before there will be as dramatic trial in the state of North Carolina as that in the Carthage Court House on Tuesday of this week. There were sufficient "features" to the Samarcand case to produce a best seller or pack a theatre, sordid as they were.

Here they are:

1. The crime charged was a capital offence.
2. The defendants were minors.
3. The defendants were pretty girls.
4. Woman was pitted against man as rival counsel.
5. Defendants had set fire to two jails during their incarceration before trial.
6. It was a trial of a State institution, a State system of caring for its delinquent children, as well as of the children themselves.
7. There was the element of suspense. Because of the previous uncontrollable conduct of the defendants there was no telling at what moment one or more of them might produce "a scene."
8. There was the conflict of the protection of the public and the future lives of the children. They deserved State's prison. Would State's prison mean the ruin of these young lives? And if not State's prison, then what?

## Pliny A. Allen Dies At Southern Pines

Father of Mrs. James Swett Had  
Lived Here for Past Thir-  
teen Years

On Friday morning, May 15th, Pliny A. Allen of Southern Pines passed to his rest. He had been seriously ill for only three weeks, but for over eighteen months had been unable to leave his room. In spite of this confinement his good spirit never failed him.

Mr. Allen was born October 29, 1844 at Stockbridge, Vermont. His early manhood was spent in business in Boston. Here he was a member of Columbian Lodge and the Coeur de Lion Commandery, Knights Templar. He married Izah W. Tenney of Norway, Maine in 1872.

For forty-two years he made his home in Mattapoisett, Mass. Here his family and five children were raised to maturity. The past thirteen years Mr. and Mrs. Allen have lived with their daughter, Mrs. James B. Swett of Southern Pines.

He is survived by his wife to whom he had been married nearly sixty years; four children, Francis G. Allen of Fall River, Mass.; the Rev. Pliny A. Allen, Jr., of North Adams, Mass.; Mrs. Carlotta Allen Pray, of Blue Point, L. I.; and Mrs. Swett. Thirteen grandchildren also survive.

The funeral services, conducted by the Rev. F. Craighill Brown, rector of Emanuel Episcopal Church, were held at his home and the interment took place in Mount Hope Cemetery, Southern Pines.

## MAYFIELD PLEADS FOR POULTRY AND EGG MARKET HERE

Sees No Reason Why Industry  
Cannot be Profitably Devel-  
oped in County

### "FARMERS WILL PRODUCE"

R. L. Mayfield of Vass, secretary of the Moore County Poultry Association, gave the second of a series of talks on the poultry prospects of the county before the members of the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen at their weekly meeting, held Wednesday noon in the Civic Club, Southern Pines.

Mr. Mayfield told of a trend back to the south in the purchase by northern markets of live poultry. Of 1,004 cars shipped to one northeastern city during April, 653 were from southern states, with Tennessee leading. North Carolina, though nearest to the market, was away down the list, he said. He stated that \$5,000,000 was spent for poultry products in New York each month, and that North Carolina, and Moore county, should be getting a much greater proportion of this business than it is. Mr. Mayfield also urged the development of a local market.

"The farmers will produce if we can develop a market for their products right here at home," he said. He said the association with which he is connected has 60 members, and told of a contract for 25 cases of eggs a week offered him last week. He also told of much cold storage poultry coming into the Sandhills needlessly, something which a poultry and egg market in the county would eliminate for the good of all concerned. He argued for a standard price in the county, stating that last week eggs sold in Southern Pines for from 16 to 25 cents, while in Vass they were bringing from 15 to 21 cents.

Robert N. Page, Jr., furnished the entertainment at Wednesday's Kiwanis gathering, playing his guitar and singing some amusing songs much to the merriment of the members.

### RALEIGH MAYOR INSPECTS SOUTHERN PINES STREETS

The recently elected Mayor of Raleigh, George Iseley, with two members of the Board of Commissioners, Messrs Page and Williamson, were guests of Mayor D. G. Stutz at Southern Pines last Thursday, having journeyed down from the Capitol City for the purpose of inspecting the town's system of oiled streets.

### MANY GUESTS BOOKED AT HIGHLAND PINES INN

Pursuing successfully its new policy of remaining open later each season, the Highland Pines Inn on Weymouth Heights reports thirty guests and more booked, and Creamer and Turner propose to keep the inn open until June 1st if not longer.

### KILLED AT PINEBLUFF

Luke Ellis, colored, of Cheraw, was found dead near the Pinebluff station of the Seaboard last Saturday morning. He had apparently been struck by a train. Relatives claimed the body on Monday.

## \$200,000 Fire Destroys Southern Pines Hotel, Built 45 Years Ago

### Forgot to Remember

Shields Cameron Ventures Out  
in Old Car With Old Plates  
and Pays \$13.60

Shields Cameron got out the old car the other day, one he hadn't used for quite a spell, and chugged downtown. It happened to be a day when some State Troopers chose to make Southern Pines a stopping place, and Shields had forgotten to remember that it was 1931 now, and that his license plates were 1930 ones. Of course it was tough on Shields, because he happens to be secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and one supposed to set a good example to all good citizens.

Shields's failure to keep up to date on the fore and aft of his ancient vehicle cost him just \$13.60. There was an item of a ten dollar fine, and \$3.60 costs. Martin Ferguson paid the same amount for the same failure to remember. Shields and Martin have nice shiny new license plates now, but Lieut. Early and Patrolman Duncan of the State Patrol have gone elsewhere and Shields and Martin don't care if they never come back to these parts.

### School Board Refuses Resignations of Two

Settles Down To Re-election of  
Superintendent Allen After  
Stormy Period

Efforts to increase the membership of the Southern Pines School Board failing, and the proffered resignations of two members, presumably made to make room for others on the board, being refused by the other members, the board got down to business at its meeting last Saturday night and elected Prof. W. S. Allen, the present incumbent, as superintendent of the Southern Pines schools for next year.

The board refused to consider the resignations of Ralph Chandler and Frank Maples. There had been some agitation in town for amending the town charter to increase the board from five to seven members, to make room for two candidates sponsored by some of the parents. Messrs Chandler and Maples offered themselves as sacrifices to clarify the situation, but the agitation was not considered of sufficient importance to warrant sacrifices of valuable members, and it looks now as if the storm had blown over.

## Hotel Built by Late Frank Page to Show State His Lumber Was O. K.

By Bion H. Butler

The Southern Pines Hotel destroyed Monday night by fire, is the most conspicuous link connecting the early days of the Sandhills with the development to the present hour, for there was commenced the modern in the sandy region. Forty-five years ago North Carolina figured that the governor should have a new house in Raleigh—the Governor's mansion they call what was built. From Wake county had come to Moore county a progressive citizen, Frank Page, with his boys who have given proper account of themselves, and the family set up a lumber industry that made them the leaders in industry over a wide section. Because Frank Page enjoyed the reputation of offering good material when he offered anything he was given the order for the lumber for the "mansion." How it came about that the lumber was pronounced defective is not known to this historian, but such question was raised over its inspection that Frank Page, and you can see the characteristic yet in the family, thought a few thoughts about the whole situation at Raleigh, and he brought his lumber to Southern Pines and built the first part of the Southern Pines Hotel. That he built well and of good

### 4 Departments Wage Fight Against Flames

Aberdeen, Carthage and Pine-  
hurst Aid at Worst Con-  
flagration in Many Years

### THREE FIREMEN HURT

The largest fire this section has seen in many years almost totally destroyed the Southern Pines Hotel, oldest inn in that village, on Monday night. Burning under the roof supports for some minutes before discovery, the alarm was turned in at 7:30 o'clock. Apparatus from Southern Pines, Aberdeen, Pinehurst and Carthage was quickly on the scene (and one of the most thrilling fights against what might easily have proven a much worse conflagration began. Eight streams of water were played on the flames for hours, and the fire kept under such control that at no time did flames mount high into the heavens, though the building was of wood, much of it over 40 years old.

Frank Harrington, proprietor of the Southern Pines Hotel, was sitting on the front porch talking with some of the five guests of the hotel when passersby warned of smoke curling from the roof. With others, he rushed extinguishers to the third and top floor, to find the north wing furiously ablaze. Fire spread so rapidly that the extinguishers served no purpose. The efforts of the staff and others attracted to the scene were concentrated on getting out what furniture, office records and personal effects of guests and employes as could be saved, and the parkway in front of the inn was soon piled high with hotel equipment. Much of the first floor furniture and some of the second floor bedroom furniture was saved.

### Valiant Fight

Meanwhile, the fire fighting equipment of practically all the towns in the Sandhills responded to hurry calls sent out by Dr. George Herr, whose offices are located in the adjoining Mudgett Building. Engines began to pump powerful streams into the flames, which shot out from all parts of the upper floors at once. It was quickly apparent that the building was doomed, but the fire fighters put up a valiant and well directed fight, and kept the flames concentrated to the point of removing the danger of their spreading to nearby buildings.

During this fight, three firemen were injured, Constantine Montesanti being blown off a rear roof, followed

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lumber is shown by the life of the building and the persistence it exhibited in the hands of the fire.

My first recollection of the Southern Pines Hotel goes back not quite forty years ago. But as I can gather from the oldtimers who were here before me it was opened by F. A. Ordway, closely identified with the community for a number of years. Later came Mrs. W. H. Schram, famous all over northern Pennsylvania through her management of the Hyde House, in Ridgway. She was a sister of A. M. Clarke, through whose influence she came to North Carolina, and she enlarged the house. Not long after came her sister, Mrs. Ada Green and her husband, John A. Green, from up in Pennsylvania, to help along in the work, and with the old captain's backing they made a famous outfit. The Greens were a musically inclined family, some of the younger members having won considerable distinction later in Washington and elsewhere in the North. The father, John, knew what to do with a fiddle, and the folks in his home town, who are old enough, can remember with admiration the days when Green, Jim Dailey, who in time

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