

# THE PILOT

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## THE REELECTION OF McLEAN

The selection of J. D. McLean for tax collector for the coming year was a good job by the commissioners, yet one which The Pilot felt confident would be made, and solely because of the fitness of the candidate. It was argued in some quarters that some political antagonism might be created by this choice. But The Pilot asks all people to bear in mind this one thing—that no Democrat in the world can be a better Democrat than the man who in public office does a good job in his work. That is the only political test that should ever be recognized, for it is the only one that will not come out in the wash.

And now that that job is disposed of, the next thing in order is up to the people and the taxpayers. Neither McLean nor the commissioners are to rest on a bed of roses this year. The commissioners are about to meet to prepare the budget for the county. First and foremost is the debt and interest which the county must face or go into bankruptcy. That is the big requirement of our taxes. That item cannot be reduced or set aside except by paying down the debt. Therefore all economies must be made in other directions. From childhood to the grave the human race comes with its hand out and "gimme, gimme, gimme" on its tongue. Give us this and that and all things under the sun, and the request becomes a demand, and the demand comes from individual, society, organization, club, district, and every imaginable combination of individuals. From now until they finish their term the commissioners will be beset by those who arrive in Carthage to ask for any old thing that money can buy, or that can be begged or stolen or coerced. If the people really want an economic administration, which it is to be hoped the commissioners are determined to provide, the people must cut out some of this universal cry of give, must tie up the delegations that go in droves to Carthage, must get out of that "gimme" notion, and pare down their community needs to the bone. We may as well settle down now to pay our debts and get it into our heads that we can't live any longer on borrowed money.

## A PINEHURST REVOLUTION

It is not the custom of The Pilot to take out of the mouths of its advertisers the story they tell in their own department, but the appeal of the Pinehurst Warehouses to plant more grass seed this fall and to join in to make this Sandhills country a joy and a temptation to strangers to sojourn in our community excuses almost anything that is so admirable.

When Pinehurst began its experiments with the creation of grass lawns the most of us simply knew it couldn't be done, because it had not been done. But so wise an old warrior as General Grant once remarked to a man who said it couldn't be done that "can't" is not in the dictionary. And Pinehurst is as obstinate in some things as Grant was. So Pinehurst had to be shown, and when Pinehurst was really satisfied that grass could be grown the experiments which had been persistently followed provided fine swards and green covers in the Sandhills with a marvelous perfection and satisfaction.

That now is a story of yesterday. Pinehurst kept digging into the philosophy of growing grass, and tried out the varieties, and the fertilizer, and the time to sow the seed, and how to care

for the lawns, and a multitude of things, some disappointing, some fairly promising, but a few positive in their reaction, and now the Sandhill villages are among the most attractive between New York and New Orleans, and are known for their fresh and interesting appearance all the year by travelers from Hong Kong to San Francisco and London.

Anybody now can have a fine green lawn and road side. Grass grows now as cheerfully in Moore county as in the meadows of the Blue Grass region of Kentucky or the Valley of Virginia. A little grass seed and a little fertilizer costs but little money, and the returns are so great in the general improvement of the home and surroundings that every citizen should do his bit in covering the sandy soil with the cheering winter green that is so easily obtainable. It is pretty nearly time to prepare for winter seeding. Beyond a doubt more grass seed will be planted this year than ever, for the realization of what can be done with a little grass seed has become so common few people will let the winter go by without creating a sod around the home and vicinity.

## A PITIFUL TRAVESTY

When the United States government undertook to relieve the cotton situation by buying a lot of cotton to hold off the market and thereby induced the farmers to plant a larger crop they played the kind of a joke on the farmer that awakens pity rather than laughter. Experienced business men knew very well what the only outcome of such a procedure could be. The crop taken off the market could do nothing but hang above the head of the farmer until some real buyer took it again from the government, and now when Germany has suggested taking a big share of government cotton a certain quarter puts up a cry against allowing Germany to have that particular cotton on the plea that it will prevent Germany from buying cotton of this year's crop. But that is not the case, and if it were it makes no difference, as long as that cotton remains in government custody it is a threat against any advance in price, or any purchase of cotton beyond daily requirements.

The candid fact, cold as it may seem, is that until the government cotton is disposed of and actually out of the way, it is a persistent threat toward the market, and nobody who wants cotton will take the risk of paying a high price knowing that until that government cotton is disposed of it may come into the market to knock the bottom out from under any goods made of low priced cotton, whether it come from government or where. The farmer has been high-jacked with political delusion, and he has the penalty to pay. He has been led to plant more cotton than the world will take, and nobody knows what cotton prices are to be. But it is a positive guess that until the government cotton is taken from the threatening position it occupies it will be a sword on the neck of American business, for whatever hurts the whole cotton-growing population is vital in the welfare of the whole nation. We cannot get around the effects of this blind piece of folly. That government cotton hangs over American industry, and it will stay there until we as a people have had time to learn our lesson that we can't beat the natural laws of trade by selling to ourselves a lot of stuff we do not want and thinking we have disposed of it to advantage when we have not sold it at all.

## THE USELESS MEANNESS OF POLITICS

We are heading toward another political campaign, and one of the most serious that has confronted this state and nation in a long time, for it involves the industrial and financial condition of the whole people. But we approach the preliminaries in that same old habit of meanness and of useless antagonism and hateful criticism without regard for whether it has anything to do with the case or not. Wholly overlooking the needs of the country, the value of possible movements that might be worth while, or the logic that applies at any point or at any time, we devote most of our energy to opposing everything and discrediting everything the man does

who is not of our way of thinking, which means chiefly not of our political affiliation. No other industry than government could stand so much bigoted jealousy, so much effort to discredit the man who is trying to handle the job, so much ingenuity in belittling any good thing the political opponent accomplishes. The only reason we do not as a nation kill ourselves with our constant and foolish yammer and quarrel with each other politically is the vast resources of everything behind us and our flexible habit of adjusting ourselves to inefficient methods and to be satisfied with results that would be condemned in anything but public administration.

As the foremost nation of the world in material achievement we tolerate so much that is inefficient and inexcusable that we muddle through. But we might do so much better if we used a little intelligent judgment in our political plans and the administration of them, and if we had some more commendable ambition than merely to capture the fleshpots and sit down to devote the soiled and smelly loot that is won in the campaign. It is a curious light on the character of our nation that we attribute the principal stimulus of government to graft, and classify all our business men as crooks, our public officials as incompetents and our standard of morals in public life as the standard of highwaymen, purse-snatchers and gutter thieves. It is only necessary to read the papers or to listen to the chatter on the corners to see what a gang of disreputables runs every government in the United States and minor divisions, and how incompetent and thoroughly crooked and dishonest they all are. What an exhibit we make of ourselves by the reputation we give our officials!

## THE FAIR AT CARTHAGE

The fair under the encouragement of the Moore county members of the American Le-

gion was so successful last fall that the people of the county have every reason to lend a hand in the work of duplicating and enlarging on the proposition that is offered for the fall ahead. A lot of new ideas, helpful and entertaining, were presented last fall, showing the conception of a fair as held by the men who lay down the governing idea of the project, evidence that the management could see far enough ahead to arrange for something worth while.

An outline of the coming event will be made public one of these days, and when the projectors begin to call for backers to put the fair over they deserve energetic encouragement. Some little complaint was offered last fall as to some minor features that crept in unexpectedly, but they were speedily suppressed, and it is not believed that anybody will attempt this fall to string the management again. The whole effort of the movement last fall was of the same high ambition that made the Sandhills Fair at Pinehurst an outstanding example of clean entertainment and instruction, and with the character of the men who are carrying on the affair at Carthage it is easy to figure that the meetings will be the kind you can recommend to anybody.

Good climate conditions have enabled the farmer to produce some things worth showing this fall. A broadening horizon in agricultural experience is likely to call out some new features and some new ideas. The fair brings folks together and broadens acquaintance between the various sections of the county. It is time now to plan for the things that are to be taken to the fair and for the holiday that it will afford. A county thing of this sort is of great benefit in many ways, and with the momentum it gained last fall the presumption is that its gait this year will be enough to put the fair on a sound permanent footing. Lend a hand in helping it along.

## GRAINS OF SAND

Dan McKeithen says we must have been pretty hard up last week to put the story about his telling the Kiwanians it was the first Sunday of the month on a Wednesday noon on the first page, but Dan should take into consideration that when a bank cashier makes a mistake, that's news.

The peach season is about over—except at the seashore.

That's a big improvement Brother Patch has made in the department store. Removing the stairs appears to increase the floor space 100 per cent, and does increase it enough to provide several more counters for the display of goods.

Business has picked up since the folks got paid off for peach picking and packing.

Cy Butler, down from Kingsport, Tenn., to visit his dad, the sage of Valhalla, says the rayon business up there is booming. They are also taking on more hands at Hemp, we hear. We haven't worn any yet that we know of, but this rayon must be pretty good stuff.

It's only ten weeks before the Carolina at Pinehurst opens. Tempus aviates.

The annual convention of the Carolinas district, Kiwanis International, opens the Carolina season this year, the last of October. The local Kiwanians will entertain the clubs of both Carolinas for three days.

We were driving in from the country Sunday evening and as we were passing the Leslie farm, we saw a small boy, perspiration standing out on his face as he hurried toward town. We stopped and picked him up. "My! you're hot!" we said to him. "Why have you been running?" another asked. "I was afraid I would be late for B. Y. P. U.," he replied. He was then about a mile from the church and had already come a mile or more.

"She has to have her money for her church envelope, whatever else happens," said a lady the other day in speaking about her eleven-year-old daughter.

We know of a Vass youngster, five years old, who was very much hurt when his older sister was given envelopes for her church offering and he did not receive any. So much sand did he raise that his dad appealed to the

chairs like mine he's de Moo' county hospital to play to crowded house. Spouse A'hd be in heah if ah had been ridin' in one o' dem sixteen cylinder cabs lak Judge Way's dat has to go out inter de bay to turn roun'?"

And the old darkey smiled from behind the bandages and stretched out in the bed in a joyous sense of triumph.

Must be those Samarcan girls have learned their lesson. The Raleigh prison is still standing.

## MOTHER OF TOM VANN DIES IN FAYETTEVILLE

Mrs. Mattie C. Vann, widow of Major John C. Vann and mother of Tom C. Vann of Southern Pines, died in Fayetteville Tuesday, August 4th. Death occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. S. M. Beasley, where funeral services were held on Thursday. Eight children and three step-children survive.

## \$125,000 APPROPRIATED FOR ROCKINGHAM P. O.

The appropriation for the new postoffice building at Rockingham is \$125,000, of which \$18,000 is to be paid for the site at the corner of Franklin and Hancock streets. Rockingham is going to try to get this appropriation increased when Congress convenes.

A new postoffice for Southern Pines is on the approved list for early building. Should the owners of the Southern Pines Hotel, recently destroyed by fire, decide not to rebuild, considerable sentiment is expected to



PUNCTUALITY  
 PROMPTNESS  
 PRECISION

develop for that site for the federal structure. Some talk has also been heard of endeavoring to procure the Federal Court to be housed in the new Southern Pines building.

## Go Away and FORGET IT!



Put the Roast in the oven turn the fire very low, and your time is your own

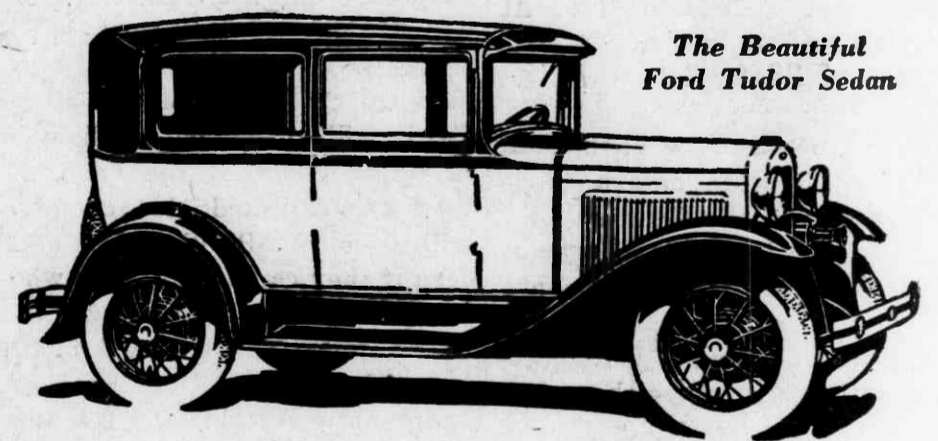
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