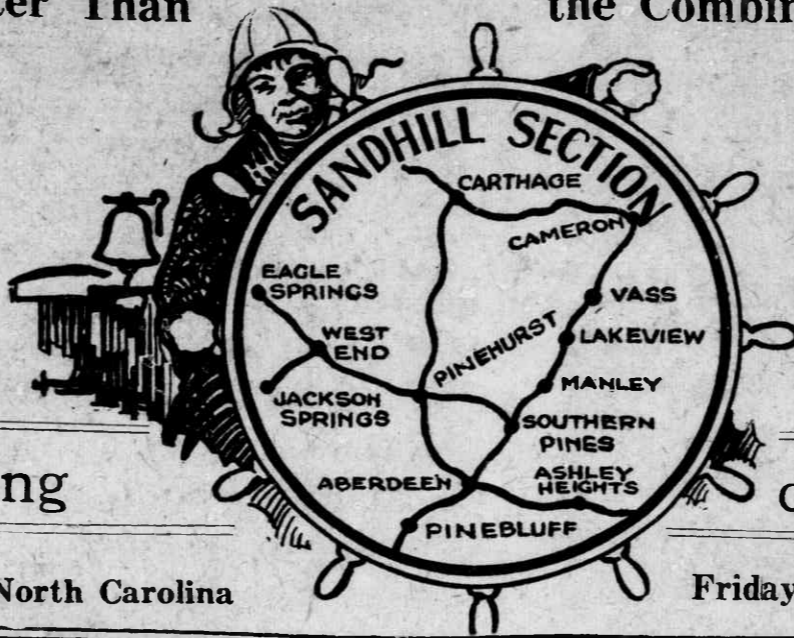


MOORE COUNTY'S
LEADING NEWS-
WEEKLY

THE



PILOT

SELL YOUR
TOBACCO ON THE
ABERDEEN MARKET

A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

VOL. II, NO. 41.

Aberdeen, North Carolina

Friday, September 11, 1931.

FIVE CENTS

Receiver for Seaboard Looks for Season Here as Good as Last Year

L. R. Powell, Jr., Thinks Business Gradually Getting on Better Footing

SCORES BUS COMPETITION

"Business with the Seaboard appears to be growing more stable, but no indications of pronounced immediate revival are noticed," said L. R. Powell, Jr., one of the receivers of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, who was in Southern Pines with the golfers in their week-end tournament. "The prospect in the Sandhills section looks good as far as we can tell, with promise that it will equal last year. Down the road conditions are better, as Florida has a good citrus crop along with other favorable conditions. The road is practicing the closest economies allowed by good roadbuilding, and getting good results. The tendency is steadily toward more efficiency in roadbuilding, but it is not to be denied that the competition of automobiles, and trucks on the highway is cutting into the railroad revenues."

When questioned as to the probable outcome of the truck and bus competition Mr. Powell said he thought that before long such competition would have to be brought under the jurisdiction of the laws and for several reasons. The wear on State-built highways, but for the use and comfort of the taxpayers whose money built them, will in due season require repairs and ultimately restoration after long heavy traffic has been wearing them down, and where the money to rebuild is to come from will be a problem, as most of the cost of building roads as they are now is yet to be paid. That the taxpayer will look with favor on further taxation to provide roads to carry heavy and continued traffic on a commercial basis may be doubtful, a willingness to a further drastic and even if the taxpayer should evince burden of taxes it is a question whether the increased taxes necessary to

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D. C. Thomas Dies at Home Near Aberdeen

Affectionately Known as "Uncle Dock." He Had Resided Here About 30 Years

D. C. Thomas, aged 61, died at his home near Aberdeen last Sunday afternoon, September 6th, at about 2 o'clock, the end coming peacefully after a lingering illness of heart trouble and complications.

Mr. Thomas was affectionately known to his many friends in Aberdeen as "Uncle Dock," and was a man greatly loved by all who knew him. He was a consistent member of the Aberdeen Methodist Church, of sturdy Christian character and devoted to his family.

Mr. Thomas came to Aberdeen from Sanford about thirty years ago, and was master mechanic at the Aberdeen Sash & Blind Company until it was burned in 1910, after which he established a furniture and wood shop on the present site of the Franklin Sales Company. When his health began to decline he moved to his farm near Aberdeen, where he was residing at the time of his death.

The funeral services were conducted at his home on Monday afternoon by the Rev. E. L. Barber pastor of the Aberdeen Presbyterian Church, who officiated in the absence of the Rev. W. C. Ball, the Methodist minister, away on his vacation. The remains were carried to Shallow Well Church near Jonesboro for interment, followed by a long procession of loving friends and relatives who remain to mourn his loss.

Mr. Thomas is survived by his widow, Mrs. Margaret Thomas; two daughters, Mrs. Dwight Troutman and Miss Mary Thomas, and five sons, Glen, Watson, Junior and Robert, all of Aberdeen, and Worth Thomas of Oregon.

The Cost of Smoking

Interesting Facts and Figures Gleaned from Internal Revenue Reports

The following figures from reports of the United States Commissioner of Internal Revenue are of interest:

In 1930, 6,730,660,719 cigars were made and consumed.

Cigarettes made and consumed last year totalled 119,944,475,002.

Smoking and chewing tobacco consumed last year totalled 333,845,754 pounds.

The total tax received by the government on cigars, cigarettes and tobacco in 1930 was \$450,339,000.

North Carolina grew 508,060,000 pounds of tobacco in 1929; Kentucky was second among the states with 361,845,000 pounds, Virginia third with 118,320,000 pounds.

The North Carolina leaf crop in 1929 was valued at \$93,991,000, produced on 764,000 acres.

North Carolina has 14 tobacco factories with 14,081 employees earning \$11,582,745 and an output valued at \$392,050,130 (1927 figures).

Because of the tobacco taxes, North Carolina ranks second to New York in total taxes paid annually into the federal treasury.

BANK OF VASS CLOSES DOORS TEMPORARILY

Directors Vote Closing for Protection of Depositors.—Resources Total \$174,735

BLAME LOW CROP PRICES

The Bank of Vass has been temporarily closed by order of its Board of Directors, a notice appearing on the door yesterday morning informing depositors that it was closing for the protection of depositors.

In its statement of June 30th, 1931, the Bank of Vass showed total resources of \$174,735.40. Its loans and discounts totalled \$148,937. Cash in vault and amount due from approved depository banks was given as \$17,697.67. Deposits subject to check totalled \$64,157.12, and savings deposits \$66,233.75. The statement showed \$5,000 of bills payable. The capital account showed \$20,000 capital stock paid in, a surplus fund of \$7,500 and undivided profits of \$1,602.61.

The officers of the bank are the following: J. A. Keith, president; W. D. Smith, vice president; D. A. McLaughlin, cashier and Jesse H. Gardner, assistant cashier. Directors, in addition to the above, are P. L. Gardner and A. D. McLaughlin.

Statement by Cashier

D. A. McLaughlin, cashier of the Bank of Vass, said yesterday that the movement was one to protect the depositors, as the closing by the directors was ordered before any condition arose that made it necessary for the state to take any drastic action. The statement shows the bank to be financially solid. The only difficulty was that the payment of loans has been slow, which coupled with the small returns on peaches, dewberries, melons, etc., from which the people had planned to pay their loans, made it necessary for withdrawals from deposits, and especially from savings accounts, and the usual sources from which the bank drew temporary funds at this season could not supply the money without demanding such volume of securities as to be a doubtful measure. So the directors determined to close the bank temporarily until funds begin to come in from cotton and tobacco, when it is hoped that loans outstanding will be paid and the bank's fluid assets will

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TAX RATE FIXED AT 73 CENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Budget Adopted by County Board Based on a Valuation of \$26,000,000

RATE LAST YEAR \$1.05

The budget for Moore county adopted by the County Commissioners at their meetings on Monday and Wednesday indicates a tax rate of 73 cents this year on a valuation of about \$26,000,000. This compares with \$1.05 last year, which with the lessened valuation, will materially reduce the amount called for from each taxpayer. These figures do not include the levy in the special districts which will be as before, except that the lessened valuations will make the total of the special tax somewhat smaller.

The total amounts indicated for the various purposes are as follows, the first figure being the fund awarded by the budget for the purpose named, the second the tax levy to raise the money, and the third the rate on the \$100 valuation. The total for schools is seen to be 28 cents on the hundred, for roads 14 cents and for general county purposes 31, making the total of 73 cents.

Schools	
Current Expse	\$40,780 \$40,780 .16
Cap't'l. Outlay	16,381 16,381 .07
Debt Service	11,221 11,221 .05
County	
General	\$48,100 \$34,375 .15
Poor	13,100 12,100 .06
Health	5,000 5,000 .022
Fund'g. Bonds	5,000 5,000 .02
Ct. Hse. Bonds	34,500 14,500 .06
Highway	
Debt Service	\$34,182 \$32,582 .14

Masonic Past Masters Honor J. McN. Johnson

All Surviving Past Masters of Roman Eagle Lodge Attend Memorial Service

Past masters of Roman Eagle Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Aberdeen held a memorial service in honor of the late Past Master J. MacNeill Johnson of Aberdeen at Masonic Hall here last Thursday evening. The Rev. E. L. Barber of Aberdeen presented the resolutions on the death of Mr. Johnson, and James A. Lineberry gave the response.

All ten of the surviving past masters of Roman Eagle lodge were in attendance, David Knight, M. H. Foley, E. J. Bethune, W. J. Butler, J. L. Rhyne, G. A. Charles, D. I. McKeithen, J. A. Lineberry, John G. Sloan and C. M. Wilson. The last three were presented their past master aprons by Past Master F. M. Pinnix, editor of the "Orphans' Friend," the Masonic publication.

All officers were filled by past masters of Roman Eagle Lodge, and a number of visiting past masters and members were present. The grand jurisdictions of New York, Maine and Florida were also represented at the meeting. Past Master C. K. Proctor, superintendent of the Oxford Orphanage, was the principal speaker. G. A. Charles of Aberdeen had the program in charge.

Ralph Hendren, Eagle Springs Boy, Drowns

Falls from Boat While Fishing with Party from Sandhills at Minnesott

Ralph Hendren, young son of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Hendren of the Eagle Springs section was drowned while fishing at Minnesott Beach on the Neuse River Wednesday evening of this week. Up to the time The Pilot went to press the body had not been reported as found.

Young Hendren was one of a party of boys from this section which went on a camping and fishing trip to Minnesott early this week. Billy Bowman of Aberdeen was in the party. The boys were out fishing Wednesday night, and in some manner Hendren fell overboard from the boat. Because of the darkness efforts to save him were in vain.

Aberdeen Tobacco Market as Sept. 22; Bright Prospect for Record-Breaking Season

The Story of Tobacco

Production, Marketing, Taxation and Consumption of Crop Run into Billions of Dollars Annually.—North Carolina Leads World in Growth of Leaf

By Bion H. Butler

With the tobacco market opening in Aberdeen in a few days it may be of interest to those who have to do with tobacco to know something about the figures of production, consumption and marketing. Tobacco is a crop of world-wide production and use. It is the most generally used sedative known to mankind, and of wider general use than any other habit forming drug. The world's crop of tobacco planted in a strip across the United States, would cover a belt from Norfolk to San Francisco three miles wide, and give a harvest of 100,000 car loads of 25 tons to the car. That is what the tobacco farmer has to deal with.

Tobacco is grown commercially in every quarter of the world, not less than 50 countries raising it on a large scale. While North Carolina raises more tobacco than any other section of the globe, at home or abroad, the acreage of this state and its production compared with that of all the world, is small, about a tenth of the acreage and a similar proportion of the production. North Carolina is the great producer of bright leaf tobacco. It grows a fair share of the cigarette tobacco, but Kentucky and Tennessee are also great cigarette tobacco producers, and North Carolina has the keenest competition in the cigarette field as well as the competition of all the rest of the world in other fields for which our tobacco is suitable.

The cigarette trade by no means depends on North Carolina bright tobacco, as not much more than a third of our crop goes to the cigarette factories. The export trade of North Carolina is enormous, and that means our leaf is in direct competition with the leaf of the whole world. And that is what makes the price of North Carolina tobacco. Much complaint is heard about the prevailing prices of tobacco, but if we go back through a period of forty years it will be seen that tobacco at the present is selling for more than an average price.

In 1890 the average price of the

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COUNTY WILL NOT TAKE OVER SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Aberdeen Alone Votes For Proposal To Surrender Educational Control

LOOK AFTER OWN DEBTS

The county school situation has settled itself by staying where it was. Last week the school board prepared a proposition to the county commissioners providing that if the separate districts wanted to surrender their separate authority to the county the county commissioners would accept the districts as factors of the county unit, to be cared for by the county in all ways. The school board's resolution read as follows:

"Be it resolved the debt service requirements of all school districts of Moore county be taken over by the county Board of Education and included in the county school budget for 1931-32 under the provisions of section 179 of the Public School Code of N. C., provided a majority of the special charter districts of Moore county shall petition the Board of Education to take over and assume said debt service, provided further that the Board of County Commissioners of Moore county shall approve the action of taking over said debt service.

In view of the fact that only Aberdeen endorsed the proposal, the Board of Education submitted the school budget for 1931-32 in the usual form.

Lively Session

So it appears that the districts are isolated as they have been, taking care of their own special debts, paying their special taxes, and that the portion of the county that never formed special districts has no occasion to think about the debts the other districts owe. It was a right lively period while the question was under discussion, but until something else is brought up quiet will reign again.

Incidentally it is remarked by some of the observers that transportation and the care of children in the special tax districts coming from districts that have made no preparation for their children in their own districts will afford further subjects for talking later on, as will the possible need of more new school houses in the county.

Miss Natalie Wheeler left for Boston Tuesday night where she will enter Simmons College.

COUNTY TAX SALE POSTPONED MONTH BY COMMISSIONERS

Advertising To Begin October 1st—\$11,000 Tax Anticipation Notes Authorized

ROAD CHANGES ASKED

The time for the sale of land for 1930 taxes by Moore county was postponed for one month by the Board of County Commissioners at the regular monthly meeting on Monday. According to the new order, the advertising will begin the first week in October and the sale will be held on the first Monday in November.

Applications for license for a pool room and a bowling alley in Hemp were rejected by the commissioners.

It was unanimously carried and ordered that the board make application to the local advisory committee to authorize the issuing of two notes of the county for \$11,000 in anticipation of taxes, dated September 25, 1931, one for \$5,000 payable in four months and one for \$6,000 payable in six months, and W. H. Currie, chairman of the board, was authorized to execute said notes aggregating \$11,000 in the name of the county.

It was ordered that the Board of Commissioners recommend to the State Highway District Engineer that the road between Lake Dunlop and the new road to Fort Bragg, a distance of a little over a mile, the Vick road from near W. L. Blackman's to the Old Deep River Road and the new road built by the county from Lakeview to the Seals Road be taken over by the State and placed upon the map for upkeep by the State Highway Commissioners.

Mrs. Lizzie Allred, Sheffield township, was allowed \$15 per month for September, October, November and December; Riley Funderburk, McNeill township, was allowed \$10 per month for support; Mrs. Dewitt Short, \$15 per month until further notice; and Mrs. Elizabeth Lee, Steeds route 1, was allowed \$5.00 for supplies.

C. E. Pleasants, Frank Shamburg and T. B. Creel were appointed as appraisers to investigate the damage done by dogs in killing chickens owned by J. V. Free of Aberdeen, and Walter McCaskill, Thaddeus Blue and Charlie Deaton are to report the amount of damage as a result of the killing by dogs of nineteen young turkeys, a gopher and a hen, property of Mrs. Ida Blue.

TWO WAREHOUSES PREPARE FOR BIG SANDHILLS CROP

All Leading Companies To Be Represented Throughout Season Here

8,000,000 POUNDS GOAL

With a stimulus seldom before given it, and with bright prospects for the biggest year in its history, the Aberdeen tobacco market will open on Tuesday, September 22d. Both large warehouses here will be in operation, and all the first line companies represented on the floor.

Two large and enthusiastic meetings of business men and citizens of Aberdeen have launched this year's market in a most enthusiastic manner. Through funds raised by popular subscription the benefits of the Aberdeen market to the tobacco grower of this section are to be advertised as never before in the 12 years history of tobacco dealing here. No stone will be left unturned to attract the grower of bright leaf to the floors of the local warehouses.

Aberdeen has been steadily growing as a tobacco center since it had a warehouse opened in 1919. In one or two exceptions the price paid for tobacco on the floors has advanced each year without exception the prices paid for leaf here have exceeded the average in North Carolina. With but one exception sales have increased each year. Sales last year totalled 5,291,000 pounds. Those close to local conditions predict a total of close to 8,000,000 pounds this season. Tobacco is both plentiful and high grade throughout this section.

Since last season the larger of the two local warehouses has changed hands, B. B. Maurer and Dr. A. H. McLeod purchasing the interest of B. B. Saunders in the former Saunders Warehouse, now called the Sandhill Tobacco Warehouse. Mr. Maurer has been affiliated with this warehouse since 1923, is well known to and popular with tobacco growers throughout this section. His personal popularity and knowledge of the tobacco business are expected to attract a record business this season to his floor.

Edwards, Williams and Lewis, leading warehousemen of Dillon, S. C., will again operate the Aberdeen Warehouse. The business of this warehouse has steadily grown since these men, among the best known of the extensive tobacco territory around Dillon, came here three years ago, and they are entrenching themselves in this section as firmly as they have in their home bailiwick. Neill McKeithen, their local representative, predicts a big season for this warehouse and for the Aberdeen market.

Familiar Faces

Eugene B. Maynard will be the auctioneer at the Sandhills Warehouse. All the leading tobacco companies will be represented on the floors of both local warehouses by men who have become tobacco season fixtures in Aberdeen. "Judge" Avery will again look after the buying for the Export Tobacco Company, M. A. Landis for the Imperial, W. A. Reed for the American Tobacco people and N. R. Stovall for Reynolds. The Liggett company has not yet announced who will be sent here to represent them. L. I. Bass will do the buying for a group of independents, as will Will Ellington and a number of others familiar to residents of Aberdeen.

Aberdeen business men and residents plan a cordial reception for the visiting farmers this season. A number of entertainments are to be arranged, and a sincere effort made to get acquainted with the tobacco growers of this section, both for better fellowship and to better acquaint the growers with Aberdeen and the Sandhills.