

THE PILOT

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THE PASSING OF MURDOCK McLEOD

Coronach sounded the death of a Scottish chieftain. A funeral dirge over in Nashville, Tenn., told of the untimely passing of a noble warrior, the Rev. Murdock MacLeod. When the message struck the Sandhills it fell as a blow on a large part of the population as probably no man in the town of Southern Pines or Pinehurst was more universally liked and respected than the former preacher of the Pinehurst Community Church.

To understand something of the characteristics of the man, a glimpse into his ancestry throws more light on the subject than anything else. Down in the old Long Street churchyard a burial spot marks one of his forebears with an inscription—"Here lies MacLeod of far Dunvegan." Murdock MacLeod, like his Highland ancestors, traveled a long way from Dunvegan. The country boy from Quewhiffle township accepted the ordinary run of the mine talents the Creator generally endows human beings with, and there developed them until he became one of the big men of his chosen profession. From a smaller church he one day arrived at Pinehurst. And then came the time when a call to Nashville was all but a command. His departure from the Sandhills occasioned the following editorial in The Pilot eight years ago:

"The world has always been looking for the big men and calling them when they arrive. It was to be expected that Murdock MacLeod of the Pinehurst Presbyterian church would be catching the eye of bigger pulpits, and whether he goes or whether he stays a while longer, it might as well be accepted as a fact that somebody with a longer fishing pole is going to cast a line in this direction with success.

"His fellow worker, Dr. Cheatham of the Pinehurst Chapel told the plain truth when he said of MacLeod: 'I hate to see a man like that get away, but I like to see him develop into the class that the world insists on putting into broader fields, and I am glad that his ability is recognized. We have been congenial workers in Pinehurst and his departure will be a loss that I will regret if he goes, but that I will have to applaud for the two reasons that he will have the chance to more fully occupy his talents and to further expand his powers and his influence.'"

So The Pilot bid farewell in its final paragraph:

"If Mr. MacLeod stays here the Lord is good to this quarter of the footstool. If he goes hence the benediction that follows him will implore that success attend his footsteps, and everybody who knows him is confident of its realization."

The prophetic glance of The Pilot proved it was right in its forward claim, as it made no mistake in judging the calibre of the man. Success did attend his footsteps. In Nashville he accomplished pretty nearly the impossible when he undertook the difficult task of transplanting an old church from the heart of the city to the residential section of the town. Wedged tight in the center of the business area the moving job wasn't a simple one by any means. Cutting a long tap root and many important feed roots that grew out from an old established church was a serious problem to reckon over. Murdock MacLeod was big enough to handle the job and made a magnificent success of it.

In his departure from the Sandhills a number of years ago, The Pilot offered a half dozen paragraphs in lament

THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

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IT WOULD COST \$20 FOR EACH MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD ON EARTH TO PAY OFF OUR PRESENT FEDERAL DEBT.

JOB AND INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

AMERICAN STEEL COMPANIES PLAN TO SPEND NEARLY \$150,000,000 FOR NEW EQUIPMENT THIS YEAR.

THE CONDUCT OF ARKANSAS HAS BEEN DECIDED BY A RESOLUTION OF THAT STATE'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN 1931—THEY RESOLVED THAT 'ARE YOU SURE YOU ARE RIGHT?—ARE YOU SURE YOU ARE RIGHT?—ARE YOU SURE YOU ARE RIGHT?—ARE YOU SURE YOU ARE RIGHT?—'

225,000,000 ACRES OF FARMLAND—A 7 1/2 ACRE PATCH FOR EACH U.S. FAMILY—ARE NEEDED TO SUPPLY AMERICA'S CEREAL INDUSTRIES—

while at the same time it acknowledged in sincere appreciation his worth to the outside world. The Nashville newspaper at his death published an extra edition of the paper, a newspaper's great mark of recognition of a big man.

While he died in his most useful years, that period succeeding youth and preceding old age, far from sight of the Biblical three score years and ten, Dr. MacLeod attained greater achievements than many others, granted a much longer span of life for surely as he expanded his powers and his influences, the Quewhiffle boy traveled a long way from Dunvegan.

—H. K. B.

U. S. AID FOR THE ALLIES

"There is no reason for repealing the Johnson Act at the present time," writes Senator Bailey in reply to a telegram sent him by a group of residents of Southern Pines, and he quotes from an editorial in the New York Times:

The Allied nations now have in this country some thirteen billion dollars in the form of gold reserves and investments—a fund sufficient to finance even an enormously increased program of war-buying for a very considerable period. The question of waiving the existing restrictions on their borrowing in this country (the Johnson Act) is not of immediate interest from the point of view of any one concerned.

"The New York Times," continues the Senator, is probably the strongest pro-ally newspaper in America and I am sure there is no paper that is better informed.

"What the Allies need is munitions and ships in which to carry them across the Atlantic. Unfortunately, this country is not in position to supply this demand because the people have pursued the policy of peace and have discouraged the building of plants for the purpose of manufacturing munitions. This policy was supported by vast numbers of our people as they took the view that the manufacturers of munitions were 'warmongers and merchants of death.' Now, unhappily, we realize our situation, and we are appropriating enormous amounts for the purpose of expanding plants here with a view to providing the essentials of our own defense."

And Congressman Burgin writes:

"I agree with you that we should furnish the Allies with war materials to the limit. We are doing this as fast as we can manufacture these implements."

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Grains of Sand

In Flanders fields
The poppies grow
No longer.

A poison weed
Has come along
That's stronger.

A Pilot's correspondent suggests that instead of granting the President power to call out the militia, Congress authorize him to call out the W. P. A.—for war duty.

CHIEF, DO YOUR DUTY!

Editor, The Pilot:
Regarding warning of Chief of Police, we saw the following exceeding the speed limits on streets of Southern Pines during the past week:

- One City Commissioner.
- One County Judge.
- One Newspaper Editor.

The first should know better because he enacts the speed ordinances.

The second should know better because he sends men to jail for speeding.

The third should know better because he preaches safety on streets and highways.

—SAFETY SAM.

Five residents of Southern Pines are included in the new 1940 edition of "Who's Who in America." The Pilot has no copy of the book available at the moment, but assumes that the five listed are James Boyd, Struthers Burt, Katharine Newlin Burt, Ruth Burr Sanborn and John F. Stevens, all writers except Mr. Stevens, chief engineer of the Panama Canal during its construction.

Durham led the state's Who's Who representation with 82, mostly connected with Duke University. Chapel Hill has 62, Raleigh 60, Charlotte 43, Asheville 37, Greensboro 34 and Winston-Salem 28.

Three-year-old Donald Brewer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Brewer, of Vass had just returned from his first call on George Mason, Jr., who was only a few hours old.

"What was the baby doing?" a member of the family inquired of Donald.

"Nothing but drinking a bottle of water and listening to the radio," the youngster responded.

A New York or Pittsburgh newsboy is often as entertaining as the wares he sells. Southern Pines newsboys are not without interest. Scareheads across a Raleigh evening paper recently, were interpreted and broadcast enthusiastically as "The Italy's are going to war! And the Turkeys are going with England!" He sold his papers.

More than 1,000 letters a week, asking vacation booklets and other information of North Carolina, came from persons in every state and 18 foreign countries, it was reported by the Governor's Hospitality committee of the Department of Conservation and Development. The May total was 4,298, compared with 3,476 in April.

THIS BUSINESS OF Living

BY SUSAN THAYER



We live in the greatest country in the world, Everybody says so! People who live in other countries as well as all thoughtful Americans. But did you ever stop to think why the United States is recognized everywhere as such a great nation?

We haven't the most land by a good deal. Soviet Russia has more than two times as much land as we have. Brazil and Canada are both larger. We haven't the largest population. Russia tops us by millions. So do China and India. We aren't independent of other countries because we don't grow or mine all the things we need for our every-day living. We have to depend on other countries for some of our necessities, even; coffee for instance. We use more than half the world's supply of coffee and we don't grow a single pound! Then think of all the automobiles that are rolling over the roads in America. It takes quantities of rubber to make tires for these millions of cars and we don't produce any ourselves. We use three quarters of the world's supply of raw silk yet we haven't a silk worm to our name. We also use more sugar, more hides,

more nickel and many other things than we produce.

So it seems that it isn't our size, nor our population, nor our natural resources that make us great. Then what is it that has made us so important and rich and powerful in a comparatively short space of time? The answer seems to be that it's our old American way of organizing and working. From the time this country was first settled, way back in the sixteen hundreds, more men and women have had the chance to work at the things they wanted to, than in any other country in the world. You know how much easier it is for you to get through a big morning's work when it's something you want to do and that seems to you worth doing. Well, that's what's happened all over America.

Because this was a new country with a government "of the people and by the people" thousands and thousands of men could farm or run stores or build factories for turning out things that people need if those were the things they wanted to do. No king or government hindered them by saying "No you can't do

that" or "You must do it this way." Nobody helped them, either, by saying "It's better to do it this way." So they made some mistakes just as you do when you bake a new kind of cake for the first time. But they learned by their mistakes and often found better ways of doing things than anybody had ever thought of before.

Because of this kind of independence our ancestors went ahead and built up this country faster than any one dreamed would be possible. We're still a little surprised at it ourselves! Because, we do know that today we have more things to eat . . . more clothes to wear . . . more money to spend . . . more electricity to work for us than the people in any other country on earth?

This doesn't mean that there aren't certain individuals in other countries with more food, clothes and money than certain individuals here. But the total amount of clothes, food, money and power in the United States is larger, for the number of people among whom they have to be divided, than in any other country. It looks as if our way of doing things, which business men call a "system of free private enterprise" must be pretty good! A better way than they have in countries where one big man controls the activities of everybody. And doesn't it seem as if it would be a mighty good idea for us to hang on to this American way of doing things?

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