

A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS
TO ALL

THE PILOT

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24 PAGES THIS WEEK

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TEN CENTS

Complaints Against Moore Central R. R. Result In Temporary Receivership

Sharp Fears Action Will Prevent Coming Of Big Industry

Coming as a climax to the stories concerning the difficulties of the Moore Central Railroad, owned by Van B. Sharpe of Carthage, which were carried by the Pilot last year, comes the following account, from the Moore County News of Dec. 19th of the temporary receivership granted the railroad last week by Judge Clawson L. Williams.

Judge Williams of the superior court, Hillsboro, ordered the railroad company and Van B. Sharpe and Mrs. Louise R. Sharpe to appear before Judge W. G. Pittman at Rockingham at 11 a. m. December 30 to show cause why receivership shall not be made permanent.

Papers in the action were filed by "Charles T. Sinclair, Sr., and Charles T. Sinclair, Jr., co-partners trading and doing business under the firm name of Carthage Furniture Co., M. M. Way, Mack's 5-10-25 Cent Stores, Inc., LeRoy Lee's Stores, Inc., for themselves and all such other creditors of Moore Central Railroad company, and persons interested in the continued operation as shippers or otherwise may make themselves parties to this action."

Plaintiffs in the plea for a receivership claim "it has been necessary, and is now necessary, to use the line" of the defendant in shipment of freights handled by them in the normal operation of their businesses.

Their claim is also based on claimed amounts due each from the Moore Central Railroad which plaintiffs state the defendant has "declined and refused to pay although payment has been often demanded" before the action was begun.

These amounts are said to have arisen "for the most part by reason of overcharges in the shipment of freight collected of the plaintiffs, loss by reason of damages done to freight shipped" . . . "and loss of goods, wares, and merchandise while being transported on said line."

Railroad in Debt
Specific charges of amounts which plaintiffs claim to be due them from the Moore Central total \$813.43. According to a breakdown of the total the amount is divided as follows: Carthage Furniture Company \$192.99, M. M. Way \$254.48, Mack's 5-10-25 Cent Stores \$222.40, and Leroy Lee's Stores, Inc., \$144.16.

Plaintiffs also charge that the Moore Central Railroad owes the receivers of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company \$4,489.37 for per diem balances, rents, and other items, and that a suit for collection of that amount is now pending in Moore county superior court.

They also claim the company (Continued on Page 5)

FILL 'EM UP

Fill up the barrel . . . and they'll have a barrel of fun and food!

The Council of Social Agencies has hit upon a good idea. They are placing barrels in all the grocery stores in town to receive contributions for the Christmas baskets to be sent out to needy families.

This seems a grand way to accomplish a grand result. Buy your can or your box of goodies and drop it in the barrel as you leave the store. You'll be giving a Merry Christmas to someone.

Mass Meeting Here Endorses Increase In Teachers' Pay

In a spirited meeting held at the Schoolhouse Wednesday night, members of the Southern Pines school district upheld the teachers' decision to press for a forty percent median pay raise from the next legislature. While not large, the group of some hundred people represented most elements in the town and gave little doubt of their determination to back the cause of education to the hilt.

In charge of the meeting was Mrs. Burney McCotter, who in the ease, charm, and speed with which she presided could in the opinion of the audience, have given lessons to many Moore County chairmen.

A. C. Dawson, who has played a prominent part in meetings throughout the state, outlined clearly and strikingly the program to come before the legislature; he told why it should receive support and in what respects it falls short of what is needed. He gave figures of teacher resignations, decline in numbers of students taking teacher training in the colleges, and wound up with a series of examples of present teacher salaries which were an eye-opener to many in the audience. He explained that teachers are given no sick leave or vacation pay by the state, though Southern Pines does allow three days sick leave.

Dr. G. G. Herr spoke for the school board of which he is chairman. He praised the local teachers for their stand and assured them of the board's support. He stated that Struthers Burt, noted author, unable to attend the meeting, had sent a message indicating his strong sympathy with the movement.

Following the Southern Pines doctor was Clifton Blue, editor of the Sandhill Citizen and recently elected to the legislature. (Continued on Page 5)



Merry
Christmas
from
The Pilot

Pinehurst Woman Is Robbed of \$225

Mrs. Martha Brown of Pinehurst was robbed of \$225 near Woodbine, Ga., Monday by a Negro who threatened to kill her, then fled after the woman attracted the attention of a passing motorist. At the latest report he had eluded a sheriff's posse in a marshy area.

According to an AP report from Woodbine, the search started Monday night after Mrs. Brown reported that the Negro forced his way into her car when she stopped near Brunswick. He ordered her to drive on, and near Woodbine directed that she turn down a side road.

Mrs. Brown said she stalled her automobile and attracted the attention of a passing motorist. The Negro fled, taking her pocketbook containing \$225. The empty purse was found in woods later.

The Pinehurst woman, en route to Daytona Beach, Fla., planned to remain in Woodbine a few days pending the outcome of the search for the man.

Col. Madigan Resigns Commerce Chamber Job

With deep regret expressed by many directors, the local Chamber of Commerce makes the announcement of the resignation as executive secretary of Col. Donald F. Madigan. Because of ill health, brought on by war injuries, Col. Madigan is obliged to cut down his activities for the time being.

The news of the Colonel's decision will bring regret to many in the community who have come to admire his ability and enthusiasm and appreciate the constructive interest he has taken in town affairs.

With the position once more open, the directors of the Chamber are seeking another executive secretary.

GOOD NEWS FOR KIDDIES

Guess who's coming, Kiddies! He wears a red suit and has a white beard, and his regular schedule calls for his arrival on Christmas Eve. Now do you know?

But listen to this! He has given The Pilot notice that he will stop over in Southern Pines on Saturday, December 21, and will be pleased to greet his young friends in the City Park from 2 to 3 and from 4 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Yes sir, Santa Claus is coming to town!!!

DIETING

The Pilot is going on a diet next week. He has decided to eliminate Correspondent's columns, cut down on his socials, and go light on the roast beef of the news and the (ahem) ham of the editorial page.

A bland diet is what he has in mind, and plenty of soda bicarb. Good for wind on the brain and that after Christmas feeling.

Dr. Hollister To Take Up Practice In County

The Sandhills is fortunate in securing two new doctors for this section. One is Dr. J. C. Grier, already established at West End. The other is Dr. W. F. Hollister, who is expected toward the end of January. He will establish an office in this locality and carry on private practice.

Dr. Hollister comes to the Sandhills from Duke Hospital, where he was resident surgeon. He served with the Duke Hospital unit overseas during the war and is a specialist in chest surgery. He has had six years of general surgical practice.

At present Dr. Hollister is on a vacation in California.

Fund For TB Work Making Slow Gains

Why is it that contributions to charity and causes of public benefit have fallen off this year? This is the question that is being asked by leaders in the various welfare fields as they go around or write letters appealing for funds.

Latest enterprise to be aware of the change in public generosity is the local committee in charge of TB seal sales. According to the chairman, Preston T. Kelsey, the sales are about \$300.00 below what they were last year at this time. The present figure is \$785.00.

With the sales campaign continuing, it is hoped that the difference may be made up. Though the need is not so vitally urgent, due to the fact that we have less cases to carry at the Sanatorium than ever before, the after-care in the home must be planned for. This is the most important, perhaps, of any phase of the work, the chairman states. In order to have the reserves necessary to carry it on and to start the New Year in a strong position, it is hoped that giving will increase and the goal, set at \$6,000.00 for the county, be topped.

West End Welcomes Dr. J. C. Grier

The community of West End is rejoicing in the arrival of a new doctor, according to Miss Lucile Eifort. Dr. J. C. Grier, his wife and two children have recently come there to live. Dr. Grier opened an office and is starting to practice at once.

A native of Charlotte, Dr. Grier graduated from the University of North Carolina and Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. He did postgraduate work at Columbia University, New York, and, soon after, joined the marines. In the service throughout the war, Dr. Grier returned to civilian life in October.

BANK WILL BE CLOSED WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

The Citizens Bank and Trust Company will observe a two-day holiday next week, closing its doors both Christmas day and Thursday, December 26. Patrons will please keep this in mind and "bank early".

Burns Baby Ill

Paul McNeill Burns, small son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Burns of Vass, is ill with croup in Moore County Hospital.

Hospital Board Re-elected With Few Exceptions; W. H. Currie President, Tufts, Seymour Are Vice-Presidents

PLEASE . . . !

Miss Gladys Snipes of Niagara and not Mrs. Gladys Snipes of Manly held the lucky ticket at the Hayes' family's big doings on Broad Street last week. She chose her prizes and was jubilant, and who wouldn't be! And how exasperating to have it reported wrong.

Dunno whose the fault, but we have our suspicions. Between you'n me'n the telegraph pole, it'll be weeks before C. L., or any of them, get back to normal. Or the town either.

Duke Survey Shows Surgical Record High May Increase X-ray

The Board of Directors of the Moore County Hospital held the annual meeting at the Nurses Home on Tuesday night and elected officers and directors for the coming year. Wilbur H. Currie of Carthage, former chairman of the executive committee, was named president, with Richard S. Tufts and G. C. Seymour, vice-presidents. Paul Dana was re-elected secretary-treasurer, with G. P. Hawes as his assistant.

Replacing directors, resigned during the past year, were H. A. Borst of Vass, Norris L. Hodgkins of Southern Pines, W. D. Sabiston of Carthage, and Leighton McKeithen of Cameron.

The Board accepted the resignation of Arthur S. Newcomb with regret, and voted unanimously that in view of his long and useful service on the board, since the hospital was first organized, he should be invited to serve as director emeritus. The wish was expressed that he would be able to meet often with the board. The following directors were elected for the coming year.

Directors Elected
The following staff appointments were confirmed:
Directors At Large:

From Southern Pines: Mrs. James Andrews, Mrs. James Boyd, Struthers Burt, William D. Campbell, Norris L. Hodgkins, John M. Howarth, Mrs. M. G. Nichols.

From Pinehurst: Paul Dana, L. J. Ehrhart, George P. Hawes, Jr., H. Frederick Lesh, Eric Nelson, John F. Taylor.

From Aberdeen: G. C. Seymour, and Frank Shamburger.

From Carthage: Wilbur H. Currie, and William D. Sabiston.

Ex-Officio Members are:
From Pinehurst: Gordon Cameron, as Chairman of County Board of Commissioners, Mrs. Paul Dana, for Woman's Auxiliary, Richard S. Tufts, as president of Pinehurst, Incorporated.
From Southern Pines: L. V. O'Callaghan, as Mayor of Town.
From Aberdeen: Forest Lockey, as Mayor of the Town.

From Carthage: Edward J. Burns, as Mayor of the Town.

Representatives:
H. A. Borst, for Vass and Lakeview.

John Currie, for Glendon and High Falls.

John Fiddner, for Pinebluff.
M. C. McDonald, Jr. for West End and Jackson Springs.

George H. Maurice, for Eagle Springs and Samarcond.

W. P. Saunders, for Robbins.
Leighton B. McKeithen, for Cameron.

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Mysterious Characters Appear On Broad Street; Authorities At Sea

Not many people wander around the streets of Southern Pines at night, as a rule, but lately there have been reports that a strange thing has been happening. The Mayor doesn't know about it; the Chief doesn't know about it. Even Postmaster Buchan doesn't know about it. But it happens.

It happens around three o'clock in the morning, at the time when everything is still. The stars are shining brightest then, and not even a Seaboard whistle is blowing. Or if it is, it's one of the old, long-drawn-out freight whistles that goes up and down again, and you hear it long after it has faded away.

The place to be is on the corner of West Broad Street and New Hampshire avenue, only you must be behind something, hid-

den, or it might not happen.

There is a dim light shining in the toy window in Patch's Store. It comes from the little Christmas Tree. The toys are gathered around it, sitting quietly in their places. The Dutch Doll is nearest the Tree as if she were in charge of the party. Everyone looks gay except the Monkey. He is stretched out in a corner, fast asleep. You'd think he'd been up to something, to be as sleepy as all that. Maybe he was up last night. Maybe . . .

The toys look almost awake, don't they; or as if they might wake up at any minute. Even that sleepy Monkey. He's beginning to move. . . look . . . his toes are uncurling. . . he's waking up!

The lights on the little Tree suddenly blaze up brightly and (Continued on Page 8)

Promising Lad, Sick and Lonely Aged People Need Christmas Cheer

What does your 12-year-old son or grandson want for Christmas? An electric train, a new bicycle, or any one of a score of other much-to-be-desired gifts?

The Pilot knows of a 12-year-old who would be oh so happy to receive some nice warm clothing suitable to wear to church and school. The Welfare Department gives this brief history of the lad:

Deserted by his unwed mother at the age of nine, this colored child lived with his grandmother until her death last year, when the world went black before him for the second time. A kind woman with whom he wished to live took him in and the Welfare Department contributes \$18 a month toward his support, but this is far short of the amount required for food and clothing.

The woman is good to him and would like to provide clothes for him, but she is a widow with a blind daughter and some grandchildren in the home and is financially unable to do so. There is a son-in-law, but his earnings will not stretch sufficiently to meet the needs of this extra member of the family. The lad attends church and day school and is a promising boy.

Any one wishing to help him should call the Welfare Department, telephone 44, Carthage. Mrs. Cole, welfare superintendent, will gladly give information so that interested persons may visit the boy if they desire.

Aged People Need Help
In addition to the many children who face a Santa-less Christmas unless generous people re-

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