

THE PILOT

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The Garden Tour

This town's most important asset, the feature which people probably talk about more than any other, is its charm. The tree-lined streets, the gardens and the planted yards, with their magnolias and hollies, and flowering shrubs, constitute without doubt our first claim to fame.

The Southern Pines Garden Club is the organization. Next week marks the second of the garden tours arranged by this group to bring visitors to our town and show them our prettiest sights. Most of the finest gardens will be on view, with members of the Garden Club in attendance to greet the visitors and show them around.

This is good promotion. It is the sort of advertising that will do our town the most good with all sorts of people, especially with the kind we most want to attract here. Furthermore, it is promotion which promotes in both directions.

It was only a few weeks ago that the beauties of Southern Pines received prominent mention in the press, the Greensboro Daily News calling us "the prettiest town in the state." We have a high reputation to maintain: to be pretty and to stay pretty.

We are fortunate to have a Garden Club cognizant of this town asset and alert to its possibilities. The interest and guidance of this group can mean much, while the advertising value of such a tour as this which they are sponsoring is inestimable.

We Can Have Both

The Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce, a descendant of the original group which was responsible for so much of the beauty and progress of this town, is following in the footsteps of its forerunner.

The subject discussed was whether or not the community desired industry to locate on its outskirts, and the decision reached was that it did. But with reservations: the industry must be of a desirable sort and, preferably, small; and it must be located at a suitable distance from town.

The fact that the Chamber of Commerce has just lately released a booklet devoted solely to the resort features of the town is an indication they understand that it is essential to preserve its charm and informality.

The Pilot is in accord with both these sentiments. We believe that this community is rather unique in its atmosphere of quiet beauty and friendliness, and is also a superb place for those superb sports of golf, riding, hunting, prime attractions everywhere they exist.

The Pilot welcomes this latest move to explore the possibilities of locating a small, or several small, industries on one side of town, at a suitable distance. It should give us the payroll we need, the job incentive for our young people, and we can still keep the quiet charm and the sporting facilities which, particularly in the field of hunting and racing, are once more coming to the fore in the Sandhills.

Needed: A Senator Vandenberg

The Republican attack on Secretary Acheson has moved into high gear, this week. It is a sorry spectacle. But it is a great deal more than sorry or a spectacle. It is as dangerous a thing as has happened to our country.

Every responsible commentator, as well as recognized leaders among our public-spirited men and statesmen everywhere, have condemned these tactics; they have labelled them "dirty politics", an attempt to discredit the administration at all costs.

In this crisis, perhaps we should take a firmer part. Clearly, it is up to President Truman to act and assume the leadership which is his duty. But if, as seems likely, he will not do so, we must look elsewhere.

Let these men stand forth and then let us, the people, back them to the limit in an attempt to bring order and decency out of the chaos that now exists in Washington and that, if it continues, may well prove the downfall of our hopes and the world's.

Our New Gym: A Community Asset

The holding of two week-long basketball events in the new Southern Pines school gymnasium has started this excellent building off on a public career during which, it can easily be foreseen, it will more than justify its existence as a sports center and an asset to this community.

Its cost was considerable and Southern Pines taxpayers will be working off the bonds by degrees for the next 20 years. However, more tournaments like the two just held there will return all of this money to the community and more, besides affording a handsome and practical setting for basketball practice and local games, and other indoor athletics.

Little money accrued after expenses of the teams and tournaments were paid. However, there was some, and with more added from ensuing events the gym will gradually acquire more equipment and become even more of an asset to athletic youth and sports-loving spectators.

As it is, the handsome gymnasium, splendidly fitted out with new-style bleachers and backboards equal to the best in the state, is a matter for real pride in Southern Pines and Moore county.

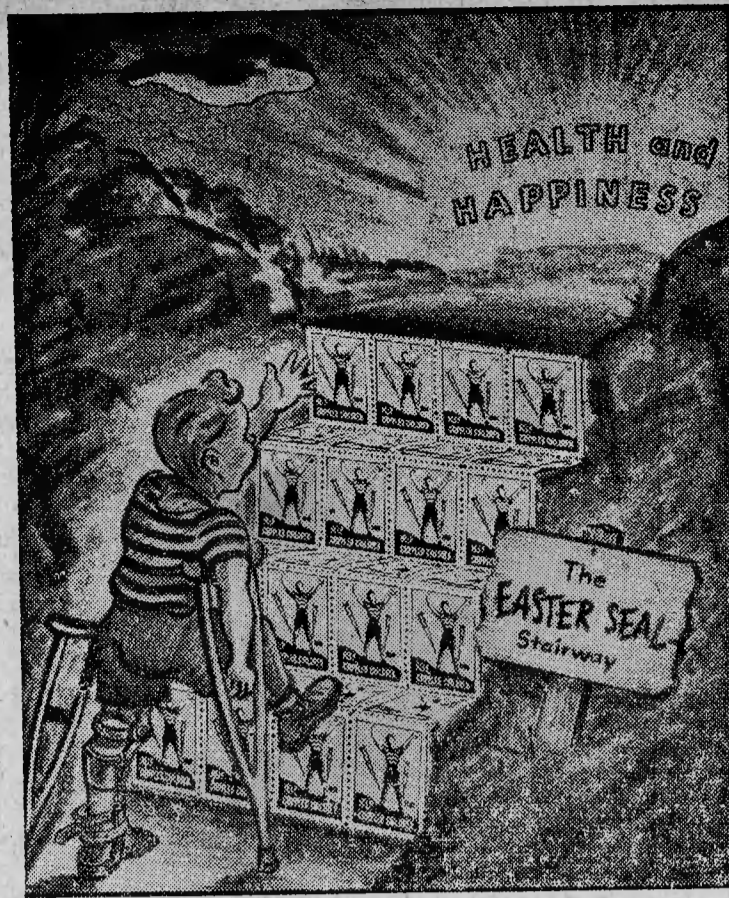
We'd Count 'Em Again, And Fast

We are distressed by the turn taken by the affairs of the NCEA, which in trying to get a president elected is presenting a pretty sorry spectacle and is losing much good ground recently gained. We are especially sorry because we came to have great respect and liking for this organization when in 1948 it was headed by Southern Pines' A. C. Dawson, Jr.

Now it has fallen apart again—in three parts, this time, like all Gaul, and a grand muddle it is. Mrs. Margaret McDermott, one presidential candidate, received on the first count a majority of 14 votes out of some 18,000. A recount gave C. M. Abernathy 18 votes. The old president resigned but the secretary says she can't, officially, till a new president is in.

We are glad to have one point made clear, by Mrs. Lucile Allen of Hendersonville, making a speech at Raleigh last week. She said the motive for the demand for a recount was plain—"to restore to power by a thin majority the politics and leadership repudiated by the rank and file."

So we know now the difference between a victory "by a thin majority," and a victory by a vote of the "rank and file," four votes, that is all.



Grains of Sand

Safety First: Two cute little girls about six—looked like twins—were an interested part of the crowd that watched Saturday's safety demonstration in front of the city hall.

A "Chuckie" last week in the daily paper brought several answering chuckles from here, with the definition "Winter Resort—A place where nobody knows how very unimportant you are at home."

And it is said that one reason General Marshall likes to live in Pinehurst is that nobody over there bothers him, or even turns their head to look at him when he walks down the street.

Which reminds us, that aggregation of congenial celebrities which visits the Sandhills semi-annually for golf and fun—Gen. Homer Cummings' golf party of judges, senators, governors and the like—will be at the Mid Pines the weekend of April 28.

That will be a big weekend for us here: Homer Cummings and his party of 40 or 50 at the Mid Pines, the state AA convention everywhere else and the Sandhills Horse show.

In the Mailbag: "I want to congratulate you on your paper. I enjoy the Sandhill news. It is a fine little publication. . . Please continue my subscription for six months. I am almost bedridden with arthritis and may be in the deserts of Arizona or New Mexico for treatment before that date."

"Smutt," small black pooch belonging to the S. D. Fobes family, a smart canine who has made news for The Pilot before, has presented her youthful owners with nine young 'uns of assorted colors and markings but, we are told, of uniform charm and beauty.

Johnny Cornwell is keeping Satan, Donald Walter retains Cinder and Arden Fobes is holding onto Abe. Homes are being sought for Tarbaby and Ebony, who are as black as their names indicate; Cupid, who has a white star on his brow; "Lil Smutt," all-black with white blaze, and white flecked paws, and the spotted twins Cinderella and Prince charming.

Here's your chance, folks—step right up.

A composition by a North Carolina composer, Thomas Cousins of Morganton, was on the concert program of the N. C. Little Sym-

phony when it played at Meredith college last Friday evening. . . Mr. Cousins, who teaches music at the Morganton High school, played trumpet with the Symphony for two seasons. . . His composition is called "Interlude for Trumpet and Strings"—which reminds us, why does the imagination of composers so often give out when it comes to naming their works?

We think that giving a hearing to native compositions is one of the best things a state-supported symphony can do, and hope that at least one of them—maybe the "Interlude"—will be on the program when the Symphony plays here May 3.

Notice the Chamber of Commerce lists seven golf courses within a six mile radius of Southern Pines.

Well, there's the local course, and then there's the Pine Needles and the Mid Pines: that makes three. Wonder where on earth, or in the Sandhills, those other four courses could be?

Might save a laugh if they'd tell. . . as well as win a friend or two in you-guess-where.

Everybody's talking about advertising the town, these days. And a good idea, too. But one conversation had its funny side. The subject was several recent articles which have appeared in various publications on Southern Pines hunting. A leading Broad Street businessman was praising them as being just the sort of promotion to bring people to Southern Pines.

"Why," he said, "those articles are already proving their worth! They're bringing some fine people here. Have you met Mr. and Mrs. X? They are lovely people who have come down this winter."

He was certainly right, they are lovely people and they have come down this winter. Only it just happens that they came down last winter, too, and the one before that and so on right back to some time around 1928 or 29, several years before the man who was talking had come to town himself.

A case, maybe, of not counting the chickens that are already hatched.

The cottage where, Woodrow Wilson and his bride spent their honeymoon is still popular with newlyweds at Arden, in the mountains of western North Carolina.

The Public Speaking

To the Pilot: On the basis of approximately 75 per cent of final and tentative reports from county chairmen, the 1950 March of Dimes campaign in North Carolina will realize, we believe, somewhere between \$850,000 and \$900,000.

For the past eight years, since the beginning of my association with the infantile paralysis work in this state, our weekly newspapers have given unstinting support to our annual fund-raising drive.

I am convinced that your co-operation has contributed in a very large measure to our continuing success in persuading the people to give generously to this cause.

Please accept our sincere gratitude for your help. Cordially, MAE RUSSELL. (Mrs. Phillips Russell) Director of Organization N. C. March of Dimes

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