

THE PILOT

VOL. 36 NO. 8

SIXTEEN PAGES

SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1955

SIXTEEN PAGES

PRICE—TEN CENTS



MR. HUGHES . . . and big pine on Crane's Creek

TREE IS OVER 14 FEET IN GIRTH

W. E. Hughes of Southern Pines, in the accompanying photo, examines the deeply furrowed bark of a huge living and healthy loblolly pine that is growing near Crane's Creek several miles east of Vass on the Will McCrane estate property. The tree measures 14 feet in circumference at a point four feet up from the ground and 16 feet, 8 inches in circumference at the base which flares out somewhat where the ground has eroded around it. The pine is believed to be the largest such tree in the Sandhills and one of the largest, if not the largest, in the state. It towers far above big trees in the low land along the creek and can be spotted at a great distance from certain locations which afford a view of the area.

Mr. Hughes, who used to own a farm east of where the tree grows and on the other side of the creek, guided a Pilot reporter to the spot. Nearby stands the remains of another pine which was apparently as large or larger than the remaining healthy specimen, but which is now broken off about halfway up its trunk and is decaying down to the still huge heart section.

A third pine of equal size nearby was cut for lumber about 1905 according to the recollection of W. M. Cameron of Vass, Route 2, who will be 82 years old February 27 and who supervised the sawing.

CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR 11 A. M.

Ground Will Be Broken Today For W. Southern Pines School

Ground breaking ceremonies for a four-classroom elementary school unit at West Southern Pines will be held at the site near the school gymnasium today (Friday) at 11 a.m., it has been announced by A. C. Dawson, local schools superintendent.

Principal J. W. Moore of the West Southern Pines schools will preside at the ceremony which will be attended by members of the board of school trustees, Supt. Dawson and the faculty and students of West Southern Pines

schools. The West Southern Pines school band will play.

While the contract on the West Southern Pines building has not yet been let, approval of a local school fund transfer bill in the General Assembly at Raleigh means that a contract for the structure, as well as for the "Phase B" unit of Southern Pines High School may now be let. Mr. Dawson said this would probably take place within the next week. Bids have been opened on both buildings.

The West Southern Pines building for which ground will be broken is the first unit of a proposed 15-room elementary school. The structure to be built now will include the heating plant for the entire building.

Cost of the West Southern Pines building will be \$54,337 and for the high school structure, \$138,225.

Business Books

Now Available

Recently published books on business and industry are available through the Southern Pines Library. It was announced this week.

The only charge is postage on the books from and returning to Charlotte or Winston-Salem where collections of modern books on these subjects have been built up in public libraries through a special grant by the North Carolina Library Commission.

A list of the books available can be seen at the Library.

C. of C. Chooses 7 New Directors For Coming Year

Varied Experience Noted: 80 Vote In Balloting By Mail

The names of seven new directors of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce, elected by a mail ballot held during December, were announced this week by J. Graves Vann, Jr., chairman of the election committee.

They are Harold A. Collins, Jerry V. Healy, Mark King, Jr., Harry K. Smyth, Mrs. Oscar Holtzclaw, John C. Ostrom and J. T. Overton.

A total of 80 ballots was returned by the membership in the election. These were opened and tallied by the board at their regular meeting Tuesday night, January 4, but the announcement was delayed while the newly elected members were contacted and their acceptances assured.

They will be installed at the next regular meeting, and will elect officers at that time.

Varied Experience

Mrs. Valerie Nicholson, retiring president, expressed gratification in the caliber of persons who were elected, also in the fact that they represent a balanced range of businesses. Three of the new directors head businesses out of town, but they bring to the board widely varied business experience, as well as a civic interest (Continued on Page 5)

Dance To Benefit Building Fund Of Moore Hospital

The first benefit event to be announced for the new building and improvement program of the Moore County Hospital will be a dance to be held Tuesday evening, February 8, under auspices of the Moore County Hospital Auxiliary.

The dance will be specifically for the children's wing, an important part of the new \$300,000 building program.

Mrs. John C. Ostrom of Southern Pines and Mrs. James Tufts of Pinehurst are co-chairmen of the event, which will be a "9 'til 1" affair at the Pinehurst Country Club, according to the announcement of Mrs. Lawrence M. Johnson of Aberdeen, auxiliary president.

Mrs. Arthur Lacey of Pinehurst is general chairman of tickets and reservations, which are available starting this week through the following members,

in four Moore towns: Mrs. Britt Delaney, in Pinehurst, who may be reached at the Holly Inn from 8 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.; Mrs. Dwight Winkelman, in Southern Pines; Mrs. L. M. Johnson, in Aberdeen, and Mrs. W. D. Sabiston, in Carthage.

An orchestra has been secured from Raleigh. The admission charge includes light refreshments. Capacity for the dance is

(Continued on page 8)

1,000.

The West Southern Pines building for which ground will be broken is the first unit of a proposed 15-room elementary school.

The structure to be built now will include the heating plant for the entire building.

Cost of the West Southern Pines

building will be \$54,337 and for

the high school structure, \$138,225.

Bill Baker Also Served As Page

Bill Baker, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Baker of Southern Pines, served as a page in the North Carolina Senate during the 1945 session of the General Assembly, it was recalled this week. Young Mr. Baker, now a student at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, was at that time 12 years old.

In connection with the appointment of Julian Pleasants, son of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Pleasants, as a page in the House for the current session of the General Assembly, The Pilot last week stated that this appointment was the first to be made in Moore County since C. A. (Tony) Huntley of Aberdeen served as chief page in the Senate during the 1941 session, after serving in three other regular and two special sessions of the legislature.

Since that was written, information as to the Bill Baker appointment was given to The Pilot.



MR. HODGKINS

N. L. Hodgkins, Jr., Promoted; Deposits Of Bank Increase

Norris L. Hodgkins, Jr., formerly vice-president of The Citizens Bank & Trust Co., of Southern Pines, was promoted to the newly created position of executive vice-president at a meeting of the bank's directors held Tuesday evening.

The other officers of the bank were reelected: N. L. Hodgkins, Jr., president; and C. H. Bowman, vice-president and cashier.

At the annual meeting of stockholders held immediately before the directors' meeting, the present board of directors was reelected and Norris L. Hodgkins, Jr., was named as an additional member of the board. Directors reelected were John C. Barron, A. L. Burney, N. L. Hodgkins, John M. Howarth, and George W. Pottle.

A report given to the stockholders at the annual meeting showed that the bank had enjoyed a successful year in 1954. The year end statement showed total deposits of \$3,444,328.03 and total resources of \$3,879,653.44, both of which represented increases over the figures for last year.

A resolution was passed at the stockholders' meeting expressing the appreciation and thanks of the stockholders to the president, N. L. Hodgkins, for the success of the bank in 1954. Mr. Hodgkins is a patient at Moore County Hospital as the result of a heart attack on December 17.

Chief Fowler was re-elected and two assistant chiefs were chosen, as the result of a tie vote: Stanley Dunn and Albert Tew. Other officers are: C. T. Dunn, Jr., company captain; Frank Kaylor, Sr., secretary and treasurer and truck captain; and Frank Viall, trustee for three years.

Chief Fowler reported a total of 54 alarms during 1954, including 18 brush fires, 18 residential fires, one garage and one restaurant, nine out-of-town fires and three calls for aid from other departments. Only one of the fires, at the Southern Pines Motor Co.-Cameron Oil Co., was a major blaze, the chief noted.

Mayor L. T. Clark commended Chief Fowler and the fire department for the fine job they have done during the past year.

Further Study of Privilege Parking Spaces Requested

Council Sets Public Hearing On Vacant Lot Cleaning Law

The town council asked Town Attorney Lamont Brown Tuesday night to get an opinion from the State's attorney general as to the legality of privilege parking spaces and deferred any action on such spaces, which are set apart here for a number of physicians, until the decision is received.

The matter had come up at last month's meeting after it had been reported to the council by a citizen interested in seeing such parking abolished that a ruling against them had been handed down by the North Carolina Supreme Court. City Manager Tom F. Cunningham had written local physicians asking them their opinions on the parking privilege and replies from several of the doctors, most of whom cited arguments favoring retention of the spaces as being of value to both doctor and patients in emergencies, were read Tuesday.

(Continued on page 8)

Fowler Elected Volunteer Chief

The town council Tuesday night approved recent election of officers by the Southern Pines volunteer fire department, which was reported to the council, with other information, by Chief H. B. Fowler.

Chief Fowler was re-elected and two assistant chiefs were chosen, as the result of a tie vote: Stanley Dunn and Albert Tew. Other officers are: C. T. Dunn, Jr., company captain; Frank Kaylor, Sr., secretary and treasurer and truck captain; and Frank Viall, trustee for three years.

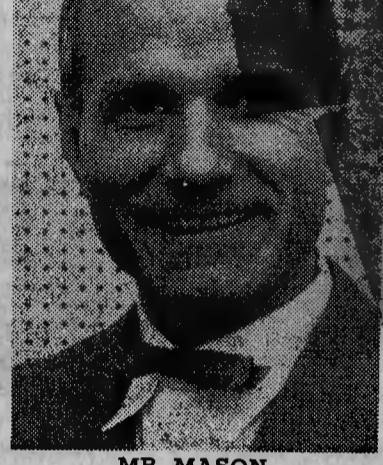
Chief Fowler reported a total of 54 alarms during 1954, including 18 brush fires, 18 residential fires, one garage and one restaurant, nine out-of-town fires and three calls for aid from other departments. Only one of the fires, at the Southern Pines Motor Co.-Cameron Oil Co., was a major blaze, the chief noted.

Mayor L. T. Clark commended Chief Fowler and the fire department for the fine job they have done during the past year.

(Continued on page 8)

2-Town Group Studies Fringe Zoning Project

Committee Working On Proposals



MR. MASON

Robert Mason To Speak To League Of Women Voters

Robert Mason, editor of The Sanford Herald, daily afternoon newspaper published at Sanford, will speak at an open meeting of the Southern Pines League of Women Voters, in the Civic Club at 8 p.m., Thursday of next week, January 20. The public is invited.

Slated to talk on matters coming before the General Assembly in Raleigh, Mr. Mason is expected to stress the proposed separation of the prison system from the State Highway and Public Works Commission, as this is a subject to which the League is devoting particular attention.

A newspaper man for the past 20 years, with time out for Navy service in World War II, Mr. Mason covered three sessions of the North Carolina legislature, starting in 1935, while working on newspapers in Raleigh and Durham.

After moving to the Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk, he reported the 1942 session of the Virginia General Assembly. Six years later, he observed part of the proceeding.

(Continued on page 8)

Public Urged To Get New Licenses

If you're one of the many who are putting off buying your 1955 license plates, you are urged to do so no longer, unless you like to wait in line, warns J. Earl Parker, chairman of the auto license sales bureau for this area, operated by the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce.

Since the sale opened December 1, a total of 2,906 plates had been sold up to January 12. Total sales for this area are expected to be more than 6,500. Sales are running considerably ahead of last year—almost 300 more at the midway point, December 31.

The sales bureau, agency of the Carolina Motor Club, is open at the Chamber office in the Southland Hotel from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except Wednesdays and Saturdays, when it closes at noon.

(Continued on page 8)

The knotty problem of zoning territory adjacent to the town, with the accent on the area between Southern Pines and Aberdeen, filled to overflowing the town hall council room Wednesday night. And the result: still up in the air with the pros and cons about evenly divided; at least among those present.

Called by the mayors of the two towns, Dr. T. M. Medlin of Aberdeen and Southern Pines' Lloyd Clark, the meeting was directed by W. T. Huntley Jr., elected chairman by unanimous vote. A resident of Southern Pines, Mr. Huntley owns considerable property in the area under immediate consideration.

Discussion was opened by the two mayors, called on by the chair to describe the meeting's purpose and to give their views.

Mayor Clark expressed himself as heartily in favor of the establishment of zoned areas around Southern Pines. He said he was convinced this was the only way in which property values could be safeguarded. He illustrated his point by calling attention to the Spring Lake area north of Fort Bragg and the outskirts of Fayetteville. He said this town and this Sandhills section must try to maintain its attraction to tourists; he believed that attractive approaches to a town were of major importance in bringing people there, and he mentioned the Fort Bragg and Pinehurst approaches as well as Route 1 entrance. He said the only way the approach to Southern Pines and Aberdeen could be improved and maintained would be through zoning.

Mayor Clark's views were echoed by Mayor Medlin who said, however, that he had hoped to have the advice of H. W. Doub, chairman of the Aberdeen committee of adjustment, and members of his committee, unfortunately absent.

"They are more up on this sort of thing," Dr. Medlin said, "and could discuss it from the town angle."

Both mayors stressed the fact that there was no desire on the part of either town "to force this thing, or dictate control."

Enabling Act Needed

Called on to describe the type of ordinance that might be established, Town Manager Tom Cunningham said he had spent the day in Chapel Hill studying the situation there and talking with those in charge. He said that Chapel Hill has an ordinance covering a specified distance around the town, which is zoned in several sections, each for specific

(Continued on page 8)

PINEHURST GAMES

The girls and Blue Knights of Southern Pines High School face Pinehurst girls and boys at the school gym here tonight (Friday) in two of the outstanding basketball games of the local season. First game will start at 7:30. Stories elsewhere in today's Pilot for results of the past week's games.

Blue Knights, Girls Tune Up For Aberdeen Cage Contests

That old "Debbil" is going to be here next Friday—Friday night to be exact and in person—meanings the Aberdeen High basketball clubs. Take the Duke-Carolina football classic, add the State-Carolina basketball game, and season with the Wake Forest-State baseball game, stir with 1,000 fans and you have those basketball thrillers between Southern Pines and Aberdeen.

For longer years than most people care to admit agewise, this basketball series climaxes the sports season for both schools. And for the same number of years, to be able to predict the outcome with any reasonable degree of certainty has been the despair of Moore County's basketball sporting fraternity. Rumor has it that some Aberdeen en-

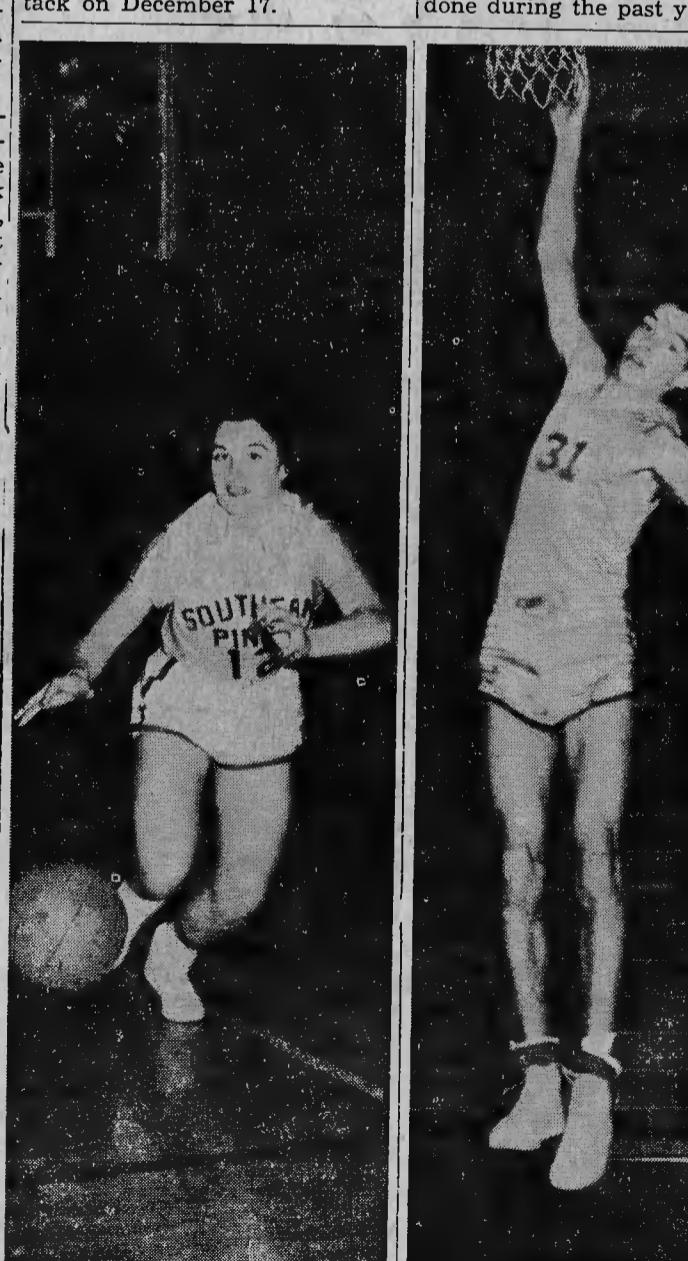
thusiasts like their Red Devils so much that they are willing to sweeten their judgment by giving 15 points. That is only a rumor; however, on the basis of last year's games Aberdeen is heavily favored.

At Aberdeen last January the Red Devils blitzed a good Southern Pines club 70 to 50, but local fans were not dismayed. The home town team is usually favored by 15 points on their own court. So figured that way, Southern Pines' Blue Knights should take the Red Devils in Southern Pines 65 and 50.

But played in the Big Gym before some 1,050 fans the figures didn't work out. At game's end, Aberdeen was ahead 87 to 60.

Again, it looked when the

(Continued on Page 8)



SALLY MICHELSON
Southern Pines Guard

RALPH LEACH, Jr.
Aberdeen Forward