

THE WEEKLY PILOT

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AN OCHARD INNOVATION

The interesting announcement of a model peach orchard of three or four hundred acres which is already under way on the Marlboro farm, just outside of Aberdeen, is one of the sensations of orchard development of the year. The whole thing is rather startling in its scope. Three hundred acres the company proposes to set in trees this winter with another hundred acres to follow later. The plan is to make the orchard a model in every way and to use the most efficient appliances on the scheme that are known to orchard men. The site was chosen because it was judged the best that could be found.

But probably the most significant feature of the whole business is that of the members of the company. It is easy to recognize the appropriateness of such men as S. B. Richardson and J. R. Page in a big peach industry. They are certainly leaders in that line. But practically every man in the organization is a specialist in some particular feature that will be useful in the development of the project. While the membership is confined largely to Moore county a few from outside are included. Among these are the Gentiles, a group of five brothers, who are among the biggest fruit producers and distributors in the world. They operate under the name of the Gentile brothers, marketing fruit and vegetables all over the United States. They have big production of fruit and vegetables in Florida, California and elsewhere, their orange holdings in Florida amounting to about a thousand acres. They expect to harvest about five hundred acres of tomatoes this winter. With such a selling organization holding membership in the Marlboro orchard, the orchard will never need to worry about disposing of its crop. Work has been progressing on this new establishment until the land is nearly all ready for the trees, which were to be delivered December the first. As it takes about two hundred trees to plant and acre it is evident that things must move lively at the Marlboro orchard to get the planting done if it is all done in December, which has been the intention. From ten to fifteen acres a day must be covered, which is no small job. It is easy to see from this big scheme that Moore county has not yet reached the limit of its peach production.

THE COURT HOUSE

From what *The Pilot* is able to gather concerning the court house it is well for the commissioners to walk softly on their way to order a new building.

The Pilot does not presume to speak with any authority, but it does feel pretty certain that the people of Moore county are not ready for any issue of court house bonds that will amount to \$150,000, and it has doubts if such a bond issue will be allowed to go through without a protest on the part of the taxpayers that will ditch the whole business.

It is possible that we need a new court house. But it is pretty certain that the people of this county will insist that any new building shall be one that will afford the needed office room, the needed vault room, the needed court room and such things as are essential, and stop there without spending a fortune to make the building a show building for the mere sake of appearance.

The Pilot has no architectural knowledge to offer in this matter, but it hears men of experience say that a building ample for all real needs of the county can be built in practical modern shape for half the amount proposed in the bond issue, and that such a building will probably be better than many structures that might cost twice the money really needed.

It is also talked that if the bond issue proposed is allowed to go through some embarrassing questions will be asked as to some rumors that are afloat and which might possibly call up talk that would be interesting to hear. The truth is that a phase of politics has been brought into the affair which should not be there.

Just now the air is touched a little with noise that says plainly an appeal to Caesar, carrying of the fiery cross to the hill tops, and a summoning of the citizen from the townships. The things may sound somewhat hysterical, but they are the things that come to *The Pilot*, from which it is to be presumed they come to others.

If the commissioners are wise they will walk circumspectly on this uncertain road, for men who are leaders in Moore county are going to know why \$150,000 is to be needed in a new bond issue if such a sum should be issued, and it is the opinion of *The Pilot* that they will not stop with what they find.

THE SANDHILLS FAIR

The Sandhills Fair has drawn a good deal of attention to Moore county this fall. The state papers are beginning to lay emphasis on the fact that here in Moore county a rural fair is held which is not merely an excuse to rent out concessions to a string of side-show people to get easy money from the country folks who ought to be provided with something better than such things afford them. When the Sandhills fair was projected the idea of carrying it on without that thing they call a midway was regarded as a crazy proposition. But the fair was not established for any such purpose and it never tolerated any such features, for the management determined at the start that unless the fair could have

a more ambitious purpose there was no particular purpose to carry it on at all.

Maybe Moore county people are different than people in other counties, but no evidence has been offered yet to indicate such a thing. It is rather likely that a fair like the Moore county fair would make a hit in other counties. Certainly this county is in no danger of making any change to the other style. While the Sandhills fair has none of the side-show characteristics, it has attractions of other kinds and that they brought an attendance of ten thousand persons on the grounds in one day tells that they are sufficient. But there is a certain seriousness to the Sandhill fair outside of the attractions. And that serious phase is showing results. The improved cattle and hogs and poultry on the Moore county farms and in the counties adjoining are largely due to Pinehurst influences. Moore county actually brought home from the state fair at Raleigh nearly all the prizes for Berkshires. A fat Berkshire with a blue ribbon beats the fat woman from the side show tent. And right there you have the difference between the Sandhills fair and most of the other country fairs of the state. Ours is a fair. Most of the others are merely carnivals. In Moore county no side-show company carries away a hat full of money after the fair is over.

A COMMUNITY MATTER

A lot of talk is heard at times about the line of cleavage between the Sandhills and the clay sections of Moore county, and some of that talk is to the effect that the two sections are not adapted for the close relationship that exists in the present county organization. But that is all nonsense. It is true that the river end of the county differs from the Sandhills in some ways, and that the Sandhills are leading in progress. But that does not present any obstacle to the successful continuation of amicable and profitable relations between the two sections. The truth is that the sandy region needs much that the clay country is making and the clay region needs the market and the example found in the sand. Here at Vass we can appreciate this situation, for we are neither in the trouble zone of the sand, nor in the other zone of the clay. But we can see the vast benefits that are coming to all the county because of the progress in the sand, and how much the progress and expansion there are helping all.

Vass is not Pinehurst nor Southern Pines nor Knollwood, but Vass is thriving substantially because those communities are thriving and growing, and the influences that are active in that section will stimulate things in this part of the county to an extent none of us yet realize. We can not lead the procession with our efforts here at Vass, but we can make a right active member in that procession if we help to add bulk to it and to give what weight we can to assist

those who are actually leading.

There is no ground for jealousy between the sections of the county, and no reason for rivalry, for Moore county has ahead the biggest future that any of us can imagine, and the faster the Sandhills push forward and the farther they go the more all of us are to be affected. It is useless to ignore the fact that today the line of influence in Moore county is the new Midlands road between Pinehurst and Southern Pines. It is to the common interest of all of us to make that strip thrive to its fullest extent, for from its thrift comes the thrift of all the rest of the county. From that road will emanate forces that will reach to every corner of the county, and that outreaching force is bound to revolutionize the whole county completely. This is the time for all of us to join in mass play and not for any petty antagonisms.

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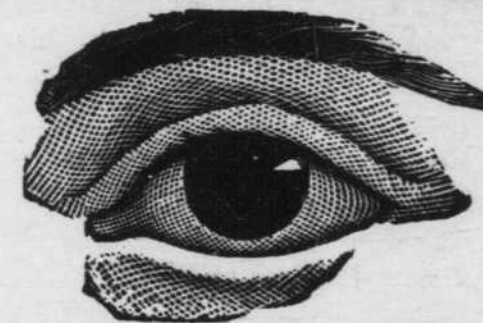
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PERSONALS

Mr. J. R. Thomas is giving holidays with Miss Ethel Coats and end in Raleigh.

Mr. H. A. Matthe to Raeford Monday.

Dr. Chas. T. Griffin was in Vass Wednesday. Mrs. G. W. Griffin Hamlet.

Mr. Landon Tyson Raleigh, Sunday.

Mr. W. D. Smith Pines Wednesday.

Mr. Turney Matthe spent Sunday with Mesdames Bertie Kate Brooks made a Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. to Raeford Sunday visited Mrs. McLaugh C. J. Gillis.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Cameron, attended the wedding Wednesday.

Mrs. T. K. Gunt have returned from relatives at Moncure.

Miss Mary Smith, was the guest of the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. to Dunn Sunday to sister.

Mrs. A. M. Cameron, Marion, are spending Mrs. Cameron's parents J. F. McKay, of Bu

Miss Mayme McNeil, a teacher in the Vass Sunday after

Miss Caro McNeill of Allen, spent with Miss McNeill's Mrs. E. L. McNeill.

Mr. T. J. Brooks Mrs. W. I. Brooks, Mrs. J. W. Privett Brooks, of Bailey, visited Mrs. Geo. W. Br

Mr. and Mrs. D. T. children, of Union, Hotel Vass for the Hanes is a representative Veterinary Co.,

Mr. Arthur Thompson his parents, Mr. a Thompson, of Cam Laurinburg and Ra visited relatives Sa

day.

Rev. M. D. McNeil giving services at church Sunday evening of \$81.10 was taken Springs Orphanage,

additions brought \$101.10. Contributions Orphanage by the M. amounted to some

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