

THE WEEKLY PILOT

Published every Friday morning by the Pilot Printing Company.

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Entered at the Postoffice at Vass, N. C., as second-class mail matter

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1921

THE NEW ROAD

Frank Page was in Vass a few days ago looking over the route of the Capital highway and he was much impressed with the possibility of the route proposed by **The Pilot** a couple of weeks ago with an underpass below the cotton mill. The engineers will give this project a thorough investigation, and it looks now as if it would be the winner when the new location is made. Several arguments have been heard concerning the route under the railroad, one being that it would do away with the grade crossing, and would not use the streets of the town, nor cut into the lots as established by the street lines now existing. It would go down between the present road and the railroad, to the west of **The Pilot** office and the hotel, and keeping on the high ground on the west side of the little valley that passes the cotton mill would pass under the grade not far below the mill. In that way the main highway would not run through the mill village, nor through the east side of the town, and all the busy traffic of the highway would be kept on the through road instead of congesting the town streets, which in the course of time will have all they can do to handle the local traffic. This is seen in the experience of all towns in this section. Aberdeen has on its hands a serious problem of street room for local business, and the through traffic would be a great relief to that town if it could be passed on some side street instead of through the main street of the town. Southern Pines is looking for relief in this respect by having the highway take a street a square or two from the main street, so the through travel can keep off the main street, which is so full at times that where to stop a car is perplexing the people.

Vass has this to consider also. Our streets are not wide enough to handle a big through business such as will come in a short time on the new road, and at the same time care for the business of the town, and if the through business can be held on a street that is not lined with stores and homes it will be better for all.

When the question of grade crossing was first proposed **The Pilot** was glad to be able to say that such a scheme was possible, and that it would be better to cross the railroad on a bridge than at grade. Because the paper has favored the underpass some criticism has been offered, saying **The Pilot** changes its attitude. And right here is as good a place as any to say that it certainly does. **The Pilot** is ready to change its attitude every day in the week if it sees something better to change to. When the overhead bridge was

the best plan in sight that was far better than the grade crossing, and when the underpass looked like a possibility that seemed better than the bridge. Now, if something still better offers, no matter what it may be so it is better, **The Pilot** is ready to change attitudes again.

The only thing worth while is the best that we can get. Standing by a plan because it happens to be one looked on with favor yesterday is all right for the standpatters, those unprogressives who want nothing that they have not always had, but **The Pilot** is ready to junk the old and grab for the new as fast as the new shows up something that is an improvement on the old.

When Mr. Page was in Vass he said he would have the various routes thoroughly investigated, and that the best one of the lot would be selected. That is all that anybody wants, and **The Pilot** has confidence enough in Mr. Page and in the ability of his engineers to believe that the engineers will tell him which is the preferable route, and that he will decide according to their judgment and investigation. But whatever comes out of it all we are going to have a much better road than we have now, and one of the best roads in the South before long.

LICENSE TAX DODGERS

The legislature has made an effort to strengthen the license tax on automobiles, and in that effort the whole state should lend a vigorous hand. The big majority of car owners pay their license fee in square fashion. But it appears that a small army of dodgers pays nothing for licenses to use the roads. That kind of shirking is just the same as any other kind that would put the burden of anything on the men who are willing to tote fair, and that would relieve those who are not fair in their methods.

The license fees are charged by the state to build good roads and maintain them. The man who has a car and runs it shares in the advantage of good roads. To attempt to share in the benefit of the roads and dodge the responsibility of paying for his share is a sneaking trick in any man. If he does not want to pay his share of the road taxes he should keep off of the roads and lock up his car. If he will not deal fairly in paying his proportion of taxes the state is not fair to the men who pay if it does not bring the slackers to the mark. If North Carolina is going to rest content at having the fair men come forward and pay their honest share, and is going to let the slacker go because he has not decency enough to pay, then the state is as bad as the slacker, and is offering a premium to any man who wants to dodge his taxes.

The dodger has no claim on the state or on those who pay. He has no claim on the consideration of any man who believes in fairness. The dodger who will see others pay and then dodge himself is getting from those others the benefits they pay for, and is

hogging their money for his use. If he will not pay from a sense of decency he should be made to pay from the necessity of the compulsion of the law.

Possibly some men are unable to pay their taxes, but in that event it should be the business of the law to know the fact, and to know what is the trouble, and to proceed through the regular course in showing leniency. But it is not the business of the state or county to be bounced by any man who wants to throw his share of the public burden on the shoulders of those who are willing to pay their fair share.

Moore county no doubt has its share of dodgers, and if found they should be brought up short, and it is the business of every man who has paid his license fee to help to make every dodger pay as well. The dead beat has no call on the rest of the people for leniency.

BANKS AND SECURITY

In all the talk that is heard about the loaning of money by the banks little is said from the banker's viewpoint. But a banker not long ago remarked to **The Pilot** that while money is easing in the North it is not easing so much in the South, and chiefly because the South lacks the security to give the banks for loans. Suppose the Federal reserve banks offer money, and the banks can get it by assuming responsibility for the loan. The bank is puzzled to know what to do with the money, for after all a bank is not made of money. Its resources are largely the money the depositors put at the service of the bank, and the bank must all the time bear in mind that the money it loans is the money of the depositor.

In all the complaints about the banks not loaning money freely the complainers would have it inferred that a bank has nothing to do but go behind the counter, dig up a handful of money and pass it out. But the banks have only such money as is put in their care by the depositors, and it is the business of the bank to know when money is loaned out that it will be ready for the depositor when he calls for it.

The chief security for money in the South is land, and if anybody will stop to think a minute he will realize that land is not very good security for short term loans. A bank must have its loans in shape that they can be called in on short notice. A real estate loan is one that must go through certain court delays, and is so slow in its collection that banks are not permitted to loan much money on real estate security except under certain restrictions. No bank can carry a big line of loans on land security and succeed. No matter how certain the bank is to get its money ultimately, that does not figure at all. It is not ultimately getting of the money, but it is getting the money on the day it is due that determines the safety of three-fourths of the banks in the United States. The depositor can call for his money any time he cares to write a check. The bank must hold it

self ready to pay that check, and to do it must have its loans so they are coming in all the time.

Therefore, as the banker said, different security must be available if the banks are to lend much money. They are all loaned up now as far as it is safe to go on real estate security, and no doubt many of the banks would be glad to reduce loans carried on such security. But that can be done only gradually; meanwhile if the people of the South want more money from the banks they must make the banks safe by other than land security. Whether that can be done may be a question, but the banks are not responsible for the conditions. They are doing what they can, and in many cases going farther than they should to help people who call for loans. But it is to be remembered that the depositors out-number the borrowers in banking business, and the depositors have the first consideration, for it is their money that is loaned. The bank must make good to them and if it fails to make good to them it is a dead one. So it is not a question between the bank and the borrowers but between the depositors and the borrowers, and the bank is simply a go-between. The borrower has facing him the job of a really negotiable security if he wants money, and unless he furnishes that, and land is not that, he has no complaint.

The world is growing better, but we still have a few editors who joke about the neckties their better-nalf gave them for X-mas.

Why is it the average girl would rather break a leg when she falls down on the street than have some There wouldn't be so much unemployment in this country if so many people didn't look upon it as a sort of luxury.

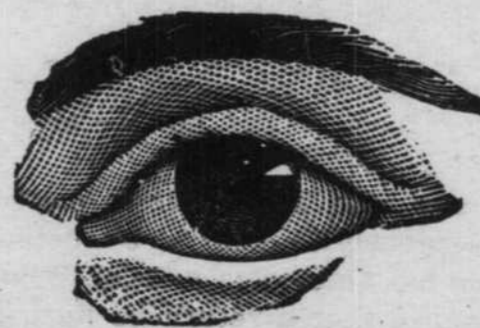
After all, the surest way to elevate the human race is to raise children that can behave themselves.

And what a lot more happiness there'd be in the world if love would continue to stay blind after marriage.

We have the word of a poor but honest man that the worst thing about riches is not having any.

No telling what Henry Ford will propose next. Maybe he'll offer to lease China from Japan.

We often wonder if any of our well-meaning friends who offer us cold remedies ever take their own medicine.



Dr. J. C. MANN

Eyesight Specialist will be at CHEARS' JEWELRY STORE Sanford, N. C.

every Wednesday in each week from 10:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M.

Glasses fitted that are easy and restful to weak eyes, children and young people given special attention. Cross eyes straightened without operation. Consultation free.

PERSONALS AND

Miss Mamie Smith is while at her home in Nias. Mr. B. F. Sanford and ed relatives at Laurinbur Misses Ossie Edwards Gschwind are home from Mr. Turney Matthews the week at home.

Mr. Carl Cashion, of Co a visitor in town the first Mr. C. L. Tyson came Raleigh Sunday.

Mr. Lacy Fry, of Midvi in town Wednesday.

Mrs. W. M. Blue has re Mt. Airy, where she at funeral of her sister, Mrs.

Mr. W. H. Keith and f Sunday at the home of M. A. J. Keith on Cameron

Miss Pearl Evans, who sition in Raleigh, is spend at home.

Mr. John Keith came Davidson College last v stay with his people here

Mrs. S. W. Lassiter, of is the guest of her paren Mrs. G. S. Edwards.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. B. otle son, Henry, visited i Sunday.

Misses Jessie Brooks a Keith and Mr. W. D. Sm to Raeford Tuesday after

Miss Vivian Matthews Alton Matthews are visiti Hill.

Miss Rosa Belle Giles i of her sister, Mrs. G. S. E week.

Mr. J. R. Thomas and s J. Hampton, Elvey and G home from Raleigh for th holidays.

Mrs. O. M. Spurlin and O. M., Jr., of Sharon, S. Christmas with Mrs. parents.

Mrs. D. A. Smith left day for Manteo to be with Mr. and Mrs. O. J. West the Christmas season.

Mr. D. C. McGill and f dinner guests at the ho Daniel McGill in Upper Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Park M. B. Parker, of Charlo at the home of Mr. J. J. first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miss Helen Griffin have their home at Reidsville a to Mr. Weber's relatives h

Mr. and Mrs. T. K. C children attended the fune Gunter's father, Mr. T. W at Moncure, Monday.

Mr. T. J. Smith and f and Mrs. S. R. Smith, M N. N. McLean, were gu dinner given on Christmas home of Mr. and Mrs. J.

Mesdames T. J. Smith Keith, Master Leon Keit Neill Smith spent Tuesday Wednesday with Mr. and McNeill of Antioch.

Christmas greeting e very pleasantly received b from the following: Me Boone, Greensboro; J. L Winston-Salem; William M New Rochelle, N. Y.; an Mrs. William C. Hammer

If you think there is no as conscience, look how m is the man who has his s to the home-town paper p 1923.