

Is a Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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JOHNSON DELAYED BY A WASHOUT

Sees Colorado—Writes Interest-
ingly of Towns—Touches
on Mexico

On the 18th June, I was up at five o'clock, and was surprised to find that we had been delayed five hours on account of a wash-out; and that we were still in Colorado. But for this delay we would not have seen the state of Colorado at all, for it was about night when we entered the state from the Kansas side, and by schedule time we would have been in New Mexico before day. So even a delay in a journey may not be without its blessings.

The land is as level as a table, but we can see the dim outline of very high mountains far in the North-west. The vegetation is comparatively sparse, but still sufficient to support large herds and flocks. The only wood in sight is the ever present sage bush. It is not the same as our Salvia officinalis, or garden sage, that is so suggestive of home-made sausage; but its foliage looks not unlike our garden thyme—yet it is sweetly aromatic, and seems to me ought to be valuable as a savory herb.

At the town of Earl, the recent rains had washed great gullies in the soil, which showed the rich loam to extend six feet deep, and more; and mind you, these rains are few and far between; and as we approach nearer the foot of the mountains, rain rarely ever falls; and here we see the first irrigation ditch. The scent of water spreads an emerald green mantle over all the adjacent lands. We are now in plain view of the TWO BROTHERS mountains, and are nearing the town of Trinidad, where we have our first plain view of the regulation Mexican adobe dwelling houses.

Trinidad, (a Spanish word meaning Trinity), is a fine town of about 15,000 population. This is the headquarters of John C. Fremont, the "Woolly Horse," when he was exploring the southern Rocky Mountains soon after the discovery of gold in California, when the slogan of the Forty-Niners was: "Pike's Peak or Bust." It is the county seat of Las Animas county (meaning The Life). It is new, as a town, but old as a fort. The first settlement dates from 1862, and it is the gateway of Raton Pass, pronounced Raw-toon, which carries us over the Rocky Mountains.

We stopped here twenty minutes to get the usual assistance to make the mighty grade that is just before us. Here we begin the climb by which we ascend sixteen hundred feet in fifteen miles, and in order to make the grade we take on two additional locomotives at Trinidad, one a standard locomotive in front of our regular locomotive, and one a strong, especially-built "pusher" in the rear, a low built machine with five drivers on each side, and with this assistance we start up the mountain.

I ought to mention that the county in which Trinidad is located is one of the richest in the United States—to wit, Las Animas county. It produces annually three million pounds of beans, a million sheep, and so much corn I can't remember it. Besides it has a court house that would make our new Moore county court house look like thirty cents! But you are to remember that I am not telling that here. I make them know that our Moore county court house is so great and fine the Trinidad poor little half a million dollars court house would look more like fifteen cents than the well rounded sum of thirty cents. Like Dan McLaughlin's story about the sick mule that came so near dying; After the mule had recovered one hill-billie of a horse doctor said to his assistant: "I wouldn't give fifteen cents for that mule at ten o'clock last night!"

The assistant answered: "I wouldn't be-GLN to give fifteen cents for him!" Some of you will remember that Dan McLaughlin in criticizing my former letters on Scotland, said: "the little old sorry things I said were the best part of my letters." I was wondering if this story would be little enough, and old enough, and sorry enough to claim his commendation.

At Trinidad, before reaching the fine depot, we see Sisters Hospital on the left, and in the park on the right is the statue of Kit Carson, the noted pioneer for whom Carson City was named. Fisher's Peak towers 3,000 feet above the city. This peak is named for an artillery officer in General Kearney's army, and just north of the town is a very high promontory named Simpson's Rest, so called for an old pioneer buried on its summit.

Across Las Animas River on the right hand side of the railway are high bluffs where in 1866 the settlers fought a sanguine battle with the Ute Indians. The pamphlet that is my informant does not give the result of the battle, but it is significant that

the Ute Indians are gone, and the settlers are still there. Time is always the best umpire.

Ascending the steep gradient, we arrive at the mining town of Starville, which is notable as being in the edge of the great Maxwell Grant of one and three quarters million acres, where in the old times the most lavish entertainment was given to all travelers. This princely grant of land was first secured by a French gentleman named Beaubien, and Maxwell married his daughter. The name Beaubien literally means Beautifully Good; I bet Mr. Maxwell, when he married that rich heiress, said to himself, "Pretty Good."

Passing Wootton, a mining village on the Old Santa Fe Trail, we come to the State line between Colorado and New Mexico, and immediately enter into the Raton Tunnel, which bores directly through the comb of the mountain, and for a little over half a mile we are in total darkness; and while in this tunnel we pass over the highest point on the Santa Fe railway from Chicago to California, and so emerge into daylight and into New Mexico, having dismissed our "pusher" before we entered the tunnel. We now "shuck out another extra locomotive and roll down the mountain towards Albuquerque in great style."

All my life I had thought of New Mexico as a desert, and of no value to the United States except to answer as a stopper to fill up a mighty hole in the earth. But soon after entering the state borders I found that I "had another Think coming." New Mexico has more coal than France and Belgium combined, and more than all of Germany! Just think of half the world fighting over the coal of the Ruhr valley, and other coal fields in central Europe, when our sparsely settled state of New Mexico with its wealth of coal, as well as the other requisites for world progress, beckoning with both hands for the brawn of France, Belgium and Germany to come and take it, and exploit it for the word's advancement! There would be no France, no Belgium, no Germany, no ill will, and neither thought of war, nor cause of war, but a vast Brotherhood under the Star Spangled Banner, the God-blessed Flag that ever floated over a free people! "Go West, Young Man!"

The Santa Fe railroad on which we are traveling enters the state of New Mexico near Raton tunnel, and traverses the state in a south-westward direction to Albuquerque, thence north-westward to the town of Gallup—but I am anticipating.

Almost as soon as we enter New Mexico we are in the rainless belt, and it is more interesting to look at the preparations for irrigation than to examine and write about the towns we pass through. Indeed I took very few notes on any subject other than the irrigation dams and ditches.

The town of Maxwell, named of course, for the Mr. Maxwell who married the rich Miss Beaubien, is the headquarters of an irrigation plant that irrigates 23,000 acres, and makes the whole territory blossom like a rose.

The town of French, the next we pass after Maxwell, is the headquarters of the Antelope Valley Irrigation District, and makes a veritable garden of another large territory of country. The waters for these projects are from

(Continued on page eight)

SQUIRE CAMPBELL CELEBRATES HIS 88th

Family and Friends Gather for his
Birthday—Still Hal
and Hearty

Squire Campbell, known to every one in this section, celebrated his 88th birthday last Monday. The Squire clings tenaciously to his old home place just out of Addor, though he lives there alone with tenant farmers. He likewise is as strongly attached to his horse and buggy with which he gets over the neighborhood to keep in touch with what is going on. Squire Campbell is a remarkably well preserved man. Age has dealt kindly with him and he is still in good possession of his mental faculties. He accompanies his son-in-law on regular trips to Aberdeen where he visits with friends from place to place until it is time to go back. The Squire not only cultivates his old friends, but he is making new friends, which is remarkable for a man of his age.

Squire Campbell served the Addor section as its Justice of the Peace for a good many years. During that time he acquired a unique reputation for meting out justice. Anecdotes that will go down into county history are told about him, some of them founded on facts and some of them merely attributed to him.

The relatives of the Squire gathered at the home of N. A. McLeod for a family reunion in honor of the Squire's birthday. Later during the day a party of friends went out from Aberdeen also. The Pilot extends congratulations to its oldest reader, and hopes that the years still allotted to him may be pleasant and cheerful.

A CO-OP LETTER FROM UPPER HOKE

Mr. Smith Says Crops are Look-
ing Fine—Best Cotton, To-
bacco, Corn—Co-op Talk

Is your crop as good as you wish it to be?

Upper Hoke crops are fine, no better cotton, tobacco and corn prospects anywhere in the State, as we know of. There is some of the best tobacco in Little River township that has ever been grown since this industry was begun a few years ago. It takes time for people to learn anything so as to make a success of it, and the farmers are just learning the art of growing fine tobacco, and it looks now like this will soon be the leading tobacco section. We get not only the size but also the fine grade which counts at selling time.

We are 90 percent co-ops in Little River, and have a very good local at Mt. Pleasant school house which meets every two weeks. About all you hear said against the co-ops not being all right is said by the fellow who does not belong, and he doesn't say much, and we believe after the present crop is put on the market that this township will be 98 to 100 percent co-operative. We think that the co-operatives should charge each member a fee of, say 50c. on the \$100.00 worth of tobacco sold, this fee to be set aside as an emergency fund, and placed in some good bank at 4 percent interest, and then should a member have hard luck, such as getting a barn of tobacco burned, his crop ruined by hail, or anything that might happen, unavoidable by him to cause him to be unable to meet his obligations, then let him report his condition to his local and let the chairman and secretary investigate the conditions reported, and if found to be deserving then let them recommend a loan to said member out of this fund to tide him over until he can make another crop, or until his payments come in for back crops already delivered. Charge him 4 percent interest until he is able to repay the loan, and thus keep all members in good standing at all times. And should there be no need of any one borrowing any of this money let the bank pay the members the interest on their money. We have approximately 92,000 members, so we are informed, and should they pay even 50c. apiece this would be \$46,000.00, and the interest on this for 12 months at 4 percent would be \$1,840.00 to be added to the \$46,000.00, which would give us \$47,840.00 for the first year, as a sinking fund. We admit there would be some expense for handling this, but we have to pay our clerical expenses anyway, and we see no reason why this extra work could not be done with very little additional cost to us, and we would be in shape at any time to meet the urgent needs of one of our fellow members and no one miss the measly 50c. he would have to pay.

Am I right or am I wrong? We would be glad to hear from some more of the members in regard to this proposition. If we are wrong in this or have misrepresented any figures, we have done so unintentionally, and hope you will look over any mistakes, as we are only expressing our views and stating what we think, and not trying to run the co-operative tobacco business whatever.

With best wishes to all the co-op members, and all Pilot readers.
A. C. SMITH.

CIVIC CENTER LOOMS UP FOR ABERDEEN

Public Activities Building Plan May
be Joined With Municipal
Building

Aberdeen's two fraternities, the Knights of Pythias Lodge and the Masonic Lodge, both of which have been prospering and growing in size of late, have launched the idea of a building in Aberdeen incorporating an up-to-date commodious lodge hall and a public activities center. The original idea was that the two lodges should come up each for their one-third share of the cost of this building and the remaining one-third to be made up by the town or public subscription. Each lodge has named a committee, and the two committees are to function together as one to evolve ways and means to put the plan in motion.

While the idea has not gotten beyond the confines of the two lodges yet, the members of the organization are beginning to advance various ideas. The idea now has become enlarged to the erection of building at a central location which would house the Municipal departments and perhaps contain several stores in order to make it yield sufficient revenue to pay the interest on the investment, and provide a sinking fund to eventually pay for the building itself. The building is taking shape as a two or three story building erected on corner lots with several stores in the

front on the ground floor and immediately behind these, the Municipal departments. Here would be the quarters for the town Fire Department, town offices, courtroom and jail—all heated from the same heating plant which would heat all of the building. A good basement, properly ventilated, would provide a place for the children of the town to engage in play and athletics, or this could be utilized as an all-year-round swimming pool, the water in which could be kept at an even temperature from the central heating plant in the building; or the children's headquarters could be moved to one of the upper floors. One of the upper floors, however, should be set aside for lodge-room purposes, with the usual division of small rooms for kitchen and lounging uses. A part of one of the floors might be used for offices, as that would add to the revenue of the building.

A building of this kind is absolutely necessary for Aberdeen, and while it is building, the needs of the town should be anticipated as much as possible. The committee is of course confronted first of all with the problem of financing any proposed building. It is suggested that the lodges take out Building and Loan stock enough to raise their part of the cost. It would seem, however, that if the town would act in conjunction on this proposition, that the entire erection of the building should be assumed by it and that it should assume the ownership and control of the same. It would be a feasible idea for the town to put its revenue obtained from the stores, the offices and the lodge room in the building into Building and Loan payments, and in that way provide a sinking fund to take up any indebtedness assumed for it. The idea has been launched, the will to do is there, and all that remains is to whip it into shape and form. Aberdeen is a progressive town and we believe that it will not allow this opportunity to pass, especially as it has almost been thrust upon it.

VASS HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTEST CLOSES

Saturday, July 28th, 8 p. m., is the time the home improvement winners will be announced. There will be speakers and a free moving picture at the school auditorium. All are invited.

In January the Community Club with the help of the Home Demonstration Agent, opened a Home Improvement Contest, in which the merchants of the town offered prizes to the homes making the most improvements on their yards, by planting flowers, shrubs, grass, making walks and drives. These prizes have been displayed in the store windows.

If you joined the contest come and see if you won a prize; if you did not join come and see why you should have.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF CLUB MEETINGS

Friday, July 27, 1:15 p. m. Ingram Branch Girls Club—Sewing. 3 p. m., Carthage Girls Club—Sewing, Woman's Club Room.

Monday, July 30, 2 p. m. Big Oak Girls Club—Canning, Ida Ingolds.

Tuesday, July 31, Club Women and Girls attending the Farmer's and Farm Women's Convention, Raleigh.

Wednesday, August 1, 2 p. m. Hemp Girls Club—Canning, Mrs. Stewart's.

Thursday, August 2, 2 p. m. Manley Girls and Women—Basketry, Mrs. McRae's.

Friday, August 3, 1:30 p. m. Pinehurst Girls and Women—Canning, Community House.

NORA BRADFORD,
Home Dem. Agt.

FAAMOUS PICTURE AT PINE- HURST JULY 31

At the new Picture Theater on Tuesday evening July 31st, an very interesting and famous picture of eight reels which has just been released will be shown. This picture is one that the moving picture loving public can ill afford to miss. The picture is "Hollywood". The scenes are laid at this most famous part of the United States showing more than one hundred of the really famous moving picture artists. Mr. Charles Picquet is indeed an artist in his line and he gives to his patrons the very best that experience and money can procure as he gives his entire time and thought to the pleasing of his patrons. The audiences at the summer series of pictures have been very large and a record crowd is expected at this picture "Hollywood."

SPECIAL NOTICE

Owing to delay in mail reaching The Pilot two very interesting news letters came too late to appear in this issue. We regret very much that they cannot appear as they are full of good live news—one from Pinehurst, and one from Pinebluff.

GREAT REJOICING AS MARKETS OPEN

Governor, Senator and Leaders
Urge Co-operative Marketing
Upon 20,000 Farmers

The opening of the 42 markets of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association in the South Carolina Belt has been marked by enthusiasm and celebrations by the organized growers that have passed all previous records.

Close to twenty thousand tobacco farmers joined in the great mass meetings of last week at Kingstree and Mullins, S. C., and at Norlina and the Guilford Battle Ground in North Carolina. The spirit of loyalty of the organized farmers to their plan of marketing tobacco as evidenced in these meetings is now beyond a doubt as they begin their second year of marketing.

U. S. Senator, of South Carolina, told twenty-five hundred farmers at Kingstree "We fought because we had taxation without representation. We fought and won. Yet when you come to selling the product that the education of your children depends on you haven't any more to say about it than a Hottentot in Africa. We sit down here like dumb driven beasts and allow others to dictate what we sell our tobacco for; we sit down here and allow others to dictate to us what our wives and daughters are worth." Senator Smith said co-operative marketing was the only way out.

Charging domination of the South Carolina tobacco markets by the Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain, Governor McLeod, of South Carolina, told more than a thousand farmers who gathered near Mullins that "If England wants our friendship she must not allow a company under the British flag to destroy an institution organized by the American farmers and sanctioned by the laws of state and congress." The South Carolina governor declared "When the Britons' back was to the wall and France was bled white, if it had not been for our American boys who went over, there would be no Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain. It would be a Hun company."

The record meeting in the history of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association was held at Norlina last Friday, when over twelve thousand farmers came from twenty counties of North Carolina and Virginia and feasted at a barbecue for which over a thousand checks had been contributed by members to make up the Brunswick stew, which was prepared in thirty-five great iron kettles. Those present hung upon the words of Oliver J. Sands, Manager of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association, U. B. Blalock, Manager of the Cotton Growers', Dr. J. Y. Joyner and County Co-operative Chairman John Fleming. So huge was the crowd that sound amplifiers were installed and the message of their leaders was heard by every one of the ten thousand farmers and brought thunders of applause that marked the great multitude one hundred percent co-ops.

On Guilford Battle Ground more than two thousand tobacco farmers who heard Senator Smith from South Carolina and Oliver Sands from Virginia, responded to the call to throw off the yoke of economic slavery as their ancestors had thrown off the yoke of British domination one hundred and forty years ago. The following resolution, signed by the officials of the county organizations of seven North Carolina counties, was passed with a standing vote that brought two thousand farmers to their feet.

"We members of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association, do most heartily commend the courage and patriotism which has animated U. S. Senator Smith of South Carolina in espousing the cause of the farmers, and in using his influence in promoting the cause of co-operative marketing, and we heartily and earnestly thank Senator Smith for the clear and logical exposition which he has given us today of the urgent necessity for the practice of that co-operation spirit which has always been the foundation of every successful business accomplishment."

"We express the wish that our worthy governor and honored Senators, realizing fully as we are sure they must, that the foundation of our business superstructure must rest upon agriculture and that the prosperity of the farmer is essential to the welfare of the state and nation, may profit by the example of the illustrious Senator from South Carolina and raise their voices publicly in behalf of this worthy movement."

South Carolina farmers are busy saving the best and largest crop which this state has seen in many years. Though small deliveries have been made to the association, its members are highly pleased with the first advances which are much higher than those paid last year.

S. D. FRISSELL.