

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

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NEW ABERDEEN REAL ESTATE FIRM

Doing Business as Moore-Hoke Realty Company—Office in Hotel Block

A new real estate firm started doing business in Aberdeen Monday, October 1st. Theo Berg, formerly with the Peoples Realty & Insurance Company, and the Aberdeen correspondent for The Pilot, will be in charge of the same. He has associated with him B. B. Saunders, Dr. A. H. McLeod and J. F. Allred.

The firm will have offices in the Aberdeen Hotel Block, just opposite the Page Trust Company. The vacant store-room next to the barber shop will be divided into several offices, of which it will use the front one.

It will operate under the name of Moore-Hoke Realty Co., and confine its operations principally to selling land and writing insurance in these two counties.

Chandler Makes Suggestion

Recently Ralph Chandler, who is at present the county auditor, wrote to the county commissioners and to Leonard Tufts of the county highway commission, submitting a suggestion as to certain changes in county affairs. In his letter Mr. Chandler said:—

Southern Pines, N. C., August 24th, 1923. Mr. H. P. McPherson, Chairman, Cameron, North Carolina

Dear Sir:—During the past few months I have given considerable thought and some little attention to the County financial affairs and the running of the County in general. After thinking the matter over I have come to the conclusion that it would be to the best advantage of all concerned for the County to engage an all-time comptroller, auditor, or whatever you desire to call him and let him really be the business manager for the county, under the supervision of the County Commissioners.

The County is handling hundreds of thousands of dollars per year through the several funds with which no one is entirely familiar, for instance, there are \$85,000 worth of short term notes outstanding of which the county treasurer officially has no advice. I cannot imagine any private enterprise that could possibly exist for more than a few months if conducted on this same plan that our County affairs are.

To my mind it would be the very best money the County could invest to select a good, competent man, pay him a good salary, and let him have absolute knowledge and a certain amount of authority over the receipts and disbursements of the County, he to also be the purchasing agent which, I believe would be a financial gain to the County and which, of course, would require a man of considerable ability.

My idea is that he could do the purchasing, not only for the general County expenditures, but for the highway and possibly the schools also.

It strikes me that there is plenty of room for such a man in the operation of our County affairs. My opinion is that it would be well to put him on the beginning of the new year, December 1, 1923, and let him work with the Certified Public Accountant who audits the County records for the year ending November 30, 1923.

To eliminate the idea that possibly the writer in trying to create a position for himself, will state, that I am not an applicant for the position. I believe this matter is worthy of your serious consideration and that you will have the support of the Highway Commission and School Board along these lines.

Yours very truly, RALPH L. CHANDLER, County Auditor.

Copy to Mr. D. A. McLaughlin, Vass, N. C., and Mr. G. C. Shaw, High Falls, N. C.

Mr. Chandler's letter met with the approval of the commissioners, and Mr. Tufts, who was in New Hampshire at the time, responded as follows:—

Meredith, N. H., September 4, 1923.

Mr. Ralph L. Chandler, Southern Pines, N. C.

Dear Mr. Chandler:—Your letter of August 24 received, and I cannot tell you how heartily I agree with you. I have thought of this many times and understood that at the last meeting of the State Legislature there was to be or had been a bill passed authorizing counties to employ somebody as a manager, auditor, accountant, or something of the sort. I am sure every member of the Highway Commission will be delighted with your suggestion.

I don't know how any business as large as the County's is conducted as

well as ours is with no accounting department, as we understand accounting departments in a normal business.

My impression is that the county is doing a business of something like a half-million dollars, and outside of the Recorder's records, and the Register of Deeds office and possibly one or two in the sheriff's office, there isn't a clerk employed. It is natural therefore that it should be difficult to tell what is happening. You take the Highway Department, for example, doing a business of something like \$100,000 or more a year. It has no book-keeping department. Mr. Maurice does some work and Mr. McDonald does some work on it.

We need, as you say, a man who will spend his entire time on the accounting of the county's business and who will open a distribution ledger for the proper distribution of the accounts of the different departments. Your suggestion that he start work with the auditor is fine. If they are going to employ a man, however, they should employ a competent man. There are several men at Pinehurst familiar with auditing, whose advice the Commissioners could get: men like Mr. Angus Mason, Mr. Paul Dana and Mr. Sledge.

Very truly yours, LEONARD TUFTS,

LT Cys: County Commissioners.

The Pilot has brought this subject before a number of the people of the county and the result has been a favorable attitude on the part of nearly every man approached. The letters are presented to the readers of the paper that the subject may have the widest possible publicity, in the hope that something may come out of it.

TIME TO BE CAREFUL

President Collidge has lived in the country, and has also spent a good part of his time in small towns. So he knows what he is talking about when he declares that fires in rural sections and in smaller towns are the greatest menace that a people can face. He referred to it but a few days ago when he called attention to the fact that we are now entering the dangerous period, when leaves, weeds and grasses are becoming dry highly inflammable.

All of us know how easy it is for a camp fire or even the fragments of a cigar or cigarette carelessly dropped in the woods to start a fire that will destroy many hundreds of dollar worth of timber, and quite frequently dwelling houses and barns. Citizens of the Sandhills realize that the season is here when it is necessary to inspect all chimneys and flues before starting a fire in the stove, grate or furnace, and they should not need a second warning along this line. Water may or may not be plentiful—fires are not always easily quenched even when the water supply is unlimited.

We do not particularly need a "fire prevention day" to remind us of our duty. We can make a fire prevention day by cleaning up dry rubbish in yards and alleys; by seeing that summer rains have not endangered chimneys or rusted holes in flues and stove pipes and by cleaning them out before starting a fire in the house. The old proverb about an ounce of prevention being worth a pound of cure must have been spoken first of fire prevention. At least it fits it mightily well—and right now would be a good time to put it into practice.

MORE TRUTH THAN POETRY

A reader hands us an essay on "Man," clipped from an old newspaper. Maybe you've read it—if so it's worth reading again. If you haven't read it, do so and pass it on to a neighbor.

"Man comes into this world without his consent and leaves it without his will. In infancy he is an angel; in boyhood he's a devil; in manhood everything from a lizard up. If he raises a family he's a chump, and if he raises a check he's a thief, and then the law raises Cain with him. If he is a poor man he's a bad manager and has no sense, but if he is rich he is considered a smart financier. If he's in politics you can't place him. If he goes to church he's a hypocrite and if he stays away he's a sinner. When he first comes into the world everybody wants to kiss him; before he goes out everybody wants to kick him. If he dies young there was always a great future before him; if he lives to a ripe old age he's in the way and only living to save funeral expenses. This life is a funny road—but everybody seems glad to see the chance to travel it in preference to taking chances on another one.

Plasterers are now getting \$105 a week in New York. When men hear that they understand why more boys don't study for the ministry.

And perhaps after all no one is more interested in the drop of gasoline than the undertaker.

ANOTHER NEW COTTON FIRM

Aberdeen Taking its Place as a Cotton Market—T. J. Horton & Co. Open Offices to Buy Cotton

Several weeks ago The Pilot brought the announcement that Ross & McKinnon had opened offices in Aberdeen to buy spot cotton. T. J. Horton then had under consideration the opening of a cotton buying office and had his arrangements to represent some of the largest exporting firms almost completed. He began doing business this week.

This gives Aberdeen two virile cotton buying concerns. The individuals of both firms having been closely identified with the production of cotton and the marketing of it from more than one angle.

Everything points favorably now to a big increase in the cotton acreage in the Sandhills, for it has been demonstrated that our land will produce a good yield of cotton. The boll weevil too, cannot make the inroads on our land that he does in other soils, and large cotton growers are already turning their attention to this section. The future of the Aberdeen market therefore, is assured. The next move now in the line of progress will be the construction of a modern equipped suction gin in Aberdeen, or the equipping of the gins already there with modern machinery. The activities of the new cotton buying firms ought to make capital readily available for this.

THE FLORAL PARADE AT SANDHILL FAIR

That it was wisdom to continue with the Floral idea and to broaden the scope of it to include business houses, orders and civic organizations is evinced by the generous responses that have been received at the Sandhill Fair office.

It was generally conceded that last year's parade was the best in the history of the fair, but this year's parade promises to far eclipse it, both in quality and quantity.

The following are expected to participate:—Mrs. S. W. Wilson, West End; Mrs. W. B. Graham, Vass; Mrs. John Ellis, and Mrs. A. A. McDonald, Jackson Springs; Miss Nora Bradford and Mrs. Charles T. Grier, Carthage; Mr. Hut-hison, Farm Life School; Miss Lila Hutchins, Pinebluff; Mrs. N. I. Gibbons, Lakeview; Sandhill Fruit Growers' Association, Aberdeen; S'ard Fruit Growers' Association, Pinehurst; Coco-Cola Bottling Works, Aberdeen; Davis Motor Co., Southern Pines; Brown-Buick Service Station, Sanford, Pinehurst Garage, Pinehurst; Ford Motor Co., Aberdeen; Franklin Sales Co., Aberdeen; Lewis's Market, Southern Pines; Page Trust Co., Aberdeen; Cumberland Nurseries, Winchester, Tenn.; Gulf Refining Co., Aberdeen; Bank of Pinehurst, Pinehurst; Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of Southern Pines and Carthage; Odd Fellows Order, Aberdeen; Civic Club, Southern Pines; Chamber of Commerce, Southern Pines; American Legion, of Carthage and Southern Pines; Chamber of Commerce, Carthage, Kiwanis Club, of Aberdeen.

NINE YEARS' WORK IN MOORE COUNTY, N. C.

In May, 1914, I came to the Bensalem group, consisting then of Bensalem, Culdee and Elise churches, with the following mission points: Rock Hill, Oak Grove, Eagle Springs, Holly Grove, Pineview and Morris School House. Most of these mission points were discontinued after a time as more promising work opened. I filled these appointments by walking until the fall of 1918, when I bought a Ford, which added greatly to my efficiency.

Early in 1917 a committee from Pinehurst came to Culdee to ask me to give Pinehurst regular services, which I did. At this time Jackson Springs was isolated and could not be included in any of the groups, so to remedy this situation, at the call of the Jackson Springs church, I moved there, retaining my former work and adding Jackson Springs and Mt. Hermon.

In November, 1919, on the death of Rev. R. S. Arrowood, I added West End church to my group. Both Culdee and West End were then preparing to build churches, and Culdee built a new church about this time and West End later.

Early in 1920 I became interested in the fine work of the State Home for Girls, at Samarcond Manor, and finding there was no regular preaching there, I accepted the invitation of the superintendent and opened regular work there, drawing the attention of both Synod and Presbytery to the spiritual needs of the institution.

With these additions, the field became too large for one man, and in April, 1920, Presbytery made two groups. This was made possible because Synod agreed to finance the work at Samarcond Manor, which is near Jackson Springs, so that Jack-

son Springs could be made the center of a group, consisting of Culdee, West End, Mt. Hermon and Samarcond Manor, now served by Rev. R. G. Matheson.

Because of the need of Elise High School for pastoral work, I retained the group consisting of Elise and Bensalem, with Eagle Springs, Pinehurst and Spies as mission points, moving to Hemp. I had preached at West Philadelphia and Piney Grove, near Spies, but although for two years an urgent invitation to preach at Spies had been extended to me, pressure of work had prevented me from doing so, but now I was able to begin regular work at Spies.

The Pinehurst work had been developing in every way, and in June, 1920, a church was organized at Pinehurst. At a meeting held recently by Rev. C. B. Craig, eight were added to the church, making the membership 56. Pinehurst has a good C. E., Sunday School and Woman's Auxiliary. A church building is needed and Mr. Leonard Tufts has offered a fine lot. If the present plan to give Pinehurst the full time of a pastor is carried out, this church will grow rapidly, and, after the erection of a building, will reach self-support. Pinehurst was one of the 15 churches in the Synod which contributed its full quota to beneficence last year. It needs help in the support of a pastor, and the erection of a suitable church.

Eagle Springs church was organized June 10, 1922, and has a membership of 33, with an excellent C. E. Society, Sunday School and Woman's Auxiliary. Eagle Springs is a rapidly growing town in the peach section. An acre lot in a fine location was kindly offered by Miss Agnes Graham, of Jackson Springs, at a very low price, and Mr. Mcl. McKennedy, of Bensalem, kindly bought and presented it to this church. The plan to erect a church building on it this summer fell through because of the failure of the peach crop, but the congregation hopes to erect one soon and needs help to do so.

Spies church is the result of years of mission Sunday school work by Messrs. I. F. and A. T. Monroe. Spies is a very small town on the Norfolk Southern, with prospects of future growth through a cotton mill and the development of the surrounding territory. Spies church was organized November 9, 1921, with seven members. These brave folks decided they must have a church home, and Mr. Bebee presented a choice lot. They built a modern church wh fur Sunday School class rooms opening into it. The church is completed, but needs painting, and has a debt of \$270 on a property worth at least \$4,000. This is a worthy work and help should be given to wipe out this debt. It has now a membership of 10, a Sunday School of 74, and a weekly prayer meeting with good attendance.

Elise Church, though small and weak, has supported and cherished Elise High School in its religious work, but has been badly handicapped by the lack of a church building. A huge auditorium, impossible to heat in winter, used for plays, movies, etc., does not make an acceptable house of worship, and Elise is now trying to erect a modern church, with Sunday School rooms, which will be a powerful aid in the training of the Elise High School students. The trustees have presented to the church a corner lot, and work on a church building has been started, though a great deal of help will have to be given before it can be finished.

Bensalem is the self-supporting mother church of the group, and has held its own, in spite of giving members to start the other churches.

Fifty-one members were received in this group last year.

I am also pastor at Elise High School and taught Bible in the school for two years.

Much of the success of this work is due to the cordial co-operation and support of the Home Mission Committees of Fayetteville Presbytery and the Synod in every forward move. I can say with Paul: I planted, Apollos watered, but God giveth the increase.—W. L. Wilson in Home Mission News.

FIDDLERS' CONVENTION AND BOX SUPPER AT SUMNER HILL SCHOOL HOUSE

There will be an old fiddlers' convention and box supper at Sumner Hill School House on Saturday night, October 13th, to which the public is cordially invited. The school is in charge of Miss Flossie Phillips, and a pleasant evening is assured.

The average girl may not want you to kiss her, but she would hardly be human if she didn't want you to want to kiss her.

When it takes a bushel of wheat to pay for a haircut, you can't blame the farmer for growing less wheat and more hair.

You men who are always rapping the young people for spooning in their automobiles ought to think back a few years to some of the buggy rides you took along dusty roads with the lines wrapped around the whip socket.

PART OF WHITEHOUSE HEIGHTS SOLD

Superintendent Yancy County Schools Buys Fifty Acres—Will Clear and Improve it at Once

W. A. Blue, owner of the Whitehouse land just out of Southern Pines on the highway, has just concluded a deal with R. W. Isley, superintendent of the Yancy County schools, for fifty acres of the tract located just opposite the Clyde Davis Orchard. Mr. Isley will begin at once to clear the land and to build the necessary improvements to begin farming it with next spring. While he will continue to live in Yancy county for the present, he says that he is much impressed with the Sandhill climate and our opportunities that he will eventually locate here himself.

FLOWERS AT STATE FAIR

Flowers of many varieties will be exhibited at the North Carolina State Fair by the florists of the State during the week of October 15-20, but one of the most interesting exhibits will be the one that Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt, president of the state fair, has provided in the way of natural flowers.

Mrs. Vanderbilt is strong for flowers and her estate at Biltmore has a world of them, but when she took charge of the State Fair two years ago the grounds were barren of anything that even smacked of beauty.

Today it is very different. Zennias of all grades and varieties have been planted around Floral Hall, the central building at the State Fair grounds, and they have been pruned down with a view to having them in full bloom when the fair comes on. They will provide a wealth of color.

There is a world of dahlias, too, which will be blooming at fair time in all their myriad colors while in front of the buildings will be flower beds with the stately cannas in bright red and yellow to furnish a mellow setting for the scarlet sage and the unique dusty miller, which is used to produce the white to offset the brighter colors.

In planting these flowers a color scheme has been observed with a view to showing how flowers can be used to make beautiful premises, so that those visiting the fair can learn something about how to make their home yards attractive. At least that is the idea of Mrs. Vanderbilt, who wants to see North Carolina a place of beauty as well as of enterprise and industry.

THIS YEAR'S CROPS

Experts say that for the fifth time in history this country will harvest a 3,000,000 bushel corn crop. Considering the jump in price over a year ago it means prosperity in many states, and will mark a break in agricultural depression. Cotton and tobacco are two money crops which show a fair increase. These things will not help the western and northwestern wheat farmers, but it will bolster the bank balance of the southern and eastern growers and that is some consolation—the entire country won't be hit at the same time. It isn't going to restore the farmers of this country to their prosperous condition of war time, but it is an advance over the depression of 1921, for which the entire nation can be thankful. It is also evidence that the farmers of this country are winning back some of their lost ground. We may not be faring as well around this vicinity as some sections. But we can at least be thankful that we are getting by all right, and that all indications point to a prosperity by next season that will affect all sections alike.

KNOW YOUR TOWN

Many a citizen who brags about his own community speaks from faith rather than knowledge. A local man suggests it would be a good idea to "know your home town" and he asked us to print a few questions. Here they are. Study them, post yourself on them, and the next time you go to boast about the town you're proud of you'll be in position to back up the argument. Here are the questions:

What is the population? How did the site of the town happen to be selected? How did it get its name? What is the birth rate? What is the death rate? What are our chief natural resources? Do most of the citizens own their own homes? What per cent are renters? What about our water? Is the supply adequate to meet all emergencies, and is the water pure? Is there proper ventilation and light in our school houses in this community? What kind of schools have we? Are they receiving the co-operation of our citizens that they deserve? What have we here to offer the man with a family who is seeking a permanent home?

Some men's idea of a good conversationalist is one who lets them do all the talking.