

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

Address all communications to
THE PILOT PRINTING COMPANY, VASS, N. C.

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VALUABLE LANDS ON SALE AT VASS

McNeill Property Goes Under the Hammer To Satisfy Claims

The announcement last week of the proposed sale at auction of the property of Daniel Hector McNeill next week is an event of considerable importance in this vicinity, for the tract of some 1,700 acres which lies just outside the village to the south is one of the biggest tracts ever sold in this vicinity in this manner. The property has to be sold to satisfy claims, and the buyers will make the price.

The tract is on the new road leading from the cotton mill out across the river and out past Sweetheart lake towards Aberdeen. The land is largely what is called second bottom, meaning that it is high enough to be above the swamp, and low enough to be in the fertile sandy loam that brings excellent crops when under cultivation. It is close enough to the village to be highly desirable farm land, and would no doubt have been made into farms long ago except that the owner had so much land that he was kept busy with the farm he tilled in the lower end of the tract and did not care to sell.

Much timber is on the property, as well as a large quantity of the best wood for fuel that is left in the county. The tract is approached from the clay roads leading down toward Lohelia as well as from the roads that pass through Vass and Lakeview. Very little of it is cleared. It has the making of fine dewberry vineyards, peach orchards, cotton and tobacco farms, and is excellent for stock and grazing. A. Cameron, a man familiar with the country around Vass, says that if he had the money needed to buy the place he would not hesitate to take it without debate, and that he thinks it is worth \$50 an acre. Much of it closer to the village is worth more. But he also says that it is not desirable that it should fall into the hands of any one man, but that it should be cut into a large number of farms and put into the hands of men who will develop it and make the heretofore unused acreage a big asset to the community.

It is pretty well understood that the lands of the Little River valley are among the best Sandhill lands in the state. The soil is loose, yet heavy enough to possess more than the ordinary fertility. It is exceptionally well watered, springs being abundant and strong. Health conditions are admirable, as is the case throughout this sandy belt. The constant call from the resort towns for farm stuff gives a steady market, while the cotton mill and the tobacco warehouse at Vass takes care of those products. Vass is one of the best cotton markets in the South, as the cotton delivered at the gin is already at the market, and has no freight to pay. Hence it brings the full price paid for the lint, and as it arrives in good condition and is inspected at the gin the farmer always gets a better grade for his cotton than he can get at many other places. Dewberries and peaches are sold at the local stations or delivered there for shipment along with other consignments from the other vineyards and orchards of the neighborhoods. A good demand for beef cattle is found in Vass and at the other towns, and

PROGRAM

For the week of the
CAROLINA THEATRES,
Pinehurst and Southern Pines

"The Song of Love"—Pinehurst, Friday, Feb. 29th. Matinee Saturday at 3:00 p. m. Southern Pines, March 1st.

"Flowing Gold"—Pinehurst, Monday, March 3rd. Matinee Tuesday at 3:00 p. m. Southern Pines, Tuesday, March 4th.

"The Hunchback of Notre Dame"—Pinehurst, Wednesday, March 5th. Matinee Thursday at 3:00 p. m. Southern Pines, Thursday March 6th.

Pinehurst is crying for good hogs to make into that famous Pinehurst sausage that has a call everywhere. Eggs and poultry and butter and milk are in demand all over the district.

The new district school at Vass will be convenient for settlers in the new neighborhood, and all the other village conveniences are of easy access. Electric current will be available at any time that a few farmers care to bunch together to get a wire into their community, as is being done now by farmers in some parts of the county. Railroad, bank and highway are all convenient at Vass. In every way the McNeill land is desirable.

Information as to this property can be obtained from A. Cameron at Vass, or from John R. McQueen at Lakeview. It will be sold at auction, and Mr. Cameron says he supposes it will sell far below its real value, as a big tract of land is a right big project for ordinary individuals to take on.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

A Republican County Convention is hereby called to meet at the Court House in Carthage at 3 o'clock p. m. on Saturday the 15th of March, to elect delegates to the State Congressional and Senatorial Conventions, and transact such other business as may come before it.

The precinct will meet in the respective precincts of the county at the voting places at 3 o'clock p. m., Saturday, March 18th, 1924.

Done by order of the Executive Committee. COLIN G. SPENCER, Chairman.

MORE CO-OP CASH FOR S. C. GROWERS

Tobacco Assn. to Pay 1 1/2 Million
—Bows to N. C. Supreme
Court

Members of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association in the South Carolina belt will receive more than a million and a half dollars before April 1 when the second cash payment on all deliveries of the 1923 crop will be made, according to the decision of the association Directors at the recent meeting of the board in Richmond.

This payment will represent one-half of the amount of the first advance paid to the Palmetto co-ops upon delivery of their tobacco and will bring their total receipts on the 1923 crop up to 75 per cent of the bankers valuation placed upon the South Carolina belt deliveries.

Virginia members of the association in the dark fired belt of Virginia will receive a third payment on the crop of 1922 as soon as sufficient sales of the association dark tobaccos have been made to warrant another disbursement according to F. D. Williams, manager of the association's Dark Leaf Department.

The Supreme Court of North Carolina settled a difficult point of law in the case of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association vs S. S. Bissett when it decided last week that landlord members of the association are not liable under their contracts for liquidated damages of five cents a pound for their non-member tenants part of the tobacco raised on their land and sold by such tenants outside. The association had long since stopped the collection of liquidated damages on non-member tenants' tobacco and returned all such damages previously collected following decisions in the lower courts which were upheld last week in the Supreme Court.

Last week's case in which the Supreme Court defined the rights of non-member tenants is one of several cases involving rights of the co-operative association which are being heard this week at Raleigh.

Deliveries to the co-operative warehouses reached 162 million pounds of 1923 tobacco last week, and are expected to pass the total deliveries for last season by many million pounds before the closing of all bright tobacco receiving points in the old belt of Virginia and North Carolina and the Dark Fired markets of Virginia on March 28.

OPPORTUNITY IN RAISING HOGS

Tufts Gives Reasons For Hog's Value as Farm Crop; Needed at Sausage Factory

Of all the crops that we can grow in Moore County the value of the hog crop is probably the least appreciated. The fact that other crops—cotton, peaches, and tobacco particularly—make an unusual profit or loss in any one year, gives them prominence out of proportion to their average earning capacity per acre. For example, after a good year in the tobacco market our farmers are inclined to gamble on the return of similar conditions the following year and plant the maximum possible acreage in tobacco. If fortune favors them and the market is high, tobacco is given the credit for their success, when in reality not good judgment but really "luck" deserves the full credit. But year after year, while money is being lost or made on other crops, the farmer who raises hogs for pork is making a steady and consistent profit on the best of all methods of marketing his product. His success can justly be credited to good judgment.

There are many reasons for the hog's great value as a farm crop, particularly where he is used in conjunction with other crops. Under proper management he is not affected by weather conditions. The demand for his flesh is a steady one for we must have meat in order to live, and the supply is equally constant for it is obviously impossible to very greatly increase the hogs raised all over the country in one year. A constant demand and supply insure reasonably steady prices for the product.

Hogs lend themselves very well to use "on the side" with other crops. The rotation of crops is an important and difficult problem for every farmer to solve and by the use of such hog crops as rape, rye, chuffas, corn, peas, etc., planted in alternation with the more important crops in this county, a farmer is able to increase the annual yield from his land of his major crops. Again, there is no better fertilizing agent for your land than a bunch of hogs grazing on the field you plan to plant in cotton the following spring. It will enable you to obtain double use of your land at the same time that you improve its producing ability.

Regarding the market for hogs during 1924, government surveys of the situation seem to indicate a slight falling off in the number of hogs in the country, which would in turn point to somewhat higher prices for another year. The corn situation in the west has helped this along and as farmers will doubtless plant cotton heavily next spring, there will probably be a further shortage of hogs in the south.

The packing plant which was opened in Pinehurst this fall has proven to be even more successful than we anticipated and the demand for our product has been very strong. We shall have to make some improvements for another year, but the important thing is that we have decided to continue with it and expand as rapidly as the supply of hogs will enable us to. This fact should be of great interest to the farmers in this county for it supplies them with a sure market for their hogs in small quantities as they become ready to market. The fact that we have few farmers in Moore County who are in a position to feed out a carload lot for shipment to market has made the hog, as a crop, impracticable in the past, there being no other good method of bringing him to market. The establishment of our packing plant therefore makes it profitable for every farmer to add hogs to his list of crops, regardless of whether he has a foundation herd of one or of twenty brood sows.

On the acreage that we have available at Pinehurst it is obviously impossible for us to raise a sufficient quantity of hogs to even partially supply the demand for our products. It is therefore our hope that the farmers of Moore county will co-operate with us in this enterprise and we as-

sure them that they will participate with us in the profits.

Twenty-one years ago we purchased three Berkshire hogs because we believed him to be the best hog. Among the reasons for this selection was his very superior quality of meat and the higher percentage of yield of desirable product from the live weight. These reasons are even more true today than then and enable us to put up a very much higher grade of product by using only Berkshire meat. With the experience gained from this year's operation, we plan another year to put out even a higher grade product and this improved quality should enable us to obtain a higher price. This advantage in price we shall always want to share with the farmers of this section who will bring us Berkshires and it is for this reason that we are able to offer a higher price for this breed. However, we feel that hogs of any breed can be raised for a good profit at market prices, on any farm in this county. We shall, therefore, always be glad to purchase hogs of any breed, but give preference in price to Berkshires for the reason stated above.

In conclusion, we want to say again that the value of the hog as a supplementary crop cannot be overemphasized. We are sure that every farmer in this section who is enough of a live stock man to care for a hog and a good enough farmer to raise the crops that he eats would be well repaid to add pork to the list of crops that he markets next fall. If you are unable to make a trip to Pinehurst to find out about this, ask Marion Wall if the above isn't true.

RICHARD S. TUFTS.

PINEHURST HOMES SHOWN TO WORLD

Big Paint Company Has Two Pages of Pictures in Saturday Evening Post

One of the most interesting advertisements of the Sandhills ever shown in any place was a recent double page advertisement of the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company in the Saturday Evening Post. The two full pages were occupied with fine cuts of Pinehurst homes and public buildings that had been painted with the product of the advertising concern.

The exhibit is unique, and it cost a lot of money, which fortunately for the Sandhills country, the advertiser paid. Several thousand dollars was required to pay the bill. Undoubtedly the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company found that it could show a finer collection of homes and public buildings in Pinehurst using its paints than in almost any other small village, and that it could present a bigger mass of testimony than it could gather from any other community of anything like similar size, and in that way create a stronger impression as to the virtues of their products. Pinehurst is a mighty interesting assemblage of fine buildings, with attractive surroundings, and afford a good subject for illustrations, especially when grouped as they are in the big advertisement.

Sherwin-Williams did the work as an advertisement, purely, but The Pilot appreciates the job sufficiently to give them this little bit of further advertising, and to say also that Pinehurst Warehouse sells their paints, and sells a lot of them and to satisfied buyers. That a million and a half dollars' worth of buildings in Pinehurst are painted with these paints is no bad recommendation as to their value, and especially the type of buildings that are shown.



Look for what you lose—advertise what you find in THE PILOT Classified Column

MR. TUFTS FAVORS FARM LIFE SCHOOL

Wants Country Children to Have Advantages Like City Children Have

The proposition of the Kiwanis Club that the county should take the Farm Life School on the generous basis offered by the men who have made the institution has brought out much talk in the last week. Next Monday the matter will go before the county commissioners for a decision. A number of arguments have been offered by different people concerning the school, one being that with the increasing development of the orchard and dewberry interests in this section the school should be linked up with the work the governments are doing now to keep track of insect and other pests in the orchards, and of other efforts to broaden the knowledge of orchard and other agricultural work in this part of the state. An experimental station in the Sandhills orchards will likely be a continuous thing before much longer, and the advocates of the government help in the peach and cotton farm work think the Farm Life School could work in to advantage with the expert agents in broadening the farm knowledge of what is attempted here in practice in furthering fruit and farm progress.

Leonard Tufts, who was one of the men who founded the school and the hospital tells the motive for establishing these institutions, and the reason why they ought to be continued. He says:

"The late Walter Hines Page gave some of us the idea that we should try to duplicate the advantages of the city in the country. We therefore organized the Farm Life School, the object of which was to teach the country children how to make a better living in the country just as the city school tries to teach the city child how to make a better living in the city.

"Knowing the entertainment advantages of the city over the country we arranged with Mr. Clyde Davis, (who was then secretary of the Board of Trade) to go around from school house to school house and give magic lantern lectures and talks in the evenings to try to approximate the city advantages in entertainment. The culmination of this entertainment feature was to be the annual Sandhill Fair.

"The city has a tremendous advantage over the country in this—that one can go to the hospital in case of an emergency, and has the advantages of free clinics. This we intend to duplicate in the shape of the McConnell Hospital and we arranged to have hundreds of children examined for adenoids and tonsils, most of whom were afterward operated upon in the James McConnell Hospital.

"This property has cost something between \$60,000 and \$70,000 and has been financed by private subscription. Both the hospital and school are now on a self-supporting basis. There is a debt on the property of something like \$40,000. Arrangements have been made for paying off all but \$16,000 of this indebtedness and it is suggested now that the County pay this and take over the ownership and management of the two properties."

A committee from the Kiwanis Club will present the subject to the commissioners at their next meeting, and will go into detail in the case, showing why the club sponsors the idea, and why it would be wise for the county to accept the offer made by the men who own the property.

Weymouth Road,
Southern Pines, N. C.
February 22, 1924.

Mr. Stacy Brewer, Editor
The Pilot,
Vass, N. C.

My Dear Mr. Brewer:—For the first time, last week I saw a copy of your paper, The Pilot. In its mechanical makeup it seems about perfect. In its news and editorial it covers the field of a weekly paper far beyond what I had imagined. I congratulate you and the town of Vass on the publication of such an excellent weekly paper.

Yours truly,
THOMAS P. IVY.