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

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FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1924

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McLEAN MAKES SPECIFIC PLEDGES

Leaves Platform Building to State Convention, Saying He Will Stand on Party Plank

Aspiring to give the state "a safe and sane yet thoroughly administration," Angus Wilton McLean, in a statement issued Monday setting forth his views on matters of public policy, went strong for the program of progress, business efficiency and economy in government, agricultural development, law enforcement and reform for the judicial system. His statement follows:

To the Democratic Voters of North Carolina:

I submit the following statement with respect to my candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor of North Carolina:

I shall seek the nomination in the primary on June 7th at the hands of the Democratic voters, and if nominated I will stand on the platform of the party as adopted by the Convention to be held on April 17th. I shall not attempt in advance of the Convention to adopt a platform of my own. I deem it proper, however, that I should at this time declare my personal views with respect to some of the matters of State policy in which our people are interested.

Let me say at the outset in all sincerity, that I feel a very unaffected sense of responsibility in aspiring to the office I seek, believing as I do that it is the highest position of honor, trust and service within the gift of the people. Moreover, the office is one in which the people have a most vital interest, and they have the right to expect that any man who aspires to it shall give a pledge of unselfish service. I, therefore, solemnly declare that if I am nominated and elected I shall subordinate every personal interest, and laying all other things aside, strive earnestly and wholeheartedly for the up-building of our beloved Commonwealth in all of its material, moral and spiritual values. If I did not believe I could render some constructive service at this time, when governmental activities have so broadened as to intimately touch the life of every citizen, I would not care to undertake the arduous duties of the office. I have long had a desire to serve the people of my native State in a constructive capacity, and I feel that the Governor's office offers an unusual opportunity for such service.

The Democratic party has been in continuous control of the State for twenty-three years. During all that period its record of useful and progressive achievement has been unparalleled in the history of government. We must remember, however, that progress in government, as in all other human activities, is the result of constant striving for better things, and that perfect accomplishment is always in the future.

North Carolina has entered upon a new era, and it is with pardonable pride that we view her present position among the states. The program of constructive achievement entered upon a few years ago has necessitated not only great expansion in the machinery of government, but also has largely increased our governmental activities to meet the new and constantly increasing demands for a greater measure of service to the people. A mental review of what is usually termed the State will disclose a great business as well as a great civic organization. In its business aspects the State may be likened to a great enterprise with several hundred million dollars invested for the benefit of its owners, the people of the State. Among its assets is a great highway system threading every county in the State.

Every intelligent citizen must realize that with the constantly widening scope of governmental activities new methods must be applied if the business of the State with its many departments, bureaus, commissions, institu-

tions and other branches is to be managed wisely and efficiently and at the same time for the common good. In my judgment, a safe and sane, yet thoroughly progressive business administration of the State's affairs is the paramount need at the present time. It is my ambition to give the State such an administration.

It is manifestly impossible to refer here to every matter of public concern. I may, however, mention the following policies which, if elected Governor, I shall endeavor to support with all the power and influence at my command:

1. Continued improvement in our system of public education, keeping in mind as the ultimate goal that equal opportunity shall be given to every child to enjoy the best educational advantages, both academic and vocational, that the State can afford.

2. The development of our agricultural industry, so as to produce prosperity and contentment among our farmers is at this moment our most pressing problem. Among the things which may contribute to the solution of this problem are: (a) fostering means whereby worthy tenants may become land owners; (b) establishing a research laboratory in the cotton sections of the State for experimental work in boll weevil control; (c) providing a more comprehensive system of agricultural training in the rural schools and making these schools the centers of activity for rural betterment.

3. Taxes and Economy in Government.

Taxes on both land and personal property are too high in many of the counties and municipalities of the State. There is admittedly a lack of uniformity in the valuation of lands for taxation, and this imposes an unequal and often too heavy a burden upon individual taxpayers. Often intangible property escapes taxation, thereby increasing the taxes upon tangible property. In many cases, lands are valued too high for purposes of taxation. A close study of the whole situation should be made in an effort to devise some plan whereby these heavy burdens existing in some of the counties be relieved and the defects and inequalities eliminated. The present system whereby land and personal property are assessed for taxation, and taxed by the local authorities for local purposes only, is the declared policy of the democratic party and has been approved by our people.

I believe that the time has come when a careful and comprehensive survey should be made of all governmental expenses, both State and local, to the end that they may be reduced wherever this can be done, without retarding wholesome and necessary progress. Obviously, one of the most practical ways of reducing the aggregate amount of taxes and thus the amount paid by each taxpayer is to reduce expenses in the administration

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REACHES MILLION DOLLAR CLASS

Bank of Pinehurst Has Made Unusual Record for the Community

(A. S. Newcomb)

When a statistician desires to ascertain the rate and nature of the growth of a village and its surrounding section, he usually begins by studying its banking resources.

While the amount of freight and express handled, the business done by the local post office and the number of homes and business institutions added to the community are all vitally important considerations, there is nothing that indicates stability and permanence of growth like substantial and consistent increase in bank resources.

All banks in the Sandhills have developed steadily and rapidly, and a study of their experience during the past ten years is interesting and most reassuring to all who have the welfare of this section at heart.

The Bank of Pinehurst is a concrete example of such development. Founded in 1914, it has grown steadily and consistently and a short time ago its total resources passed the million dollar mark. When this bank was organized, the promoters believed that the deposits would amount to \$100,000, and hoped to do somewhat better than that, and some of the more optimistic ones were sanguine enough to prophesy that at the end of a decade the resources would amount to five hundred thousand dollars. But if, at that time, anyone had predicted that

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WORLD'S PREMIER IN THE SANDHILLS

Picture to be Shown at Carolina Theatre for First Time Anywhere

A world's premier in the Sandhills!

This may not mean much to some but it is a distinction that is sought by almost every theatre in America and accorded to very few except the largest cities. But to have the world's premier of one of the year's greatest productions, starring America's greatest actor, is something to crow about and something which every Sandhiller should take pride in.

Ever since the completion of "Beau Brummel" and its private pre-view in New York, the "big four" in New York: the Strand, the Rivoli, the Rialto and the Capitol theatres have had a merry little war over which would get the first run in New York which threatened to result in legal proceedings, but the plum was finally awarded to the Strand which will be the first to show it after it has been seen in the Sandhills.

It really isn't necessary to say anything about the play itself. Beau Brummel has been a famous character ever since the reign of King George III, and the play was made famous by Richard Mansfield which, incidentally made Mansfield famous.

"Beau Brummel" is a complete story of the rise and fall of this extraordinary man who rose from penniless obscurity, became the friend of Princess, and clung for years to position of Europe's dictator of fashion. His name for more than a century and a quarter has been a synonym style and the manner in which he virtually ruled the social life of England's Court during most of the madness of George III, is still a marvel not quite understood.

There are many photoplays this season which entertain or thrill or amuse. There are also a few productions notable for beauty, adroitness of development, fine acting, deft direction and sustained interest. The season of 19-23-24 has brought the fulfillment of promises of "better pictures," and with those which are merely better have come to light a few productions of real beauty and distinction, a few film plays which will probably run for years.

One of these productions of singular power and haunting beauty is "Beau Brummel," starring John Barrymore, in the title part, has never had a role which suited his looks nor his abilities so well. As Brummel, the lover, he is superb; as Brummel, the climber, he is daring and charming and agile of wit; as Brummel, the "first gentleman of Europe," he is insolent, vain, overbearing; and as Brummel, the exile, he is as marvelously transformed as he was in the part of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Willard Louis, as Prince George, gives a performance second only to that of Mr. Barrymore. Fat, round-faced, stupid, vain, loving flattery, servile even in the face of affronts from the gorgeous Beau whom he has made powerful by his favor, this Prince George is a great fellow. The cast is long, and of no member of it can it be said that either he or she was poor or merely adequate. Every part, however small, seems to have been given the same attention as though it had been one of the principal roles.

"Beau Brummel" is a wonderful production. A masterpiece. Probably one of the most elaborate and beautiful productions of the year, certainly to date.

Mr. Picquet says:—"It is one of the few which we will remember long after we have seen it. It is the most costly picture ever shown in the section and it will doubtless be next fall before it will be seen again outside of the largest cities.

"A world's premier is an event in any city and is doubly so in the Sandhills. Theatre managers from all over the territory will be here to view it. Even from as far south as Atlanta they are coming. Every trade journal in the United States will have mention of this premier showing.

"The Carolina Hotel has loaned its

orchestra for the occasion at Pinehurst. The music will be especially arranged for the orchestra after viewing the picture.

"At Southern Pines will be staged a real fashion show and what could be more appropriate with a picture like "Beau Brummel?"

"This will be an outstanding and probably the last big event of the season and will equal any social event ever held in the Sandhills.

"There are two reasons why the admission prices had to be raised: One is the fact that it is the most costly picture we have ever shown and the limited capacity and population compels a raise. The other is the fact that to secure this production we were obliged to sign a contract to charge certain minimum prices. The distributors at first tried to insist that we charge a minimum admission of \$1.65, but that we refused to do.

"Of one thing our patrons may be sure—the picture is well worth the money no matter what price you choose to pay."

At Pinehurst, Wednesday, March 26th. At Southern Pines, Thursday, March 27th.

PLANNING FOR A CANTALOUPE CROP

(Dr. R. G. Rosser)

Last week an article appeared in The Pilot concerning the culture of cantaloupes with reference to my ideas as to such a crop diversification. I wish to state that I am not the author of the article, but to acknowledge the fact that it does conform to my sanction in almost every particular. The culture of cantaloupes might well be carried on by the farmers of the Sandhills on a small scale in connection with other crops and can be made profitable, as they are not an expensive crop, do not conflict to any great extent with other crops, grow quickly, improve the soil where grown, and returns can be gotten early in the season from such a crop. Besides these advantages Moore county and the section around Vass have shipping facilities not rivaled anywhere in the South, also a soil that will produce a cantaloupe superior in quality to any cantaloupe in the world. These facts being true the people should not neglect to take advantage of such natural and other advantages to get profitable returns from their labor.

McKeithen & Co., are considering handling seed, fertilizer and crates, and will also investigate shipping in iced cars to the proper markets. Call in and talk it over with Mr. McKeithen.

SAYS HE BELIEVES IN STATES RIGHTS

Chancellor McCormick, of University of Pittsburgh, Talks to Kiwanis Club

At the meeting of the Kiwanis Club at Aberdeen on Wednesday another prominent speaker took up a pertinent theme. This was Chancellor S. B. McCormick, of the University of Pittsburgh. The Chancellor started off by confessing that he was a republican, which he said was no crime up in Western Pennsylvania. But he then went on to say some things in defense of the rights of the states as distinguished from the encroaching authority of the Federal government, which would have sounded mighty logical as an argument in this section sixty years ago.

Dr. McCormick referred to the wisdom of the writers of the Federal constitution when they provided for certain duties and certain rights of both the general government and the several states, but he told the big gathering that the existence of the commonwealth is as important as the existence of the general government, and that on the day when the states cease to have their individual rights and their separate and substantial identity the end of the republic is not far off.

He regretted the tendency to turn to the Washington government for so many things that have no real basis for lodging in the general government. The united action of the states for common defense, and for the greater

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PEACH PROSPECTS STILL LOOK GOOD

Big Crop Indicated With Lots of Soft Peaches for all of the Neighborhood

While this has been a rather eccentric winter, the peach man has not been sitting up nights shedding tears. April is almost at hand and peach buds have scarcely begun to show color. From the first of January up to the present time no excessively cold weather has been experienced, but on the other hand, the average temperature for the three months has been below the normal and warm days to start vegetation have been extremely few. The winter has been a good one on the whole, with just two or three little dashes of snow and a fair amount of sunshine. As a result the orchards appear to be in the best possible shape. Unless unusual conditions should prevail between now and Easter everything points to the biggest yield to the tree that this peach belt has known. Spraying and pruning are well up. The trees appear to have wintered well. Already the railroads are arranging their plans for moving an extraordinary crop, and as soon as the blossoms open the peach men will be dancing until the last shipment goes to market in August.

Unless all signs fail, the orchard season this year will be one in which everybody who is willing to work can find a job. The truth is that right there is one of the problems fruit men will have to struggle with. Pickers, packers, trucks and drivers, railroad hands, loaders at the station and everybody who can do anything will be needed. Many people will come from other places, for if everything goes right, it is possible that a million crates of fruit or more will be harvested and shipped from this section. While soft peaches and culls are never spoken of as a great product, anybody who has kept up with peach production knows that a fair percentage of the fruit is rejected under the rigid Sandhill inspection. Beyond a doubt thousands of bushels will be set aside out of this enormous crop and people will come in here in all directions with cars and trucks to secure the soft fruit at a price that will be an attraction. As the orchards will be busy with their marketable fruit they devote little attention to the grades that will not permit shipment. This gives the people within a hundred miles of the peach belt a chance to get fruit of excellent quality for home use almost at their own prices. This opportunity has been pretty generally understood but with a large crop this year the grades that will be set aside will include so much more fruit than ever before that everybody who can get around and secure some of it will find a profitable bargain.

Some of the most excellent fruit that was ever raised will be on the bargain counter this summer. Magnificent Georgia Belles and Elbertas overlooked until they are a little too ripe to forward to market but in the pink of condition for immediate home use will be there for anybody who is willing to pay a nominal price. It is this quality of fruit that the people of the Sandhills use and because it is ripe before it is picked it is better for local use than the harder, greener fruit that must be picked while firm enough to stand shipment and marketing. Peach men expect to see the roads alive with trucks from everywhere during the season carrying away tremendous quantities of fruit of this kind which must be market at home or thrown away.

The prospects seem to be for a satisfactory dewberry crop, although some of the planters say that in places the vines have not made as good growth during the winter as they might. The Sandhills dewberry is attracting the attention of farmers in other sections, and a large number of plants raised in this county have been sold for delivery in other sections.

Cotton planters seem to think the

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PROGRAM

For the week of the
CAROLINA THEATRES,
Pinehurst and Southern Pines
"A Society Scandal"—Pinehurst,
Friday, March 21st. Matinee
Saturday.
Southern Pines, Saturday, March
2, 8:20 p. m.
"The Enchanted Cottage"—Pine-
hurst, Monday, March 24th.
Matinee Tuesday.
Southern Pines, Tuesday, March
25th, 8:15 p. m.
"Beau Brummel"—Pinehurst,
Wednesday, March 26th. Matinee
Thursday.
Southern Pines, Thursday, March
27th.

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