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they have

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

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DERBY SAYS LIMIT PEACH PRODUCTION

Thinks Crop Should be Held
Down to What Market
Takes Freely

Mr. Bion H. Butler,
Southern Pines, N. C.
I have just returned and read the
article in the September 5th issue
of The Pilot entitled "Is the Orchard
Overdone?" in which you take issue
with me on the question of produc-
tion of peaches.

There are several points that I
would like to clear up in this con-
nection and as I believe the whole
matter deserves the widest possible
discussion in the local press I am very
glad to write this open letter to you
which I hope you will see fit to pub-
lish. I want to discuss the matter
in perfect good humor on account of
you and the pleasant relations I have
always had with you so that any lit-
tle pleasantries that I pass out should
be taken in good part. We once ar-
gued in the public press the question
of whether or not you deserved to be
hung without a lynching taking place
and as you escaped the gallows I ex-
pect my idea of a proper punishment
for you was wrong. While we are
discussing personalities I might say
that in my opinion your vision and
enthusiasm are and have been very
valuable assets to this community
and I am very glad that you were
NOT hung. However it is possible
for even a prophet and the Sage of
the Sandhills to be sometimes wrong
and when he is I want to assist in
setting him right.

It seems to me that the responsi-
bility of the press is a very great one
and that when a writer undertakes to
advise such a community as this on
a fundamental economic policy he
should be very sure of his facts. This
is especially true when one is dealing
with farmers, for as a class they have
less cohesion than any other class in
our civilization and the development
of public opinion among them is an
extremely difficult matter. There-
fore I want to get down to the facts
in this matter of production of peach-
es and stick to them, leaving general-
ities and sweeping prophecies as to
the future alone.

In the first place you start your ar-
ticle by misquoting me. I never have
made the assertion that the Sandhills
are producing too many peaches.
What I have said is that the South
was producing too many peaches and
that the present acreage planted in
this district will produce all we can
hope to market at a profit and that
this acreage should not be increased.
I took this position two years ago
and still maintain it and I believe that
the experience of last summer has
proved my position to be correct. Of
course it is not a popular stand to
take. Being a Cassandra never went
down very well in America but that
happens to make no difference to me
whatever. I would a good deal rather
be right than insincere.

You go on in your article to say
that the trouble is not with overpro-
duction but with an imperfect system
of marketing and you lead your read-
ers to believe that in some way the
community can improve this so that
50,000 cars of peaches can be sold
as easily as we used to sell our 300
or 400 carloads. You compare our
problem to the marketing of beef
which you say is as equally perish-
able a product as peaches.

This comparison seems to me to be
unworthy of your intelligence and in-
dicates that you are guessing about
the question and not boring down af-
ter the cold hard facts. Beef is really
not a particularly perishable product.
It can be frozen and kept in cold
storage indefinitely. It can be and is
slaughtered whenever the occasion de-
mands. If we could leave our peach-
es on the trees for twelve months and
pick them when the market demand-
ed them or pick them and store them
under low temperatures for an indefi-
nite period, then I would agree that
our problem would be much simplified
and would approach a comparison
with the beef industry.

Moreover beef is a necessity in the
diet of the nation that really has no
substitute. Meat has a stimulating
effect that most people believe is the
source of the energy and endurance
of our very vigorous people. But for
peaches there are dozens of substi-
tutes, both fresh and preserved, that
answer the same purpose equally as
well. It is well known that cantalou-
pes are serious competitors of
peaches and in this connection it
might be well to point out that we
peach growers were very fortunate
during the market glut of the past
season in that the cantaloupe crop
was short and poor. Otherwise we
would have had an even more disas-
trous experience than we had.

You also lead your readers to be-
lieve that one solution of our prob-
lem would be to can our product. This
is a very common illusion among
people who really don't know any-

thing about the peach business. Our
fresh fruit varieties such as Belle,
Hiley and Elbertas are not suitable
for canning. This is a well known
fact which I am surprised that more
people do not recognize. These varie-
ties do not hold their shapes when put
up in cans but break down into a
frayed, mushy mass that is not ac-
ceptable to the public. I grant you
that the flavor, when properly pre-
pared, is superior to the ordinary hard
meaty California canning peach but
unfortunately the public will not ac-
cept them.

California went through this same
experience years ago with the same
varieties that we are growing here
and finally developed a special peach
for drying and canning. You wonder
why we should not do the same. Well,
that is worth looking into but first
we should determine whether we can
enter this special line of agriculture
with any hope of success. Raising
canning peaches is a very different
matter than raising fresh fruit. Col-
our, which is an essential for fresh
fruit is of no consequence in canned
fruit. The important considerations
are the size of the individual speci-
mens and the yield per tree. In Cal-
ifornia in the peach canning districts
they get a very much larger yield per
tree than we do here on account of
the stronger land, and in my opinion
this is the stumbling block that would
prevent our hoping to compete with
California in this line. At all events
it would take years of experimenta-
tion and a great deal of special
knowledge and investigation before
we could enter the canning peach in-
dustry. I object to your sweeping
and off hand assertion that to can our
peaches is a solution of our difficulties.

Now as to marketing. You again
make a sweeping assertion to the ef-
fect that we should do something to
improve it so that more peaches can
be sold at a profit and one would in-
fer, from what you say, that our
present methods are very inefficient.
In this I totally disagree.

It is utterly impossible for a district
that has a product to market over a
period of only three weeks in a year
to build up an organization of its own
to handle the business. This has been
tried time and again by various dis-
tricts and has always proved a fail-
ure. Our own experience in this line
should have taught us the lesson in
conclusive fashion. For such a dis-
trict as ours the only solution is to
employ a marketing organization
that is constantly in the field and that
has the connections and trained per-
sonnel to handle the job efficiently.
This was done last year by the Ameri-
can Growers and the Federated Grow-
(Continued on page 8)

MCDONALD PUTTING ROADS IN SHAPE

Routes of This Side of the Coun-
ty Up to the Stan-
dard

Charlie McDonald, the manager of
the county road system has been show-
ing the folks of the east side of the
county what good roads look like.
From Cameron to Carthage much of
the road has been rebuilt during the
summer, and while for a time when
the heavy rains of September were
making the road man's life misera-
ble the main line was hard to travel,
the fine weather that has followed
during October gave the forces a
chance, and from Cameron to Car-
thage is a good road all the way.

Another road that has been rebuilt
to the queen's taste is the route up
the county line from Cameron to the
Underwood school house. As far as
this road is the county line the two
counties have rebuilt it. Moore coun-
ty doing the work, and there is an-
other example of good construction.
This road gives the upper part of this
county an outlet to the Sandhill sec-
tion, and opens a shorter route to the
whole Deep River valley in the Car-
bonton and Gulf area. The cost of
construction was small, as the ma-
chinery now in use and the efficient
handling of force and machinery are
getting results.

The road going out of Vass by way
of Union Church is another piece that
has come in for a lot of work, and a
little more fair weather will make
that one of the model stretches of
construction in the east side of the
county. Fills at the new bridges and
wider surface with better grades and
solid surface all contribute to the de-
sired end. The road equipment of the
county has been doing a good job in
all sections this year, and has still
other plans in view.

IS MORRISON BENT ON JOB IN SENATE?

Red Powell Reviews the Port
Measure From Political
Side

(R. E. POWELL)

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 12, 1924.

Port bill opponents enjoying to the
utmost their defeat of the administra-
tion measure at the late election, rear
back with supreme satisfaction that
Governor Morrison has been inter-
rupted in his march to the United
States Senate.

Whenever anybody says anything
about the senate and Mr. Morrison ed-
itor Wade Harris of the Charlotte Ob-
server gets mad and says Governor
Morrison is not going to run against
Mr. Overman for the western seat in
the greatest deliberative body on
earth. Governor Morrison has pledg-
ed Senator Overman not to get in the
race against him and the paper editor
says that ought to settle it. And it
does so far as Mr. Overman is con-
cerned. But the trouble is elsewhere.
Not even Governor Morrison expects
Mr. Overman to hold on forever and
when for any reason there may be a
change, Mr. Morrison is going to be
interested. There is right now in the
circles of regularity much senator-
ship talk. It so happens that Messrs.
Simmons and Overman are the same
age. Overman was born January 3,
1854 and Mr. Simmons two weeks
later. They are beyond three score
years and ten. There is right much
feeling here that one of these days
there is going to be some senatorial
appointment. Virtually all politics
these days revolves about these hon-
ors. And when Governor Morrison de-
cided to go to the county capitals and
principal cities for a discussion of this
port business, everybody seemed to
think about the senate.

Consequently, this fight has had an
important bearing on the senatorship.
Clyde Hoey is a known aspirant. In
fact, it is believed by many people
that the Shelby man will oppose Mr.
Overman two years hence. He is un-
der no pledge to stay out. If any-
thing should happen to take Senator
Overman from the race again there
would be Hoey and Morrison. In the
late campaign for port terminals Mr.
Morrison often reminded certain fel-
lows that if they aspired to the sen-
ate they might get right on this is-
sue. But the election was held and
Governor Morrison lost. What dam-
age has been done to his future can-
not be told.

But it has been extensive. His

CHARLIE MASON'S STORY TO KIWANIS

Started at Boston, and Winds Up
in the Sandhills of North
Carolina

Charlie Mason told his story to the
Kiwanis Club at their Wednesday din-
ner at Aberdeen, and it commenced
with his birth at Brooklyn, which he
said was about the only joke to it, and
wound up with the Sandhills, and he
says he doesn't care to go beyond this
section. He commenced young to
ramble, and covered a lot of territory
before he dropped off the train one
day in Pinehurst and bought some
twenty-dollar land and some peach
trees and set out on the road for
wealth, and about the time the good
fairly was ready to bring him wealth
Kaiser Wilhelm mused up the show,
and Charlie went to Boston and joined
Boston's famous oldest military or-
ganization in this country and head-
ed for the furse. He got over in time
to find a job assembling Ford ambu-
lances and then was promoted to a
place on the firing line where he put
in about as near full time as the law
allowed in going from one hot spot
to another, finishing his active career
the night before the peace was sign-
ed. He came back home, took up his
peach orchard and the real estate
(Continued on page 8)

with him whereas Hoey and his
friends were lucky with their fight.
Hoey and Gardner carried Cleveland,
Arthur Dixon pulled Gaston, Lunc
prestige has received a serious blow.
He failed to carry his own counties
Long and Halifax worked the down-
fall of the measure in Halifax, John
Dawson and Kingston in Lenoir coun-
ty did much damage to the measure
by simply being against it without
activity of any sort and in Harnett
Nat Townsend did the work of an ex-
ecutioner. Lindsay Warren in Beau-
fort got even with an old enemy, the
governor, and in Catawba Alex Shu-
ford paid back something. In North-
hampton Sumner Burgwyn hit Mr.
Morrison over the head and in Hay-
wood Lenior Gwyn smacked his excel-
lency good and hard. Wherever there
was a good Gardner man in a county
there was a killing for the port bill.

It means nothing else than that the
opposition to Morrison caught him on
the outgoing tide and fixed him for a
long time. While the Morrison adv-
cacy was worth much, it worked an-
other way in solidifying the opposi-
tion to him. The governor raved at
the republicans for not sticking to him
but republican counties generally did
better than democratic. The anti-
Morrison strength came out—that was
all. When he discovered that he was
beaten Governor Morrison threatened
Max Gardner and Winston-Salem
with harsh punishment four years
hence, but that may pass.

The fight revealed one thing. It
showed that the election laws are
written for the manipulators. Both
port advocates and the antis made lib-
eral use of accusation. They charge
each other with stealing votes. Doubt-
less both advocates did pilfer many,
for it is evident that there is no limi-
tation upon the power to take. The
only thing that restricts is the incli-
nation. In some quarters the port
advocates had the county organiza-
tions and in others the organizations
had the port people. The rule work-
ed well. If port advocates found it
profitable to get votes any old way
they got votes any old way. The law
(Continued on page 5)

CO-OPERATIVES GET HIGHEST FIGURES

And the Advances are Steadily
Strengthening on
New Sales

At a meeting of the tobacco and
cotton men last Saturday reports
brought out that the auction markets
were not paying as good prices as the
co-operative sales are bringing, and
that as the season ages the advances
on the new sales are better for those
in the association. A speaker, W. A.
Shackleford, thoroughly familiar with
tobacco told the members that the fi-
nances of the association are getting
in better shape as the tobacco that is
sold proves its superiority in its grad-
ing, for the big companies are begin-
ning to understand that tobacco
bought from the association is grad-
ed and up to a standard and can be
bought for exactly what it purports to
be. This is making a feeling of con-
fidence between buyers and sellers
that will help all future transactions.
The 1922 crop is nearly all sold, and
would all be but it was not so well
graded at the start, and is not of the
same quality as tobacco of recent
crops on this account. But now the
buyer knows what he is getting be-
cause the graders at the warehouses
are knowing better how to grade to
the standards.

One of the interesting features of
the talk was the reference to fertili-
zers and their wastes in many ways
of using. The speaker ridiculed the
use of 8-3-3, for with fertilizer so low
in feeding ingredients for the plants
the large proportion of filler compels
the farmer to pay freight on thous-
ands of tons of useless sand and to
haul it to the field and scatter it, and
solely to allow him to hold to his su-
perstitious reverence for that formu-
la. An 8-3-3 mixture means eight,
three and three pounds of phosphoric
(Continued on page 8)

WONDERFUL WEEK OF ENTERTAINMENT

At the Carolina Theatres Next
Week, Including Russian
Symphonic Choir

A flood of good things are coming
to the Sandhills next week in the way
of entertainment as a refutation of
the complaint that the early fall sea-
son is dull in Pinehurst and Southern
Pines, and in spite of the fact that
there are supposed to be but few folks
who want the best in entertainment.
It seems to have been the custom to
hold all the good things up until Feb-
ruary and March and jam them in so
thick and fast that it is impossible for
folks to see them all. It is to com-
bat the impression that the Sandhills
is a poor place to come to for enter-
tainment in the early season and to
do its part toward the entertainment
of the early tourists and those who
live in the Sandhills the year 'round
that the Carolina Theatres are offer-
ing the best that is obtainable even in
face of the supposition that these high
class attractions would be better pa-
tronized later in the season. The
management believes that the home
folks are entitled to as good attrac-
tions as the visitors and believes they
will get the support they deserve.

It is with a great deal of pleasure,
therefore, that we announce "The Sea
Hawk" for Monday and Tuesday;
"Abraham Lincoln" for Wednesday
and Thursday and the great Russian
Symphonic Choir for Saturday, No-
vember 22nd, at Pinehurst.

"The Sea Hawk"

It isn't necessary to say much about
the spectacular and thrilling picture
which has been made from Rafael Sa-
batini's stirring novel of Barbary Cor-
sairs. Nearly all of our readers know
that "The Sea Hawk" is the crown-
ing achievement of a season of bril-
liant screen dramas, a play that reg-
isters its magnitude in every scene
and with such force that it is not like-
ly that local screen followers will
cease to talk about it very soon. "The
Sea Hawk" had a great run in New
York followed by runs in the larger
cities and is destined to break all re-
cords throughout the country, as well
as in Europe. As an evidence of this
we are quoting from the London Press
upon the showing at the Royal Albert
in that city.

"Presentation of the 'Sea Hawk' at
the Royal Albert Hall was an unpre-
cedented triumph. An audience of
6,000 from all parts of the United
Kingdom greeted it. This magnifi-
cent picture is the talk of London. It
received a Galli-Curci reception."

"Abraham Lincoln"

We are proud of the opportunity of
bringing the life of this great man be-
fore you—to show him from early
youth, rising, fighting, plugging with
soul of iron, to the top! No life gives
such romance, drama, humor and thrill
as the unforgettable man of the ages.

The charm and enchantment of the
old South in the days before the de-
vastation of the war came upon it—
the days of Washington, Jefferson and
the heroes of the Revolution; the days
of Jackson and Clay, Calhoun, the
Lees and their contemporaries; when
plantations were fat with abundance
and gentle folks held court at count-
less manors, are called to life again in
all their grace, romance and chivalry
in the greatest of all films, "Abraham
Lincoln."

In "Abraham Lincoln" signal honor
has been done the history, chivalry,
the immortal heroes and the wonder-
ful women of the South, for the pic-
ture is an authentic historical docu-
ment.

Robert Edward Lee, Stonewall
Jackson, Jefferson Davis, and others
who wrote their names high in the
annals of the South's history, come
again in living, breathing forms to
thrill the hearts of those who adore
their memory.

A nation acclaims it as the great
American Drama and the world will
never forget it. Don't miss it.

Life is just sewing on one button
after another.