

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

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## COUNTY SCHOOLS HOLD CONTESTS

Moore County Schools Meet in Successful Contests, Showing Character of Work.

On the afternoon and evening of April 29, Carthage was alive with school folks—teachers and pupils—from here and there all over the county, the occasion being intellectual contests for the grades and the high school. Practically every grade was represented, there being spellers, story-tellers, readers, reciters, and declaimers from the primary and grammar grades, and reciters and declaimers from the High School. Superintendent Cameron had urged that no special preparation be made for the contests, but that the work be put on as a product of the achievements of the year. Every representative was interesting, from the little lisping tot of the first grade to the sweet girl or manly boy graduate of the High School. Clad in their Sunday best, with repleant faces and active minds they came, anxious to shine for their respective schools and to do justice to their faithful teachers. And the children one and all participated with a spirit and zest that was admirable.

In the afternoon contests for the elementary grades were held in the school auditorium. Primary teachers and those who love little folks were interested in the story-telling and silent reading contests for the primary grades. Miss Gunter, rural supervisor of Lee county, had a story for each of the lower grades. After hearing the story twice, the children reproduced it. Those participating in this contest were:

- Jean Von Cannon, West End.
- Pearl Rachel, Farm Life.
- Alice White, Southern Pines.
- Audrey Jewel Woodley, Jackson Springs.
- Mary Worthy Spence, Carthage.
- Betsy Jean Johnson, Aberdeen.
- Alma Frances Harhardt, Pinehurst.

The Gates Standard of Measurement of Reading was recommended by Dr. Trabue of the University, and used. Leaflets containing reading for primary grades, and pictures were distributed. The children read these silently and marked pictures according to printed directions. The following were the readers:

- Eleanor Felgar, Carthage.
- Alma Crouse, Farm Life.
- A. M. Bentley, Southern Pines.
- Mary Laura McArthur, Aberdeen.
- Mary Elizabeth Cameron, Pinehurst.

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## CHURCH WORK IN THE SANDHILLS

New Churches and Aggressive Congregations At All Points.

The occasional fear that the church is losing its influence or its standing with the people will hardly be verified by observation of the work the pulpit is doing in the Sandhill country, for even though conditions may be changing some it is hardly to be imagined that they are changing much for the worse. We are having different view points of many things, and naturally the church along with other institutions modifies its habit of thought in some things and its customs at times. But the probability is that it has its biggest work ahead of it, and that it will be a more powerful help for good in the future than it has in the past. For with the advance in the intelligence of men the general field of work constantly broadens, and men come more willingly to back every good movement the church or any other agency fathers.

All of which is not particularly

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## EMPLOYEE-OWNERS AT HIGH FALLS

Cotton Mill May Place Some Stock Among the Workers.

A project is under consideration up at High Falls which has for one of its aims to permit the employes to become stockholders in the corporation. About a hundred hands are at work at the cotton and flour mills, and as they are all local people and practically permanent residents the management has figured that the distribution of stock among them would be a fair recognition of their services, and a strengthening factor in the operation of the plant. High Falls occupies a peculiar and interesting position in the industries of Moore county, and one that is of more than merely financial importance. It is a self-contained community, and one that has as broad possibilities as the people will take care of. If the mill is to become in a measure the property of the people of the community in a broad way those who are discussing the matter figure that High Falls can develop to a broader basis, and with prosperity widening with the advancing years.

The community is built on the water power developed at the falls. At the present time a fall of about 20 feet gives approximately 250 horsepower. This serves to drive the machinery in a flour mill producing 20 barrels of flour daily, and a cotton mill with over 4,000 spindles. The consumption of cotton is over 3,000 bales a year, and the supply comes almost entirely from the farms of the neighborhood within easy trucking distance of the mills. The flour mill is supplied generally with wheat raised in the same area for the upper part of Moore county, with the neighboring territory of Chatham and Randolph is good wheat land as well as good cotton country. So the river furnishes the power and the farms supply the raw material to operate the flour mill and the cotton mill, and the neighborhood provides the hands to work in the mills, and the whole proposition is able to care for itself with the resources at hand.

The product of the cotton mill is yarns, of which about a million and a quarter pounds is made annually, with a good demand practically all the time, and a wide market. On Tuesday in the shipping room were packages destined for Buenos Aires, for Oshkosh, Syracuse, for Boston, and so on all over the country, and for use in many forms of textiles and cotton products.

The river at High Falls can easily permit raising the dam to increase the power materially, as the hills rise abruptly on both sides of the stream at the end of the present dam, which means that if the industry grows it can still take care of its growth. The farming territory surrounding High Falls has a fertile soil, and is probably one of the best adapted for farming of any of the South. Good roads have opened the country, so that the folks can get in and out, and with the mills at High Falls for a market close by and with the hands at the mills affording a local market for considerable stuff, that feature of farming in upper Moore county is taken care of.

The village has its own water plant, and electric current is supplied by the mill plant. The village is owned by the corporation, and about two dozen substantial houses shelter employes of the mill, while others live on the neighborhood farms with their own people, as it is the immediate vicinity that provides the help employed.

In the past the corporation has been in the hands of a limited number of persons, but the suggestion that some of the stock might be portioned out among the employes has met with much favor, and many of the workers have expressed satisfaction over the possibility of be-

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## SEWING CLASS AT PINEHURST SCHOOL

This Class Has Been Carried On Successfully For Five Years.

By W. P. MORTON.

For the past five years, some ladies with Mrs. T. A. Cheatham as leader, have conducted a sewing class for the girls of the lower grades at the Pinehurst Public School. The class is divided into different groups, each of which is given work suitable to the ages of its members. This project has been entirely worth while and has meant a great deal to the girls both educationally and socially.

You would be amazed to learn just how much real sewing these girls have done, the surprises in the form of practical gifts that they have carried home to their mothers as a result of what they have learned, and how intensely interested they are in their class. Indeed, quite a number have had 100 per cent attendance records for the year.

Prizes have been awarded each year to the pupils having the best attendance records, to the pupils who are most diligent, and to those showing the greatest improvement.

Last Monday, April 25th, through the courtesy of Mrs. Gunning, Mrs. Cheatham and her assistants gave the children a most delightful picnic at Little Cote. After appetites had been whetted by a variety of games and fun, most delicious refreshments were served, and it is even rumored that some of the children enjoyed the ice cream to the extent of being able to eat four plates of it.

Wednesday morning, Mrs. T. A. Cheatham and Miss Oliver Weller were present at the chapel exercise at which Mrs. Cheatham in a happy speech of commendation to her class awarded to members the prizes which they had justly and truly won.

While Mrs. Cheatham has been the prime mover and leading spirit of this splendid class, her assistants have been more than able, and at her request, we are giving a list of the ladies to whom she wishes to express her sincere gratitude and appreciation of their heartily response and efficient co-operation.

Teachers: Mrs. Harold Green, Mrs. Ethel Journey, Miss Ethel Lamont, Philadelphia, Miss Alice Barber.

Assistants: Mrs. John Peacock, New Brunswick, Canada, Mrs. John Fitzgerald, Mrs. Ellen Morrow, Miss Olive Weller, Mrs. Lloyd Gardner, Mrs. Harold D. Phillips.

Prizes for best center pieces: Evelyn Smith, 8 year old group; Edith Fry, 9 year old group; Gertrude Kelly, 10 year old group; Arline Bliss, 11 year old group; Louise Campbell, 12 year old group; Esther Mae Campbell, 14 year old group.

Prizes for perfect attendance: Louise Campbell, Wilmer Maples, Gladys Prim, Dorothy McKenzie, Nellie Lewis, Margaret Morton, Alise Frye, Alice Black, Edith Frye, Una Lewis, Irene Lewis.

Prizes for most diligent—Frances Erhardt, 8 year old group; Alise Frye, 9 year old group; Katherine Ritter, 9 year old group; Mildred Robbins, 10 year old group; Irene Lewis, 11 year old group; Wilmer Maples, 12 year old group.

Prizes for greatest improvement—Alice Black, 8 year old group; Ethel Moore, 9 year old group; Mary E. Wiseman, 10 year old group; Betty Hogg, 11 year old group; Louise Campbell, 12 year old group.

The best average attendance badge went to the eight and nine year old groups, their average being 87 1-2 per cent.

Twelve farmers in the Lowe's Grove Community of Durham County will plant one acre of alfalfa each as a demonstration this year.

Tom Tarheel says he is getting his roadside market ready for the summer trade.

## FARM LIFE HAS SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Turn Out Forty-Three Boys and Girls in the Finishing Groups.

The eleventh year of the Sandhill Farm Life School was brought to a successful close on May 10. The school is proud of the fact that this year's class is the biggest in its history. With 20 high school seniors, 11 graduates of the Teacher Training Department and 12 graduates of the Business Department, a total of 43 young men and women are going out as graduates of the institution.

The commencement program was interesting and inspiring from start to finish and many friends and pa-



R. G. HUTCHESON,  
Superintendent Farm Life School.

rons pronounced it the best the school has had.

On Thursday night, May 5, the finishing exercises were begun with a delightful recital by the piano students under the able directorship of Miss Stella Ethridge, the music teacher. On Friday evening at 8 o'clock the annual declamation and recitation contest was held in the school assembly hall. There were 11 contestants for the declamation and recitation medal, and the winners were Adolphus Covington, of Lakeview, and Miss Margurite Phillips, of Bennett, respectively.

The school campus furnished a most beautiful setting for the senior class exercises on Saturday afternoon at 6 o'clock. The 20 high school seniors entered into their final class meeting in a manner which delighted a large number of visitors and class mates. Irving Cartwright, of Fort Bragg, president of the senior class, presided in a gracious manner, and each member of the class performed his or her part most creditably.

On Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, Rev. Murdock McLeod, of Pinehurst, delivered an excellent sermon to the senior class. Mr. McLeod holds a warm place in the hearts of Farm Life students, due to the fact that he conducted a most helpful and inspiring meeting at the school at the beginning of the session, in which he led a large number of the students to higher ideals and nobler ambitions. The baccalaureate sermon was a splendid plea for the fundamental principles of character building and Christian lives.

On Sunday evening, Mr. John R. McQueen, chairman of the board of trustees, made a splendid talk to the Christian Endeavor Society on the topic, "Our Duties to Our Homes." Mr. McQueen always pleases Farm Life folks since he has been more deeply interested in the progress of the school and the individual problems of the students than any man in this section.

On Monday evening at 8 o'clock, the annual high school play was given before a large and appreciative audience. The name of the production was "Go Slow Mary," and it was unanimously proclaimed the best amateur production ever given

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## TRYING TO STOP PLANT SANDALS

Kiwanis Club In Arms Against The Looting of Shrubbery.

The Kiwanis Club at its Wednesday dinner in Carthage heard Sam Richardson announce that J. Ellwood Cox, of the Highway Commission for this district, said the building of the Midland road between Southern Pines and Pinehurst is determined for the immediate future with two tracks each ten feet wide. But Mr. Cox called to Mr. Richardson's attention that the folks of the Sandhills have proposed to maintain between the two roads a planted strip of vegetation, and that the Highway Commission will look for that planting.

That brought up some more talk, and before it had gone far the wanton destruction of pine trees and other plants by travelers and others along the roads excited a lot of discussion. It is a notorious fact that cars drive the roads at times that are filled with little pine trees cut to carry away, and in the arbutus and holly season, and later when dog wood is in flower the wantonness of the waste of those plants is fierce.

The talk led to a reference to the commissioners of a proposition to do something to stop the destruction of plants, even to drastic enforcement of law, for it is hard luck to plant trees and make parks to have folks come down the road and carry away the things that have been planted. The subject will come up again, for a sentiment that this thing should be stopped was evident in the meeting. Naturally the matter of enforcing the law in the case, and the need of paying more attention to the laws in general came up, and also the wisdom of allowing tourists to break down and carry away unlimited stuff rather than to deal harshly with them. But it was stated that if strangers are to be permitted to destroy things as fast as they can be planted it will be impossible ever to make this the attractive place that tourists are looking for. The destruction of the arbutus once so plentiful in this section, and now hard to find, and the equal ruination of innumerable holly trees had their place in the story, and it was the sense of the meeting that something should be done to make the law plain to prospective offenders and try to stop them.

Various other routine matters were disposed of, and a lot of fun mixed with the other proceedings.

## PINEHURST OPENS A WEEK EARLIER

Next Fall Sees the Date About October 24 With Full House.

Pinehurst has been steadily increasing the length of its season, both by earlier opening in the fall and later closing in the spring. While the Carolina will open officially for the general business of caring for everybody next fall on October 31, as has been the case for a year or so, it will open unofficially the preceding week to care for a convention of the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., an organization made up of the high officials of the large steel concerns and their friends. The attendance is expected to reach 250 to 350 and the hotel will be theirs for the week. This is an unusually prominent organization of persons of wide acquaintance in the country, and it is expected that its coming to Pinehurst will have a wide and wholesome influence on the early fall business.

For the end of the season next spring the North Carolina Medical Society has booked the week including April 30 to May 3. This asso-

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