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FACING A DEFINITE FACT.

The Commissioners of Moore County are coming face to face with a definite fact in county government under the new law, which requires that they shall provide a budget defining their outlays for each department of county government, and that they must arrange their budget according to their county income. They are to be required to either increase the county income or hold down the county expenditures, for the folly of going into debt each year depending on the gods and next year's taxes to settle the deficit is henceforth forbidden by the State.

For the tax payer this is a good thing. For those who are constantly clamoring for more appropriations from the county for every imaginable purpose it must be a disappointment. To the commissioners it is destined to be a task, for the one big job of the County Commissioners is to steadily say no to those who come to their meetings calling for money. But from now on the Commissioners must shape their expenditures according to their receipts, and there is but one answer to every call on the county treasury and that is produce the money to pay with or no money can be appropriated. Until this situation is adjusted the Commissioners are going to have a fierce experience, for nobody wants to pay, and everybody wants appropriations.

We are now at the parting of the ways. The old system goes into the discard and the first move is the overhauling of the taxing system. Then when it has been discovered how much money can be provided it will be more easily ciphered out how much can be provided for each department of the county government. If the county income reaches 400,000 the Commissioners will be permitted under the law to credit the various departments with sums that will total \$400,000. But they will not be allowed to go above that amount in spite of death, the devil and high water. The Commissioners are three men who are familiar with business. They know that income must equal outgo or disaster is ahead. They know the new law. They know they have to keep within the income and the budget. They will have a running fight with those who are for the old flag and an appropriation, but it is the business of the taxpayer who pays the bill to stand by them in their new problem, for it is the taxpayers' battle the Commissioners are obliged to fight.

HIGH FALLS FLOUR.

Last week The Pilot referred to the cotton and flour mills at High Falls. One thing that High Falls plant ought to impress more on the minds of the people is the value of living more fully within the limit of production of the county. In the storage bins at the flour mill was a huge pile of wheat that goes into flour. Mr. Brewer, the miller, explained that all around High Falls is a good wheat region, and the people produce lots of wheat which is made into excellent flour, and from that into bread of high quality.

We talk a lot of diversification. Then we buy our stuff from Iowa, Dakota, or any other place that is far enough away to give enchantment to the purchase. High Falls makes good flour, just as other mills of the county do. But in the county is lacking that wisdom that might

help the farmers to make more wheat and the county mills to make more flour if we would use that flour. The folks in the upper part of the county are wiser than we of the south side. They raise their bread stuff, and no succession of profits are reaped by others on the growing, milling and distribution and transportation of that material. The farm home where the wheat is grown in Ritter's township gets the whole succession of profits except the one of milling, and that is paid by a toll from the flour.

And it is right generally realized in this county that the farmers of the northern townships have as high a degree of prosperity as the farmers anywhere in this part of the State. They have flour in the bin, hogs in the smoke house, eatables in the cellar, and a good many of them have a dug-in somewhere with money stored away. They have the right idea of community living, and of the substance of industrial self-dependence.

Wheat has the advantage over cotton in that it can be eaten without taking it to market to be converted into cash to be converted into eatables with an expensive toll for the conversion. But the folks around High Falls also raise cotton, and they convert it at the cotton mill directly into those things that are needed, and without the middleman's intervention. Taken all around that neighborhood is on the road to a safe existence, and as long as the cotton mill and the flour mill and the farm work with each other a combination hard to beat is the result.

EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS; NOBODY'S BUSINESS.

Last week at the Kiwanis meeting Colin Spencer mentioned the vandalism that is destroying plants and shrubbery along the roads, and cited a car load of plunder that he had seen a short time before. He was asked why he did not stop the vandal and take steps to arrest him. Now Colin did perfectly right in not stopping the man, for he is not the factor in the law that should enforce the law. And right there is where as a County, a State and a Nation we are falling down. We are failing to police the County, the State and the Nation, and asking the individual to stop offenses, and the result is that nobody attends to what we have made everybody's business, and there is the secret of the growing prevalence of crime and our indifference to it.

Judge Way fired the woods a bit by saying that too much attention is paid to minor matters and too little to actual accomplishment, and in accordance with his statement the matter at issue was referred to the County Commissioners, a proper enough place to refer it, for on their shoulders is laid about everything that as a mass we do not care to tackle, and temporarily that subject was disposed of.

Now the robbery of the shrubbery is a very grave matter in all of North Carolina, and the only way it can be stopped is to stop it. New York does not allow us to go into Central Park and break down shrubbery because we happen to be visitors from North Carolina, and no more reason exists why visitors from New York should be permitted to break the shrubbery here, or visitors from other sections, or even our own people. But we will never stop this thing until we stop it, and it will never be stopped if Colin Spencer or any other single individual has to stop it for one man is not only powerless to do the job alone, but the authority of the law is heeded only when it is backed by a more powerful force than we are putting behind the law in this State or any other state. What destroys the shrubbery we are trying to cultivate along the roads is that thing of making it everybody's business. Men like Spencer, Richardson, Buchan, Charlie McDonald, Mose McDonald and others are trying to stop pillaging the roadsides and the for-

ests. But they can't do anything single handed. We must put behind them the organized force of sustained law or we are planting our county only to meet certain disappointment and disgust. The Kiwanis has a job here it has not finished, and referring it does not do the business.

WHAT AILS THE SCHOOLS?

"A Parent" writing in The Pilot this week comments on a recent article in the paper regarding the backward condition of many of the children in the public schools, and among his remedies he proposes more earnest attention on the part of the parents who have children in school. Probably he has bored deeper into the question there than he is aware, for at the bottom of many of the other problems that beset society at the present time, as has always been the case, is the attitude of the parents. Undoubtedly this is a changing age, as all ages have been, and we are floating with the tide of destiny, only faintly realizing where we are going. But that has been the fate of man from the morning of creation. Call it predestination, accident, evolution, progress or anything you want, we are constantly changing, and the present is no exception.

Whether we are changing for the better or not is not the question, but how we may lend an influence on the affairs that stand out most conspicuously in daily practice. The home life certainly does not have the hold on the child it once had, and probably it is safe to assume that if the schools are to be made more useful to the child, which means to the community and to the State and Nation, the home must be an interested worker.

It is hardly to be doubted that fathers and mothers have just as much interest in their children now as ever. Possibly it is merely that discipline is more lax, and likely enough discipline of the father and mother over their own conduct is less stringent. Home life in all its phases may be in need of more serious attention. Maybe here is opened

a bigger subject than is suspected, for home example has much to do with the child.

And the deeper we dig the farther we get into other factors. It is hard to reform the children unless the atmosphere about the children is wholesome and fairly saturated with the elements of reform. Good schools are found in communities where the common sentiment manifests an enthusiasm for good schools. It is a community matter as well as a household matter. Yet a beginning point is always in the home for there is the beginning place of the transformation of the child into the grown individual and the creation of its character. Public sentiment is the basis of the whole business.

AN EXAMPLE OF ATTRACTIVENESS.

In all this talk of making the Sandhills a pleasant place to live it should be remembered that the greatest success will attend the widest application of the proposition, and that it is not necessarily the well-to-do, or those who live in pretentious places, or on the main lines of the highways who must undertake the work to the exclusion of everybody else.

Looking out over the valley from Weymouth Ridge in Southern Pines, two or three of the avenues stretch out toward the Midland farms, passing through the village of the colored people in what is officially known as West Southern Pines. Possibly the most interesting of these open ways is New Hampshire avenue for it leads to the development over there where much that is new has been going on, and it seems to be the most open way across the valley. Near the west end of the avenue is the home of William Street, porter at the Southern Pines house, a man familiar by sight if not by name, to a large portion of the resident and transient population of the community, for he is at the trains and at the hotel, a courteous, intelligent worker and a dependable man. But it is at his home on the west end of New Hampshire avenue, there on the hill top west of the creek that he is

doing one of his best bits of work, for he is imbued with that doctrine of making this a that doctrine of making this a live.

This man has one of the finest collection of pinks and Sweet Williams around his home that can be found in the Sandhills, and a multitude of other flowers. He is an aborn florist and gardener, and the yard about his house for the past two or three weeks has been an extensive riot of vigorous hue and color. "I know nothing of the botany of these plants," he said when the varieties were mentioned, "but I like to have flowers about the house, and it is pleasing to me to help make things attractive in my neighborhood. I give my flowers attention, and they do their part."

Some day New Hampshire avenue may be extended as a thoroughfare to connect Midlands and Southern Pines, and if such should be the case a succession of cared-for homes like William Street is making there on the hill top would add to the interest of driving through the area. It is good to make every place the most pleasant place it possibly can be and this man sets an example.

Fertilizer and cultivation will not make up for poor soil preparation.

Many Irish potato growers in Eastern Carolina complain that their seed are rotting in the ground

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A large and well selected stock of monuments, tablets, etc., on hand at all times. Quality, work and prices guaranteed. Equipped with latest pneumatic machinery driven by electricity.

Carolina Theatres

Pinehurst :: Southern Pines

PRESENT

"No Control"

If you can't control your laugh-motor — don't see this delightful picture comedy.

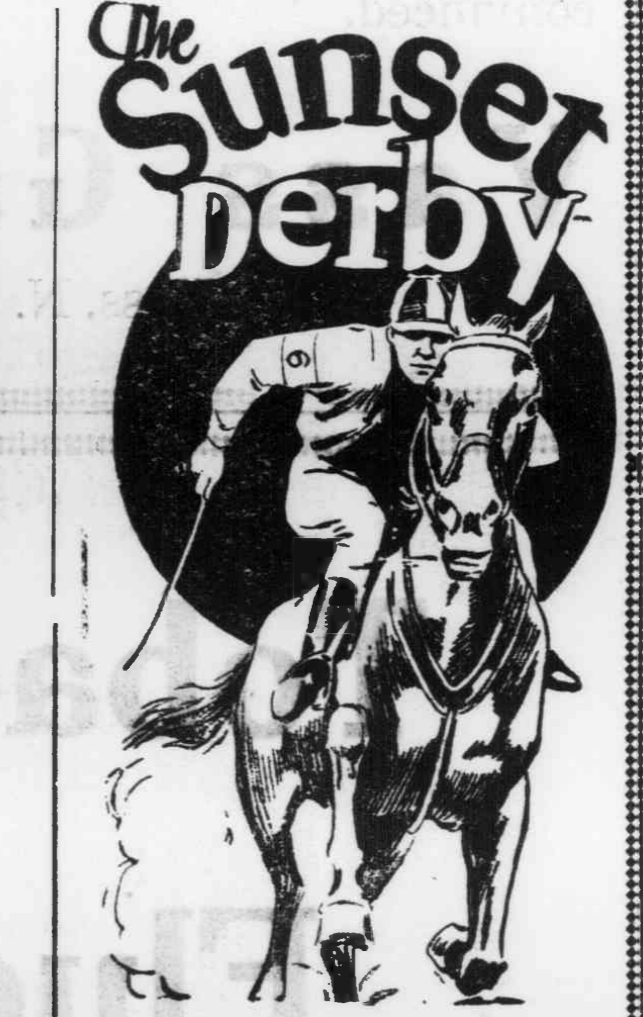
PINEHURST:
Friday, May 20th.
8:20
SOUTHERN PINES
Saturday, May 21st.
8:20



Presenting
FLORENCE VIDOR
in
"The World at Her Feet."

A rare comedy of the utmost subtlety and delicacy. An amusing tangle of domestic realltions that does not unsnarl until the final fade-out.
Also Another of the "Famous Melody" series of "Songs of Italy."

PINEHURST.
Monday, May 23rd.
8:20
SOUTHERN PINES:
Tuesday, May 24th.
8:20



with
Mary Astor and William Collier, Jr.

Romance rides as cheers and thrills makes "The Sunset Derby" a real audience picture!

PINEHURST
Wednesday, May 25th.
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Southern Pines
Thursday, May 26th.
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