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THE PILOT

AN
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WEEKLY

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

VOL. 8, NO. 42.

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Bond Issue Needed For Repair of County Bridges, Says Highway Commission

Conditions in Moore Serious As Result of Recent Floods.

\$100,000 PROGRAM.

The condition of the bridges in Moore County since the last tremendous flood is such that the Highway Commission has felt it necessary to propose an appeal to the County Commissioners for relief from the situation, a bond issue to provide funds for the speedy repair or reconstruction of the bridges being the plan suggested. Appended hereto appears a letter from the Highway Board, including an enumeration of the bridges that have been damaged and the approximate sum that will be required to renew them for service. It will be seen that the damage is widespread, including every section of the county, and a personal visit by The Pilot force to some of the scenes of disaster leaves no doubt that the majority of the cases cited are imperative in their immediate needs.

This is the season of the year when the school children are to be taken in the school busses to their schools, and in many cases the roads are so interrupted that long detours are required, while in some cases it is practically impossible to make the connections. The mails on the rural routes are in precarious shape, public and private traffic is impeded, and almost wholly by the destruction of bridges.

Petition on Monday.

Chairman C. F. Leavitt, of the Highway Commission, says it is a case of money to repair or rebuild the bridges, or, as he expresses it, "What else?" The position taken by the voters shows an unfavorable attitude toward any bond issue unless sanctioned by the people, and the County Commissioners hesitate to take any steps without the authority of the voters and tax payers. So the Highway Board proposes an appeal to the Commissioners through a petition to be presented at the meeting next Monday. The time is not long, but it is apparent to everybody that what is done has to be done promptly, for the roads will not improve by waiting. The proposition as the county officials offer it is simple. Roads and bridges are built for the people, but by the money of the people. The bridges are gone. To restore them will take money. The money can come from but one source, which is the taxpayer. The question is whether the taxpayer at this juncture is ready to instruct the county officials to go ahead and procure the money and do the work or let the bridges stay where they are—in the streams or washed away completely.

The valuations of property in Moore County at the present assessment is approximately \$26,000,000. The amount of indebtedness against the road and bridge establishment of the county is around \$337,000, as nearly as figures available at this distance from the courthouse records show. Of this, some \$67,000 is the old township debts, \$5,000 a lingering heritage from the flood damage of 1908, when the rivers went on a similar rampage, \$65,000 is the portion the county assumed when the State built the State road through Carthage on the Sanford and Charlotte route, and the balance is accounted for in \$100,000 road bonds and a similar sum in bridge bonds. The courthouse debt is \$150,000, the school debt in the districts and county well up toward \$500,000.

Only One Alternative.

The Pilot has asked different ones to express an opinion as to the wise course to pursue, and the answer is pretty much the same, that the bridges have to be rebuilt unless the people want to do as they did in the past, which was to depend on the

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WONDER WHO THIS FELLOW IS VOTING FOR, ANYWAY!

He entered the office of S. B. Richardson, Inc., in Southern Pines and asked for an Al Smith button. "We have no Smith buttons here," said the gentleman at the desk. "We have some Hoover buttons." "All right, let me have one of those," said the caller. And, pinning it on the lapel of his coat, he walked out, seemingly just as happy.

Bethesda Church, 136 Years Old, Celebrates Sunday

Founded in 1792 in Little Log Cabin in Orange Presbytery.

SERVICES IN GAELIC

Preparations are complete for Memorial and Home Coming Day at Bethesda Presbyterian church in Aberdeen next Sunday, September 30th, and it is expected to be one of the most notable days in the long history of this ancient church. Bethesda was organized in 1792 with Archibald Patterson and John McMillan as first elders, and Rev. John Gillespie as first pastor. The present pastor is the Rev. V. R. Gaston.

The spot was first called "Head of Rockfish" and also "Solemn Grove." The first services were divided between English and Gaelic, and the church remained in Orange Presbytery until 1812 when it was placed with the Fayetteville Presbytery. The first log building was replaced in 1832 by a frame building; and the present building was erected in 1860. The present pastor came to the work in 1916; meanwhile a new brick building was erected in the town of Aberdeen, but so strong have been the associations of the old location at Bethesda for over a century that services have never been discontinued at this spot.

Many prominent families have been connected with the work at Bethesda, and their descendants are happy to gather each year for a Home Coming and a reunion on the spot so dear to their fathers.

This year the speaker for the occasion will be Dr. W. T. Whitsett, of Whitsett, N. C., who has been engaged for many years in making researches into the history of the older churches of the State, and who in 1926 was the speaker chosen to deliver the historical address before Orange Presbytery for the historical celebration held at Hawfields Church, Mebane, N. C. It is expected that his address at the Bethesda celebration will be a real contribution to the story of early Presbyterianism in the Fayetteville Presbytery, and a very large gathering is expected to be present for this interesting occasion.

TO BUILD HUNTING LODGE ON OLD BUCHAN PLANTATION

Eldridge Johnson, former president of the Victor Talking Machine Company, who recently purchased the old Buchan plantation south of Aberdeen for a hunting preserve, is making plans for the erection of a fine hunting lodge on one of the sightly locations of his new property.

TWENTY-SIX NEW MILLS FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Of a total of 77 new textile mills locating in the South in the period from January 1 to July 31 of this year, D. H. Hill, Jr., of the Southern Textile Bulletin credits 26 with having been established in No. Carolina.

Tobacco Crop May Net Record Return In Aberdeen Market

Total Paid to Farmers to Run Close to Highest in Section.

QUALITY A SURPRISE.

The tobacco market at Aberdeen has been rather a surprise to most of those who have paid the warehouses a visit. The amount of leaf coming in is pretty large, and it is probable that the quality is better than was generally expected. It is not as good as the quality last year, but most observers had figured on a grade not as good as is really arriving on the floors, and B. B. Saunders says that as compared with the quality last year the prices so far are better. Poor tobacco never brought much money and never will.

The average price for the crop this season, Mr. Saunders thinks, will hardly be as high as for last year's total crop, but for the same quality he thinks it is running a little higher. He advises the farmers to grade their tobacco as carefully as possible, for a little low grade stuff in the pile with good leaf will kill the whole pile. This is one place where the planter can profit. A small amount of time spent in sorting the tobacco will pay better this fall than almost any other work done on the entire crop.

Prospects Bright.

Farmers on the warehouse floors as a rule are pretty well satisfied with the figures marked on the tickets, although once in a while a vigorous protest is heard. However, it is apparently too soon to judge yet what the bulk of the sales will bring. Not enough leaf has come into the market to be sure of the average quality, nor to tell what the prices are to be on the better grades. But it is safe to say that the prospects are not as bad as many had anticipated, and that the total amount of money paid into the hands to tobacco farmers this year will run close to the biggest total the section has ever known.

Mr. Warren and Mr. Saunders both advise growers to get their leaf in as rapidly as possible, and express the view that the manufacturers will not send many buyers to the markets after the holidays. The evident desire on the part of the companies is to get away from the long drawn out marketing season, and to have the men busy at their other work.

So far the habit of trying out distant markets has not been so conspicuous this fall as at times in the past, as Aberdeen seems to have been making a reputation for good prices and good classification of leaf, and for convenience in all ways for handling the product. Another thing that is having its influence is the marked improvement in the stores and other business places in the town, which gives to the farmers better service when they want to buy supplies.

ORNAMENTAL LIGHTS WIN SOUTHERN PINES APPROVAL

The first of the thirty-two new ornamental street lamps to be erected in Southern Pines was placed in position on Broad street on Monday of this week and attracted widespread and favorable attention.

Artistic brackets of heavy wrought iron hold the lamps in place fourteen feet from the street level. Brackets and lamps are to be painted a dark green. Four hundred candle-power bulbs will furnish the illumination. New poles are being placed along four blocks of Broad street at regular intervals, and there will be eight lights to each block.

Mayor Barnum and the town commissioners inspected the first of these lights after its erection Monday and completely approved of the fixtures. All the poles and lights are to be in position by October 1st, and there will be an informal celebration of the village's new lighting system when the current is switched on.

The Political Situation.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Hoover are now in the thick of the fight. Mr. Smith is used to it, having been in politics all his life. He is probably not taking it too seriously. Mr. Hoover, running for office for the first time, is probably suffering cold chills one day, smiling over favorable news the next.

The campaign to date seems to the neutral observer to sum up something like this:

Mr. Hoover drinks, says Senator Bruce of Maryland.

"I do not," says Mr. Hoover.

"He does not," says Chairman Ras-kob.

"Senator Curtis had a bottle of whisky in his pocket at the Pimlico race track," says Senator Bruce.

"Never possessed a bottle of whisky," says Senator Curtis.

Al Smith was intoxicated at the New York State Fair in Syracuse, N. Y., last month, wrote a Syracuse woman to friends in Virginia.

"I was with him all day and he never had a drink," says Senator Fearon, Republican, of Syracuse.

"Smith is the candidate of the forces of the devil," says Rev. John Roach Straton.

"Smith is too strong a churchman. It would be unsafe to elect him," intimates Mrs. Willebrandt, Republican.

Smith is the farmers' friends. He will solve the farm problem, cry Democratic leaders.

He was born on the sidewalks of New York and can't tell alfalfa from oats, say his opponents.

Al will solve the prohibition problem, say his friends.

"The President can do nothing about the situation," says Al.

North Carolina is going for Hoover.

North Carolina is going for Smith.

And all we can say is, thank goodness November 6th will be here before long and we can all get back to work.

PINEHURST GREENHOUSES BUILD ANOTHER WING.

The Pinehurst Greenhouses, famous for their flowers and plants as the season rolls around, are building a further extension of a thousand square feet, to be used as a display room for plants and blossoms. The growing demands on the Greenhouses require frequent enlargements, and this fall and winter will see the institution carrying out its consistent policy of building to fit the requirements. While the original intention of the Greenhouses was to have a supply from which the needs of Pinehurst, Incorporated, might procure its supplies, the steadily extending calls for flowers and plants from all directions has made the present equipment and room necessary.

NEW WATER TANK FOR VASS NEARING COMPLETION.

The new water tank being erected by the Town of Vass is rapidly nearing completion on the site chosen for it near the intersection of the Route 50 highway and the road leading into the village. The steel supports for the huge tank were completed and riveted into position early in the week, and the tank itself is now nestling into place and will soon be supplying Vass with the forceful water supply which has long been needed.

N. C. LEADS NATION IN BUSY SPINDLES.

South Carolina continued to lead North Carolina in the cotton spinning industry during August, according to the report by states of the United States Department of Commerce. South Carolina mills worked 1,761,072,954 spindle hours as against 1,669,206,795 spindle hours of North Carolina mills.

North Carolina, however, had more spindles active during August than any other state in the country.

Polo Ponies and Hunters Arrive to Start Season Off

Fifteen Horses Arrive for Welch Stables in Southern Pines.

BIG POLO SEASON.

When they begin to unload horses at Pinehurst and Southern Pines, then you can be sure "the season" has begun in the Sandhills. Polo and hunting are just around the corner.

After what must have been a long and tedious journey, four polo ponies, the property of Verner Z. Reed, arrived at Pinehurst from Denver, Col., on Monday and were stalled in the Ziegler stables which Mr. Reed has taken for another season. These are some new ponies to the game in this section, having been picked up in the West for the Reed stables during the summer. The balance of the Reed ponies are now en route from his summer residence at Brookville, L. I., and are expected within a few days. Mr. Reed also has acquired two new hunters during the summer which will be seen pursuing the elusive fox behind the Moore County hounds at Southern Pines this winter.

Carload for Welch.

A carload of fifteen horses, the property of Frank Welch, Sr., arrived in Southern Pines on Tuesday and were unloaded and taken into the Swinnerton stables where they will winter. Mr. Welch anticipates a busy season for his riding horses, both in hacking and hunting. Each year has found more horses required to care for the winter guests here than the previous one, and stables were taxed to capacity last season.

W. A. Laing, who conducts the Halcyon Hall Riding Academy in the new Country Club development section, plans to ship more than the usual number of hunters here this winter, and will have some en route from his farm in Virginia within the next few weeks. Mr. Laing is worrying about stable accommodations, as last season he was crowded both in his regular stable and in the annex on the road to the Fort Bragg Reservation. His problem is not only to provide stalls for his own hunters but for the accommodation of the many visitors who send their horses to him for boarding during the hunting period. More than forty boarders were taken care of by the Laing stables last winter, and more are expected this year.

Many Hunters Coming.

Among those who are shipping horses here for the fox and drag hunts with the Boyd hounds is B. A. Tompkins, of New York, who will have ten horses for himself and party throughout February. Donald McPherson and William Teter, of Chicago, plan to return this winter and are sending a number of Irish hunters from Chicago. There were twelve mounts from Chicago stabled with Mr. Laing last winter for nearly two months. Miss Ogden, who has been hunting here for several seasons, plans to return with one or two horses, and Duncan Robinson, of Toronto, Canada, is shipping three hunters.

James S. Wadsworth, of Geneseo, N. Y., is expected to bring a number of his imported Irish hunters here for the winter, but plans to build his own stables on land purchased through Frank Buchan last winter. Mr. Wadsworth is well known in the hunting world, being master of the Geneseo Valley Hunt in Central New York.

The new wing to the James Boyd stables has been completed and will take care of four or five horses which the Boyd family has acquired since hunting stopped last spring. Among the new equine additions to the Boyd stables are two ponies for the rising generation.

The Pinehurst stables and those of Alexander and Thomas on the double road are being put in condition for

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