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Bridges of County Invite Grave Disaster, The Pilot Finds on Inspection Tour

Many Crossings in Highly Dangerous Condition
as Result of Floods of Last Fall,
Says Mr. Butler

(By Bion H. Butler)

On Monday I happened in Carthage, and falling in with Claude Leavitt on the street I asked him how the bridge question in Moore was coming. As Philip one time said to Nathaniel, he answered me, "Come and see." I took him at his word, for already I had looked over a part of the county after the flood of the fall and had seen some of the damaged and wrecked bridges, and I was rather anxious to go farther into the matter. So we made a roundabout drive up in the hill country, down on Crane's creek, over into the west side of the county, and we put in a right full day without wasting much time at any point, for what is to be seen can be seen at a glance.

There is no question but that the flood left the bridges of Moore county in bad shape, and that some definite steps have to be taken pretty soon to care for those damaged bridges, in addition to some that are already undergoing replacement, for at different points the crossings are in highly dangerous condition, and it is mild to say they invite grave disaster.

Bad Condition at Hemp

Possibly the most striking example is the crossing at Bear creek just below Hemp. The old wooden bridge at Hemp went out, and a temporary crossing was put in about a thousand feet below the old piers. People drive over that temporary crossing, but I do not hesitate to say that I would not. Just out of the town of Hemp the detour turns up over a steep hill, so steep that the only car I saw try to make it stalled on the hill. It finally pulled up, but I would not ride up that hill, nor would I ride down it. It is steep, crooked, lined with trees, and not an ideal automobile road. But on reaching the top the road goes down a still worse hill, crooked, steep, narrow, and rounds a short steep curve on to a bridge laid just above the water on a fragile foundation. I judge the descent of the hill is nearly a foot in four, steep enough so that in wet weather a car can easily slide down with all brakes set, and in wet weather cannot pull up. Trees along the crooked descent show here and there where cars have bumped into them, and I am told that accidents have happened there. Luckily a new bridge is in progress at that point, and when finished it will be an excellent crossing. The man who lives on the north side of the creek, and desires to go to Hemp may cross the dangerous place, or he may go around by Spies about 17 miles, or he may work his way through some other roads at a shorter distance. But the school bus cannot go 17 miles around, and it should not be allowed to cross this bridge with a load of children. They can walk across the bridge and walk to the school, but to drive over is decidedly and needlessly dangerous.

Dangerous Points

This is the worst bridge I saw. But I crossed half a dozen that I would not allow a child to cross in a bus if I had any voice in the matter. At Glade on the Cool Springs road the bridge was dropped off to the lower side of the piers, where it sets close by the water. The road approaches the bridge down a steep hill from either side, and since the bridge has been dropped from the piers the structure is still lower down in the hollow, and off to one side, making the descent dangerous from either way. Over Richland creek on the same road a long span has been laid on round pine logs, and one side is lower than the other, and the bridge springing is dangerous. The pine logs are not durable, but they had to be used because nothing else is available. At Buffalo on the road from Hemp to McConnell is another structure that is a death trap, and the school bus should never use it. The old timbers are so rotten that a knife blade will shove into the wood its full length, and the bents look as if they had been made for a rail fence. The bridge at Thaggard's is a magnificent and picturesque wreck.

It is worthy of note that in the

Herseshoe the bridges are in good shape, and for this reason. New roads have been built there recently, and in building the roads, the county has built substantial modern concrete structures, and the floods had no effect on them. I introduce this fact to show that the policy of temporizing with the old bridges is a mistaken one, for wherever the county has put in good and substantial concrete work it is not harmed. The bridges that are gone are the old wooden structures, or the flimsy concrete work that was not properly built, or wooden

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NEW BIRD BOOK IS TRIBUTE TO DR. J. W. ACHORN

"A Guide to Winter Birds of the
North Carolina Sandhills"
Published

HE CAME HERE IN 1890

By Laura Butterfield

With the release last week of 'A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills,' Milton P. Skinner and Edmund J. Sawyer fulfilled a dream of John Warren Achorn who all of his life strove to protect the dumb creatures of this earth, so beloved by him, who for many years made the Sandhills his home. It was through his initial efforts that the volume, containing a few chapters of his own, was begun, and it was in memory of him that the work was completed.

Dr. Achorn first came to the Sandhills some time around 1890 when he was studying the various climates on this continent in the interests of medicine. As a famous specialist in nervous and abdominal disorders, who had received his medical education in Maine, Boston and Berlin, he was searching for an environment milder than the tempestuous coasts of New England and less tropical than Florida. Through John T. Patrick, the original owner of most of Pine Bluff and Silver Springs, who came to him in Boston as a patient, he found the climate that seemed to him ideal for his purpose and semi-wild natural surroundings in which dwelt his many friends of the stream and the forest.

Cabin His Retreat

A little cabin in Pine Bluff became his retreat for occasional happy visits until he came here for the winter in 1911 with Mrs. Achorn. A roomy house was added to the original cabin and soon became famous in the Sandhills as a home of friendliness and hospitality for all kinds and classes of people. That first winter, one of unusual mildness and warmth, convinced the Achorns that Pine Bluff must be their winter home from that time on. The doctor turned his offices over to an assistant and decided that his patients could come to him. And come they did, as well as many northern friends and associates to enjoy the stimulus of an out-of-door life and a keen mind.

The Midwinter Canoe Club, which he established on his own property along the Lumber River, was one of Doctor Achorn's most interesting experiments along the lines of his hobby and a source of pleasure to the whole community. He cleared the river sufficiently for a canoe trip to Georgetown on the coast, provided guides, and himself took parties through the jungle-like forests, opening up wide opportunities for the study of wild-life in this section. The trips varied in length according to the wishes of the party and sometimes included an overnight camping on the river's banks.

A Great Tribute

His innate love of all living things led to many observations on the habits of birds and animals in the Sand-

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ABERDEEN PLANS STIMULATION OF TOBACCO MARKET

Agricultural & Commercial Club
to Endeavor to Increase
Yield Locally

1929 OUTLOOK BRIGHT

A number of folks in Aberdeen, chiefly of the Agricultural and Commercial club, held a meeting in Will Blue's office Tuesday afternoon to discuss the coming tobacco crop, and see if anything could be undertaken to help increase the yield of leaf tobacco. Many features were discussed, and many phases of different propositions were brought out. The opinion seemed to be that the tobacco crop is destined to increase as an agricultural factor in the county and the adjoining counties, and that Aberdeen will continue to increase in importance as a tobacco market.

The season at the market has closed with nearly five million pounds sold, which is the biggest amount on record. Most of this sold at good prices, but some that came from border sections, and of not the best quality, brought lower prices. Some of the tobacco farmers were only moderately successful, as is the case in any line, but instances of highly gratifying success were cited, and the farmers who handled their crops in the most approved manner are mentioned as having profits of varying degree, some counting their earnings in the thousands. The heavy rains did a lot of damage to the crops of 1928, and some of the planters were seriously affected in that way. But taking the year as a whole it saw close to a million dollars' worth of tobacco sold on the Aberdeen warehouse floors, and this tobacco added materially to the salvation of the agricultural area of the Sandhills.

The meeting at Aberdeen Tuesday discussed many of the sides of tobacco culture, and will be followed by timely efforts later on to lend whatever aid can be given to the farmers, for the revenue from the crop is looked on in Aberdeen as of the highest value to the territory. The farmers are getting the beds ready now for spring planting, and the outlook is for a good acreage, and as storms do not come every year the prophets are hoping for a better grade and quantity of leaf to the acre this season.

New Emmett French House Nearly Finished

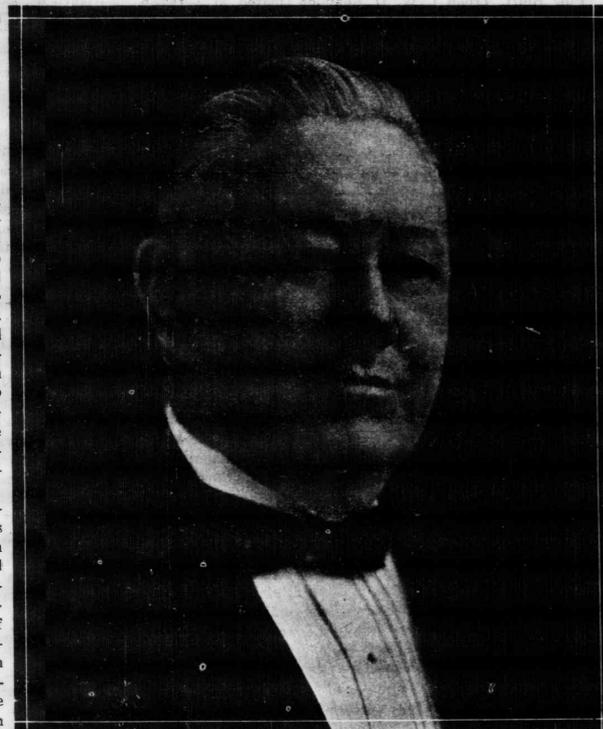
Pioneer Homes on Southern Pines
Country Club Sites Have
Rare Views

E. V. Perkinson has nearly completed for Emmet French on the hill-top at the eastern side of the Southern Pines Country club one of the finest rural homes in this section and on one of the finest sites. It is a brick structure two stories, of ample dimension, representing probably when completed \$20,000, and in a location that gives an outlook over the entire country on all sides. To the east is Fort Bragg, visible for miles, while around the south and west the outlook sweeps the entire circle.

Mr. French will have the landscape handled in a manner to bring out to the best advantage the possibilities of the location, and he will profit by the roads that have been built, and by the golf courses, of which two are within a couple of hundred feet of his lawns. Down one of the fairways the open vista covers the hills of the ridge out toward Montrose, and farther to the west another fairway extends toward the Aberdeen horizon. The Highland Pines Inn is but a short distance to the north, and the Weymouth homes are still closer. Indiana avenue extension leads up to the property, while roads coming through the Country club grounds give further outlets in all directions.

John Nichols will soon be getting into his new locations in the home section there near the club house, and is an attractive two story brick house. The signs indicate an extensive development of the building territory that flanks the golf courses at the club grounds, and all of it of a high class.

Heads Chamber of Commerce



Dr. L. B. McBrayer

Struthers Burt is Library President

Author Elected at Annual Meeting of Southern Pines Association

Struthers Burt was elected President of the Southern Pines Library association at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees held in the Library building on Broad street last Monday evening. Mrs. James Boyd was chosen First Vice-President, A. B. Yeomans, Second Vice-President; Eugene C. Stevens, Third Vice-President and Howard Burns, Secretary and Mrs. John K. Walker, Treasurer. Six new members were elected to the Board of Trustees, Frank Gibbons for one year, John Bloxham for two years, Augustine Healy, Nelson C. Hyde, Harry Vale and Dr. Marcus Brownson for three years. Other directors are Miss Anna Jenks, Miss Mary Schwarberg, Miss Ethel Jones, Mrs. Robert Olmstead, Mrs. D. H. Turner and Mrs. Charles R. Whitaker.

Reports showed marked progress by the association during the past year, the Southern Pines library maintaining its high record for the State in circulation of books per capita of population. Plans for the new year were discussed.

Mrs. Park Fisher is the efficient librarian of the Southern Pines association.

PROGRAM OUTLINED BY AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Recently a group of representative men of the community met and outlined a program of work to be sponsored by the Vocational Agriculture Department in the Vass-Lakeview High School. The members of the committee are E. L. McNeill, W. C. Smith, D. A. McLaughlin, James Evans, T. Frank Cameron, John McCrummen and H. L. Seagrove.

The committee decided one of the first steps to take in carrying out the program was to hold weekly meetings of the farmers during the next two months before farm work begins in earnest. All farmers in the community are invited and urged to attend these meetings, which will be held on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p. m.

The program drawn in the form of a four-year objective includes buying, improvement of crops, rotation of crops, buying and selling of seed, proper housing, feeding and caring for poultry and cooperative buying of supplies for same, better dairying, cooperative buying of all bee supplies and improved farm management.

Next to making a profit in business these days, the next hardest job is distributing your income in such a way that your family is happy.

Mrs. Hinds, Long a Resident Here, Dies

Mother of Mrs. S. B. Richardson
Had Lived 19 Years in
Southern Pines

Mrs. Ida May Hinds, for nineteen years a resident of Southern Pines, died at her home on Bennett street last Monday. During her stay in Southern Pines Mrs. Hinds had made her home with her daughter, Mrs. S. B. Richardson.

Mrs. Hinds was born in Eastport, Maine, March 23rd, 1859. She moved to Boston at the age of ten where she resided until her marriage, in 1879, to George W. Hinds of Calais, Maine. In Calais she spent the early years of her married life and later moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where she and her husband lived until his ill health necessitated their coming to Southern Pines. Here they lived until his death in November of 1917.

Mrs. Hinds is survived by two daughters, Miss Louise Hinds, of Boston and Mrs. S. B. Richardson of Southern Pines; a son-in-law, S. B. Richardson, and four grand-children, George Hinds Richardson, Emily Litchfield Richardson, Dorothy Bond Richardson and Ruth Morse Richardson, all of Southern Pines.

Mrs. Hinds was a member of the Congregational Church of Calais and attended the first Baptist Church here. During her stay in Southern Pines she made a host of friends and was known as one of the most loved and respected residents of the community. Despite her nearly three score and ten years she was active in church work and was a member of the Willing Workers at the time of her death.

Many Floral Tributes

Funeral services were held at her home at three o'clock Wednesday afternoon under the direction of Mr. Powell. The Rev. J. Fred Stimson, pastor of the Baptist Church, officiated. The casket was banked high with beautiful floral offerings from her many friends and the service was beautiful. Interment was at Mount Hope Cemetery.

In the passing of Mrs. Hinds the community loses one of its most esteemed residents. Mrs. Hinds was loved by young and old alike and was most highly regarded by all who knew her. She was a faithful and devoted wife and a true and untiring mother. The greatest tribute that we can pay to her memory is that taken from Proverbs, 31:31; "Let her own work at the service, "Let her own words praise her at the gates."

THISTLE CLUB TEA AT SO. PINES COUNTRY CLUB

The ladies of the Thistle club are giving a Tea at the Southern Pines Country Club on Saturday afternoon, January 26th, from four until six o'clock. Music by the Highland Pines Orchestra. No charge for tea.

DR. M'BRAYER HEADS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Elected by Southern Pines Directors to Succeed Frank Buchanan as President.

1929 PROGRAM DISCUSSED.

Dr. L. B. McBrayer was unanimously elected President of the Chamber of Commerce of Southern Pines at the first meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held at Jack's Grill Tuesday night. Efforts to induce the retiring President, Frank Buchanan, to serve another term having failed, the nomination of Dr. McBrayer was enthusiastically received and the gavel turned over to him.

Struthers Burt was elected vice president, and Howard Burns again chosen as secretary and treasurer.

The directors discussed plans for increasing the membership of the Chamber during the year, and many suggestions for launching a campaign drive were made.

Program is Recommended.

The Planning Committee, of which John Bloxham was chairman and comprising Dr. McBrayer and Mr. Burt submitted recommendations for the work of the Chamber during 1929, among them the following:

Continuation of the planting program along Broad street and an extension of the work to include May street.

Encouragement of individual planting by residents.

Resumption of Sunday afternoon band concerts through February, March and April.

Formation of a real estate board.

Electric traffic signals on May street at Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Vermont avenue intersections.

Crossing signal at Connecticut avenue and Seaboard tracks where freight station hides approaching traffic.

Support for Community Airport.

Support for Community Park.

BISHOP DU MOULIN TO PREACH SUNDAY MORNING

The Right Rev. Frank DuMoulin, D. D., formerly Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Ohio, now Rector of the Church of the Saviour, adjoining the campus of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, is to be the special preacher at the 11:00 a. m. service next Sunday, January 27th, at Emanuel Church.

This will be made a Rally Day for Sandhills Parish, and all are most cordially invited to attend the service. The choir will provide special music. Bishop DuMoulin made a most remarkable address on very short notice, when word came that Bishop Penick, due to illness, could not speak at the recent Churchmen's Dinner at Highland Pines Inn. It is generally conceded that Bishop DuMoulin is one of the foremost preachers in the Episcopal Church, and a helpful and inspiring sermon is assured.

DR. JUDD DIES SUDDENLY IN SOUTHERN PINES

The many friends of Dr. J. E. Judd will regret to learn of his sudden death which occurred Monday night at seven-thirty. Dr. Judd was born in Holly Springs, Wake County, N. C. He practiced dentistry here in Southern Pines twenty years ago, then left the Sandhills for the north but again returned several years ago and since then has been practicing his profession. Funeral services were held Wednesday at the Undertaking Rooms by the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Aberdeen. The Rev. J. Fred Stimson officiated. Interment was made in the Bethesda Cemetery. Surviving Dr. Judd is one brother, Carl Judd, of Detroit, Mich.

AT YATES-THAGGARD CHURCH

Rev. Charles N. Ransom, of Southern Pines, missionary in South Africa for 38 years, will preach at Yates-Thaggard Baptist Church next Sunday morning, January 27th, at 11:00 o'clock Sunday at 10:00 o'clock.

A cordial invitation is extended to all.