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VASS. N. C.

ASK HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO CHANGE DETOUR

Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce Takes Steps to Remedy Traffic Muddle

NEW MEMBERS ENROLL

Secretary Howard Burns reported to the Board of Directors of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce at its weekly meeting held Tuesday noon in Jack's Grill that the membership drive was meeting with splendid response on the part of the business men and citizens of Southern Pines, and predicted that before the close of the campaign for new members the organization would be able to show the necessary funds to carry out the proposed work for 1929.

This program for the year includes continuation of the planting along Broad street, further planting to include beautification of the May street boulevard, further efforts in the line of publicity, continuation of the spring band concerts and other projects, all destined to make the town attractive to present and prospective residents.

The committee in charge of the membership drive, comprising Frank Buchan, Struthers Burt and Harry Vail, is calling on all merchants and leading citizens to interest them in what the Chamber is trying to accomplish. Mr. Buchan reports several new members as the result of the first week's efforts, a large number of renewal memberships and several increased subscriptions. One resident of Southern Pines doubled his subscription over last year.

The Traffic Muddle

The Board of Directors took steps at the Tuesday meeting to remedy the situation arising out of the closing to traffic of the road between Sanford and Vass, thereby shunting traffic around Southern Pines instead of through it.

At the request of the Chamber of Commerce Commissioner J. Elwood Cox of the State Highway department sent District Engineer J. W. Mills to Southern Pines to investigate, with the result that he signs now detouring traffic around the town are to be removed as soon as possible, and in the meantime other signs will be erected at vital spots to show tourists that the route through Southern Pines is open from Pinehurst over and from Aberdeen over, giving them the option of including Southern Pines in their route but not forcing the extra mileage on them.

Secretary Burns reported that he was receiving nearly 100 letters a week from northerners inquiring as to hotel accommodations, cottages, etc. in Southern Pines, all of which are answered each day by the Chamber of Commerce office. Maps issued by the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Commissioners of Southern Pines are being used exclusively in many resorts south of here to route automobile traffic through Southern Pines, he stated, and the value of these maps would be nil if the Highway Commission's signs at Aberdeen and Pinehurst make it appear that Southern Pines is unavailable because of traffic conditions, which, of course, it is not.

President L. B. McBrayer appointed Frank Buchan chairman of the Planning committee for 1929, Nelson C. Hyde chairman of the Publicity committee, and John Bloxham chairman of the Budget committee.

PRE-LENTEN DANCE

The ladies of the Pinehurst Catholic church are giving a pre-Lenten entertainment and dance at the Pinehurst Country Club on the evening of February 12th. There will be a specialty act, "Three Oil Kings," and music by Kelly's Jazz band of Fayetteville.

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT ON

The annual St. Valentine's tournament for women is now being played at Pinehurst with a large entry list of prominent golfers. The play was to have started Tuesday, but was postponed until yesterday owing to the inclement weather.

Cal Wilson Back, Worked Way Around The World

Shipped on Freighters, Marooned in Manila, Finally Landing Job as Able Seaman Home-bound on "President Harrison"

Something over a year ago Calvert Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson of Southern Pines, left home to gratify a long cherished desire to see the world. Cal was twenty-one years old then and had already attended Annapolis Naval Academy for two years. After the precedent set by the famed Horace Greely and followed by several other local boys he went west to Riverside, California, where he enlisted as a flying cadet in the U. S. Army Air Service at March Field, the school where Lindbergh, Chamberlain and other famous flyers received their primary training in aviation.

At the school various mental and physical tests came in rapid succession until, at the end of three months, only 83 students, Cal among them, remained of the original 800 who began. Finally he too was eliminated after getting in 35 hours of solo flying and he immediately signed on the S. S. "C. H. Lawrence Jr." at San Pedro, bound for Shanghai.

On Slow Freighter

The "Lawrence" was a slow old freighter and after 38 days, had to put in at Kobe, Japan for coal. Kobe is not a regular port of call but the boat needed coal so the captain negotiated for an amount sufficient to take them to Shanghai. It was a rainy day and the pile of coal, wet and black, was dumped into the bunkers and the boat got under way.

As the "coal" dried out it proved to be a mixture of soft coal dust, slate and dirt with practically no heating qualities. Eventually, however, they made Shanghai, thence to Nagasaki. At Nagasaki Cal was paid off and immediately returned to Shanghai with about a hundred dollars. Five days later he was broke and, after vainly looking for a salary job, went to work with the Asia Life Insurance Company as a salesman and stayed there four months.

Anxious to continue traveling he signed on the S. S. "President McKinley," bound for Hong Kong. In Hong Kong he waited a week in hopes of landing a berth on the S. S. "President Garfield," a round-the-world

boat. When the "Garfield" came in there were no vacancies but he was allowed to stay on the boat as far as Manila on the possibility that a vacancy might occur there. When none did he attempted to stow away but was found as the ship passed the breakwater and sent ashore in a pilot boat.

Broke in Manila

In Manila, broke, no friends and no way of leaving, Cal says he spent the most miserable three weeks of his life. But after three weeks "on the bench" he managed to ship as able seaman on the S. S. "President Harrison," bound for Singapore and New York. This boat brought him through Singapore, Penang, Colombo, the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, Port Said, Alexandria, Naples, Genoa and Marseilles, through the Straights of Gibraltar and out into the Atlantic for New York.

When the "Florida" sent out her first distress signal the "President Harrison" was only ninety miles away but was not able to locate the Florida, since the "Harrison" was not equipped with a radio compass. The "Florida," it will be remembered, was finally found by the heroic Captain Fried.

For several days high seas and hurricane winds buffeted the "President Harrison," carrying away one life boat and smashing two more. No fires were possible in the galley stove due to high sea and passengers and crew lived on cold food for two days.

Five days late, the boat reached New York. There Cal met an old friend and school-mate, Meredith Serl of Southern Pines, recently returned from a trip to India. Incidentally Meredith is expected in Southern Pines within a few weeks.

Cal has an interesting collection of anecdotes regarding his round-the-world trip but space here does not permit mention of them. He has brought back with him innumerable articles, souvenirs and what-nots from the various cities he has visited and he plans, within a short while, to take another trip somewhere.

Australian Ballot Assured for State

Governor Gardner and Legislature Working Out Provision of New Law

There is now little question of the adoption of the Australian ballot for use in North Carolina elections in the future. The General Assembly at Raleigh has been working during the past week on the provisions of the measures to be enacted, with Governor Gardner endeavoring to see that the secrecy of the ballot is preserved.

The bill as it stood in committee at the time this article was written provided for the printing of all ballots by the state, taking the burden off the counties; for five ballots instead of three, viz., presidential electors, state officers, county officers, township officers and constitutional amendments. Congressional candidates are to appear on the state ticket, while state senatorial candidates, superior court judges and solicitors will appear on county tickets.

DR. RADER TO SPEAK ON TUESDAY IN PINEHURST

Dr. L. M. Rader, who recently scored such a decided hit in an address before the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen, is addressing the supper-meeting of the Sandhills Brotherhood at the Community House in Pinehurst next Tuesday evening. Supper is to be served at 6.30 o'clock, and all are invited, both men and women, but the committee requires advance notice that it may know for how many to prepare. The Rev. Murdoch McLeod may be telephoned to for reservations.

The farmer who knows when the market for farm produce is going to be highest doesn't need to join a cooperative marketing association.

New Fort Bragg C. O. Led Brigade in War

Brig. Gen. Holbrook, Now in Philippines, to Succeed Col. Buttner

The coming summer will see a change in command at Fort Bragg, for Colonel Buttner is to be replaced by Brigadier General L. R. Holbrook, who is at present finishing up his duties in the Philippines.

General Holbrook comes to this post with a long record of past achievements in the service of his country. A native of Wisconsin, he graduated from West Point with a commission in the cavalry. He served in departments of the General Staff, the Quartermaster and the Commissary and is a graduate of the Infantry Cavalry School and of the General Staff College.

He has seen active service in Cuba and the Philippines and went to France in 1927 with the Fifth Field Artillery Brigade as a colonel in command of one of the regiments. The following year he was promoted to the rank of general, heading the entire brigade. In view of his attainments, which include the Distinguished Service Medal he was appointed Brigadier General in the regular army in October, 1925.

The love of army life seems to have gotten into the blood and has been handed on to his son, a lieutenant in the artillery, who was recently transferred from Fort Bragg to the Philippines. Mrs. Holbrook is expected with the General, but the date of their arrival is not yet definite.

Mr. James J. Wadsworth, of Genesee, N. Y., internationally known horseman, and master of the Genesee Valley Hunt Club, registered at the Highland Pines Inn Thursday. Mr. Donald McPherson has rejoined Mrs. McPherson, of the bungalow colony,

ROAD SIGN BAN TO BE ENFORCED, SAYS D. H. TURNER

New Chairman of Chamber of Commerce Committee Plans Active Campaign

AIDED BY STATE LAWS

D. H. Turner has been appointed chairman of the committee on control of highway signs by President L. E. McBrayer of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce, succeeding Struthers Burt, last year's chairman. Much was accomplished by this committee last year in the removal of objectionable signs in the vicinity of Southern Pines. Mr. Turner announces that this work will be pursued with renewed vigor this year.

In a survey of state laws governing commercial advertising signs along public highways made by the bureau of public roads of the United States Department of Agriculture, it was found that such laws range all the way from the most general of rules and regulations to certain well defined stipulations. Only seven states are without state regulation—South Carolina, Arkansas, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas and Wyoming.

Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont have the best defined and most rigid laws. Before any agency can erect commercial advertising signs in these states, it must be licensed by state authorities at certain annual fees, and if it does not reside in the state a bond must be furnished. Each license must show a number and the date of expiration.

Connecticut levies a license fee of \$100 per year, and an annual permit fee of \$3 for every 300 square feet or less of advertising space to \$9 for between 600 and 900 square feet. Fees apply to each side of each panel. Signs of more than 900 square feet are not permitted. In Massachusetts the fee is fixed with regard to administrative costs and varies throughout the state. Vermont levies an annual license fee of three cents for each square foot of advertising space.

State authorities of these three states—Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont—have the right to exact fines for non-conforming signs and to remove them. The cost of removal, after due notice has been served, is collected from the agencies or from the sureties on bonds. Connecticut imposes a fine of \$100 for each non-conforming sign; Massachusetts, a fine of not more than \$100 with a further \$500 for continued violation; Vermont, a fine of \$100, or imprisonment of 30 days, or both.

Also in Connecticut, any person who shall deposit, throw, affix or maintain any advertisement within limits of any public highway or on private property without consent of owners is subject to a fine of not more than \$50 or imprisonment of not more than six months, or both.

Seven other states, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina and Tennessee—impose fees for advertising signs. Mississippi collects a fee of 75 cents for each sign of from 10 to 100 square feet of area, \$1.50 for an area of between 100 and 300 square feet, and \$2.50 for an area of more than 300 square feet.

North Carolina exacts an annual fee based on population of cities and towns; from \$5 in cities of 5,000 inhabitants to \$50 in cities more than 35,000. Also no advertising signs are placed on private property without consent of owner and no signs are placed within limits of highways on penalty of a fine of \$50 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days. Local authorities regulate advertising signs within their jurisdiction.

GIRL SCOUTS TO GIVE TEA AT CIVIC CLUB

The Girl Scouts will give a Silver Tea and Candy Sale tomorrow, from four until six at the Civic Club. The object is two-fold: first to raise money for new uniforms and equipment and to supply the funds needed for the work of the Cheer Committees; second, to enable the people of Southern Pines to become better acquainted with their Girl Scouts.

BOYS, YOU'RE LETTING THE STATE SLIP IN MARRIAGES

Step up, boys, and give the little girls a chance.

The Department of Commerce announces that there were 22,204 marriages in North Carolina in 1927 as compared with 22,691 in 1926, a decrease of 487, or 2.1 per cent. Away back in 1916 there were 21,337 performed.

Don't be bashful, m'lads. Pop the question for the old Tar Heel state.

Of course what may be worrying the boys is the fact that in 1927 there were 1,642 divorces granted in the state as compared with 1,591 in 1926, an increase of 51, or 3.2 per cent.

On the basis of estimated population, the number of marriages per 1,000 of population was 7.7 in 1927, 7.9 in 1926.

SPENCE BILL TO TEACH EVILS OF DRINK PASSES

Children of State to be Given Instruction on Alcoholism and Narcotism

A bill introduced in the State Legislature by the Hon. U. L. Spence, of Carthage, Moore county's representative in the General Assembly, authorizing the instruction in North Carolina schools of the harmfulness of "alcoholic drinks and other narcotics," was passed in the lower house on Monday. The bill was sponsored by Governor Gardner.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction is directed to prepare a course of study for the use of teachers on the effect of alcoholism and other narcotism on the human system. This accomplished, teachers are required under the bill to instruct the children of the state in at least ten lessons in any one grade in any one year. Text books are to be used in the upper grades. After July 1st, 1930, no teacher is to be licensed for teaching in the public schools unless her preliminary work shall show her to have been prepared in college or normal school for the necessary work.

Kiwanians Hear of Conditions in Tangier

Rev. Mr. McConnell of New Jersey Speaks on Morocco at Club Luncheon

At the Kiwanis dinner Wednesday at the Country Club at Southern Pines John Bloxham's quartet made a decided hit with one or two old religious songs, as well as others less serious.

Some discussions was awakened by the proposition to endorse Miss Eifort for the position of welfare worker for the coming year, and while the club as a club seemed favorable to her it was decided that it would not be wise to take action as a body, but that individual appeal by members to the commissioners would be a better way to show the appreciation felt for this capable worker.

Col. Percy Hawes was instructed to go to Raleigh to appear at the hearing of the committee in the legislature dealing with automobile licenses and a state highway patrol. The Rev. Murdoch McLeod announced the date of Dr. L. M. Dader's talk at Pinehurst at the Community Club as Tuesday, February 12, at 6:30. A full house is expected.

Paul Dana presented in a clever appreciation speech a certificate to Frank Shamburger for his 100 per cent attendance during the year, which Frank said was all gain to him, as he got from the club full measure.

The Rev. Mr. J. McConnell of Belmar, N. J., told the club of a visit to Tangier, in Morocco, and he was not over friendly to the place. He set it down as dirty, dishonest, poverty-stricken and undesirable, and a good place to stay away from. War rumors were prevailing while he was there, and for a time he was not sure but that he was headed for trouble, but the skies cleared and he got back all right to Spain and safety. But he will not go to Morocco again.

BIGGER, BETTER ABERDEEN GOAL OF ORGANIZATION

Commercial and Agricultural Club Launches Aggressive Campaign of Expansion

NEW MEMBERS SOUGHT

The recently newly elected officers of the Aberdeen Commercial and Agricultural Club are beginning to make this organization a real power for good in that thriving town, and The Pilot is pleased to have the privilege this week of aiding in its campaign for new members for the year 1929.

Aberdeen is awakening to the potentialities of its town as the commercial and agricultural center of the Sandhills section, and is planning an aggressive campaign from now on to make it such. Its progressive citizens are 100 per cent behind the move recently launched to make Aberdeen one of the biggest tobacco markets in the state. The Commercial club is working with tobacco interests along this line. Efforts are also to be actively made to bring new industries into Aberdeen. It is ideally situated for industrial locations, with three railroads meeting there, with its position on main highways, and its central location in the heart of an expensive agricultural territory. The shopping center of Aberdeen is the shopping center of a large territory. Parking space on Saturdays is already at a premium. A little effort in lines of civic advertising and publicity will double the trade in no time, the Commercial club officers believe, and no stores are to be left unturned to bring this additional business into the town.

To Beautify Town

Beautification of Aberdeen is also on the program of the organization, around public buildings and on bare spots here and there. In the more distant future, but as soon as possible, the club has in mind an effort to make some street changes for the sake of more expeditious traffic, increased parking facilities and a more progressive general appearance.

As much as possible of its expansion and beautification program will be carried out this year as funds will permit, and the officers of the Commercial and Agricultural Club are now making a drive to make membership in the organization 100 per cent among the business interests and citizenry of Aberdeen. In the two years of its existence the club has grown from some thirty business men to include most of those in town, but all are being shown at this time how every penny expended for the civic good is an investment for the future prosperity of each citizen and each merchant.

Present officers of the Aberdeen Commercial and Agricultural Club are: Murdoch Johnson, president; E. T. McKeithen, vice-president; W. A. Bue, secretary and treasurer. Besides the officers, the following are directors: G. C. Seymour, T. D. McLean, John Nichols and M. H. Folley. The club works in cooperation with the ladies' civic organization, the Parent-Teachers Association and all other bodies looking for the town's betterment, and that the joint efforts of these organizations spell a bigger and better Aberdeen there is not the slightest doubt.

ABERDEEN COMPANY PLANT COMPLETED AT \$12,000 COST

The Lorenson-Harbottle Company of Aberdeen, makers of ornamental iron and sheet metal articles, now have a completed plant which represents a \$12,000 investment in property and machinery of over \$12,000. According to Mr. Lorenson work has been done in all sections of the Sandhills and includes such jobs as radiator covers, ornamental fences, stairs, grilles and other work.

General machine work, electric motor and armature rebuilding and rewinding is also handled and the firm is now handling the entire motor work of the State Sanatorium, the Pinehurst Electric Co., the Carolina Power and Light Co. and many other Sandhill firms. Their latest job is the installation of the iron work for the Atlantic Refining Co. at Manley.