

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

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VASS, N. C.

Nitro-Glycerine Touched Off In Aberdeen Blows Ice Co. Well; Explosion Shakes Neighborhood

Tons of Water Hurlled 400 Feet in Air By Explosive DAMAGE IS SLIGHT

A muffled explosion, a slight quaking of the earth and a roar of gushing water in the distance was the first intimation the residents of Aberdeen had that a charge of nitro-glycerine sufficient to blow up a major portion of the town was touched off at 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the plant of the Mountain Ice Company on the outskirts of the village. Absolute secrecy had veiled the plans for blowing the deep well beside the new building of the company, in order that no sightseers be within the danger zone.

Five hundred pounds of the explosive, believed to be the largest charge ever touched off in this section of the country, sent tons of water nearly 400 feet in the air, blowing the roof off the brick structure which covered the well, and hurling rocks and debris in the air, some of which punctured holes in the roof of the main building of the company. Otherwise, no damage was done, the explosion being engineered with unusual success. How much damage will result from such blasts is never known beforehand, and considerably more damage than resulted was feared.

Only a dozen persons knew beforehand of the time for the shooting, and half of these were employees either of the ice plant or the Kentucky Glycerine Company of Winchester, Ky., which engineered the feat. Aberdeen's first intimation came with the blast.

Rocks Hurlled in Air

Pilot representatives were among those on hand for the explosion. An electric wire was run from a battery some distance away to the cans of glycerine which had been lowered some five hundred feet into the bowels of the earth. When those present were all at a safe distance, or supposed so, the signal was given and the contact made. There was a muffled sound, then a great roar and tons of water leapt into the air between 300 and 400 feet high, and were carried by the wind for a distance of about an eighth of a mile, water at first clean, then black, mixed with rocks, pebbles, sand, twisted masses of the tin cans which had held the glycerine. Rocks were hurled entirely over the huge main building of the ice plant, and water reached cars which had been parked at distances considered entirely safe from the effects of the explosion. Several ice company employees who thought they were entirely clear were soaked by the falling water.

The gusher lasted only a moment, but was a sight long to be remembered.

For two days and nights Aberdeen had been serene with the presence in the heart of the village of enough nitro-glycerine to blow a big part of the town to kingdom come, for stored in one of the buildings there was a truck containing about five hundred pounds of this terrific explosive.

Last fall the Mountain Ice Company employed Dowdy & Butler to drill for them a big, deep water well, the largest in this section. It went down through the sands and clays and finally struck hard rock without enough water to supply the plant and after a long, hard siege at a depth of 500 feet in the granite a flow was struck that seemed big enough. The tools were drawn, a pump set, and the well was put to use. But the fifteen or twenty gallons a minute did not afford as much water as the plant wanted, and after much discussion with the drillers it was decided to shoot the hole in the hope of shattering the rock at the bottom and increasing the flow of water.

How Wells Are Shot

As the well is a deep one, eight inches in diameter, and in hard rock, the drillers did not care to undertake

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MAYOR ASKS ABERDEEN TO BEAUTIFY PROPERTY

Mayor G. C. Seymour of Aberdeen in the week issued the following proclamation setting aside today, Friday, April 5th, as "Clean-Up Day" in Aberdeen, when all good citizens are called upon to put their property in order in the campaign for improving the appearance of the town generally:

Whereas, Spring has arrived and it is the duty of all good citizens to cooperate with Nature in making their property and surroundings as cleanly and as beautiful as may be, and

Whereas, the Aberdeen Commercial and Agricultural Club, through its Civic Committee, has been, and is doing splendid service in making the public spots in the town more presentable to the eye and in impressing upon the property owners generally the desirability of cleaning up and beautifying their property.

Now, Therefore, I, G. C. Seymour, Mayor of the Town of Aberdeen, do hereby designate the week beginning April 1, 1929, as clean up week, dur-

ing which week each and every property owner in the Town of Aberdeen, and each and every citizen of the Town of Aberdeen, is earnestly requested and urged to clean up and beautify his home, property and surroundings as much as he can, and to contribute of his time and means to the cleaning up and beautification of the town in general, and I do further designate Friday, April 5, 1929, as a special "Clean Up Day," upon which day it is hoped that all of the people of the Town of Aberdeen all other business being laid aside, will devote the entire day to cleaning up and beautifying their own premises, and all of the premises, public and private, in the town, to the end that the Town of Aberdeen may present an appearance in keeping with the beauty and cleanliness of the surrounding communities.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Town of Aberdeen, this 27th day of March, 1929.
G. C. SEYMOUR,
Mayor of the Town of Aberdeen.

World Traveler Stops In Southern Pines

Dr. Emma M. Carson Guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Shear

Quite a number of world travellers seem to be making Southern Pines their stopping place lately and one of the most interesting of these globe trotters is Dr. Emma M. Carson, M. D., and practicing physician of Los Angeles, who is a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome P. Shear on Illinois avenue. Dr. Carson is stopping in Southern Pines for a few weeks on her way around the world. She started from California in January, planning to sail from New York to Rio de Janeiro and thence to Europe, Africa and Asia. In her sixty-sixth year she is still planning new trips to far-away places.

Unfortunately, or rather fortunately, Dr. Carson was taken ill in Detroit, necessitating a delay of several weeks and causing her to cancel reservations on the ill-fated "Vestris," which sank with a loss of several hundred lives on that trip.

The doctor made the trip from Los Angeles to Detroit via El Paso, Texas, by motor stage in January and enjoyed the trip immensely despite the winter weather. Crossing the spurs of the Rockies in the rain proved a rather thrilling experience. Marvelous colorings in the rocks were brought out by the rain and innumerable rivulets and waterfalls added wonderful beauty to the scene.

An interesting side trip from El Paso down into Mexico made up a

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PINEHURST HORSE SHOW ATTRACTS LARGE CROWDS

The twelfth annual Horse Show of the Pinehurst Jockey Club was held in the new Pinehurst show ring on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week with the largest entry list and greatest number of entries of any show in the club's history. Society turned out in force from all over the Sandhills and from the hotel and cottage colony of Pinehurst and Southern Pines.

Championship ribbons went to the following:

Army Polo Pony—Capt. O'Keefe's Lady; reserve to the same officer's Chubby.

Polo Ponies—Verner Z Reed's Rolls Royce; reserve to J. Mickley Potts' Lucky Strike.

Hunters—Mrs. P. C. Thomas' Slipper; reserve to Mrs. Harry Vale's Sunlight.

Saddle Horses—Albert Handley's Glencoe MacDonald; reserve to Albert Handley's King Redvine.

Fort Bragg Artillery teams with 75 mm. guns were shown as a special feature of the show and were given a rousing welcome.

Edgemoore Heights Property in Demand

Wadsworth Buys Several Tracts To Create Rural Esatte

James Wadsworth of Geneseo, N. Y., who has been a visitor in Southern Pines for several seasons, has, through Frank Buchan, carried out a couple of transactions that give him a holding of about 35 acres in the Edgemoore Heights section of the Young road just out of the village boundaries of Southern Pines. Mr. Wadsworth a year or two ago bought a smaller tract on Bethesda road, near the Lemons home, but was not wholly satisfied with the size of the plot, and as an opportunity arose to dispose of it to Mr. Robinson, who has already been active in building new suburbs of magnitude there, Mr. Wadsworth bought from Edgemoore a tract lying alongside of a piece of ground that he had previously secured and also two or three acres from the Darnell lot in the same neighborhood, making in all total of about 35 acres.

The location comes to the road running out toward the Young farm and the Healy and Halliwell neighborhood, and goes back toward the old Blue farm. It is a highly desirable location, enjoying all the conveniences of Southern Pines and with in little more than a mile of the heart of the town.

This purchase emphasizes the tendency toward getting to the country, a movement that is going on around all of the villages this spring. Mr. Wadsworth has not made his plans definitely for building, but his intention is to soon create a rural home on the new property.

This is the third purchase of rural property out the Young road within the last three or four weeks, the others being the Tracy place, and a piece from the Healy farm in the same neighborhood. A new house will go up on the Healy farm location.

STATE TARGET TOURNAMENT OPENS HERE APRIL 15

The eleventh annual United North and South Amateur Handicap and North Carolina State Championship target tournaments, to be held at the Pinehurst Country Club the week of April 15th are attracting more than the usual number of entries and the events will mark the finest tournament of its kind ever held here. This will be an official American Trapshooting Association shoot, and the scores will be included in the official records.

More than \$1,000 in prize money and trophies are offered this year. There will be trophies for the winner of the state championship, the North Carolina handicap, state doubles championship, state all-around championship, high lady contestant, junior championship and professional high guns.

FINALISTS IN TOURNAMENT



Miss Glenna Collitt, National champion, left, and Miss Virginia Van Wieu of Chicago, right, who meet today in the finals of the annual Women's North and South golf championship at Pinehurst. (Hemmer Photo)

WATSON BUYS 275 ACRES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Philadelphian Acquires Property On Old So. Pines-Pinehurst Road

REPAIRING WICKER HOUSE

The expectation of more country houses in the neighborhood of the Sandhill villages is borne out in the announcement this week that John Warren Watson, of Philadelphia, through the agency of H. B. Emery of Pinehurst, has bought a tract of land, the Wicker holdings, on the old road from Pinehurst to Southern Pines. The purchase involves about 275 acres, which is significant, for that area is more than a passing acreage. One tract lies chiefly on the south side of the old road, and on the three branches of Aberdeen creek, which converge about a mile below the road. The surface is rolling and picturesque with the three streams, and contains much pine forest, the groves in particular appealing to Mr. Watson. The streams are among the clearest and interesting of the neighborhood, affording good opportunities for artificial lakes, and with ample flow of water to give a good body at three or four different points if Mr. Watson should, as he probably will, in the near future build dams for the improvement of the property.

On the tract are two or three of the oldest houses in the country, the John Wicker house especially being of great age. This house was moved to its present site from down the stream where it stood for a long time near an old mill that was one of the local industries. This house is of substantial character, having been built of hewed logs, much of the original work pegged together with wooden pegs that still serve. In other places hand-made nails were used, and the sheeting boards of the roof were split out by hand.

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CHIEF KELLY'S MURDERER IS STILL AT LARGE

Word was received yesterday in Southern Pines that the man held at Wilmington, S. C., suspected of the murder of Chief Kelly of Southern Pines, was not the man wanted. Chief Beasley and Sheriff McDonald hurried to the South Carolina city upon receipt of word Wednesday that a man was being held there who answered the description sent out of the murderer of the late chief, but upon their arrival they discovered that it was not their man. Several suspects have been reported but none has proven to be the right one, and there is said to be no definite clue at present as to the whereabouts of the assassin.

TAX REDUCTION IN MOORE COUNTY STILL UNCERTAIN

Definite Information Awaits Action By State Committees Working On Road Fund

COLLECTIONS ARE SLOW

The Pilot has been asked about what reductions in taxation may be expected in Moore county as the result of the recent legislation, especially that which increases gasoline tax by a cent on the gallon. But so far it seems that no one is willing to speak too positively on the matter. What comes with the most plausible authority is that the general county assessment will be reduced by about fifteen per cent. This does not include the tax levied for special school districts, which varies in different districts in the county, and as some of the districts have a high special tax the reduction on the general county tax will apply to only a portion of the total, and in the high special districts the reduction will run perhaps around six or eight per cent, while in the districts with a lower special tax rate the reduction will be perhaps as much as ten per cent.

Until the committees having in charge the school award from the state to the county, and the determination of what sums shall be allotted to the counties from the state road fund to relieve the county road tax the question will not be settled definitely. Much interest is felt by the people over the county in these subjects, especially as the time comes for the tax listing for the coming season, and also because of the condition of the bridges of the county, which are presenting their repair problem now that summer, the time for repair work, is drawing near. Inquiry at the office of the tax collector of the county brings out the fact that collections are not so liberal as they might be, and as the end of the fiscal year is reached with June 1 here is another phase of the situation. Taxes just now constitute a much discussed subject.

AUXILIARY OF FAYETTEVILLE PRESBYTERY TO MEET

The fortieth annual meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of Fayetteville Presbytery will be held in the Presbyterian church of Laurinburg, N. C., April 9th-10th. This Executive Committee will meet at 8:30 Tuesday a. m. The opening session of the Presbyterial will be at 11:00 o'clock, and the meeting will close Wednesday at 4:00 p. m. with the Communion services.

Bagpipe music was broadcast recently. Lots of people took their sets to pieces in an endeavor to locate the trouble.—Passing Show (London).

COUNTRY CLUB FOR DUPONTS ON MOSSGIEL FARM

Prominent Officials of Chemical Co., and General Motors Apply for Charter

ACQUIRE 3,000 ACRES

Application has been made for a charter for a Country Club whose members will include such prominent names as John T. Pratt, vice president of the General Motors Company; F. V. DuPont of the DuPont interests and of General Motors and other big concerns; J. Stuart Groves of the DuPont Chemical Works; Mr. Meeds of the big New York banking concern of Laird & Meeds; J. Talbot Johnson of Aberdeen, and others.

The club will carry out its plans on the big Mossgiel farm of 3,000 acres, which fronts three or four miles on the Lumber river at the corner of Moore, Richmond, Scotland and Hoke counties, and they have secured an ideal spot for the project. This group of well known men from the North are much impressed with the territory in which they have taken a decided interest, and it is apparent to everybody that the relation which they establish with this neighborhood will be of the greatest importance to the Sandhill country, for they are men of the most desirable type to have affiliated with local affairs.

New Houses Planned

The present center of activities on the Mossgiel farm, in the vicinity of the lake, and of the two club houses now existing, will continue to be the base of development for the future. Half a dozen or more new club houses will be built for the individual members of the club, and they will surround one big central structure which will be dining hall and meeting place for social affairs of the organization. Then work will start to make the broad area one of the greatest possibilities for enjoyment and recreation. It will be a place for horses and dogs, for hunting, for woods life and for all those diversifications that so large a body of land will suggest. An order of \$2,000 for Mexican quail to stock the place has been given which will purchase nearly 2,000 birds. These will be liberated at various points throughout the grounds, providing for breeding places where the birds will be permitted to multiply on land that is the natural habitat of quail, and it is certain that in two or three

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Cady House Sold To M. D. Nichols

New York Man Actively Inter- ested in Development of Sandhill Section

One of the big transactions of the season is the sale of the Dr. Cady house on Weymouth Heights, to M. D. Nichols of New York and London, who secured possession this week. Mr. Nichols has been the head of one of the big insurance companies of New York, although for many years he lived in London in connection with the work there. He has been coming to the Sandhills and the neighborhood made an impression on him, and he has been making some investments here which climaxed in the purchase of the Cady house.

Already the Pilot has noted the buying of several building lots in the Southern Pines Country Club location, and Mr. Nichols will probably before long build on one or more of the lots. He has also secured a considerable amount of the stock in the Country Club, and will lead a hand in making the club one of the forceful factors in winter sports. He is young enough to be actively enthusiastic, and energetic enough to be one of the important acquisitions to the community this winter.

The Cady house is one of the larger houses of Weymouth Heights, with ample grounds about it, and has been among the places pointed out to strangers who are looking over the village. It is set among other fine homes, in a commanding location, and is in all ways a valuable property. S. B. Richardson negotiated the sale.