

A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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FIVE CENTS

PINEHURST HAS WORST FIRE IN VILLAGE HISTORY

Laundry and Dry Cleaning Plant
Completely Destroyed Wed-
nesday Night

LOSS AROUND \$40,000

Pinehurst suffered the biggest fire in its history when the Pinehurst Laundry and Dry Cleaning establishment was completely destroyed early Wednesday evening.

The flames shot up from under the washing tanks at about 8 o'clock just as the night force was starting to work, and the entire plant was almost immediately enveloped. Several of the girls employed on the machines escaped with difficulty, and there was no possibility of saving machinery and contents of the building. The Pinehurst Fire Department responded promptly, but was powerless against the raging flames and spent its energies in saving the lumber yard and power plant located near the laundry.

The fire may have originated in the dry cleaning apparatus, it was stated yesterday, but just how it started will probably never be ascertained. The building was an old frame structure and a ready prey for the flames.

In the absence of Charlotte of F. D. Taylor, manager of the plant, an estimate of the loss could not be learned yesterday, but it is known that several thousand dollars worth of new equipment was installed recently and that the loss is probably complete. Forty thousand dollars was carried in insurance with the Mason & Gardner agency in Pinehurst. The plant and equipment were owned by Pinehurst, Incorporated.

R. L. Chandler Honored by Masons of State

Southern Pines Man Elected
President of Order of the
High Priesthood

Ralph L. Chandler of Southern Pines, local head of the Carolina Power & Light Company, was elected president of the Order of High Priesthood of Masonry in North Carolina at the annual convention held this week in Concord. Among other officers Dr. W. C. Mudgett of Southern Pines was elected recorder.

Notable Masons from every section of the state were in attendance and the class of candidates, 26 in number, appointed, consecrated and set apart to the order was the largest on record. The convention was presided over by President W. Hill Horne of Greenville, who made an address relative to matters of the craft.

The ritualistic part of the ceremonies was presided over by A. B. Goetze, P. M., of Raleigh, whose interpretation is noted for impressiveness. In recognition of his services the convention gave him a hearty vote of thanks.

Appropriations were made to the Oxford orphanage and the Masonic and Eastern Star home at Greensboro.

Besides Mr. Chandler and Dr. Mudgett the following officers were elected to serve during the ensuing year: William R. Smith, Raleigh, vice president; W. L. Pridgen, Durham, chaplain; James W. Payne, Salisbury, treasurer; E. L. Somers, Reidsville, master of ceremonies; F. M. Pinnix, Oxford, conductor; C. M. Gueth, High Point, herald; T. Troy Wyche, Asheville, steward.

NARROW ESCAPE FOR REV. AND MRS. E. L. BARBER

Their car skidding out of control when they ran into a sudden down-pour of rain last Saturday afternoon, the Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Barber and their children of Aberdeen narrowly escaped serious injury near Monroe. The car turned over. Mrs. Barber was taken to a hospital for X-ray examination but the pictures did not reveal any broken bones. All were shaken up, bruise dand cut, and their car was considerably damaged. Mr. Barber is the new pastor of the Presbyterian church here.

TORNADO RAZES FOUR BUILDINGS IN VINA VISTA

Packhouse, Barns, and Sheds
near Biddle Residence Blown
to Atoms

PEACH TREES DESTROYED

Four buildings were completely demolished, another partially destroyed and peach trees uprooted and blown hither and yon when a young tornado swept down from the skies and visited the farm of Livingston L. Biddle II between Aberdeen and Pinehurst early Wednesday afternoon.

The Vina Vista freight station alongside the Norfolk Southern tracks in front of the Biddle estate was picked up bodily and deposited on the tracks with a crash which shattered it to kindling. A train was held up for some time while the right of way was cleared. The large packhouse owned by the Sweet Valley Wine Company in the heyday of the wine business, but leased the last few years by Mr. Biddle as a packhouse for peaches, was badly damaged, the eastern end of the building being blown off and much of the roof carried away. Back of this were two smaller buildings, a barn and shed, which were reduced to heaps of lumber. The barn fell on two mules, but both escaped unscathed.

Cuts Narrow Path

Near the Biddle residence some three quarters of a mile from the highway another barn was destroyed. No damage was done to the Biddle residence nor the other farm buildings adjacent, the wind cutting a narrow swath which took all in its path but leaving unharmed buildings and sheds but a few feet away.

Numerous peach trees were uprooted, one being carried twenty feet, others scattered helter skelter about the orchard. Boards and timber from the razed buildings were blown all about, many found at great distances from their starting points.

The lines of the Carolina Power & Light Company were torn down by falling timbers and a crew hastily dispatched to the scene to make the necessary repairs.

The tornado struck during the heavy rain which fell around 2 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. News of the damage left in the wake of the storm came as a great surprise to those not residing near the path of the storm, as there did not appear to be sufficient force to the wind in other places nearby to cause any severe damage. Many cars halted at the scene of the devastation during the afternoon, attracted by the mass of debris and the change in landscape caused by the complete disappearance of the buildings, especially the little freight depot bearing the sign "Vina Vista," which has long been a landmark on the highway a few miles out of Pinehurst toward Aberdeen.

This was the first windstorm to do any serious damage in this vicinity since the destruction of the village of Ashley Heights two years ago.

Women's Federation Meets at Pinehurst

President Commends Club Women
of State for Aid Rendered
During Year

The women hold the fort in Pinehurst this week, the Carolina being the scene of the 28th annual convention of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs which opened Wednesday with delegates from all parts of the state in attendance.

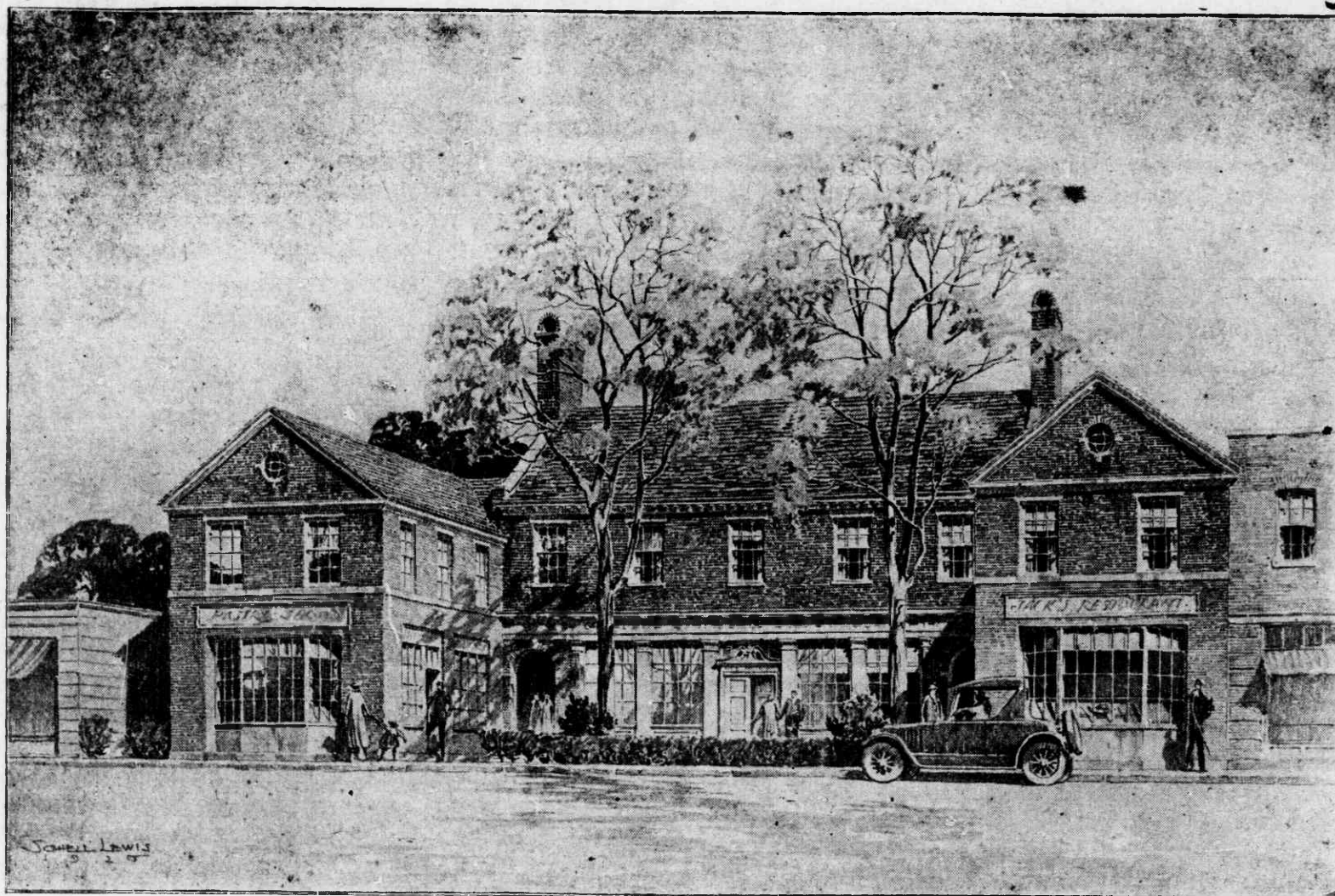
There were approximately 300 women present when Mrs. Edward M. Land of Statesville, called the session to order. In her annual address, Mrs. Land reviewed the work of the federation in North Carolina during the past year, commending the club women for their fine spirit in carrying forward the state's program.

Mrs. Land urged all women of the state to vote and also favorably referred to the world court in her address. She urged the women's federation to rally to the cause of prohibition.

Welcoming addresses were made by

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CELEBRATES TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY NEXT WEEK



An old Sketch of the Present Citizens Bank & Trust Company Building, Southern Pines Built in 1925.

Citizens Bank & Trust Co. Celebrates 25th Birthday

Southern Pines Institution Opened for Business May 22, 1905.
Has Increased its Resources Half a Million Dollars in
Last Ten Years

Tired of the hazards of "penny banking" and too busy to use the then far off banking conveniences of Sanford or Raleigh, C. T. Patch, C. B. Grout, P. H. Beck, W. F. Junge and C. D. Tarbell founded a banking institution in Southern Pines in May, 1905. And next Thursday, May 22d, the Citizens Bank & Trust Company celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary, a thriving institution of more than a million dollars in resources.

The little bank started with a capital of \$10,000 on that May day a quarter of a century ago. Mr. Grout became the first president, Mr. Beck, vice-president and G. H. Kimball cashier. The doors were first opened to the public on the 22d, the bank's quarters then being in the old Municipal building standing about where the Arcade building is now located. From this location it moved to its new home on West Broad street and New Hampshire avenue, now the site of Patch's store. This was in October, 1908. A year later the institution was reorganized, Mr. Grout remaining as president, with Messrs. Junge, Patch, Arthur S. Newcomb and R. E. Wiley as directors. H. O. Riggan became cashier.

In May, 1910, the bank's deposits were \$43,000, with total resources of \$55,000. In May, 1915, deposits had climbed to \$74,000 and resources to \$92,000. On January 17, 1922 Mr. Grout completed seventeen years of faithful service as president, and, with Directors Patch and Junge, retired, their holdings being acquired by Page interests. Robert N. Page became president, the new board comprising Mr. Newcomb, S. B. Richardson, Dr. Wiley, H. A. Page, J. R. Page, Ralph W. Page and R. N. Page. Upon the death of Dr. Wiley Dr. W. C. Mudgett became a member of the board.

The May statement for that year showed deposits of \$400,000, resources of \$510,000.

The old quarters in the little red brick building so familiar to the earlier generation of Southern Pines was now becoming all too cramped for the expanding institution, and as a natural fulfillment of nearly twenty years of progress a new home was discussed. In 1925 the present site was secured and Aymar Embury II, well known New York architect, was instructed to proceed with plans for a modern banking building. The present home of the Citizens Bank & Trust Company was completed in January, 1926, and the books, papers, cash and furnishings of the bank were moved in on February 8th.

Early in 1927 the Page interests were sold to J. E. Bernstein and others, Mr. Bernstein becoming chairman of the board of directors, H. O. Riggan, president and cashier, C. T.

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STILL A DIRECTOR



C. T. PATCH

One of founders of Citizens Bank and Trust Company and a member of the present Board of Directors.

NEW INSURANCE AGENCY ACQUIRES MASON & GARDNER

Mid-South Company Takes Over
Business and Building in
Pinehurst

MR. GARDNER MANAGER

Charles P. Mason and Lloyd L. Gardner who, as Mason & Gardner have played a prominent part in real estate and insurance fields in the Sandhills for several years, have sold their insurance business to the recently organized Mid-South Insurance Agency, the new company taking over not only all business written by Mason & Gardner, but the building in Pinehurst in which the latter concern has for some time been located.

This announcement comes coincident with the report of the formal organization of the Mid-South company at Pinehurst, with I. C. Sledge as president, Walker Taylor, vice-president, Richard S. Tufts, John F. Taylor and A. P. Thompson directors and L. L. Gardner as local manager. The company has already taken possession of its newly acquired building, and will handle all forms of insurance. Close affiliation with the agency operated by Walker Taylor in Wilmington, N. C., gives the new concern broad powers and a wide field.

Mr. Gardner is thoroughly familiar with the local insurance field, having handled the insurance end of the Mason & Gardner business. The combination of the state-wide reputation enjoyed by the Taylor company, the prominence of the directors of the new Pinehurst company and the personal touch with the local field which Mr. Gardner commands spells a bright future for the Mid-South company.

Mr. Mason retires from active interest in local insurance circles but continues with his real estate interests.

CLEAN-UP WEEK START OF PLAN TO IMPROVE CITY

Aberdeen Citizens Urged to Co-
operate Next Week in Civic
House Cleaning

TRUCKS TO HAUL RUBBISH

Next week is Clean-Up Week in Aberdeen, and citizens and civic organizations are planning to make it the most complete clean-up of the business and residential sections of town in history. Aberdeen residents are awakening to the fact that with comparatively small effort and expenditure and with systematized planting their village can be made as attractive as any hereabouts, and the campaign to accomplish this starts on Monday next. The cooperation of all local residents is asked by the Mayor and Board of Town Commissioners, the Chamber of Commerce, the Parent-Teachers Association, the Aberdeen Book Club and all civic bodies. The Boy Scouts are going to pitch in and help, and from present indications, everyone will be lending a hand toward beautifying the town next week.

Mayor Henry Blue announces that on Thursday next trucks will visit all residences and places of business west of the Seaboard tracks, and on Friday will call on those east of the tracks. Property owners are urged to have trash and rubbish ready by then for the trucks to haul away to the dump heaps.

Following Clean-Up Week a number of prominent citizens propose to go into the matter of civic planning and zoning looking toward the future development of Aberdeen from the standpoint of beautification and systematic growth. Aberdeen is ideally situated to become one of the prettiest villages in the state if guided in its destiny, and public spirited residents plan to take a hand in charting the course.

Kiwanians Hear of Crossnore School

Dr. Mary Sloop Interesting
Speaker at Weekly Meeting
of Club

Dr. Mary Sloop, head of Crossnore School at Crossnore, in Avery county, told of the work being done among the poor children of the western mountain section of the state in a talk before the Kiwanis Club at its Wednesday meeting in the Gichner-Johnson Building in Aberdeen.

The school is maintained through the donation of old clothes from organizations and friends throughout the state, it being one of the Kiwanis club beneficiaries. The clothes are repaired and renovated by pupils in the school, and sales are held four days a week when the garments are disposed of. There are 600 boys and girls in the school now, coming from miles around that section. They are taught rug making and other forms of utilitarian endeavor. From the old clothes alone a sum in excess of \$100,000 has been realized in the 15 years the school has been operated.

Dr. Sloop is a most interesting speaker and greatly interested the Kiwanians in the splendid work which she is doing among a class of people in North Carolina which few in the more settled sections of the state know exist.

R. Henry Hanson, secretary of the National Pipe & Supply Association, which has been in session during the week in Pinehurst, told the Kiwanians that business conditions throughout the country are basically sound, judging from reports coming to his office from all sections.

ANONYMOUS DONOR GIVES TENNIS COURT TO HOSPITAL

The new Moore County Hospital announces an anonymous gift of a tennis court for the use of the medical staff and nurses. The court is to be built immediately, on the land in the rear of the hospital building.

ABERDEEN WINS

Aberdeen High School defeated Carthage 11 to 7 in a hotly fought baseball game Tuesday.