

THE PILOT

Published every Friday by THE PILOT, Incorporated. Aberdeen, North Carolina

NELSON C. HYDE, General Manager
BION H. BUTLER, Editor
JAMES BOYD STRUTHERS BURT
RALPH PAGE
Contributing Editors

Subscription Rates:
One Year\$2.00
Six Months\$1.00
Three Months50

Address all communications to The Pilot, Inc., Aberdeen, N. C.

Entered at the Postoffice at Aberdeen, N. C., as second-class mail matter.

THE DRIFT TO SOCIALISM

Italy under Mussolini, is drifting either toward success or to failure in the socialist schemes that have brought that country into the public eye since the war. Russia is certainly starting a great development project on a big scale through the Soviet socialism. We may as well accept Russia as a coming industrial country, for the progress that socialism has started is bound to advance into something enduring, no matter what the course it is yet to follow. In our own country we decry socialism, but we are following socialist leaning, and more every day the cry is to let the state do the job and care for the people. Perhaps that is the wise policy, but before North Carolina takes two steps that are this month to come before the legislature it is prudent to inquire into their significance.

Are we ready to let go of popular government in state, county and township and turn the whole authority over to the state, or do we want to continue to have a government of the people? The proposition to make the schools a state unit is one thing that will stand a lot of discussion. To make the roads a state unit is another that should be carefully thought out before county administration is surrendered to the state. Right here we are at the crossing of the road that determines whether we are to be a democratic government or a representative government with its gradually increasing centralization. Possibly a state system of schools, embracing everything to the cross road may be better than what we have. But it has the one drawback to consider that while county administration may not be the most efficient, it is yet to be shown that state government is efficient, or that national government is efficient. Few men will argue that the United States government, with all its power of money, of men and of authority, can run a railroad half as efficiently as private management.

The government has authority of law but it has not and never can have any authority of management that is worth considering in a business way. It has no business head, and cannot have any responsible business administrator. Too innumerable many bosses are to be heard from, and too many influences come before business responsibility. Economy in government is as scarce as powder in perdition. Neither state or nation can economize, for the whole population has a voice in awarding money from the treasury regardless of whether it is justified or not, and the multitude of voices clamoring for favors makes it impossible for state or nation to carry on business in a manner to be called business even though politeness. The principle of big business is sound. But a state will never allow a capable business executive to carry on because the state has too many influences demanding a hearing. May be we think the state can do a better job with county roads or county schools than the smaller district can. Or perhaps we think the state will stand the costs and save the county, forgetting that we pay the taxes whether for state or county or nation. May be the state or nation can do better than the people in the smaller subdivision and may be not. These are things to think about for they are coming up.

THE CONTINUOUS CIRCLE

Once again the farmers are warned to reduce their acreage of cotton and tobacco. Possibly

the warning is logical. But the farmer who is going to try to beat the game this year may as well figure out how to reduce costs per pound as how to reduce acreage. Cotton is a competitive crop. The world has learned to make it, and to make it for less costs than our farmers are tolerating. Possibly the American farmer thinks he cannot reduce costs, but if competition undersells him reduced acreage will not help much.

The farmer is also wise to remember this. Prices of everything else are lowering, which means that a pound of ten cent cotton will buy more than a pound of ten cent cotton would when prices of other things were much higher. What he gets for his product is one thing, but what he has to pay for what he buys is equally important. With prices of commodities generally falling farm prices will not advance materially.

Diversification is a good theory, but the farmer who diversifies from one thing to another enters into competition with other farmers established in that other field who have the inside track of him. The farmer who undertakes to have milk and butter for his own uses, and plenty of them, pork for his own household, who raises as much of everything that he can use at home as possible, and who buys as little as he must, may not get rich farming, but he will not look for a place in the free soup line. Poultry, pork, butter, milk, his own vegetables and fruit and garden truck will help him through without a great cash outlay, and a little cotton or tobacco or other stuff may get him through the year with a margin of profit. But he must avoid debt, keep down his costs of operation, work, and have something about the place to keep him busy every day in the year. Probably better days are ahead for the farmer, but they will not come through high-priced cotton or tobacco, but through low-priced stuff that he makes for his own household needs, and the lower prices that he will meet when he buys the stuff he must have. We are not going into another frenzied experience like we have emerged from, farmer or anybody else.

THE MONEY OF THE RICH

An old breaker of idols who puts his feet occasionally on the editorial table remarked last night that the popular illusion that the rich have the money of the world is about as logical as that a sieve would be a good vehicle to carry water to a fire. He argued that the rich man may gather money and use it, but in order to profit by it he has to let it go. Therefore the money that the rich man gets is quickly passed on to some one else, and the rich man can be regarded only as the man who assembles money and puts it to work.

The argument offered was illustrated by the action of John Doe, who comes to the Sandhills with a credit of ten thousand dollars at his bank. He gives that ten thousand dollars to some one for a tract of land. Then John Doe proceeds to hunt up some other man and give him some money to make house plans. He arranges with a contractor to build a house, and in doing it scatters out fifty thousand dollars to Betterly, to Elsie Keith, to the Pinehurst Warehouses, to the saw mills, to a lot of carpenters and builders and painters, and to pretty near everybody who wants money until the house is built. Then John gives up some more money for furniture, and for carpets and for groceries and for house servants and for gasoline, and by and by Duncan McLean sends John Doe a bill for taxes, and so it goes all along the line. He gets money and passes it along, but he does not have money, for the man who has money, the philosopher says, is a dum fool. To be any good to him he has to pass it along and get something for it, for he would starve to death on money. He couldn't eat a ten dollar bill or patch his pants with it. The rich man gets money, but everybody gets, it away from him pronto. And you bet they work on him just as soon as he gets any. It is the dollars the rich man gets that keep the wheels of industry moving, for the whole world is standing by to take his money as he fiddles it out, which is

the only thing a man who has money can do with it. Now chew on this awhile.

The truth is money will not stay anywhere very long. It is like the water in the creek: useful when it goes over the wheel.

GOOD SALE AT KNOLLWOOD

The sale of the Donald Ross house at Knollwood Heights to W. C. Middleton is rather significant. The Ross house is one of the large and attractive houses of the Knollwood section, well located, new and in all ways appealing. At this early season the sale indicates an interest in the Knollwood neighborhood that is promising, and likewise the confidence that Knollwood Heights is a good place, in spite of the financial conditions ha have prevailed to put some money and to establish a winter home. Mr. Middleton's appreciation of Knollwood will act as a stimulus to others in that direction, for every new buyer sets the seal of approval on any new community.

The purpose of building houses at Knollwood or in any

other new neighborhood is to provide accommodations for the people who are likely to want a place there to live. That such people find the houses and secure them is evidence that the place is wisely selected and that it is offering what is wanted. With the sale of the Ross house attention will be drawn toward other houses in that section that may be bought, or if nothing else should be for sale there other houses will be built by men who regard the Knollwood community with favor.

Every new home owner in the Knollwood community goes farther to put the project beyond the bounds of an experiment, and to add to the number who are going to broaden the character of the developing village. With the number of excellent folks already domiciled in Knollwood nobody has any longer any doubt of the wisdom of making a location there. Knollwood has come out of the speculative stage of its existence, and entered the field of permanent home and community creation. And no better place can be found in the state, with all the facilities it offers.

GRAINS OF SAND

Moore county's legislators left for Raleigh with the need for automobile legislation fresh on their minds. One man was killed, another's life hangs in the balance, as the result of local accidents last week. The fatality is said to be directly traceable to the use of the highways by a driver unfit, through liquor, to operate a car. The time has come—after a record-breaking year of auto fatalities in the state—to place on the statute books an operators' license law, with teeth in it, a law which permits officers to take away licenses where drivers show signs of incompetence or recklessness.

Just as we were beginning to fear we were not to receive one, the Page Trust Company sent over a handsome calendar for 1931. The picture, in glorious colors, is of "Venice the Golden." Thanks, Dan.

Edward Tominson is worth hearing. The famous explorer is going to talk about South America in the Platform Hour of the Church of Wide Fellowship in Southern Pines on Sunday night. South America is of particular interest these days because much

of our prosperity depends upon the continent to the south of us, and great effort is being expended by the government to increase our export field there.

We are thoroly discouraged. We had hoped that the new sized ball was going to improve our game, but lo, it's done nothing of the kind. If anything, we are worse. Can't someone invent a gyroscopic golf ball timed to stay on the course?

Our contributing editor, Struthers Burt, has a new novel in the publishers hands, to be released the latter part of this month. It will be reviewed in The Pilot by Bernice Kenyon Gilkyson immediately upon release.

Gordon Cameron tells us that this is the biggest "horse year" we've had down here, that the demand for saddle horses on the part of guests at Pinehurst has, on a good many days, exceeded the supply. The bridle paths have almost reached the point of requiring a traffic officer. It's the same over in Southern Pines, the stable men tell us.

Correspondence

A NOTABLE BIRD BOOK

Editor, The Pilot:
Among the many and diversified allurements of the Sandhills country are the birds. To leave the frozen north and see and hear springtime birds in January is an extraordinary pleasure. They seem even closer to one during these winter days in Southern Pines than in the good old summer time in the north. They are evidently discussing their summer tours and preparing for the plumage of a gay season.

How the late President Roosevelt or John Burroughs and all the eminent living lovers of bird life would have enjoyed this tete-a-tete with feathered friends in North Carolina! Everyone loves birds, but few of us know or realize how closely entwined are their airy lives with our own. The fascination of birds is enhanced the more we know about them and see them is one thing—but to know about them is a thrilling revelation of ourselves.

This has all been provided for visitors to the Sandhills in a beautifully illustrated book entitled "A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills." The book was dedicated to the late Dr. John Warren Achorn who had a life-long pro-

found interest in birds and organized during his late years many bird clubs after retiring from the practice of medicine in the north. The Southern Pines Bird Club, of which he was a member, has made this monumental bird book his perpetuating memory.

"A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills" is declared by authorities to be one of the finest illustrated and accurate books on birds that has ever been published. Begun by Dr. Charles C. Adams when Director of the Roosevelt Wild Life Station at Syracuse, N. Y., Professors Alvin G. Whitney and Milton P. Skinner were important in presenting this romantic story of bird life. The field work was thoroughly covered by Professor Skinner who spent portions of two winters here in days and weeks of field work.

The committee authorized the sale of "A Guide to the Winter Birds of the North Carolina Sandhills" at \$2.00, although the original publishers price was \$4.00 the copy. The book is sold exclusively at the Sandhills Book Shop, Southern Pines. It will be one of the valued volumes for your home library and serves a purpose wherever birds come with their songs of joy and happiness.
—SANDHILLS VISITOR.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN TO GATHER AT GREENSBORO

One thousand Presbyterian men are expected at Greensboro from all parts of the synod of North Carolina and her nine presbyteries to attend a one day conference which opens at 11 a. m., January 22nd, at the First Presbyterian Church of that city, under the auspices of the men's work committee of this synod, of which the Rev. N. H. McDiarmid, of Shelby is chairman.

Although complete details of the program are not available at this time it is known that the Rev. Wm. Anderson, Jr., D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, Texas, will deliver the opening address and will speak twice in addition. The names of the Rev. W. L. Lingle, D.

D., president of Davidson College, the Rev. J. L. Mauze, D. D., of Kansas City, Mo., and W. M. Everett, prominent Presbyterian Layman of Atlanta, Ga., also appear on the program.

The purpose of the conference as determined by the men's work committee is to bring the men of this denomination into a closer contact with the work that their church is doing and to show that the program of their denomination has a place for every man. Prominent laymen of the synod have been invited to preside and direct the conference to this end.

Albert Clark, a former employe of Page Trust Company, now with the Guaranty Trust Co., in New York City, was in Aberdeen last week, recuperating from a tonsil operation.

GAMMACK & CO.

Members

New York Stock Exchange
Pittsburgh Stock Exchange

Main Office
39 Broadway, New York City

SOUTHERN PINES—NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE

Telephones: Southern Pines 6751—Pinehurst 3821

THE PAGE TRUST COMPANY,

ABERDEEN, N. C.

A bank with relations all over the country that give the best contacts and a broad basis for all its business.

A bank with its eggs not all in one basket, but carefully disposed in various safe places.

A bank with ample resources, with business policies that ensure strength and safety.

Start the new year right with an account in a bank that you can feel sure of, and so shape your economies that the year will be one of prosperity and satisfaction.

Your account is invited by—

THE PAGE TRUST COMPANY,

ABERDEEN, N. C.

Only ONE Weymouth Heights

the outgrowth of forty years of development

No place for another one if we had time to make it.

No need for another one while room remains on Weymouth to build more homes.

But some day the man who does not now secure his location will regret that he did not fortify himself while sites were plentiful for the choosing.

Weymouth Heights will be for many years the dream of the home-makers of the heart of the Sandhills.

And in that time it will be the joy of those who are prudent enough to find a homesite and to occupy it.

S. B. RICHARDSON

Real Estate

PATCH BUILDING

Southern Pines. :: North Carolina

PAUL T. BARNUM, Inc.

Insurance of All Kinds

—At The—

Citizens' Bank Building
Southern Pines, N. C.

Successors To

PAUL T. BARNUM S. B. RICHARDSON, INC.

LIFE INSURANCE

Ordinary—Endowment—Term

EUGENE C. STEVENS

Representative,

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada
Southern Pines, North Carolina