

A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

VOL. 11, NO. 33.

Aberdeen, North Carolina

Friday, July 17, 1931.

FIVE CENTS

THREW EX-WIFE OFF BRIDGE INTO ROANOKE RIVER

McLean, Jimtown Negro, Arrested by Chief Beasley for Attempted Murder

SAND BAR SAVED HER

A crime abounding in the thrills of a dime novel resulted in the arrest last Friday night of Everett McLean, West Southern Pines Negro, by Chief of Police Beasley of Southern Pines, on charges of robbery and attempted murder. McLean is now in Virginia awaiting trial.

A week ago Tuesday, the story goes, while driving his divorced wife, the former Pearl Gilchrist, from New York to Southern Pines, McLean, York to Southern Pines, McLean the Roanoke River, beat her, partially disrobed her, took her rings and jewelry, then threw her off the bridge into the river, a drop of 30 feet. Leaving her for dead, he drove on to West Southern Pines.

The woman landed on a sand bar, sinking almost to her head in the sand and water. She managed to keep her head above water and to scream until her cries were heard by passing motorists. Rescued, she told her story to the police of Lacrosse, Virginia. The authorities there wired Chief Beasley, but by the time he had reached "Jimtown," his man had disappeared. The chief wired surrounding cities and McLean's car was picked up in Durham, but the Negro got away.

Beasley set out in pursuit of his man, and traced him to a farm seven miles south of Fuquay Springs where he made the arrest about 9 o'clock last Friday night. McLean was taken to Carthage. Waiving extradition, he

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Fire Sweeps Vass Business Block

Two Departments Fight Flames Discovered at Midnight in Beasley Building

What threatened to be the most destructive fire in the history of the town of Vass was discovered in the Beasley building in the main business block about one o'clock Sunday morning by Alex Wilson of Apex, who, sleeping on the top floor of the building, was awakened by the dense smoke. He immediately aroused R. P. Beasley, owner of the building, who was spending the week-end in town and was asleep in another room, and the alarm was given.

The local firemen were soon on the job, but they met with difficulty in locating the blaze. Although smoke was issuing in clouds from every story of the building, there was no blaze in sight. Investigation finally revealed that the fire had started in the basement in a hallway to the rear of the cafe, which, with the doors closed, was not visible from the outside. So threatening was the fire that aid was asked of the Southern Pines Fire Department, which responded promptly and was of great service.

Much of the woodwork in the basement was consumed and the flames ate their way almost through to the floor of the Beasley Department Store overhead. The stock of goods in the store and the walls and furnishings of the apartments on the upper floor were badly damaged by the smoke. The walls had just been refinished, Mr. Wilson having spent several days of last week in doing over the rooms.

R. P. Beasley was almost overcome by the smoke, and was confined to his bed the greater part of several days, but is now showing satisfactory improvement.

It is understood that there is some insurance, and Mr. Beasley's friends are hoping that adjustments may be such that he will not suffer a heavy financial loss. Mr. Beasley has shown a fine spirit of cooperation since engaging in business in Vass and has proven a real asset to the town. Much sympathy is felt for him in this misfortune.

Hard Times, Eh?

Read About the Conditions in Person County, North Carolina in 1843

Who says times are hard? Someone has sent The Pilot a clipping from the August 3d, 1843 edition of the Chittanooga, N. Y., Herald, which reads as follows: "Hard Times Indeed—A North Carolina paper gives the following picture of these conditions in Person county in that state: "At a sale a few days since, under a valid deed of trust, sheep went off at 5 cents a head; hogs at 10 cents a head and other property in proportion, a likely Negro boy bringing but \$100."

COMMISSIONERS TO HEAR TAX APPEALS ON JULY 28, 29

Assessment Figures Show Gains in Sandhills, McNeills and Mineral Springs

HEALTH FUNDS VOTED

The tax board at Carthage is working energetically to get the books of the various townships in shape for the County commissioners at their hearing of appeals which will take place on Tuesday, July 28, at Carthage, for the townships of Mineral Springs, Sandhills, McNeills and Deep River, and on Wednesday, July 29 for Carthage, Sheffields, Bensalem, Ritters and Greenwood. A. B. Cameron, head of the tax board, says the assessors in the various townships have given much time and long hours to their tasks, visiting their districts from end to end in the determination to cover their work with the fullest efficiency, and that the results will prove as nearly an accurate assessment of the county as can likely be made.

In some of the townships, particularly the lower end of the county some slight gains have been made in the total assessments, Sandhills leading within the neighborhood of 10 per cent. McNeills shows a small gain, Mineral Springs is marked up a little and Sheffields. Most of the increase is due to further development in the sandy section of the county. In the other townships the tendency is to a slight decrease of the totals. The total increase in the county will be nominal. In some cases the assessors found the values fixed on property seemingly too high for the present conditions, and in some cases an increase was thought wise to arrive at proportionately fair valuations. Throughout the work the effort was made to arrive at equalization as far as judgment could decide.

Mr. Cameron and his associates have been over the county studying the work with the assessors, and are now passing on everything that has been turned in. From their hands the lists go before the County Commissioners as the board of final appeals, and there they will have a consideration of every bit of property that the owners care to discuss.

To Determine Taxes

After the valuations are finally confirmed the commissioners will determine the amount of taxes necessary under the new law, and the amount will be proportioned to the valuation, telling how much on the dollar will be called for in the taxes for 1931. A material reduction in the county property tax rate is certain, as the increased gasoline and other taxes will relieve land, although a State tax of fifteen cents will interfere with the full reduction that was at first hoped for.

An adjourned meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Moore county was held in the court house on Monday with all five members present. The budget of the County Board of Health for 1931-32 was approved. The county's appropriation for this department is approved at \$3,300. The tentative budget which the commissioners had hoped to have in hand for this meeting was not ready.

RAILWAY EXPRESS REFUSES PACKAGE DELIVERY SERVICE

Volume of Business Does Not Warrant Expense, Chamber of Commerce Informed

MERCHANTS USE BUSESSE

There is little likelihood of express pick-up and delivery service in Southern Pines, judging from a letter received by the Chamber of Commerce there. Express delivery was voted favorably in a recent poll of members and citizens of Southern Pines, conducted by the Chamber of Commerce. The wheels were then set in motion to see what could be done toward carrying out the wishes of the majority.

Ralph L. Chandler, chairman of the Commerce Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, received the following letter from R. H. May, superintendent of the Railway Express Agency at Norfolk, Va., which was read at the meeting of Chamber directors held Tuesday noon at the Southern Pines Country Club:

"This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 29th in reference to this company performing pick-up and delivery service of express at Southern Pines.

"I regret that it is not possible for this company to perform this service there. Conditions now prevailing preclude the possibility of our incurring additional expense in the handling of our business at Southern Pines.

Not Enough Business

"Business there has been on the decline since 1926, and we are now doing considerably less business than in years past. The inbound business for the year as a whole averaged about 40 packages per business day, which certainly is not enough to warrant the expense that we would be put to in performing the service desired. Should business improve in the near future we would be glad to give the matter further consideration."

It is said by merchants in Southern Pines that the loss of business to the railway express is due to the delivery of packages by motor busses from points in the state. When they found that goods coming from Charlotte, Raleigh, Greensboro and other points could be delivered to their door by busses they ordered them sent that way. Now they say that not until the railway express meets this competition will they change. They see no reason for favoring the railway express when they get better service just as cheaply otherwise.

FEDERAL OFFICERS FIND STILL AND ARREST TWO

Federal Officer Harris and county officers Kelly, Slack and Lambert made a raid on Friday near the Bunker Hill peach orchard, which netted one steamer distillery and a quantity of beer. The distillery was not in operation.

Near the still they came upon Ernest and Albert Faircloth and at a hearing held before the Federal commissioner, both men were bound to Federal court under bonds of \$1,000 each. Ernest gave bond, but Albert is in jail.

MRS. PYE, PROPRIETOR OF THE RANGELEY, DIES

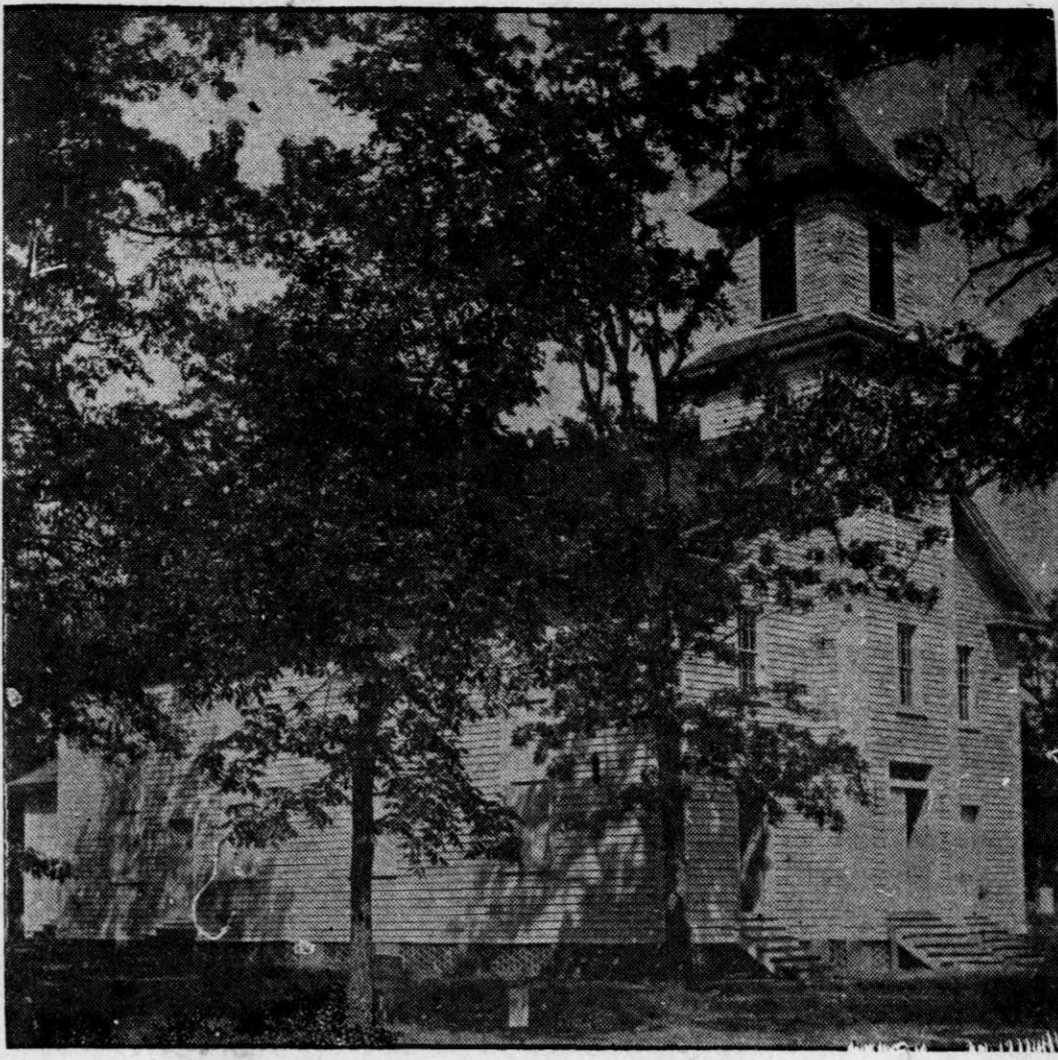
Mrs. B. F. Pye, who has operated the Rangeley, a Southern Pines Inn, for several years, died in the New England Hospital for Women in Boston on Wednesday, July 8th, according to information received here. Death followed an operation. She leaves a husband and two sons, William and James. Mrs. Pye was a well known and highly esteemed member of the winter colony in the Sandhills.

AT THE MOVIES

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, July 16, 17, 18, "Son of India," with Ramon Novarro.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, July 20, 21, 22—"Women Love Once," with Paul Lukas.

Homecoming at "Old Union"



Old Union Church Near Vass

Sons and Daughters To Gather at Historic Edifice Sunday. Prominent Speakers

Next Sunday, July 19, will be Homecoming Day at Old Union Church five miles from Vass, and a large number of former members and other friends are expected to spend the day at this historic church.

An interesting program has been planned. Sunday School will be held at the usual hour, 10:00 o'clock, with a special program. After a recess of fifteen minutes, a song service will begin at 11:15, and at 11:30 the Rev. R. A. McLeod, president of the Presbyterian Junior College at Maxton and a son of "Old Union," will preach.

During the noon hour a picnic dinner will be spread under the massive trees that make the place so beautiful, and all who attend are invited to carry baskets of food.

Beginning at 2:00 o'clock, a song service with special music will be held and this will be followed by short talks by former ministers and sons of Old Union who are now engaged in ministerial work. The Rev. M. D. McNeill of Cameron and the Rev. A. R. McQueen of Dunn, whose father was one of the most beloved men who ever served this church, will be two of the speakers.

The morning sermon is scheduled for 11:30 instead of the usual hour in order that members of the other churches in the group may attend their Sunday Schools and still have time to reach Union for the sermon. A most cordial invitation is extended not only to the Presbyterian churches, but to the friends of other denominations.

This delightful program has been planned by the Union Sunday School of which F. M. Dwight is superintendent.

O'Callaghan Heads Local Legion Post

Officers for 1932 Elected by War Veterans at Meeting On Tuesday

L. V. O'Callaghan of Southern Pines was elected Commander of Sandhill Post No. 134, American Legion at the meeting of the local war veterans held in the Civic Club, Southern Pines on Tuesday night. Other officers for the year 1932 were elected as follows:

1st Vice Commander, Col. G. P. Hawes; 2d Vice Commander, Robert B. Donaldson; Adjutant, F. M. Dwight; Finance Officer, C. T. Waldie; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. C. Clark; Chaplain, the Rev. J. Fred Stimson; Publicity Officer, Nelson C. Hyde; Historian, Struthers Burt; Service Officers, Max G. Backer, F. D. Shamburger and Robert E. Denny.

These officers were elected at this time to meet the demands of the State department which requires that the next year's officers be chosen prior to the State convention. The convention will open at Morehead City on Sunday, July 26th.



THE REV. M. D. McNEILL

PARTY STARTING AT MILAMS HOME ENDS IN ARREST

"Billy" and "Buddy" Milam and Hobart Frye Accused by New York Youth

ALL ARE FOUND GUILTY

As the outcome of a party in Southern Pines last Sunday night, William and C. C. (Buddy) Milam of Southern Pines and Hobart Frye of Pinehurst were arraigned before Mayor Stutz Monday on charges of disorderly conduct and affray. The Mayor, acting as magistrate, imposed sentences of 30 days on the roads or \$50 fines on each of the defendants. On appeal, they were bound over in bail of \$250 each for appearance before Judge Humber at Carthage Tuesday.

The story goes that the Milams met a young woman they used to know in Richmond down town on Sunday. She was driving through in a big Packard car with a youthful New Yorker by the name of Irvin W. Truby. "Billy" Milam invited them to his house on Ashe street to spend the night, and as the evening progressed, the party is said to have developed along lines which finally resulted in a fight. Whatever the fight was, Truby got the worst of it, and registered a complaint with the police. The Milam boys and Frye were taken in custody, and Truby held as a material witness.

All Found Guilty

On Tuesday they faced Judge Humber. The charges were amended at Carthage to include possession and transportation of liquor in the case of William Milam, and he was found guilty and sentenced to serve four months for possession, and 12 months for transportation, the latter sentence to issue at any time within two years.

All three were tried on charges of

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TAX REDUCTION IN MOORE COUNTY IS ABOVE STATE AVERAGE

Moore to Pay 44.5 Cents Less Under New State Law, or Total of \$120,895

STATE AVERAGE 41 CENTS

Property taxpayers in the 100 counties of North Carolina will receive an average tax reduction for roads and schools of 41 cents on the \$100 valuation, or a total of \$12,167,849, based on a total State valuation of \$2,975,208,279, as a result of the action of the 1931 General Assembly, figures just made public by Dr. Fred W. Morrison, of the Tax Commission, show.

These figures show that the tax reduction provided under the 15-cent levy for current expenses of school operation for six months amount to an average of 32.5 cents on the \$100, or a total of \$9,652,491, while the net reduction for roads and bridges will be an average of 8.5 cents on the \$100, or a total of \$2,515,358. The 15-cent levy for schools will amount to \$4,462,807, the compilation shows. The tax levy for roads and bridges in 1931 totaled \$5,252,113, in addition to the \$2,736,755 in State aid for roads, devoted largely to debt service in most of the county.

In only one county, Clay, will an increase be required, the increase being 13.2 on the \$100 to produce \$3,185 more than last year. Thirty counties get reductions of 50 cents or more, and in only seven of them is the reduction less than 25 cents on the \$100 valuation.

\$27,187,127 Valuation

Moore county will get a reduction of 44.5 cents in rate and \$120,895 in the amount of taxes paid, on a valuation of \$27,187,127, the compilation shows.

Moore county levied a tax of 23 cents for roads and bridges in 1930, bringing in \$62,530, while the State aid for roads and bridges was \$25,915, used largely for debt service. This gives a net reduction for roads and bridges for this year of \$336,615 or 13.5 cents lower in rate. Taxes for current expenses of the six months school were at the rate of 46 cents, producing \$125,061, while the 15-cent levy provided for this purpose will bring only \$40,781, a reduction of \$84,280 in amount and 31 cents in the rate, the table shows.

Open Southern Pines Lake to Fishermen

Angling To Be Permitted Under Regulations Adopted by Commissioners

The Southern Pines Water Works lake is to be open to the public for fishing under certain regulations adopted at a meeting of the Town Commissioners on Wednesday night. Rumar has had it that some illegal fishing has been going on at the lake, but from now on strict rules and regulations will govern.

Permits are to be issued by the town clerk. Fishing will be permitted only from boats owned by the Town, and for the use of which a fee will be charged. No fishing from the banks will be permitted. All boats will be provided with life preservers. The legal hours for fishing will be from sunrise until noon, and from 2 P. M. until sunset. No seining or trapping of fish will be permitted, and no fish caught in the lake are to be sold, bartered or exchanged.

Under Section 3 of the new Lake rules, no picnics are to be allowed on the property. Any person violating any provision of the ordinance shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$50 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days, or both.

The new ordinance is subject to the approval of the State Board of Health, which requires the building and maintenance of a dock. It is understood that this approval will be granted, and that a pier will be built, boats provided and the wheels of supervision of the lake set in motion promptly. Someone will be employed by the Town to see that the terms of the ordinance are strictly carried out.