

THE PILOT

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GARDNER DOES NOT LOSE HIS HEAD

In the dance of folly which prompts some of the states to call special session of the Legislature to enact laws to attempt to control the planting of cotton Governor Gardner does not go crazy along with the rest of them. He realizes that if a man wants to plant cotton or anything else, or to engage in any business that is not harmful to the people or the country it is not an affair for the state or nation, and he also comprehends that the basic laws that govern industry and business are not amenable to the fiat of legislation.

It is so simple, if the farmers want to reduce the acreage of cotton, to reduce it. No man is obliged to plant a big cotton crop if he thinks it is unwise or unprofitable. The reduction of the crop is in the hands of the individual. But the time has not yet come when any man may say how much cotton or any other thing any other man may plant. On the day when any one group, be they legislators or anything else, can say what any other group of men may do, provided it is not interfering with the rights of others, American liberty is ended, and bolshevism is enthroned. The law that says how much cotton may be planted can say how many cars may travel the road, and how many shoes a man may wear, and how much of anything he may do. Nothing would more certainly invite revolution and overthrow of all government and all restraint.

But if such a law could to any extent be enforced it could result only in immediate disaster. The talk of idleness that we hear from over the country and unemployment is piffle alongside of what would follow if Texas should materially reduce its big cotton crop. Might as well close a certain proportion of the groceries in the towns to enable the others to be able to raise prices, and to bring better returns to those that could be allowed to survive. But it would mean a lot of clerks walking the street as stopping cotton would mean an army of idle hands on the farms. Gardner does not care to mix in with a lot of batty house projects.

HOW TO GET OUT OF THE DEPRESSION

This financial depression is largely an individual matter. It can be remedied by individuals, as it will be, and by paying our debts before we spend very much money for a wide range of new purchases or by going deeper into debt. Fortunately for all of us, individually, state, nation, creditors are no longer encouraging unlimited buying on time, and we are now studying how to cut expenses rather than how to borrow more money.

The trouble is not overproduction, but overloading of everybody with a lot of stuff that was not needed, and which was urged on buyers who could not pay as well as on those who could pay, and now the whole world is in debt to its neck, and lacking money to get out. We have a period of debt paying ahead of us, and the sooner we get them to the ground and pay until it takes the skin off the sooner we will reach the point where we will have money to buy. Money paid on debts circulates just as freely as money spent for new purchases, and puts lots more ginger into business than money circulated in any other way.

The day that is ahead of us is a day of trying once more to live within our income, individual, state and nation, and because our creditors are not in-

clined to encourage sales on any other basis we are to be helped to get on our feet by cutting out our debt-making improvidences. Our high-standard of living sounds all right, but it is not going to be an argument any longer any farther than our ability to pay backs it up. After the war the whole effort was to make it easy for everybody to get into debt as far as his eyes, but now that the bill collector has been putting on the high pressure instead of the salesman the shoe is on the other foot. The job ahead of us, individual, state and nation, is to get out of debt, and the creditors are going to help pull us out, painful as the process may be in some quarters. The man who pays as he goes is not stopped at every turn by some one who demands money. He is the one man who has the open road and a welcome every where, and he is the man who will end the depression when it is ended.

HAULING THE CHILDREN TO SCHOOL

The question of bringing country children to school in the villages of central points has called forth certain rulings at Raleigh, which is now the executive headquarters of the State school system, and the fiat has been issued that funds will not be provided for transportation of children more than a mile and a half. Much argument is offered on both sides of this question, the advocates of shorter haul pointing out two which are of weight, one being the danger to children on roads traveled by many cars, and the other the discomfort in rough weather. The danger on the roads is probably the most convincing, for we have built roads for automobiles, which has destroyed their value as anything else. The merciless butchery of the automobile is one of the astonishing tolerations of our present day civilization and practices. Last year 320,712 persons were injured and 14,924 were killed by automobiles while walking on the roads and streets in this country. Over 3,500 children under 15 years of age were killed by cars while on the roads and streets. But, we have made all our roads dangerous for everybody on foot on any public thoroughfare, whether children going to school, or anybody going any place afoot. The foot passenger is flirting with the graveyard.

On the other hand the question of the cost of transportation is one that will not be swept aside, and not because people are eager to sacrifice their children to any parsimonious prompting, but because a fair proportion of the people do not have the means to pay the costs of the high expenditures that schools of the modern system call for. It is not the desire that leads people to call for lower costs, but the inability to pay, and when your pocket is empty it is useless to insist that you must dig up money from it. Few people have any doubt now

that a policy of retrenchment in public affairs is imperative, that we must live within our ability to pay, not because we would not like to live higher than our ability permits, but because the inability to pay prevents us from getting the things we would like to have. It is a question of taxes, in both state and county as well as in the nation, and if we can not produce the money for taxes we are not going to much longer have the things we think we must have. That is the situation that faces all government now, and schools will no longer run on the installment plan.

ANOTHER YEAR AT PINEHURST

With the approach of the opening of the hotels at Pinehurst those who are most familiar with the general conditions of business over the country look for the beginning of a good year. The Carolina opens officially on October 26, little more than four weeks off, but in fact it opens October 21 to care for the Kiwanis convention which will occupy the intervening time. The period from now until then is brief.

The Kiwanis convention will bring a houseful of excellent people, for the organization is one of picked men from the various communities of the states, lent on a work of helpfulness, and pursuing those aims that are uplifting and broadening. Along with their seriousness they have the inclination toward a share of the pleasures that an outing in the Sandhills affords. These men will start the season with an enthusiasm, for in a way they include friends and neighbors from not too far away. The housewarming will be by folks who drop in from across the fence.

By that time many of the winter colony will have arrived. Already the familiar faces begin to show up. Four more will increase the arrivals to considerable proportions. Highway travel is more attractive this fall than ever, for within the past year considerable new work on the roads has increased the hard surface. A choice of routes from the Sandhills to Washington, to Hagerstown, and to the south is available, in some directions three or four or half a dozen different good roads tempting the traveller. The railroads have been improving their service so that excellent facilities will await the pilgrims who come this way. With a favorable growing summer shrubbery and trees have grown remarkably all over the neighborhood, and the Sandhills were never more interesting. The highways and homes are extending their park appearances year by year, while the builder continues to broaden the home horizon, even though not as rapidly this year as in some years that have gone. Yet, taken in all, the Sandhills were never more to be appreciated than this fall. And the signs are promising for a good winter.

of poor stuff. It's just a tough break for the poor downtrodden farmer.

Arch McKeithen tells us the September heat wave has been the worst in his memory, that the temperature in the daytime during September has been below 85 but twice so far this month.

While the popular belief is that September 21 is the last day of summer, autumn did not officially begin the year until 7:04 o'clock on last Wednesday, September 23, when the fall equinox arrived. Periods of spring and fall equinoxes

are annually close to March 21 and September 21, respectively, with summer and winter solstices falling near June 21 and December 21.

The earth's axis continually points in the same direction. It it were perpendicular to the plane of the earth's orbit around the sun there would be no change of seasons. Day and night every where would be the same length. But the axis is tilted 23 degrees, 27 minutes away from a perpendicular to the orbit and only in March and September is it at right angles to the direction of the sun. In day and night are equal the world over.

At the CAPITAL

By M. R. Dunnagan, The Pilot's Raleigh Correspondent

A full-fledged row is on between A. J. Maxwell, Commissioner of Revenue and candidate for Governor, and the school folks, or a school man, Supt. R. H. Latham, of the Winston-Salem schools, which gives promise of extending to the entire school field. Mr. Maxwell had a good word for the new school law, Mr. Latham answered and criticised it in a public address, and Mr. Maxwell responded, criticising Mr. Latham.

The subject matter of the controversy is not important, but the row is on in the open now, as it has been smouldering for some time. School folks generally seem to have the idea that Mr. Maxwell is after them, and the open break with Mr. Latham, a member of the State teacher body's legislative committee, seems to indicate that the war is on. Almost as a body, it is believed that the teachers will oppose Mr. Maxwell's ambition to be Governor. Mr. Maxwell apparently does not fear them. He may figure he will get more votes from the people who are with him on reduction of governmental costs, including schools, than he will lose from teachers.

A flurry was caused last week by the Charlotte Observer story from a former State official that Josephus Daniels expects to be a candidate for Governor and would make his announcement Sunday, or some Sunday soon. He declined to comment on the story. People here believe he would prefer to continue as a crusading editor, free to attack or approve, to being a State official himself.

R. T. Fountain, cornered last week, said the folks knew his platform, but finally gave four planks. He is for the quadriennial revaluation; full State support of the six months school term, with no ad valorem tax; against the short ballot, favoring centralization only so far as needed to assure efficiency; and against all sales taxes, but considers the luxury tax the lesser of two evils. "That's enough now. Others may develop," he said.

D. G. Brummitt has been busy making speeches recently, but has said nothing about his possibly and expected entry for the governorship.

Willis Smith is back in Raleigh, with scars of the automobile accident near Charlotte a few weeks ago, but apparently as well as ever. He waxes eloquent in praise of the hospitality of Charlotte people, but says not a word about his prospective candidacy. J. C. B. Ehrinhaus, already announced is visiting and speaking in first one part of the State, then another. The stage the past week has been held by Maxwell, because of his platform.

Governor Gardner is not being stampeded into calling a special session of the General Assembly by residents of other states, or the few calls of North Carolinians, to place a legal ban on planting cotton next year. He takes the view that this State raises such a small part of the cotton that it is wise to wait for action of other states growing larger quantities. He asserts that cotton land in this State is "doped" with fertilizer to such an extent that it will not grow without commercial fertilizer and that the people of the State will be unable to buy enough fertilizer next year to raise 500,000 bales. North Carolina cannot compete with Texas rich lands in cotton raising and will gradually shift from cotton, he believes.

Opinion is expressed here that Josephus Daniels, Raleigh editor, is preparing to try to force an extra session to deal with cotton, probably with the hope of getting his pet luxury tax adopted, maybe holding out that the \$100,000 bottlers tax error may be rectified by the session. But a greater need than is apparent will have to develop before Governor Gardner in whose power the calling

stock brokers, including Durfrey and S. Wade Marr, charged with embezzling funds of customers, will come up later.

The grand jury returned 10 indictments against Ed Hugh Lee, former Raleigh tax collector, charging embezzlement or misapplication of city funds ranging from \$20,000 to \$40,000. He may not be tried at this term.

Reports that Sprague Silver, chief of the N. C. motor vehicle bureau, was drunk and tried to "hog" a meeting of representatives of five states in Chattanooga, Tenn., last week to try to end the "truck tag war," are in part discounted. Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell announced that he would get to the bottom of the matter before taking any action regarding Silver.

Correspondence

APPROVES YEOMAN'S PROPOSAL

Editor of The Pilot, Aberdeen, N. C.
 Mr. Yeoman's proposal in The Pilot that more thought be given to harmonious planting schemes in the Sandhills is a valuable one, and suggests other needs that an organization for this purpose might serve.

How to plant with a view to future development of the garden plan and not just for the immediate effort is not always understood.

The selection of suitable plant material is difficult for the amateur. Usually it is governed by the initial cost, and the regular yearly expense of upkeep is frequently overlooked.

The question of the best winter and summer effects should be considered also. Some of us are here in winter only. Others remain most of the year and need not only warm, windless, evergreen enclosures but also cool breeze-swept spaces under high-arched shade to refresh our hottest days. Another side of the planting question is its suitability for birds. Other advantages being equal, the preference should be given to plants which supply them with food and protect them from danger with a view to increasing their numbers.

In addition to offering information on these and similar problems the organization Mr. Yeoman proposes might place in our public libraries reference books and current periodicals on garden making and keeping a wide range of the newest seed and plant catalogues, a file of up-to-date federal and state bulletins, and a standard encyclopedia of horticulture.

The people of the Sandhills always have been quick to take advantage of opportunities for enhancing the attractions of their community and they will doubtless appreciate the possibilities of this new idea.

—MARION C. MacNEILLE.

rests, will call the legislators together.

North Carolina has 275 chain store systems operating 1,645 stores, on which a tax of \$70,852.50 was paid, under protest, for the year ended May 31, 1931. An appeal from the tax is now pending before the United States Supreme Court, on the ground of unconstitutionality.

Following a conference with leaders of various forms of industrial and agricultural activities here Friday, Governor Gardner stated that he would name a commission of five or seven this week as a special unemployment relief commission, directed to handle relief in the State this winter. Reports from leaders in activities in the State were made by several of the 25 persons called to the conference.

The commission will make a study and seeks methods of relieving distress in the State as a result of economic depression and the resultant lack of employment. R. W. Henninger, who was in charge of the work of the unemployment commission last winter, has been named as director. The task will be much greater this year, Commissioner of Labor Frank D. Grist estimating that about 22 per cent of the working population, or approximately 100,000, are out of work and another 100,000 are working on part time.

Carey K. Dufrey, Raleigh broker, has been found guilty by a Wake county jury of embezzling funds entrusted to him as executor of the estate of the late Mrs. Florence P. Tucker. Judge Walter Small, presiding, announced he would impose sentence this week. The penalty on the two counts, 10 others having been withdrawn, is a maximum of 10 years each in State's Prison, Durfrey offered no evidence.

The case of Durfrey and Marr,

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GRAINS OF SAND

Whew, but it's hot!

Southern Pines believes in killing two birds with one stone. She is solving unemployment by getting her winter planting done, and everybody is benefitted, including those who gave the funds to aid the unemployed. For it is with these funds the work of cleaning up and beautifying the parkways is being done.

The long felt need of reviving the Boy Scout troop in this section is about to be met. It was a shame that the troop ever surrendered its charter, but the man who gave his time to making a success of it, Max Backer, of Southern Pines, reached a point where he didn't have the time to give to it longer, and the troop died. Now George Moore returns from the North and spurs the Chamber of Commerce to action, and it is hoped to get Max back and reinstate the troop. No community should be without a Boy Scout troop. No boy should grow to manhood without Boy Scout training. There is no more worthy cause.

And now someone should start a Girl Scout movement.

The flies must be pretty bad hereabouts. Someone stole a bunch of screens from the rapidly diminishing Southern Pines Hotel.

Arthur Newcomb says the State Motor Vehicle Bureau must have decided to adopt the gold standard, it's gotten rid of Silver.

One Tar Heel youth has been named on the All-American baseball team, stars selected from among American league players by the sports writers. He is Wes Ferrell, of Guilford.

The Sandhills towns are left out of the itinerary of the Raleigh State Fair boosters this year. They are going to tour the state, but not via the Sandhills.

From all we hear, that fair at Hemp the week of October 5th is going to be worth going miles to see. And the week after comes the County fair at Carthage.

Those Samaritan girls have finally been moved from "Death Row" in the State's prison at Raleigh, where they were kept for some time for fear they might set fire to the prison if housed in more inflammable sections of the institution.

The farmers don't like some of the prices offered for their tobacco, but the buyers don't like their tobacco. The good leaf is bringing good prices. The weather this summer was tough on the tobacco grower, but the companies can use only a certain amount