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COUNTY SCHOOLS OPERATING WELL WITHIN BUDGET

With 21 Per Cent Less Money Than Year Ago, 200 More Pupils Are Being Educated

BETTER TRANSPORTATION

By Mrs. S. R. Smith

The expenditure for the rural schools of Moore county for 1931-32 is well within the budget appropriation made by the State, according to figures presented to the County Board of Education at its meeting on January 1. The monthly statement of expenditures revealed that a total of \$40,118.04 had been expended up to December 31 from the total State appropriation of \$88,050.64, leaving an unexpended balance of \$47,932.60. The board has actually received from the State to date \$45,273.39 in cash and had on January 1 a balance of \$5,155.35 in the State fund.

After checking up the teachers' salaries, salaries of bus drivers, janitors and all regular employees of the county schools according to the State schedule, it was revealed that the actual operating cost of these employees for the year will have a small balance of State funds at the close of the fiscal year. Expenditures for gas, oil and repairs to school buses could not be accurately estimated, but past experience indicates that the expense for these items will be well within the budget appropriation.

More Pupils, Less Money

The budget as a whole is approximately 21 per cent less than the one for 1930-31. The Board of Education is confronted with the task of instructing some 200 more children in 1931-32 for approximately \$20,000 less money than was used to instruct the smaller number of children last year.

However, reports from the county superintendent indicate that the teachers of the county schools are doing a better grade of work this year than even before. While the teaching load, the number of pupils per teach-

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Kiwanis Hears Report of Xmas Cheer Work

Club Elects Six Honorary Members at Weekly Meeting at Lob Cabin

Various relief organizations reported on their splendid work in spreading Christmas cheer throughout the Sandhills at the weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen held Wednesday noon at Lovejoy's Log Cabin, and judging from the reports read few if any families went without baskets of food and clothing the week before Christmas. Among the reports were those of the Good Fellows Club of Aberdeen, the joint committee of churches and civic organizations in Southern Pines, Dr. Cheatham's efficient work in the Pinehurst neighborhood, and the Sandhill Brotherhood and Women's Class of the Community Church in Pinehurst. Gordon Cameron reported as to the aid given these and other organizations of Sandhills towns, including Carthage, West End and Jackson Springs, by the Kiwanis Club.

The receipt of \$81, proceeds of the New Year's Eve subscription dance at the Southern Pines Country Club, was announced. This money was divided between Southern Pines and Pinehurst unemployment bodies at the request of the residents of these towns who sponsored the dance. The club passed a resolution of thanks to all the organizations which aided in the Christmas work.

Wednesday's Kiwanis meeting was all business. Secretary Herbert Vail read the annual report of the condition of finances showing the club had kept within its budget last year. Paul Barnum, chairman of the Finance committee, submitted the 1932 budget which was approved. The Board of Directors announced the election of the following honorary members for 1932.

Leonard Tufts, Dr. T. A. Cheatham, S. B. Chapin, Bion H. Butler, Struthers Burt and Judge William A. Way.

Bride and Groom 59 Years Ago, 87 and 82 Now, Celebrate Anniversary on Christmas

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Grout Came to Sandhills 46 Winters Ago To Watch Southern Pines Build Up Around Them

By Bion H. Butler

On Christmas day Charlie B. Grout and wife observed a little event at their home in Southern Pines, the fifty-eighth anniversary of their wedding in Boston, December 25, 1873. Mr. Grout is in his eighty-seventh year now, Mrs. Grout in her eighty-second. This is their forty-sixth winter in Southern Pines, or where Southern Pines is, for when they came here nearly half a century ago they were not sure whether any Southern Pines ever would be. Hence they built their house out where it is with the intention of being in Southern Pines if Southern Pines should materialize, and in Manly if Southern Pines failed to arrive.

The Grouts were married in Boston. Mrs. Grout was Miss Emma Holbrook. Mr. Grout was from Western New York, near Niagara Falls and Lake Ontario. Along about 1885 they started the habit of coming to Southern Pines to escape the severe winters of the North. They bought some land from Buchan and Bland, built their house, had a bit of farming venture out toward the creek between their house and "Jintown," and then one day Mr. Grout concluded to venture into business.

The Saunders house is the frame building back from the street between Simons' grocery and the Standard filling station. Memory says that A. M. Clark built the house, but sold it to Mr. Saunders, although this may be cloudy. At any rate the Saunders family lived there for a considerable time, and made one of the prominent homes of the village. Saunders and Grout had a habit of drifting down to the postoffice each morning and on their way around they nearly always stopped in at Sam Stringer's bowling alley. One morning Saunders remarked that Stringer's fire seemed to be maintained with asbestos wood, and Stringer reminded the pair that if his fire did not suit them they

could hang around a fire of their own. Saunders suggested to Grout that they build a store on the corner of the Saunders lot, which was a big one, and they did. That was the building now used by Simons. There Grout carried on a feed store until he grew old enough to tire of the confinement and constant work, and he sold his mercantile business.

Meanwhile a bank had been opened in the village and Grout made president. He held the place until it was sold to the Page Trust Company a few years ago, and then he quit business for good.

Besides being pioneers in Southern Pines, and probably the oldest of the original settlers, the Grouts have been an exemplary pair of people. In all their nearly half century in the community they have lived a life of harmony with everybody. I do not recall a squabble in which they ever figured with any one, never a question as to their integrity and wholesome fellowship, never a question as to Grout's business fairness. I don't know any other two folks whose slate seems to be as clean and whose lives are marked by equal serenity and neighborliness.

It is a long time since these two people joined fortunes, for Grant was then president of the United States, and the United States was about a third as populous as now. The succeeded Southern states had but a short time been readmitted to the Union. The telephone was a crude curiosity, the electric light undreamed of, and Calvin Coolidge was not old enough to walk or talk yet. Hoover was not at all. Grout was a boy three years old when John Quincy Adams died, a man who was president in 1825, and who was a chunk of a boy during the American Revolution and 22 years old when George Washington was inaugurated first president. Of the 30 presidents Grout has lived under all but nine.

100 Guests of Highland Pines Inn At Annual Churchmen's Dinner

Prominent Speakers on Toast List of Yearly Gatherings at Inn Celebrates Anniversary

Monday night found one hundred residents of the Sandhills partaking of the hospitality of the Highland Pines Inn at the sixth annual Churchmen's Dinner and incidentally the twentieth anniversary of the hotel whose hosts, A. I. Creamer and M. H. Turner, have made famous for good cheer and sociability.

To the music of an orchestra composed by A. B. Yeomans, Miss Bishop, Miss Yeomans, Mrs. Lucy Cameron and Charles Pier, Tom Kelley's young singers, Hildreth Wheeler, Katherine Buchan, Alice Abel, Ruth Cameron, Peggy Elliot, Carolyn Drew, Dorothy Travis, Dorothy Richardson, Eleanor Barron, Nellie Leavitt, Dorothy Thurman, Hazel, Winifred and Jane Kelley, assisted by Miss Raymond Kennedy, filled into the main dining room followed by the guests of the evening to the number of a hundred.

Seated at the long table "mine host" Creamer was flanked by Hunter Eckert, S. B. Richardson, Struthers Burt, Father Dillon, Joe Chappelle, the Rev. T. A. Cheatham, Bishop Frank DuMoulin, Father Morrissey and Arthur Newcomb. Introduced by Mr. Creamer, speaker followed speaker during the dinner, Joe Chappelle, editor of the National Magazine using as a keynote "The Coming Generation," and Bishop DuMoulin the present conditions and America's fortitude and courage. They were warmly applauded. Also speaking were Mr. Richardson, Mr. Burt, Father Dillon, Messrs. Newcomb, Montesanti, McCord, Morrissey, Blue, Stinson, Woodell and Cheatham. Interspersing the speeches the junior singers with Messrs Buchan, McBrayer, Adams, Cameron, Packard, Richardson and Kelly sang several pleasing numbers. Votes of thanks were given to Mr. Creamer and to Mr. Kelly for their efforts in so pleasing an affair.

Authors Ahoy!

Sandhills Writers To Try Hand at Golf in First Annual Tourney Today

Members of the Sandhills authors colony are gathering at the Southern Pines Country Club at 2 o'clock this afternoon, Friday, for the first annual Authors' Tournament. The writers residing here will be supplemented by a number of prominent visitors, among them H. I. Phillips, columnist of the New York Sun, Editor Joe Mitchell Chapple of the National Magazine, Jake Wade, sports editor of the Charlotte Observer, James Nevilles and Stephen Brent.

Local authors expected to appear on the tee this afternoon are James Boyd, Struthers Burt, Katherine Newlin Burt, Maude Parker, Dr. E. M. Poate, Walter Gilkyson, Bernice Kenyon, Almet Jenks, Ralph W. Page, Bion H. Butler, and some of the local newspaper fraternity.

LIQUID CONDITION SHOWN BY PAGE TRUST STATEMENT

The December 31st statement of the Page Trust Company of Aberdeen reveals a very liquid condition. It has \$1,674,439 in U. S. Government and North Carolina State bonds, municipal and listed securities and cash in vaults and in banks. Its loans and discounts item shows a total of \$2,937,789. Other stocks and bonds show \$136,801.

Deposits on December 31st were \$4,248,958.98. The bank had no bills payable. The capital of the Page Trust is \$400,000, surplus \$125,000 and undivided profits and reserves \$76,682. The bank has offices in Aberdeen and 13 other cities of the state, including Raleigh.

FORCED LANDINGS FEATURE VISIT OF AMATEUR PILOTS

Heavy Drizzle Drives Planes To Earth on Golf Courses and Fields of Sandhills

TEN SHIPS STILL HERE

It looked as if war had come to the Sandhills Tuesday.

From 4 o'clock on in the afternoon airplanes of various shapes and sizes, some flown by women, began to drop from the skies. They landed promiscuously, through no fault of theirs, and it was almost miraculous that no one was hurt in the efforts of the fliers to effect a safe landing through the conditions of visibility which prevailed.

Some twenty planes of the United States Amateur Pilots Association were due at the Knollwood Airport at 4:15 that afternoon. They left Richmond after lunch, and en route here ran into ceiling conditions which almost precluded their seeing ground. A steady drizzle greeted them. Some landed at various points between Raleigh and here, one at Cameron, one at the Sanatorium of Dr. J. W. Dickie in Southern Pines, a young lady brought her plane to earth on the Mid-Pines golf course in Knollwood, George Pynchon of New York landed on the driving range on the Midland Road, and so it went. Ten pilots successfully made the airport, where a crowd of some 1,500 persons waited to welcome them to the Sandhills.

Yost a Busy Man

Major Lloyd O. Yost, in charge of Knollwood airport, and his assistant, George Colton, had a busy and rather trying time taking care of the arrivals and worrying about the non-arrivals. The huge crowd at the airport naturally rushed the arriving planes eager to learn what was to be learned, which happened to be very little, as the fliers were literally and physically in the dark in such a mist. But it made the task of the airport staff difficult. However Major Yost and his staff won praise from all for the excellent attention they gave at the airport.

All the aviators accepted the situation philosophically, and whatever grudges they had against the weather were completely erased at the dinner given by Mr. and Mrs. Verner Z. Reed at the Pinehurst Country Club in the evening. A grand time was had there by all.

Ten planes still stood at the airport yesterday awaiting better weather conditions before proceeding on their way to attend the races at Miami this week.

150 Commission Men Visit Sandhills Sunday

Fruit Buyers on Way to Miami To Be Entertained at Pinehurst on Southern Pines

One hundred and fifty delegates to the convention of the National League of Commission Merchants at Miami, Florida, will stop over for a day in the Sandhills next Sunday morning, January 10th, at 9:30 A. M. The Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce, with the co-operation of the Kiwanis Club and the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce, has agreed to meet them at the depot and take them for a motor trip to the peach orchards and other points of interest in the Sandhills. These men are representatives of the commission houses that pay thousands of dollars into the Sandhills section every summer for its peach and berry crop, and citizens plan to show them a good time while here.

The Chamber of Commerce is asking for cars with drivers to assist in showing these visitors around. Those with cars available should notify Shields Cameron or R. L. Hart at the Broad Street Pharmacy.

Pinehurst is entertaining them with a luncheon at the Carolina Hotel and a golf tournament in the afternoon.

CAPTAIN O'BERRY DIES

State Treasurer Nathan O'Berry died suddenly Wednesday morning at his home in Goldsboro.

As Army Chaplain



The Late Rev. R. A. McLeod

REV. R. A. McLEOD LAID TO REST IN OLD BETHESDA

President of Presbyterian Junior College at Maxton Passed Away on Tuesday

NATIVE OF MOORE COUNTY

In old Bethesda Church graveyard, close to the ancient church house where Presbyterians have worshipped for over 100 years, and where he had attended as a lad both Sunday school and church, the Rev. R. A. McLeod, the beloved president of Maxton Junior College, was laid to rest at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, while a great crowd of sorrowing relatives and friends, many of them his old school mates and ministerial brethren, stood by.

The Rev. W. M. Fairley, D. D., of Raeford, conducted the services in the little frame church, assisted by Rev. A. R. McQueen, D. D., of Dunn and the Rev. H. G. Bevinger, president of Flora Macdonald College, of Red Springs. The music of the service was in the charge of the glee club of Junior college, members of which sang several songs and then at the grave at the request of Mrs. McLeod, sang "Steal Away to Jesus," a negro spiritual greatly loved by the dead president of the college, and one which they had often sung for him while living.

The Rev. R. A. McLeod, President of the Presbyterian Junior College at Maxton, N. C., died suddenly Tuesday of angina pectoris.

Mr. McLeod, who was 52 years old at the time of his death, was born at the old McLeod family homestead in Eureka, Moore county. He was a graduate of Davidson College and of the Union Theological Seminary of Richmond, Va. He held various pastorates in the Fayetteville Presbytery and at one time served as professor of Bible in the Elise High School at Hemp. He was one of the prime movers in the founding of the Junior College at Maxton about three years ago and has been its only president.

He was one of the most outstanding members of the Fayetteville Presbytery having served as Stated Clerk in both the local presbytery and in the Synod of North Carolina.

He is survived by his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Lucy Worth Currie of Fayetteville, and four children. Also surviving him are his father and mother, residents of Eureka, and the following brothers and sisters; John A. McLeod of Aberdeen, Carl McLeod, Pinehurst, Carey McLeod, Carthage, Mrs. Bertha Freeman, Pinehurst, Mrs. David McCallum, Eureka, and Mrs. Tibeau, Fayetteville.

TIN WHISTLE GOLFERS HAVE TOURNEY TODAY

The Tin Whistle golfers will have a best ball of four partners tilt today, a very popular type of event. The ranks of the Whistles continue to be strengthened by new arrivals, and a field that will go above 70 is expected to take part in the week-end skirmish.

COUNTY PROVIDES SAFEGUARDS FOR 1931 TAX FUNDS

Orders New Control System of Accounts and Daily Check on Deposits in County Depository

PINEHURST GETS "COP"

Bonding companies have informed the Moore County Board of Commissioners that they will not, for the present at least, write further bonds covering the county's tax collectors.

This is a matter of policy, and in no wise to be considered as a reflection on the newly appointed collector, they informed the commissioners. W. T. Huntley of Aberdeen, newly appointed collector, was given the highest rating by the bonding companies.

During the past twenty years no county tax collector has made a complete return at the end of his term of office.

The county has added an employe in the office of the county auditor to aid in keeping adequate records of 1931 collections.

New regulations looking to the safeguarding of county tax funds as a result of the recent tying up of county funds in the closed Bank of Vass were passed at the meeting of the County Board of Commissioners held Monday at the courthouse in Carthage.

It was ordered that "an internal system of accounts on collection of all taxes, costs and penalties be instituted whereby all receipts for 1931 taxes, penalties and costs and other receipts be countersigned by the county accountant before delivering said receipts to taxpayer by county tax collector, and the county accountant is hereby required to maintain a record of all tax receipts so countersigned by her and said county accountant is required to ascertain daily that all funds so received for said taxes have been deposited in the duly accredited county depository." The Bank of Pinehurst is the county depository.

The report of J. D. McLean, tax collector for 1930 taxes, was received at the meeting.

More Roads For State

The Board voted to recommend that the State take over and maintain the road leading from R. S. Phillips' place by the D. M. Phillips place across Tyson's Creek to the highway leading from State Highway No. 902 to Piner's Tavern, a distance of about one mile, also that it put on the map the new road from near Fred Shields' place by D. P. Wilson's place and the Bible School to the highway leading from No. 902 to Harper's Cross Roads, this being a rural mail route and also a school bus route.

The commissioners voted to allow Pinehurst the sum of \$25 per month from January 1 to July 1 as part payment of a special officer's salary, upon condition that said officer be a duly qualified and active deputy sheriff appointed by the sheriff of Moore county and that he file a bond duly approved by the sheriff.

Miss Estelle Tillman was elected clerk to the county accountant at a salary of \$50 per month for whole time work.

Mrs. Lizzie Allred was allowed \$15 for month of January for support of herself and family, and E. B. Maness was relieved of poll tax for 1931, he being above the age liable for poll tax.

AUSTIN HELD FOR PART IN MURDER OF BEASLEY

Junius Austin, colored, was held under \$5,000 bail for appearance in Superior Court in Durham on February 16th when arraigned there on Wednesday on a charge of complicity in the murder of Chief of Police Beasley of Southern Pines. Austin was with Everett McLean, colored, at the time of the shooting and is alleged to have aided in McLean's escape. McLean was apprehended, however, after the shooting and committed suicide in the jail at Durham. County Solicitor M. G. Boyette appeared against Austin at Durham.