



A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of

Carolina

VOL. 12, NO. 23.

Aberdeen and Southern Pines, North Carolina, May 6, 1932

FIVE CENTS

County Tax Sale Put Off Until October

County Commission Also Ex-
tends Time for Listing Prop-
erty To May 14

AUTHORIZE \$20,000 LOAN

The Board of Commissioners of Moore county in regular session on Monday voted to postpone the sale of real estate for taxes until the first Monday in October. Advertising will begin the first week in September. The Board also extended the time for the listing of property to May 14 and ordered that all persons failing to list their property within that time be penalized.

It was ordered that the maximum Schedule "B" taxes authorized by the North Carolina Revenue Act of 1931 in Article 2 be levied for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 1932, and the tax collector was instructed to collect said Schedule "B" taxes hereby levied.

It was ordered that the Judges of the Superior court holding the courts in Moore county fix the fees to be charged and taxed in the bills of costs in the civil and criminal cases tried in said court and order the clerk of the Superior court to tax such amount so fixed in the bills of costs against the parties taxed with the costs in each case and that such sum so taxed and collected be paid into the general fund.

It was also ordered that the clerk of the Superior court pay into the Moore county general fund all jail fees collected in criminal cases tried in Recorder's court and the Superior court and that the clerk of this board certify a copy of this order to the clerk of the Superior court of Moore county.

To Borrow \$20,000

The sum of \$200 was ordered transferred from the Clerk of Superior court fund to the county attorney fund. A resolution to borrow \$20,000, \$6,000 for schools and \$14,000 for the general fund, was passed and the chairman was authorized to sign the application.

A committee representing the county council of home demonstration clubs appeared before the commissioners in the interest of home demonstration work for the coming year, and the ladies were assured that the work would not be discontinued.

A number of reductions in valuation of property were granted, it being shown that some was valued erroneously and some improperly listed. It was ordered that one vacant lot listed in the name of A. C. Alexander in McNeill township be reduced from \$1,000 to \$150; that the valuation of the Atlantic Refining Company property be changed to \$2,500; that real estate of E. T. Chapman, Sandhills township, be reduced from \$9,000 to \$6,000; that E. T. Chapman be granted \$500 relief on personal property; that real estate of Mrs. Cook, Sandhills township, be reduced from \$9,000 to \$6,000; that property of Gordon Keith be reduced in valuation from \$2,750 to \$2,350; that valuation of \$15,500 on Law Building, property of Miss Ethel P. Kelly, Mrs. Flora Black Estate, D. A. McDonald Estate, and others (be reduced to \$15,000; that Southern Pines Investment Company be relieved of a valuation of \$500 on 30 acres of wild land.

It was ordered that 70 acres in Mineral Springs township listed in the name of A. S. Newcomb and valued at \$1,050 be relieved of said valuation, said land being located and listed in Sandhills township. Changes in the listing of 96 acres in the name of P. P. Lucas were ordered and the valuation of a Packard car listed in the name of Walter C. MacNeille was reduced from \$2,000 to \$600.

CHECKS READY FOR BANK OF VASS PREFERRED CLAIMS

The checks in the Bank of Vass for preferred claims are at hand and will be mailed out to holders of the preferred claims this week, W. A. Allen, liquidating agent, announced this week.

Seizing Depression at the Roots

Cut DOWN Expenses, Ha! Cut 'Em OUT, Say Cameron Village Fathers in Deciding on No Tax Advertising, No Tax Sale This Year

While village and county boards throughout the state are scratching their heads over whether to advertise property for delinquent taxes, the incorporated village of Cameron sits peacefully by and smiles.

"Are you going to postpone your tax sale or advertise now?" the village fathers were asked this week.

"Neither," they replied.

Our reporter looked a little befuddled.

"What's the idea?"

"Not going to have any taxes this year," he was informed.

Yes, Cameron has decided to do without. The town officials will work for nothing. Citizens will look after the streets in front of their homes. There just ain't goin' to be no village expenses.

Three cheers for Cameron, the first town we know of to grab this Depression by the roots. To quote one villager: "Cut down expenses hell," said he. "Cut 'em out."

SCHOOL TAX LEVY MUST BE REMOVED SAYS EHRLINGHAUS

Taxation Problem Biggest Single Issue in State and Nation Today

CANDIDATE WRITES PILOT

The Pilot recently invited the three candidates for the Democratic nomination for Governor of North Carolina to present their cases in its columns. The statements of A. J. Maxwell and R. T. Fountain were received and published two weeks ago. We are privileged today to present the statement of J. C. B. Ehringhaus. Mr. Ehringhaus writes:

The fiscal problems which will confront the next administration are readily recognizable. They challenge the patriotism and leadership of the State. First, the fifteen-cent levy on property for maintenance of the six months school must be removed. The demand for this is State-wide. Second, the essential services of the State must be maintained. Third, the credit of the State must be preserved by a balanced budget. The paramount issue in this campaign can not be fully condensed in the one word "taxation" but this word liberally interpreted encompasses the biggest single issue in this State and Nation today. To put it another way, the issue before the State is—how shall we preserve what we have so proudly created, in a period when our abilities to maintain and create have been so seriously crippled? To say that a sane economy, accomplished through the elimination of unnecessary desirables must be practiced, is to make one contribution towards the solution of the problems; to suggest that it be worked out entirely through a "readjustment" of spending involves a threat of crucifixion of things which are a vital part of our present day civilization. For no informed citizen thinks that by the simple process of "cutting," the problem stated above may be solved without jeopardizing things we hold dear. Nor can an attitude of hostility to existing agencies, merely be-

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To Organize Musical Society on Monday

Open Meeting Called To Plan
Development of Interest in
Music Here

An open invitation to all those in the Sandhills interested in music has been extended by the newly organized Southern Pines Musical Society, of which A. B. Yeomans is president, for a meeting Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the Southern Pines Country Club. A tentative draft of the constitution and by-laws, made up at a meeting of officers and directors last Wednesday, will be acted upon at the meeting, and plans made for the organization which seeks to develop an interest in music of all types among the citizens and children of the Sandhills with a view to frequent concerts and entertainments. Great interest has developed in the society since it was first suggested a few weeks ago, and a considerable fund has been raised toward employing a musical instructor to aid in the work. It is hoped that a large crowd, from outside Southern Pines as well as in, will be present at this organization meeting next Monday.

To Preach Here



THE REV. S. WILKES DENDY

Dendy Brothers To Hold Services Here

Evangelistic Campaign To Start
at Bethesda Presbyterian
Church May 15

Starting on Sunday morning, May 15th, an evangelistic campaign will be conducted at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen, continuing through May 25th. The leaders in this campaign will be the Rev. S. Wilkes Dendy, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Cairo, Ga., who will preach each evening at 8:00 o'clock; the Rev. Marshall C. Dendy, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Ga., who will teach the Book of Hebrews for the women of the church and community each morning at 10:00 o'clock, and a class of young people in a Bible Course each morning at 9:00 o'clock.

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Carthage to Entertain Jr. O. U. A. M. May 12

Councils of Lee, Moore and Montgomery Counties to Gather
Next Thursday

Final arrangements for the meeting of the 17th district Jr. O. U. A. M., composed of Lee, Moore and Montgomery counties, to be held with Carthage Council No. 165 at Carthage on Thursday, May 12th, have been perfected, advises T. L. Riddle, district deputy state counselor, and the following program prepared: Council Hall, 2 o'clock, P. M., H. Lee Thomas, District Councilor, presiding.

Address of Welcome, M. G. Boyette, Carthage; Response, D. B. Teague, Sanford.

Public meeting, High School Auditorium at 7:45 o'clock, T. L. Riddle, District Deputy State Councilor, presiding. Vocal quartet, Thomas Male Quartet, Broadway Council No. 269; Vocal Solo, "The Flag that has Never Known Defeat," Miss Frances Riddle, Sanford; Remarks, presiding officer; Introduction of the Speaker, C. W. Snyder, field secretary; Address, the Rev. S. F. Hicks, State Councilor; Vocal Quartet, Thomas Male Quartet; Jr. Order Motion Picture, shown by C. W. Snyder.

ROBERT N. PAGE ELECTED HEAD OF STATE BANKERS

President of Page Trust Company of Aberdeen Honored by Association

CONVENTION HELD HERE

Robert N. Page, president of the Page Trust Company, Aberdeen and former member of Congress from this district, was elected president of the North Carolina Bankers Association at the annual meeting held yesterday in the Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst. Mr. Page was elevated to the position from the first vice-presidency. Although suffering from a broken rib resulting from a fall in Raleigh last week when he tripped over a curbstone, the new president was able to be present at the meeting when the honor came to him.

The bankers began to pour into Pinehurst Wednesday night for their annual two-day session. Robert M. Hanes, Winston-Salem, retiring president, outlined problems of the past year in his annual report, asserted the worst of the business depression is past and urged sounder banking principles.

Yesterday afternoon Robert O. Bonnell of Baltimore, discussed "Industrial Banks and the Depression," and Gurney P. Hood, State bank commissioner, urged a recapitulation to place the nation on a new and firm footing.

Hood called for reduction in the cost of government, for cessation of the habit of mortgaging the future by governments, churches and individuals through buying with bonds, or in installments or mortgages, and for a reawakening of moral character and good living.

"When we get everybody feeling that we have moral characters that we live properly, balance our budgets and meet our obligations, a firmer foundation for a prosperous future will have been laid," he said.

Former Governor A. D. McLean will address the bankers today. The annual banquet and dance were held last night.

Aberdeen High School Awards 19 Diplomas

Rev. Troy Adams of Sanford To
Preach Baccalaureate Sermon Sunday Night

The Rev. Troy Adams of Sanford will deliver the baccalaureate sermon to the graduating class of Aberdeen High School at the Methodist Church here on Sunday night at 8 o'clock to start the final Commencement week program of the school year. Graduation exercises will be held in the High School auditorium on Thursday night, when diplomas will be awarded to the graduates, certificates of promotion to others, and prizes for scholarship and attendance handed to those who have earned them. Tonight, Friday, Mrs. Reid Pleasants' pupils will give a musical recital at which time four prizes will be awarded her pupils.

The Aberdeen High School graduating class this year numbers 19 students who have successfully completed their courses, and diplomas will be handed to the following Thursday night:

Sally Allison, Mable Gregory, Colin Bethune, Frieda Mae Kirk, James Smith, Georgia Wicker, Carlos Buffkin, Anna Gregory, Lewis Park, Harry Wimberly, Richard Colnett, Mable Brooks, Marjorie Cliff, Henry Butner, Josephine McCaskill, Ralph Leach, Hazel Windham, Billy Bowman and Jones Macon.

MISS LOUISE WAY TO WED ILLINOIS MAN

Judge and Mrs. William A. Way of Southern Pines announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Louise Jones Way, to Robert Ross Spence of New York city, son of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Spence of Oak Park, Ill. Miss Way has been making her home in New York for the past few years, and Mr. Spence is connected with Standard Statistics, Inc., investment publishers, there. The wedding is planned for the latter part of this month.

Bonding Company Restores County Tax Funds Tied up in Failure of Bank of Vass

Sends Check for \$23,142.75 To Make Good
Amounts Illegally Deposited in Closed
Institution

RASSIE WICKER ASKS SOME QUESTIONS

The Maryland Casualty Company of Baltimore, which bonded J. D. McLean, until recently tax collector of Moore county, has made full restitution of the sum of \$23,142.75 involved in the failure of the Bank of Vass, in which the funds were deposited, Wilbur H. Currie, chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, announced this week. Mr. Currie informed The Pilot on Wednesday that he himself deposited the money received from the bonding company in the county depository, the Bank of Pinehurst. The payment by the bonding company was successfully arranged by County Attorney S. R. Hoyle and Chairman Currie.

Mr. McLean has confessed judgment in favor of the casualty company in the amount of \$23,142.75. The shortage of Mr. McLean came about through deposit of tax funds in the Bank of Vass against which a cashier's check and a certified check were issued to him. These checks were outstanding at the time the bank closed its doors last September. As the Bank of Vass was not a legal depository for county funds, the county commission made demand upon the Maryland Casualty Company for payment, and same was duly made last Saturday, April 28th.

The Pilot received a letter this week from Rassie E. Wicker of Pinehurst containing a number of questions, some of which are answered by the announcement of Mr. Currie above. Others were referred to Mr. Currie as head of the county's governing body, and we publish below the letter containing the questions and the answers as furnished The Pilot by Mr. Currie.

MR. WICKER'S LETTER

The writer of this letter is not a politician, and is only mildly interested in politics as they occasionally affect his everyday life. Therefore, this letter is not political matter.

The Democratic party in the next election will probably present to the voters for re-election several of the incumbents in county office, especially that of County Commissioners.

There are several questions relative to the discharge of this office during the past year which have not been publicly answered, and which a vast majority of our citizens, including the writer have been vitally concerned.

The county has lost—let us hope temporarily, a large sum of money which was collected, almost by force from an impoverished citizenship. The writer understands that this money was—contrary to instruction, deposited in two sums, in a bank not the county depository, which later failed. He also understands that there were cashier's checks issued by this bank for these two sums; that one of these checks was carried by the tax collector for about a month before the discovery of the situation, and that the other check was dated the day before the failure of the bank to open its doors.

The writer understands that the county employs an auditor to check up on the receipts and expenditures of the county. He further understands that the tax receipt books are turned over to the tax collector, already filled in as to individual and amount etc. and that it is only necessary for the collector to fill in the date and sign the receipt, the stub remaining for the auditor's use. If this is correct, it looks like a good system, and should enable the auditor to make a daily balance between the stubs and the deposits.

Now the statement or suppositions outlined above may be all wrong; the writer, in common with a majority of other citizens of the county doesn't know, and cannot tell by the meagre reports of the situation as published in the county papers, but he believes that a frank statement from the Board of County Commissioners answering these questions and there which follow, would clarify a condition which has no place in the neighborhood government of a county.

(1) Has the bonding company accepted or refused to accept the responsibility for the sum involved, and if not, upon what grounds did they base their refusal?

(2) Did the terms of the bond require the tax collector to deposit in any specified bank, and if not, is such requirement customary?

(3) Is it now, or has it been in the past—customary for the tax collector to accumulate such sums as reported before making a deposit, and if not should not such practice on

THE ANSWERS

That these questions might be definitely answered The Pilot made inquiry of Wilbur H. Currie, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners as to a lucid statement. Mr. Currie replied as follows:

To questions No. 1 and No. 2 the answer is "No." except to that part asking if it is customary for bonding companies to require tax collectors to deposit in a specified bank, to which Mr. Currie replies, "I do not know."

To question No. 3 Mr. Currie says: "This question is somewhat vague, as it is impossible to judge what has been reported. But as far as we can interpret Mr. Wicker's question we have no knowledge of what was done prior to the accession to office of this board. The present ruling of the board is that all money collected shall be deposited in the bank as fast as collected, not necessarily every day except in case of large sums, but that the collector should make deposits every two or three days at the farthest. Also it might be explained that while the terms of the bond do not require the money to be deposited in any specified bank the present board has ruled that money deposited in the Page Trust Company's office at Carthage for clearing to the Bank of Pinehurst, the county treasurer, is logical, as it is difficult to go in person to the Pinehurst bank every day for big or small sums as may be in hand, while a check on the Page Trust Company transfers the funds with probably greater safety than carrying money overland.

The Question 4. "This particular incident was not discovered by the auditor because the practice in the past was to have the audit at the end of the year when a final settlement is made. To protect the county against any discrepancies a bond is exacted with a reliable bonding company as surety, to make sure that in event of any shortage the county will be paid the amount charged against the collector when the books are delivered to him at the beginning of the year. A monthly audit of all receipt stubs is to be made henceforth, but it is an innovation by the present board, and largely because new laws and customs are introducing more comprehensive business practices in county and government affairs. But a monthly audit only shows the amount turned in by the collector until the auditor has checked over every stub that is left after receipts have been issued for payments, and this will take the time of the auditor day by day to a considerable degree. But the present board has adopted the new system and as far as is possible the accounts can be checked up within a day or so on each day's business. The present system requires a duplicate slip for the auditor of the daily payments made to the tax collector.

Question 5 is answered by Mr. Currie.

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