

THE PILOT

Published every Friday by
THE PILOT, Incorporated.
 Aberdeen and Southern Pines, N. C.
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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 RESULT OF THE ELECTION

The backers of Mr. Flinchum may feel that it is tough to get so near the goal and then see the prize captured by so small a margin. But they can congratulate themselves on their campaign in which they made so aggressive a struggle with so capable a man against them. Mr. Currie was the candidate of the voters who felt the wisdom of taking no chances of swapping horses in the middle of the creek. He has been the chairman of the county board of commissioners through a strenuous period which has not yet reached dry land, and to bring in an inexperienced man at this juncture seemed a risk, which, while it might have been wise, still presented that matter of a man unknown as a leader in this job, and Mr. Currie was retained. It was the prudent act.

Gordon Cameron and Patterson put on an interesting encounter. It would not have made any particular difference in their case if the contest had been the other way, for both are capable men, and both untried in the office to which they aspired. Mr. Cameron has gained the experience in county government that comes from several years on the road commission. In the case of Matheson it was much like that of Currie. Matheson has had long experience on the board and while McCrimmon is highly regarded the old warrior appeared to be favored. Reynolds is a new man, but one of experience in county matters, and with Frank Cameron coming in with no opposition it is a right promising board.

Another thing that is to be kept in mind regarding this new board is that the recent experience of the board and the campaign which they have just come through has put them on their toes, and it is an easy guess that they are going to saw wood to the best of their ability during the next term. This is positive, and for several reasons. The last legislature made their work as a county government more definite than it ever was before. The present board has set on foot improvements that as their successors they will carry farther forward. The people have become more exacting in regard to good government, and with the better laws and with the better business methods that have been established the opportunity for the new board is better than any previous board ever had.

The next thing is for the people to stand by and give them all the encouragement they deserve, and we will have a good government in the two years ahead of us.

THE PRIMARY ELECTION SYSTEM

Since the morning of creation, when "male and female created he them," this world has been operated on the basis of east and west, north and south, up and down, in and out, positive and negative, individualism and mass action, democracy and federalism, representative government or popular government, and neither positive or negative proves to be better than the other, for there can be no east where there is no west and no out where there is no in, and so on an infinitum.

The primary election is decidedly unsatisfactory in many ways. Yet the old delegate system was so unsatisfactory that practically throughout the United States it has given way to popular elections. That popular election of United States Senators has improved the character of the senate is to be doubted. May be the method is not a better one, but the result is hardly regarded as a better one. The experience in the state and county

last week does not impress on many minds a popularity of the primary. We have now to go through the affair again. Then we have the fall election. As a mass we vote for a long list of people, many of them wholly unknown to us. Many of the women who asked last week as to the fitness of candidates received the answer that a considerable proportion of the names on the ticket as far as any knowledge of them was concerned might as well have been Moses and Adam. A large proportion of the votes cast last Saturday were cast as blindly as if they had been picked from a hat in the dark.

It is probably safe to say that not two per cent of the voters in the state campaign were sufficiently informed to say whether three candidates on the state ticket justified the vote they got as in opposition to the others on the ticket. A large proportion of the voters could not today say who the candidates are that they voted for, with the few exceptions of the leaders on the ticket. Representative elections, by delegates in conventions, might have improved on that. Or may be not. It is still the same old story, east or west, up or down. Popular government is not a great success in some respects. That it is probably better than any other form known to man still leaves it open for improvement, but the difficulty is to know how to improve it, for a stream cannot rise higher than its source. No doubt our form of selection of public officials is as good as our colts leech good as our collective ability to do anything. May be there is the place to commence to improve any of our weaknesses. It is a big story, dating from the first pages of Genesis and men have been busy on it from that day to this. It may be some time before the question is satisfactorily settled.

THE PLIGHT OF THE RAILROADS

Now that the primary elections are out of the way and we will not be so busy castigating the multitude of rascals that we set up for slaughter in election periods it is in order for the American people to give some little attention to an honest and intelligent discussion of the grave problems that confront the country. One of these is the railroads. The loan of some \$27,000,000 by the government to the Pennsylvania company to enable it to go on with its job of equipping its lines from Boston to Washington electrically that it may be a more economical and efficient traffic carrier has been made the subject of much half-baked criticism. It has been argued that instead of giving money to the railroads the amount should be handed out to the "little man," to help him in his day of short rations.

And that is the thing that needs to be better understood. No money is given to the Pennsylvania railroad. The sum advanced is a loan to be repaid with interest. It will be at once used to employ men and the entire amount will be increased by further sums from the road's own treasury and from other loans from the banks, and that money will be used to employ men. The whole project is one that will increase employment, which employment will by the distribution of the money earned as wages employ still other men. The allotment by Congress was one of the most helpful that could be devised, for the money goes to work at once, and it is not given to the roads, but loaned, and the taxpayer is not burdened with the load as would be the case were a dole given out to any little man or any big man, or to some of the mistaken projects that were presumed at the time of their undertaking to be helpful, but which have proven useless and expensive fizzes.

The railroads are the greatest employers of labor at good wages in the nation. They are the greatest buyers of merchandise and manufactured products. They are the foremost taxpayers. During the last fiscal year for which figures are complete they paid out in wages and operating expenses more than four billion dollars, and they paid into the funds of the life insurance companies, to widows' and orphans' investment funds and to other security holders of that type a vast sum that went to a million different people. The Pennsylvania road, the beneficiary of this recent loan, pays to everybody, with one exception.

To its stockholders it is paying nothing now. Its stock last week sold for less than seven dollars a share. Yet it is courageous enough to stand out in front in all this financial turmoil and undertake to rebuild its lines on electrical basis, to continue employing its army of hands that they may care for themselves, to pay the interest on its bonded debt, a fund widely held by widows and orphans than any other in the country, and to run its trains at a loss and employ its army of trainmen and serve the country with its high efficiency in the most necessary requirement of transportation.

No other project for relieving the financial situation is half so intelligent and logical as one that by loaning a little fund to a reliable corporation as in this case enables it to carry out its plans for big construction work, and work that will be productive indefinitely. It beats public building projects all to a frazzle, for a public building simply swallows up in money without returning it or returning interest on it, or continuing employment after it is finished. A project like this railroad loan stimulates employment, pays back the money borrowed, pays interest on the money, and further extends an industry that will continue indefinitely to employ men and serve the industries of the nation and carry on our commerce and transportation with still greater efficiency.

It is time to brush away some of the cobwebs of ignorance and antagonism and to look with a little intelligence into the facts. This country is in no danger if we use our brains a little, but it is in serious danger if we allow the demagog and the political pie-counter grafters to prejudice the people to such an extent that they will tolerate the raiding of the treasury for every plausible scheme that will be temporary in its slight benefit to the recipient, that will have no lasting effect on the common good, and that will not return the money that is handed out. Money merely put in circulation is one thing, but that is money taken from the taxpayer to give away. Money loaned to industry to put men to work and save their self-respect, to carry on indefinitely into the future, to be paid back with interest, and to establish industry that will be a permanent source of employment and production is another. And that is what the loan to the Pennsylvania railroad is.

It is things like these that the people need to think about more. This is a crisis in which it is more profitable to use our thinkers more than we use our mouths.

THE SALE AT KNOLLWOOD

With the lowering of the financial clouds it has been apparent that the climax at Knollwood on Monday was inevitable. The original plan of Knollwood was soundly conceived and intelligently carried forward to such a degree that the community is established on a basis that, for various reasons, can not with the progress and the breadth of its foundation be a failure now or at any time in the future.

On a general principle it is fortunate that the projectors of Knollwood build solidly as they progressed and put down a basis that is to be regarded as enduring indefinitely. All that ever was at Knollwood in the way of pleasant attraction and natural asset is there yet and will be, for nothing is shoddy or temporary. The builders made but one error, that of not perceiving the financial cyclone that was in the air, an error that some other folks around the wide world seem to have registered about the same. But financial flurries, although severe on the individual always clear away, and in this case the creation that has been accomplished is of a character that it remains and is ready to begin the next step of progress.

The winter we came through has been a gratifying revelation of the fact that the Sandhills resorts appeal more grippingly to people than many other resorts at other places and that here during the past winter the decline in business was less marked than in most other places in similar line. Convenience to northern points was a decided benefit, the great establishment of winter play grounds, the golf, the hunts, the race track, the polo fields, and the accompanying minor factors all worked to-

gether to demonstrate the soundness of the proposition of the North Carolina Sandhills as a winter playground for the American people.

The winter has been a wholesome experience, for it was a critical acid test of the situation, and out of the analysis have come many economic changes that practically guarantee the future, and on a much sounder basis than the past has been at any time. It is doubtful if for a long while we will come back to ride on the wild crest of the days that have gone, but it is quite certain that with the readjustments that have been found possible by the winter's experience a greater prosperity on a solid basis is ahead of the Sandhills than the prophets under the old visions could foresee. Neces-

sity teaches us many methods of inviting success. It is The Pilot's guess that out of the winter we have come through clear headed men see that the days ahead are to be more promising and profitable, more of a general and common working effort and with much greater community advancement and with some ideals that have not yet been attained. And one reason is because we have blown away much of the froth and are planning the future on work, economies, and with our feet on the ground instead of so high in the air. That which has already been builded is as ready for tomorrow as it was for yesterday and the future in all ours if we go on with intelligent and energetic application.

GRAINS OF SAND

Night air mail service is now in operation over the Richmond-Jacksonville link of the Eastern Air Transport. A plane leaves Newark, N. J. at 4 p. m., arrive Raleigh at 8:40 p. m., Miami at 5:50 a. m. Northbound, plane leaves Miami at 7:30 p. m., arrives Raleigh at 4:45 a. m., Newark at 10:05 a. m. Sandhills mail delivery is not much benefited by the service.

Church membership increased 433,656 in 1931, according to statistics prepared by the Christian Herald, which sees evidence that people are turning to religion during this present crisis.

There were 72,059 radios owned by families in North Carolina April 1, 1930, the census bureau reports.

Out of the 180,440 urban families, 41,326, or 22.9 per cent, reported a radio. Of the 298,922 rural-farm families, 9,217 had radios, 3.1 per cent of the total. Of the 164,667 rural non-farm families, 21,516, or 13.1 per cent, had sets.

As in past elections, Will J. Harrington received more votes than any other candidate in the Democratic primary last Saturday, winning over his nearest rival by more than 2,000 votes. "Efficient and courteous service in the office of the Register of Deeds" was advanced by one citizen as the reason for the big vote for Mr. Harrington.

Not the least of the surprises developed from the primary was the size of the Democratic vote, surpassing by not far from 20,000 the number of December ballots cast for Gardner in the election of 1928, which registered high water mark for all time until last Saturday, says the Charlotte Observer. It is doubtful if

any of the best political forecasters dreamed of a primary vote of 380,000 or more.

The Gardner poll in 1928 was 362,609. The next highest of record prior to last Saturday was the vote for Bailey in 1930, which was 324,393, in his contest with Pritchard. In 1920, the vote for Overman was 310,504; for Morrison 308,151 and for Cox presidential electors 305,447.

The first issue of "The Carolinas," a magazine "to promote the resources of the Carolinas," came to hand this week, an interesting publication with halftones and stories of various historical, agricultural and mercantile points of interest in the two states. It contains articles by Governors Gardner and Blackwood, by David Coker, Dr. Jeter, Dr. Luther Little, Dr. Frank Graham and many others. In running through it hurriedly we find but one objection to this initial issue: There is no mention of the Sandhills.

The primary's over, but we probably won't get rid of all the political palaver until after the national conventions and the second primary on July 2d.

"John Hemmer, the picture man, got a good eye, but sorry smelling power," said Dunkle McDunk. "Got a lot of jugs down at the pot shop to make lumps and fancy tricks for rich folks to buy, and he showed me some of 'em. One funny jug with its mouth on one side had a kind of familiar smell to it and I says to him pity he emplied that 'fore he handed it out to me. He says been nothing in that jug but water, and I says to him, 'Galamighty, show me the spring where you got the water that was in it. And John says lemme see that jug, I aint smelt it yet."

Correspondence

ENDORSES TICKET

Editor, The Pilot:
 Through your column I want to thank the people of the county for the fine vote given me in my race for the county commission, and to go on record as endorsing the Democratic ticket selected in the primaries, from top to bottom.

—D. D. McCORMON.
 Hemp, June 8th, 1932.

THANKS SUPPORTERS

Editor, The Pilot:
 Through the medium of your val-

uable paper, I desire to express my deepest appreciation to the people of Aberdeen and Moore county for the splendid vote they gave me on last Saturday for Judge of Recorder's Court. I am deeply grateful to my many friends for their expression of confidence, and even though I failed by a small margin to receive the nomination, I was richly rewarded by the overwhelming majority which my home people so generously gave me, and I assure you and them that I can never forget this splendid expression of their confidence.

—J. VANCE ROWE.
 Aberdeen, June 8, 1932.

MANLY

Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Andrews and small son, Junior, spent Sunday in Lumber Bridge, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson and family spent Sunday with relatives at Cameron.

Mrs. D. E. Jonas, with Harry Jones of Fayetteville went to Oteen to accompany D. E. Jones from the hospital where he has been for several months.

Miss Mabel Wilson attended a picnic given by the Congregation Sunday School at Jackson Springs last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Blue and children of Southern Pines called at Mr. Wooley's Sunday.

J. B. Cameron and family spent Sunday afternoon in Vass with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cameron's family.

E. B. Keith and sons, Billy and E. B., Jr., were callers at Mrs. Patterson's Sunday.

Mrs. Alex Cameron is visiting relatives in Carthage.

This is Baseball weather. You can get the best at the Sandhills Book Shop—Adv.

Miss Elizabeth Cameron was the dinner guest of Miss Henrietta Andrews Sunday.

Rebecca Patterson is spending the week with her grandmother, Mrs. Jane Keith of Cameron Route 1.

Edward Cameron is at home for his vacation from U. N. C., Chapel Hill.

Mrs. Jane Keith and son, Aubrey spent Sunday with her daughter, Mrs. R. E. Patterson.

Mrs. A. W. McNeill, Mrs. John McMillan and Miss Lois Cameron spent a day in Fayetteville last week and called to see Mary Alice Weatherly, who is in the hospital there.

Elish Neal Monroe of Southern Pines spent Sunday with John D. Chisholm.

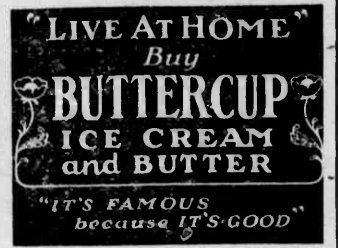
Church services at the Presbyterian church next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Preaching by the pastor, the Rev. M. D. McNeill. Sunday school at 2 o'clock, C. E. at 7:30. Topic, "How to Spend Our Leisure Time." Leader, J. B. Cameron.

Hayes has a full line of Tennis goods at reasonable prices—Adv.

The Sandhills Book Shop is offering an RCA Radio Combination for less than half price—Adv.

The Ark

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June 25, 1932

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