

# THE PILOT

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## THE REDUCTION OF TAXES

The Pilot is asked frequently about the prospect and the progress of the reduction of taxes as undertaken by the Moore County Tax League. As a preliminary it may be stated that the Board of County Commissioners in their budget have reduced the rate two cents below the rate of last year, and probably it is true to say that they did this not because of any pressure by the League, but because they saw a way through their own efforts to make that reduction. The commissioners were elected on the platform of tax reduction and they have been able to reduce taxes through one means or another right materially since their election. If their actions can be judged from their talk and their accomplishments, they are as anxious as the people to reduce taxes.

But it may as well be stated here and now that all tax reduction that is coming to this county, this state and this nation, is coming through the action and the sentiment of the people. They have the initiative voice and the final determination. It is useless to ask what the commissioners will do or what the Tax League will do. The commissioners want to reduce taxes, but they have the bills to pay. The League will try hard to reduce taxes, but they recognize that if bills are created they must be paid. If the people want bills made and paid that is their privilege, for the majority governs in taxation as well as in all other things in a popular government.

That brings the question to this point, and there it will stay until the people determine what they want to do and will do. Do the people want taxes reduced? Are they willing to have expenditures reduced in order to permit taxes to be reduced? If not the whole proceedings are through. But if they want taxes reduced and are willing to go along with the League it is not a far cry to say that taxes will be reduced. You can figure that out yourself. But a lot of inquiry into the tax situation must be made yet by the tax committees before decided steps can be taken. When these investigations are pushed a little farther they are going to disclose some expenditures of money that will meet with a protest from those who do not want expenses to be reduced. There will come the job for the people. If the people want the taxes reduced they will have to stand up and say so, for the League has no authority except what comes from the people by their own action. If the people want to back this movement they must say so. It can be done just now by communicating with the township committees, and by the subscription of a quarter of a dollar by as many as can afford it to sustain the small expenses that will arise in the work. The more names given the committees as members and the more the people come out to the meetings to express their sentiment the faster the work can go on.

Enough information has been gathered by the investigating committee of the League and enough expression of opinion has been offered the League to make it clearly apparent that taxes can be reduced in many directions if the people say so.

## A CONDITION TO REMEMBER

Little doubt remains as to the beginning of improvement in business. But a thing to bear in mind if we want to get on our feet soundly again is that it can never be accomplished by piling up more debt. Debt is

what brought about the catastrophe, and debt is what will hold our noses to the grindstone until more is paid off than has been paid. The fly in the ointment at the present is that we have merely arranged so far to borrow more money on the credit of the federal government, and that money has to be paid back in due time either in taxes or in ignoring the source whence it came, but always it has to be paid in one form or another. We can't get rich by drawing against the future and continually stalling off our borrowing. That constant cloud of having to pay in the future is a ghost that can never be blown away.

Necessity has compelled us to narrow our range of profligacy. The lesson that has been learned will prevent further wild extensions of credit in directions that point to default of payment, and the necessity of more rigid scrutiny of security and willingness to pay will hold a safety valve on financial transactions. But personal habits must be lined up with business necessities if we are to prosper and stand on sound footing. Financial agencies have thoroughly learned the necessity of financial integrity in business transactions, and in that quarter the most hope must be founded. Money will not again be thrown around for every chimerical wildcat scheme. For a time, until the cycle has run its round again, we are likely to pursue a prudent policy and to pay attention to some more stable and profitable industries than swapping jackknives in jail with each other.

## HOOVER'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE

All persons who are interested in the welfare of the country and the functioning of the government should read Hoover's letter of acceptance of the nomination for the presidency. It is not much of a professional political document, and it is a right intelligent discussion of economic and political conditions as they affect the people and the country. Regardless of the biased manner in which nearly all of us view everything the document is one of sound reasoning and worth a study for the plain sense it presents. Mr. Hoover, coming of good old North Carolina Quaker ancestry, is by education and experience an engineer, with an engineer's regards for precision and accuracy of statement as well as of fact. He makes few plays to the galleries, or to the motions or the prejudices, which is to his credit as the foremost officer of the government and a leader of a hundred and twenty-five million people. His document is a business document, and as such it is valuable, whether its conclusions are accepted or not. The man who accepts what the President offers can probably justify his acceptance, while those who disagree can find grounds on which to base their arguments that prompt the disagreement. In the main his lead is sound. In some lines The Pilot is not inclined to follow his conclusions. But that signifies nothing, for in these days of intelligent reasoning the man who condemns because his own opinion is not accepted is too narrow and uninformed to be of much consequence in arriving at logical findings.

It is not the purpose of The Pilot to discuss those features of the document that seem fallacious, nor to particularly approve those that seem uncommonly sound, for all that is a matter for individual consideration. Rather the idea in mind is to urge as many people as possible to read the statement of the President for the information and the stimulus to thought that it will provoke, for it has so many good ideas that it is valuable as a public document.

## AN IDEA OF COURAGE

A reader of The Pilot sends in an article taken from a printed publication and not a bad thing at that, suggesting that this paper might reprint the document, "if you have the courage." That is a funny attitude to take concerning a newspaper. What has courage to do with what is printed? This is not a country in which freedom of speech is a thing that must be fought for. It takes mighty little courage to print anything that has any business to be printed. Possibly it takes more

courage sometimes to leave out things than to print them.

It is not a question of courage that leads a paper to print what it prints or to fail to print what it does not print. The first thing considered is whether the thing justifies printing it. A country paper does not copy a great deal of stuff from other papers, for the things printed in rural circles are usually those that have to do with the community. The article in question had to do with national politics. It came from another state. National politics in North Carolina differ from the same thing in other sections, for North Carolina is fairly wedded to its idols, which in national alignment is the Democratic ticket. The argument that appeals to a voter in Pennsylvania, for instance, regarding the national ticket, does not interest the voter in this state. The truth is that in the national campaign North Carolina cuts little figure, for its vote can pretty surely be counted before it is cast, just as that of Pennsylvania can. Four years ago The Pilot had courage enough to say some things in behalf of Mr. Hoover, not suspecting that Hoover then would

carry North Carolina. It does not now suspect he will carry the state again. But the main thing is that the most of the fuss that is to be made in this section this fall in politics is better turned toward local matters than spread over so wide a field that it will not be observed. Things are not so bad politically, anyway, that it is necessary to get much het up. Our election is pretty much finished when the final primary is ended. About the most striking political event that is transpiring in this section just now is that malt is quoted at 49 cents and some who know say you don't get the kick out of it for that amount of money. But these things do not require courage. Rather merely the curiosity to hold on and watch what they are going to do. The Pilot thinks Hoover has been an exceptionally good president, but doubts if that will help him to be reelected by the vote of North Carolina this fall, and our sphere of influence does not go far beyond state boundaries. So it is not a question of courage at all, but of belief that it is not very exciting sport to shoot at things so far away you know you never will hit them.

## GRAINS OF SAND

Cyrus Butler of the Eastman company of Kingsport, Tenn., was home for a few days last week. While here his brother Howard asked him to go down to the coast fishing. As usual they caught big fish that got away, and Cyrus is honest enough about it to say, about a big drum, that he was relieved when it did. "For, the blooming thing was about four feet long, and it was pulling me around there until it was a case of getting away by itself or taking me along with it," Cyrus confessed. "I couldn't land the doggone thing, and all I wanted was for somebody to help me let go of the bear."

H. E. Pleasants, division passenger agent of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, announces that a total of 97.5 percent of the 2,676 passenger trains operated during the month of July reached their destinations on time.

The grapevine telegraph editor says the information from Turkey Flat, Sunk Hollow, Dogwood Ridge, and many other places is to the effect that the peach crop has enabled the people in most places to secure a supply cheap enough to make sure a sufficient quality of material to fill all the jars and jugs and kegs for fall and winter comfort. Culls were never cleaned up so closely, and much stock of excellent quality has been obtainable at low prices in temporary lulls in the shipping market. Jimple Wipps says the people are standing by Hoover in his assurance that the saloon must not come back, and they are arranging so that it will not be necessary. Jimple regards the peach as a noble article of food and drink.

Bill McNeill at Southern Pines says he undertook to have a poultry gathering at his store to discuss matters pertaining to the chicken yard, and immediately the price of eggs went up to twenty-five cents. But one of the farmers who was at the meeting and who went home full of hope says

the thing works all right as to the price, but the blooming hens is gone on strike and he can't see that no eggs at twenty-five cents is any better than a lot of eggs at fifteen.

The following clipping taken from the "Kiwanotes" column of "The Weekly Letter," Kiwanis news sheet, expresses the sentiment of many other citizens of the county who are not members of the Kiwanis Club.

"Dr. Symington talked about the typhoid fever situation in Moore county last week and outlined what is being done to prevent an epidemic. If cutting taxes means the abolishment or decrease in the efficiency of this office then we are opposed to the cut. The future development of any community rests entirely upon the good health of its citizens."

The proposition to extend the water lines of Southern Pines to outlying territory to provide employment during the dull period leads one philosopher to ask who will buy the pine for the mains. Always some place to stub your toe if you don't watch out.

Dorsey Stutz says the Seaboard rail excursions were a big success, but so many people went some where on the excursions that it looks as if no one is left to go anywhere since the excursions have gone.

The office girl says that the members of the Aberdeen ball team which played Carthage should run around in a circle and let each one kick the other.

If you argue that Ralph Page isn't sound on the currency question you have to recognize that he wakes up some of the others, if that helps any.

Sunburn is getting so common that it does not give any distinction any more.

## Correspondence

### ADMIRES BASEBALL

Editor, The Pilot:  
 In light of the fact that we are putting on a big Baseball Field Day, (full details of which appeared in last week's Pilot) on Labor Day, I believe something on BASEBALL would just about hit the spot with many people. The letter from that good citizen, Charles W. Picquet, which I enclose could be quoted as an example of the spirit created by good clean sportsmanship. The moral asset of a baseball team to any community, particularly to our own section where we have so little to take the attention of the younger folks in the off season; the fact that the game is not only played on the field, but is discussed pro and con after it has been played, thus keeping the attention of the players and the rooters from other subjects probably of a more harmful nature; the spirit of team play that it engenders, as all successful teams are composed of players who bow their heads to the good of the whole and do not seek the individual honors; the valuable lessons of discipline it offers to the players, if this discipline is administered and accepted in the proper spirit; the will to win by clean hard playing it inspires, at the same time the ability to be a better loser than winner it should inspire. A few comments could be added as

to the benefit of this Labor Day event where we will bring the pick of the League together in individual competition, as outlined by the first group of events, the presentation of the trophies won by the first and second teams in the Moore County League, won after hard clean contests, and finally the fact that we are bringing together the very best of the players in the concluding event on the program, the game between the North County Stars and the South County Stars.

I have attended many of the games, and the spirit displayed in most of them has been wonderful. True, there have been times when a little bitterness crept in, but, we are all human and subject to the faults of mere mortals. Above anything else, these games in my estimation have been of great value this season in particular. Anything that has claimed the attention of people in these distressing times, and made life just a little more bearable and enjoyable has surely been worth the effort. Pinehurst, August 14, 1932.

—ELMER M. SIMKINS.

(Enclosure)

Mr. Jesse Thomas, Thomastown Ball Team, Dear Mr. Thomas:

Simply as a gesture of appreciation of good sportsmanship, I take

pleasure in extending to your ball team an invitation to be my guests at the Carolina Theatre, Southern Pines at the showing of "Skyscraper Souls," Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 4, 5, 6.

I am but voicing the opinion of many of your friends when I state that you have been the fairest, best-natured sportsman of any team in the League.

You have not won all your games but you have won something else more valuable and that is the high regard of the sport lovers of the

Sandhills and this is but a slight token of that appreciation.

I would be pleased if you could all attend on Saturday night but if this is not convenient, you are just as welcome either on Thursday or Friday night.

I am attaching herewith Passes for the team and it is my wish that each member bring either his wife, sweetheart, mother or sister.

Here's to a bunch of good fellows who have made many good friends in Pinehurst and Southern Pines!

CHARLES W. PICQUET.

### A COLLEGIAN'S FAREWELL

By William V. Carter, Jr.

I think we leave a part of us within  
 These walls where works and some of play was done.  
 If you but list e'en now there comes the din  
 Of marching feet along the halls where one  
 And all of us have trod. Beneath the trees,  
 Along the shaded walks, there lingers yet  
 The smiles of friends we knew. Old memories  
 Of youthful pranks we played—new friends we met  
 From day to day—old thoughts of home—old dreams  
 That died or grew—new loves we made—and there  
 Our repertoire we find the hand of God. It seems  
 So hard to part from friends we love. To you  
 We brought our morning days, and now we part  
 With manhood's benediction in our heart.  
 Aberdeen, N. C.

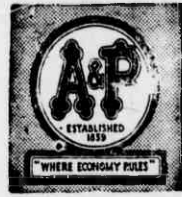
## Ham Salad

Have you tried this appetizing sandwich filling? It's delicious!

It's just one of the many fine things to be found here.

## SANITARY CASH MARKET

Aberdeen, North Carolina



### Grandmother's ROLLS

Square Pan Doz. 5c

SULTANA PEANUT BUTTER 2 lb. jar 23c

N. B. C. Lorna Doone Shortbread, lb. 23c

SULTANA—BROKEN SLICED PINEAPPLE 2 large cans 29c

COFFEE SPECIAL  
 BOKAR lb. 27c | RED CIRCLE lb. 23c  
 The Largest Selling High Grade Coffee in the World.  
 8 O'CLOCK 3 lbs. 50c

RAJAH Quart VINEGAR 15c gal. jug 49c

FAVORITE BRANDS CIGARETTES — 2 pkgs. 25c

PEACHES Iona Yellow Cling 2 large cans 27c

LIFEBUOY SOAP 3 cakes 19c  
 LUX FLAKES — 2 pkgs. — 19c

### FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC TEA CO.

## SECOND SHEETS

8 1/2 x 11 inches, yellow

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AT

THE PILOT OFFICE

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Clear, White Sheet 8 1/2 x 11 in.—500 to box

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2 boxes, \$1.75

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