

# THE PILOT

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## A WHIFF OF INTELLIGENCE

Julian Miller, of the Charlotte Observer, came over to Southern Pines last week to talk at the graduating exercises of the town schools. The program committee that picked Miller did a good job, for the newspaperman is himself a graduate of a school of observation, and a close student in the post-graduate course he is pursuing in the newspaper experience. Julian Miller has the instinctive ability to see facts and along with that he has the newspaper training which has for its foundation the fundamental that the old editor gives to the young man when he starts in, "Don't say anything today that tomorrow we may have to confess is not so."

Julian Miller is not alarmed over the possibility that the world is going to the dogs. He has a conviction that the engineer who designed the scheme of existence was capable, and that the construction of the job was good. He is inclined to the notion that we are not likely to get into deeper water than we can get out of and suggests that if we all spit on our hands and dig in we will find more or less comfort in making a success of our work, as well as profit in the outcome of the effort.

It is refreshing to have a man like Miller take the wheel a few minutes in an affair like that at which he officiated. He is not fogged with superstitions, nor afraid of the cars. He is a disciple of Paul who believes in proving all things and holding while, but he does not expect the heavens to fall as long as a hundred and thirty million people in this country are ready to hold them up and especially as the heavens are pretty well anchored anyway from the beginning.

The Charlotte Observer made no mistake when it annexed this man, for while he is a valuable factor in the success of the Observer, he is far more than that. With the Observer as his platform from which to reach the people he has a school before him that under his touch will have a wholesome influence on the whole people of the state.

## HAS THE TAXPAYER ANY RIGHTS?

Legislatures and Congress have been in session. The county commissioners are making their budget. The school districts are talking about special taxes to provide longer school terms than the state has cared for. A clamor has been going up for lower taxes. In the shift to lower taxes it looks as if some of the taxes have been lowered and other taxes have been laid to offset the lowering and possibly instead of lowering the totals will be bigger in nation, state, town and county than before. The government has talked in increased expenses of billions. The amounts are so great that no man can perceive the meaning. The argument is that money is needed for public affairs, and the tax payer is the only source from which to draw.

The tax payer is the man who owns the property and the productive power to pay. The various governments have an absolute lien in everything any individual or corporation owns or can earn, so the payer is as helpless as a kitten as long as he by his vote sanctions the policies of continued and increasing taxation. But the voter is too large a body to organize and to formulate a working plan to lessen taxes until a crisis comes and the whole thing ends in an explosion.

The whole theory of taxation is planned in behalf of the ben-

eficiary of the taxation. The payer is not considered except as the source of the money. Those who are to profit by the expenditure of the taxes are all the time held up as the purpose of taxation. The payer is not considered for he has no rights except to pay. But he should have the barren privilege of knowing at least what his money is to be spent for, and in the smallest detail. Then he might be better satisfied with the outlay. Or he might rise up and slaughter some of the needless confiscation of his money. Every individual in this country is a stockholder in the big concerns of national, state and town governments and entitled to a detailed statement from time to time of every transaction the big corporations undertake. But these stockholders have the most colossal ignorance of their public affairs that can be imagined. Not one citizen in a hundred can tell the income or expenses of towns, state county, nation, or any other unit of government. We are as ignorant of our biggest business as the cow is of the process of making her feed. Has the taxpayer any rights? He does not know. He does not know a thing about his rights, nor apparently does he care any more than he knows. He talks a lot about his government but he takes no pains to have any information about it as far as its finances are concerned. And what is the result? He is never consulted regarding its costs of operation, nor concerning the money to carry on, except to be sold out unless he pays the amount that is set opposite his name on the lists. He has no rights except to be a jay, and pay when the fiddler plays.

## THE LEASE OF THE CORRAL

Steadily the fame of the Sandhills spreads. The lease of the Corral, adjoining The Paddock, at the head of James Creek, by William D. Sawyer, for a permanent home, tells the way the wind blows. Mr. Sawyer and family have become familiar with the attractive places around the earth and they make a choice of the pine-covered knobs of Moore County.

It is just such testimony as this that should stimulate everybody in the Sandhills to firmer determination to do those things that should be done to make of this neighborhood the most pleasant place to live that can be made. Conditions here are wholly suitable. The main thing that we need more than anything else is overflowing confidence in what nature has done for us, and the willingness to do all we can to help nature.

Depression has had its influences here as well as elsewhere, but also elsewhere as well as here. That is always to be kept in mind. Also to be remembered is the fact that depression does not interrupt the growth of the pine tree, the folk of the excellent water that supplies the community, the excellence of climatic conditions, the nearness to the rest of the world, the character of the people who are neighbors, nor of anything else that is worth considering.

To the same extent that financial conditions ease up in other sections they will ease up here. Always the natural surroundings here will be just as they were when these hills and forests were laid down on the great plan of creation. Always the natural advantages will continue, and as wealth increases throughout the land further development of the advantages of this section will be carried forward. This is a pretty good time to be sure to own and improve a bit of Sandhill land, much or little, according to your ability, but it is also a good time to obtain a little if you do not already have some. Ride down by the Corral and The Paddock and over Weymouth hills and have a look, and think the matter over. Much or little, some Sandhill land is a good possession.

## THE CHURCH AND THE JAIL

It is written that James and John came to the Master and appealed for a place at his hand in the Kingdom, but it was the fellows by his side in the crisis later on, who were awarded the coveted place. Life is that way. We are inclined to expend our virtues in asking the big rewards, but we are economical of our efforts in curtailment of evil.

It is a big army that denounc-

es the offender, but not many of us are hunting out the right and hunting out the basic cause for the offense. Our jails and penitentiaries and prisons are one of our great problems and they are crowded to perplexity and growing steadily worse. We do not inquire much into the cause of crime, but we punish some of the criminals, and because we have no place for the rest of them, and because imposing the penalties has ceased to be interesting, we let the rest of them go.

We all hold up our hands and want a place in Paradise. Then we throw stones at those we do not approve of. We build more jails as fast as we can get more money and fill them with a new crop of sinners. But we leave for the parson the task of plugging up gaps that make criminals, and the job is so burdensome that his grip is slipping.

So we dam the Morgans and the Mellons and everybody whose name comes on the front page, we clamor for more laws, and we ask for a place on the right hand for ourselves, and feel that we have done the whole job. One thief on the cross was a sport. He said, "we receive the just reward for our deeds." How many of the rest of us will take the gaff that way? But we are willing to give it to the other fellow. And in doing it we overlook the important question of what is the matter? Why are the jails too full, why the many things we all complain of, why the complaisance we feel toward our won immaculate standing? It is time to find out what is wrong and to accept the responsibility and rectify the situation, rather than to build more jails and make more laws.

## SEABOARD TRAINS

A total of 96.7 per cent of the 2,442 passenger trains operated by the Seaboard Air Line Railway during the month of May arrived at their destinations on time, H. E. Pleasants, Division Passenger Agents, announces.

Cotton requires the use of 700,000 square miles of land in its production an area equal to the combined areas of France, Spain, Germany and Italy.

Henry Ford  
Dearborn, Mich.

June 5, 1933

## LOW PRICE CARS VS. CHEAP CARS

We do not build a low-price car: the cost to us of building our car is pretty high.

But we do sell a high quality car at a low price.

Almost every new Ford V-8 car we have built so far this year, has cost more to manufacture than its selling price was. As you buy them at only \$490 to \$610, we have to depend on increasing volume to make up the difference.

The reason for this is simple:— a manufacturer who gives good value must expect to lose money on the first cars he sells because he cannot charge all his costs to the people who are first to buy.

But with the purchaser it is different — he cannot afford to lose anything on a car. It must give him full value from the first, and keep on giving him full value for years.

Two things make possible our combination of low prices and high cost quality:

1. Volume Production
2. Taking only one profit

First, we set our price at what would be fair to the public on the basis of economies we enjoy in volume production. Then, in order to justify and maintain our low price we must get volume sales.

Thus it comes that a car which is really high-cost to make, is also low-cost to buy.

There is a difference between a cheap car and a low-priced high quality car.

Ford prices are always fixed at a point which makes it profitable for a customer to buy.

Good and lasting business must produce profit to the buyer as well as to the seller. And of the two, the buyer's profit must be, comparatively, the larger one.

It pays us to sell the Ford V-8 because it pays you to buy it.

Henry Ford

## Correspondence

### THE SCHOOL TERM

Editor, The Pilot:

I read with much interest the letter to the Sandhills Citizen from Mr. Van Camp, in regard to having more light thrown on our local school problem. He asks that the paper print full details as to the situation which now confronts our community.

In the same issue of the Sandhill Citizen and also in the issue of The Pilot of June 9, I believe he and all others interested will find a very comprehensive and illuminating article on the proposed changes in our school system explained by Mrs. Gilkyson. I have read Mrs. Gilkyson's facts figures and conclusions and I believe she has arrived at the proper course of action for the citizens of Southern Pines to take.

Southern Pines is perhaps the outstanding resort of its kind along the south-eastern seaboard. We have always prided ourselves on its growth, its cleanliness, its municipal pride, its schools, churches and everything else that goes to make up the finest small town, not only in this state but in many others. The result of people of all walks of life and from this pre-eminence has been that all sections of the country, have come here, built their homes and enjoyed the privileges offered to them. Our remarkable growth is not attributed to any one feature but it is the result of a happy combination of several. Among these advantages our public school has always stood very high. Our pupils get a sound education and those going on to the colleges can do so by a certificate. If we are reduced to an eight months school term, this certificate privilege is withdrawn and we drop back into a lower classification. This I believe to be a calamity.

The money we have been receiving for a six months term will be spread out over an eight months term and the teachers, therefore, will receive a very substantial cut in their salaries, and two or three teachers will have to be eliminated. Of course most everybody is having his or her income reduced and I suppose a teacher's cut is inevitable, but I want to bring to your attention the fact that teachers here, as elsewhere, have never been paid their worth. As to the result of

eliminating two or three teachers, I may say their classes will have to be jammed into rooms already crowded, resulting in serious confusion and greatly hampering the proper teaching of these children. I, personally, made my first trip to a school room last winter and I found that many rooms were greatly overcrowded, even then, and to think of adding several more children to each room convinces me that I would certainly not like to be in charge of that room. As a matter of fact, I do not believe it possible to squeeze any more desks in some of the rooms.

When it comes to the financial aspect of this matter, we are assured of a 15 per cent cut in our school tax and we are practically certain of another three cent cut, perhaps more, to continue our nine months school. Therefore, it seems that it is possible and in addition get as taxpayers an 18 cent cut in the school tax, which is over 37 per cent in this item.

I believe this matter will be brought to an election, or to a vote early this summer and I trust that the citizens of this school district will see fit to vote for a nine months school. I do not believe that now is the time to go back twenty or thirty years ago, especially when general financial conditions all over the country appear to be improving. By Fall all of us look for times to be better than they are right now and I think it would be unwise for us, as citizens, and unjust to the children in the school, to handicap and reduce ourselves to the confining limits of an eight months term.

—Eugene Stevens  
Southern Pines, June 12.

### MRS. TRACY'S FOREBEARS HONORED

Editor, The Pilot:

The Wyalusing Rocket, printed at Wyalusing, Pa., has a story in a recent issue that is of interest to Mrs. E. A. Tracey, of Southern Pines, for it refers to the dedication of a tablet in the local cemetery there commemorating the experience of the York family of which Mrs. Tracey is a decedent, along with Mrs. Charles P. Everest and her two children, Lucretia Miner, born in Stonington, Conn., in 1730, married Amos York and her father gave the young folks a large tract of land in the Wyoming valley in Pennsylvania a portion of the land that Connecticut held under the char-

ter from the British crown as part of the Connecticut Western Reserve. The land ultimately brought on the war between the Connecticut and the Pennsylvania settlers, both claiming the territory under charters from the crown, and one of the most serious phases of the Revolutionary war was the outcome.

In the affair Mr. York was captured and taken to Canada and later died. His family was left in difficult straits, and the mother, with their children set out to walk to her father's home in Connecticut, which she accomplished after a struggle of several months, much of the time in the winter. After the close of hostilities she returned to Pennsylvania and lived some thirty years and to see her children prosper and prominent members of the community. In October, 1818 she was buried at the age of 88 years in the cemetery at Wyalusing, and the tablet erected was in addition to the stone that had marked the grave for more than a century.

Mrs. Tracy's grandmother was one of the Yorks. The family figured prominently in the development of the Wyoming valley and the Revolutionary and Indian wars.

—Subscriber  
Southern Pines, June 13.

### MAY WEATHER

The month past and gone was one of the warmest May's experienced in the Sandhills for many a long year. The average temperature for May, 1932 was 67-2, and the long time normal is given as 70-4, while the temperature for the past month rose to a high of 74-2, 3.8 degrees above the normal, and 7 degrees over that of May, 1932, that month registering 90 on one day, and 92 on another. May of this year gave us eleven days with temperatures at 90 or above, and a high of 98 on the 25th.

For May, 1933 the maximum temperature was 86-9; for May, 1932, 79-3, and long time average 82-8. Minimum figures are 61-6 for May, 1933; 55-1 for last May, and 58 long average. General average for May, 1933, 74-2 for this May; 67-2 for last May and 70-4 long average. Rainfall for the month was 3.51 inches as against a normal of 4.17 and 8.14 inches last May, this giving us 15.55 inches for the year, 3.37 inches less than the normal fall.