

# THE PILOT

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## THE RIGHT FOOT FOREMOST

Nineteen, Thirty-four seems to be starting off with a foot firmly on the ground and a good prospect ahead if the goblins don't git us at some point not now in evidence. From all quarters better reports of business conditions appear to be coming, some of them with qualifying remarks, but in a general way with an encouraging outlook. The effort to mark up prices is apparently succeeding, in fact succeeding so well that it looks as if the next kick in this big country is going to be that against the high cost of living we have heard about so often in the past. The weak spot about the high cost of living is that it hits rather hard the large number of people whose incomes have not been raised by any of the many alphabet schemes for raising things. But you can't raise oranges and ice cream in the same garden at the same time, so the thing to do is to look with confidence on the thing that points upward.

Around the Sandhills the outlook seems to be encouraging. The visitors appear to be coming in satisfactory numbers. Business as indicated by mercantile transactions is favorable. The stores have been pretty full all through the holidays. Men are employed much better than for a while when the country was lower in the dumps, and while the employment is of that character which takes money from one pocket to put in the other, it livens things up while it lasts, and the prophets say that the influence will start real business in motion and stimulate things all over the country. It is fair to take for truth what the prophets say until they are proven false, for some times even prophets hit the facts.

The unsatisfactory phase of the situation is that we are depending too much on what is to be instead of on what is. We are piling up taxes for the future, which the leaders of the new thought say will not bother us, but which we can tell more about as those taxes are called for in the days that are ahead. It is a wise man who tries to live within his income rather than on what he can borrow, and also it is a wise man who tries to pay off some of his debts if he can get his fingers on the money rather than to spend the money and hope that he can borrow more.

On general principles it is to be believed that things are improving and going to improve, although it is well to keep a finger on the brakes as we go down the hill and around the turn. We may meet something that calls for slowing down. Nineteen, Thirty-four has a good look to it, and should be welcomed on that basis.

## MONEY AND TAXES

Many vague theories regarding money are current the world around, but the great delusion is that money is wealth. Money is simply the endorsement by the government of the personal debts of the individual. A ten-dollar bill is the assurance that the government will pay the bearer the sum indicated. The government is taken as a responsible endorser for that sum because the government has full piratical power to take from anybody any thing he has to satisfy the means to pay that ten dollars when it is demanded. The government is permitted to assess and take from everybody

whatsoever it demands until the people unite in successful protest against such a procedure. Some day that may be done. In fact unless government taxation by nation, state and county show a tendency to consider the taxpayer it is possible a protest may be presented that will be effective, which may not be a protest of desire, but the protest of the impossibility of paying the taxes asked. Already the sales of property for taxes, with the failure to realize anything from the many sales, is pointing to a falling down on the part of government to collect taxes the way some taxing authorities undertake.

We fondly dream of being a wealthy nation. But much of our wealth is in figures on the schedule. A great factor in our assumed wealth is land, but the fact is that land is not worth any more and possibly not as much today as when Columbus discovered America. We have robbed the land of the forests, the mines of mineral, the soil by erosion has degenerated, the wild animals that supplied food are gone, and the land is "worth" more money because more people want it. The man who has a hundred acres of land values it largely as a speculative bit of property. Unless some one else wants it it has practically no value. It will not afford him more income as farm property than it would years ago, for much land will not yield the crops that were harvested in days gone. Land is not money. When taxes are called for they must be met with money. The land owner can not offer some of his land for taxes. He must scramble around to find money to pay taxes on his higher valued land. We must find money to pay taxes on everything taxed. The one has nothing to do with the other. The railroad must pay taxes today just as ten years ago when it earned much more money, and it must pay in money. The big mill that is shut down must pay taxes and in money, although it is not earning any money and its plant is deteriorating. It is not the amount of the taxes that makes the trouble but the fact that the money must be produced and the taxpayer may be decreasing in ability to pay much faster than taxes are increasing. Property value is no basis on which to fix taxes, for property practically has no actual value. And as taxes must be paid in money, property is helpless, for it has money only when it can produce something that will sell for money. Property is not accepted for taxes. All this being recognized it is not hard to see that the increase of state and national demand for taxes is a grave situation. It is said that the government is considering six billion of new appropriations for special purposes, which means an interest bill annually of \$240,000,000 a year in addition to our government costs of the present, to say nothing of the enormous burden of paying the principal—if we ever pay it. And tax has to be paid in money, not in property. Property is merely the security, which can be taken if the tax is not paid.

The tax conditions of the country are extremely grave, much graver than the money problem, for the tax man takes the money, and he will take nothing else except to sell it for money to make taxes. We are certainly piling up an interesting heritage for the generation that will follow us, if we are able to stagger through to deliver to the younger generation the load we are now trying to carry. That is the crisis that we are confronting, and unless we soon realize the magnitude of the danger we will not need to worry about money, politics, war in Europe or anything else.

## GARLANDS FOR THE VICTOR

Flowers in the pathway of the man who achieves takes the form of a dinner at the Pinehurst Country Club for the young golfer who has added during the week another credit to his record. George Dunlap, jr., a boy whose rearing has in winter included his winter home at Pinehurst, inclined to golf in his early days. He played the game persistently and reached the championship of the amateurs of the United States. He played the game and won the esteem of the followers of the game.

Did you ever think about golf?

It is not merely a diversion. It is a highly technical occupation, so complex in its character that the highest faculties of the human mind are essential in its pursuit. The utmost of mathematical precision is necessary in determining the force with which to hit the ball, to deliver the stroke in the direction that will carry the ball on its proper course, its proper altitude, making allowance for all the vagaries of movement that the weight and shape and position of the ball may have at the time of the contact of the club, to estimate the distance to the next hole, and all the other factors that govern the progress of the game. All this computation and action must be spontaneous and immediate. No time is available for deliberation, or needed. The golf player is a marvel of quick mentality and absolute control of all his physical and mental faculties. He is one of the most remarkable machines in existence, and the man who leads the field is a mathematical and physical genius although he probably never suspects the miracle he works, for his golf control is so complete that his performance is almost automatic. A golf player like young George Dunlap is a phenomenon in his line, for that swiftly-functioning brain and its correlating organs are among Nature's most complicated mysteries and accomplishments.

Men who know golf know it is not merely an old man's pastime. It is a most highly specialized and complex mental and physical occupation, and the man who plays the game even fairly well possesses a skill and ability that afford an interesting speculative study of the creation of the living creature. The playgrounds of the Sandhills are vastly more than a simple amusement field. They give a scope for the development of character that few people suspect. A skillful golfer has something under his hat—if he wears a hat.

## AT THE DOGWOOD FESTIVAL

From time to time comes evidence of interest in the proposed dogwood festival to be held in April in the Sandhills, a letter this week from Rev. W. A. Cooper, pastor of the African Methodist church in Charlotte submitting a list of oil paintings that he expects to show during that time. Mr. Cooper, former pastor in a colored church in Southern Pines, has gained much of a reputation as a painter, his productions having been exhibited in New York and other larger places, and with much approbation. He has included in his probable collection here a score of pictures including "The New Negro," "The Old Cook," "The Slave and His Hope," and "The Shoeshine Boy," a negro of the streets in Charlotte. His work is all life studies, presenting the actual negro life and individuals as he sees his subjects. His exhibit at Southern Pines and Pinehurst a couple of years ago attracted much attention.

Mr. Cooper while in Southern Pines as pastor of a congregation of colored people made friends with the white folks as well, and he should be received with much enthusiasm for he is perhaps the most able exponent of the life of his people that this section has had in such close contact. His work with his congregation in singing their own interesting music interested many of the Northern visitors, as well as the older residents, for Mr. Cooper appreciated the merit of the Negro music and encouraged its use extensively. He was influential in stimulating an intensive musical inclination not only in the church work but also in the commoner life of his folks. He will be a big factor in the old slave reunion that is scheduled with the Dogwood Festival, for his standing with the colored folks as well as with the whites is such that he will have the help and encouragement of everybody.

## RALEIGH NEWSPAPER MEN GUESTS OF C. OF C. BOARD

W. A. Kindel of the business staff and Abie Upchurch of the editorial department of the Raleigh News & Observer were guests at the meeting of directors of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce Tuesday noon at Jack's Grill. They pledged the co-operation of the News & Observer in support of the Dogwood Festival to be held here in April.

# GRAINS OF SAND

The appointment of Henry Morgenthau, Jr. as Secretary of the Treasury in President Roosevelt's cabinet calls to mind last year's annual banquet of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce. Of the two principal speakers that night, one has been named by the President as Ambassador to Mexico, a son of the other now honored with the secretaryship of the Treasury.

As Frank Buchanan says, if you want to get a big job from Mr. Roosevelt, you should address the Chamber of Commerce here.

Both local banks, the Bank of Pinehurst and the Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Southern Pines, have qualified for membership in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Which means that your deposits with either institution, up to \$2,500, are now guaranteed by Uncle Sam. You can safely empty the old sock and open an account now.

Banking Commissioner Gurney Hood says North Carolina banks are now in the soundest condition they have been in since the World War.

By the way, have you been arrested yet for wearing 1933 license plates? Fifteen hundred tardy motorists were nabbed the first day of January.

Decorative floats for the Dogwood festival, arade here in April were suggested at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Tuesday.

"But how can you have floats in a dry state," the board's madwag inquired.

An interesting custom still prevails in some sections of the Deep River country as well as elsewhere in North Carolina, and to some extent over the Eastern United States along with some of the old world, that of observing what is called "Old Christmas." When the settlers were coming to the Carolina colonies in 1752 Great Britain had not yet accepted the Gregorian calendar, which was made law in England in that year. But it was unpopular, for it changed the date of the New Year from March 25 to January 1, and the Christmas date from January 6 to December 25. Much opposition to this change was shown for the people protested against taking away twelve days from the

Christmas time and almost three months from the year. So many of the old timers held to the old dates, and even now Old Christmas is a popular holiday in many sections of this country. Down on the sounds of North Carolina it is said that some communities will not have anything to do with the new Christmas and still have their festival and religious ceremonies on January 6. In Lee and Chatham counties the observance of the Old Christmas is practiced to considerable extent. The churches still set apart the sixth of January as Epiphany, a religious date, under the name of Twelfth day, aside from its ancient recognition as Old Christmas. Saturday this year is Epiphany, or Old Christmas.

In our immediate vicinity the colored folks who live in the neighborhood of the heads of James creek and Rockfish and The Paddock, will hold services at the colored school house out the Callery road beyond the Grover vineyard, Saturday being their date. It will probably be an interesting event if some of the Northern visitors should drop in and help along with the program.

Counterfeit greenbacks are reported plentiful throughout the state. It's so long since many of us have seen any it'll be difficult not to get stung.

## From the State Press

### NEW FOOTBALL ERA

The other day when it was published that a wealthy sportsman whose fortune is invested in the business of making cigarettes was very much interested in getting the "right" football coach for one of the big colleges of the state an interesting chain of speculation was started.

This prompted an alumnus of another college in the state to remark that he had heard it mentioned that an official of another big tobacco company was interested in procuring the "right" coach at this institution.

Thirdly that reminded that just a few weeks ago still another great tobacco company had planned a popular cigarette advertising football train for a prospective trip across the continent—a trip that, sadly, didn't materialize.

All of which leads to further spec-

ulation of team boosting possibilities at future football games in the state. The staffs of crack ad writers could concentrate on turning out snappy yells representative of the most popular brands of smokes. Think of going out to die for old "alma mammy" under the inspiration of such slogans as "they satisfy," or "they're toasted," or yet that they are "easy on the nerves." Of course there might be a danger that some rank outsider would spoil the harmony by averting that "there ain't a touchdown in a carload."—Lexington Dispatch.

## PINEBLUFF

Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Wells spent the Christmas holidays in Hume, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pickler of New York City recently visited Miss Pauline Little. From here they flew in their plane to Macon, Georgia.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Swan and daughter, Lucie, of Sherburne, N. Y., have returned to their home here for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Williams of Utica, N. Y., are occupying Mrs. Jannaris' home.

Word was received here recently of the death of Miss Della Whitley in a hospital in Greensboro. Miss Whitley had been sick only a few days and her sudden death came as a shock to her many friends here. Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Newell attended the funeral which was held at her home near Elberbe.

William H. Rorke of Grammercy Park, N. Y., is spending several weeks at the Linwood.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Warner of Norristown, Pa., are spending the winter at their home in Pinebluff.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Krug of Long Branch, N. J., have returned to Pinebluff for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Newell and Mr. Coleman attended the Epworth League Convention in Walkertown.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Burton of Fayetteville and Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Burton of Hillsboro recently visited with their aunt, Mrs. W. D. Shannon.

Charles De Yoe of Friendship, N. Y., is spending the winter with his brother, J. L. De Yoe.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Foushee and daughter, Joan of Durham spent Christmas at J. R. Lampley's.

Miss Nellie Ward of Clarkton, spent a few days in town last week visiting her aunts, Mrs. J. B. Fagan and Miss Mary Johnson.

# Carolina Paint Shop, Inc.

HENRY B. FRYE, Mgr.

PINEHURST, N. C.

Paint is a Preserver, a Restorer, and a great personal and community asset. Paint makes the Sandhills one of the most admired spots on earth, for the world knows what paint has done for the Pinehurst community.

A new York Banker says paint today is one of the best investments.—When asked by a man with some money to invest what to do with it he said, "Put it in some land, or a building, or in improving the buildings you have."

His argument is that land and building will be higher later on, while securities may or may not. But paint is cheap now, and will probably never be cheaper, and it will probably be higher in the future, and paint and fixing up will be real investments instead of merely speculation.

The Carolina Paint Shop offers you fair prices, skill in workmanship, able supervision and the best material.

It insures against all accidents to workmen, property or the public.

It has ample equipment to do the work right, and it will be here to make good long after the paint is dry.

# The Carolina Paint Shop, Inc.

PINEHURST, N. C.

Look at Some of Our Work.

That's All.