



A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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Southern Pines and Aberdeen, North Carolina, Friday, February 23, 1934.

FIVE CENTS

J. H. STEPHENSON APPOINTED U. S. DEPUTY MARSHAL

Southern Pines Man, Prominent
in American Legion, Honored
by Senator Reynolds

SERVES FIVE COUNTIES

John H. Stephenson of Southern Pines was nominated by Senator Robert R. Reynolds this week to be Deputy United States Marshal, to serve under United States Marshal William T. Dowd of Sanford in the middle district of North Carolina. Mr. Stephenson will serve in five of the middle district counties, including Moore.

In a telegram received by Mr. Stephenson on Monday Senator Reynolds said:

"Pleased to advise that I have endorsed and recommended you for appointment as deputy marshal for the middle district of North Carolina and that I have given this statement to the press and feel confident that you will serve with credit to yourself and entire satisfaction to the government. Stop It was a genuine pleasure for me to have been availed an opportunity of evidencing to you my appreciation of your loyalty and my high regard for your ability and qualifications for the position to which you have been selected."

The deputy marshalship was a much sought after position throughout the middle district and Mr. Stephenson has been justly congratulated on all sides this week. The position carries a substantial salary as well as honor and prestige. Other middle district appointments made by Senator Reynolds to serve under Mr. Dowd are:

James Rivers, newspaper man of Boone, chief deputy; Mrs. John W. Simpson, Jr., of Greensboro, niece of Pierce Rucker, clerk and stenographer; Dr. Fred Patterson, of Greensboro, federal physician; Charles VanStory of Greensboro and Lawrence Huffman, R. F. D., of Burlington, deputies with Mr. Stephenson.

Mr. Stephenson is a prominent member of the American Legion here and active in civic and political circles.

Rev. Murdoch McLeod To Leave Sandhills

Presbytery Grants Permission
to Accept Call to Nashville, Tenn.

The Fayetteville Presbytery in session at Raeford Tuesday dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Community Church of Pinehurst and the Rev. Murdoch MacLeod effective March 31, 1934.

This action came as a result of submitting to the Presbytery for decision the question of releasing Mr. MacLeod from his connection with the local church.

The latter part of last year Mr. MacLeod after a great deal of deliberation refused a call to the pastorate of the Moore Memorial Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tenn., and determined to remain with the church here. However, a second urgent call from the Nashville church was received early in January, the Tennessee church emphasizing their reluctance to accept his first "no" as final. Mr. MacLeod again looked over the field and finally came to the conclusion that he should accept the second and more urgent call of the Moore Memorial Church.

Upon presentation of his resignation to the members of the Community Church Sunday morning, however, they refused to accept it on the grounds that they felt they would be doing the local community an injustice, but agreed to leave the decision to the Fayetteville Presbytery which met at Raeford yesterday. The Presbytery decided that the call from Nashville was in order and should be accepted by Mr. MacLeod and thereupon dissolved the local pastoral relationship.

A committee from the local church will be named to seek out and recommend a pastor for the congregation here.

Scene of Tuesday's Fire in Southern Pines



Photograph of the Burned Building Taken a Few Years After Erection

Many Former Slaves Residing in County, Pilot List Reveals

"Old Slave Day" in Southern Pines in April Should Prove Historic Occasion

Names continue to come into The Pilot office of colored people of this section who lived hereabouts during slavery days, and there is every evidence that Southern Pines will be the scene of an unparalleled event on "Old Slave Day," to be held the week of April 9th under the auspices of The Pilot and the Chamber of Commerce. Plans for a suitable program for the day are well under way, with prominent speakers, white and colored, the singing of negro spirituals, and other features which will entertain both the former slaves and the many visitors expected here on that occasion.

Some interesting information comes to The Pilot with the names that are being sent in. Here's a card from E. L. McNeill of Vass, a few weeks before his death:

"I know an old darkey, George McCrimmon, born in slavery. Says he's at least 84 years old. His mother belonged to the McLeod's that were murdered in 1870 and Uncle George, then about 21 years old, was there at the home of the McLeod's the day of the murder and saw it all."

H. P. McPherson of Cameron writes:

"I have a very reliable old timer living in a small house in my backyard. He is up at daylight every morning feeding the stock, getting the stove wood, etc. His name is Troy Shaw; says he was 10 years old when set free. He belonged to Neill Graham, who married a Miss Shaw and lived a few miles southeast of Aberdeen.

Good Picker at 78
"Another of the faithful few is Elias Hooker, who lives near Cameron. He belonged to Captain Robert Hatch and was reared in Chatham county. Says he is 78 years old, yet he picked over 100 pounds of cotton a day on my farm one week last October."

Readers of The Pilot are asked to continue to send in names of colored persons residing in the county who lived during the slavery period, with their ages and addresses.

Names received by The Pilot to date of persons living in slavery and now residing in or near Moore county include the following:
Dennis Taylor, 108, Taylortown; G. B. Mason, 85, Taylortown; Amy Williams, 90, Carthage Route 1; Alice Kelley, 80, Carthage; O. B. Ray, Vass Route 1; Lovely McKinnon, Carthage Route 3; Ida Kelly, Carthage; Caline Caddell, Carthage; Eva McLeod, 90, Vass; Bill Kelly, 90, and his wife, Vass Route 2; George McCrimmon, 84, Vass; Bertha Porterville, Southern Pines; John Watson, 77, Cameron; Dave McDonald, 74, Cameron; Matilda Harrington, 95, Southern Pines; Harriet Hasty, 90, Southern Pines; Martha Matheson, 80; Caroline.

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Tag Day

Boy Scouts to Aid Salvation Army in Drive for Funds Here Saturday

Tomorrow, Saturday, is Tag Day in Southern Pines, being sponsored by the Salvation Army. The local Boy Scouts are giving their aid for this worthy cause, and the citizens of the community are urged to make their contributions as generously as possible. Charles Cook, representing the Charlotte branch of the Salvation Army, is here and will assist in the drive.

Laing Rides Two Winners at Camden

Southern Pines and Pinehurst Horses "in the Ribbons" at Hunter Trials and Races

Southern Pines and Pinehurst played a prominent part in the annual hunter trials and races of the Camden Hunt at Camden, S. C., on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. At least 100 persons from the Sandhills witnessed the events.

Noel Laing of Southern Pines was the leading winning rider of the day. He won the Cherokee Steeplechase, two miles over brush, on Mrs. Verner Z. Reed's Our Friend, a bay gelding which Laing has been training here this winter. In the Mulberry, one mile on the flat, Laing rode Mrs. T. E. Proctor's Star Wink, another Southern Pines trained horse to first place over a fast field. The Proctors spent last winter here, occupying the John Y. Boyd house, and their horses have been here all this season in charge of Noel Laing and James Townsend.

War Eagle, a Man of War colt, was too much for Oliver C. Mrs. T. H. Somerville's chestnut, ridden by Laing in The Bloomsbury event, two miles over timber, and he failed to finish in front with his own horse, Kanem, in the last event, six furlongs on the flat. In this race a filly trained in Southern Pines this winter, Cyopolim, owned by B. A. Tompkins of The Paddock, was second after a beautiful ride by John Vlossopolous, Ernest I. White's trainer.

The races were on Thursday. On Wednesday at the hunter trails Mr. White's Allure was second in the lightweight hunter class after a splendid ride by Miss Margaret Kiely, one of the whippers-in of the Moore County Hounds. Acclaim, another of Mr. White's horses, was third in the model class. Among those riding in these events from Southern Pines were Mr. White, Miss Kiely, Almet Jenks, Noel Laing and Nelson C. Hyde.

Jackson H. Boyd was among the judges in the race meet.

\$22,215 SALES TAX PAID HERE 1ST SIX MONTHS

On This Basis County Will Pay \$96,000 Less Than Under Ad Valorem Tax

Moore county's sales tax paid for the six months amounts to \$22,215.00. That amount doubled would be \$44,430.00 for a year. The property tax reduction for 1933 should amount to \$140,234.00, by which it is seen that this county should pay \$95,804.00 less in sales tax than the total reduction in property tax afforded by the 1933 General Assembly. In only two counties, Caldwell and Pitt, is the sales tax shown to be larger than the reduction made in property tax.

Property tax relief of \$11,461,595 granted by the 1933 General Assembly was only partially made up in the sales tax collections, which, on the basis of actual collections for the first six months of operation of the tax, indicate the sales tax will be \$6,835,586 which would still leave \$4,826,099 in total relief, according to tables issued by Director Harry McMullan of assessments and collections of the Revenue Department.

The sales tax total is twice the amount collected for sales in the first six months of the operation of the tax, or \$3,317,745, which, officials say, may be somewhat increased when collections for the full 12 months are recorded.

Big Expense Reductions
Included in the property tax reduction are four items, 15-cent statewide ad valorem tax; current expenses for special charter schools, special tax districts and for county-wide levies. The first three were eliminated entirely and the last item except for charges for maintenance of plant and fixed charges for which some of the counties made levies. Reports so far received indicate that two-thirds of the county-wide levies for current expenses was eliminated. Also, Mr. McMullan points out, the table does not include supplements voted in a few counties since the 1933 legislature. Also, he states, taxes on sales for chain stores, paid at one point or outside the state, are prorated to the several counties in which sales were made.

Mecklenburg paid the highest tax (Please turn to page 4)

RETIRED ARMY COLONEL PURCHASES HOME HERE

Col. Edward C. Carey, retired U. S. Army officer, has purchased through E. C. Stevens the residence of Prof. William F. Allen at the corner of Pine Grove Road and Massachusetts avenue on Weymouth Heights, Southern Pines, and will take possession within the next two weeks. The house is an attractive Colonial bungalow. Col. Carey commanded a regiment in the World War and is a veteran of other campaigns. He spent some time in Southern Pines several years ago.

Building in Heart of Business Section Destroyed by Fire

Led Fire Fighters



L. V. O'CALLAGHAN
Chief, Southern Pines Fire Dept.

Firemen Confine Threatening
Flames Within Walls of
McBrayer Building

ABERDEEN, PINEHURST AID

For over four hours Tuesday morning the Southern Pines firemen, aided by men and apparatus from Aberdeen and Pinehurst, battled in the intense cold with the smokiest and most persistent fire in the town's history.

Starting shortly before 8 o'clock in the basement of the McBrayer Building, also known as the Grey Building, on West Broad street and fanned by a brisk wind from the west, the fire spread rapidly upward and through the building to which the firemen confined the flames. The fire fighters suffered severely from the cold, the temperature registering only 18 above, and the smoke was so dense in the immediate front of the building that men on the hose lines were driven out repeatedly.

Apparently under control by 10 o'clock the flames gained new headway inside the building and broke through the metal roof, and the men of the three companies with seven streams of water under high pressure had a hard fight to keep the fire out of Jack's Grill.

The building, erected in 1923 by John McPherson for Congressman Oscar Auf der Heide of Jersey City, passed first into the possession of Chas. M. Grey and of late years has been owned jointly by Dr. L. B. McBrayer, and Charles Bingham, of Littleton, N. H.

The offices on the upper floor were occupied by Dr. McBrayer for the North Carolina Medical Association, and the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association; the doctor also occupied an apartment as did Mr. and Mrs. Claud Hafer. Two of the stores on the ground floor were vacant, the others housed the Western Union telegraph office, and William Roth's barber shop. Mrs. Hafer lost all of her personal effects and furniture including a piano. Dr. McBrayer also lost his personal effects, his loss also including a library in the Association offices, which with their contents were entirely destroyed with the exception of the books and papers in the safes. Mrs. Homer Mann and Mrs. Carey Blue of the Western Union office lost personal effects, and Mr. Roth the entire contents of his shop. Insurance on the building was carried by the Stevens agency.

The clouds of dense smoke rising above the burning building attracted a great throng of spectators through which Jack dodged hither and yon serving hot coffee to the fireman, his efforts being supplemented by Garland Pierce, Shields Cameron and others with coffee and soup from the Coffee Shop.

The Western Union is now located in the old Telegraph building on New Hampshire avenue. Dr. McBrayer has secured quarters in the former Telephone building on West Broad Street, and the Roth Barber Shop is next to the Coffee Shop on East Broad street.

Long Time Resident Of Southern Pines Dies

Mrs. Clara Holcombe Johnson Died
Wednesday Night—Funeral in
Aberdeen at 3 p. m. Today

Mrs. Clara Holcombe Johnson, for 30 years a resident of Southern Pines, passed away Wednesday night at the home of her son, Frank Holcombe in Fayetteville. She was 84 years of age. Mrs. Johnson was born in Worcester, Mass.

Since the death of her husband about two years ago, she has made her home with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. Talbot Johnson of Aberdeen.

Mrs. Johnson had an unusually wide acquaintance with her contact of country and town life, which included Aberdeen. With the years of her residence in the neighborhood, the present generation grew up.

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HEAVY DAMAGES ASKED AS RESULT OF AUTO ACCIDENT

Pinehurst Winter Resident Sues
Students of University of
North Carolina

As a result of an automobile accident which occurred near Hemp on January 20, T. C. Drake, prominent Pinehurst winter resident, has this week started two civil actions against two University of North Carolina juniors, John McInnis, Jr., of Clio, S. C., and Francis Don Breazeale, of Henderson county, N. C. Summons have already been served and returned. Mr. Drake charges negligent and unlawful conduct and in one case prays judgment for himself in the sum of \$3000, being \$1000 for property damage and \$2000 for mental and physical pain and anguish. The second case is brought by Betsy Gordon Drake through T. C. Drake as her next friend, and seeks to recover \$20,000; \$10,000 for injuries and \$10,000 punitive damages.

The accident occurred on Route 74 about 4:30 o'clock. Mr. and Mrs. Drake, his sister and ten-year-old Betsy Gordon Drake, a granddaughter, were returning from a visit to Jug Town and had entered the highway and crossed to their side of the road when their car, a Buick, was struck by a Plymouth coupe occupied by three University students. McInnis, the owner of the car; Beazeale, the driver, and Donah Hanks, who were en route to Rock Hill. The coupe, it is said, struck the Drake car with great force and landed upside down, pinning the young men underneath. Little Betsy Drake, who was riding on the front seat with her grandfather, was thrown through the windshield and was badly cut while other members of the party suffered from shock. Both cars were badly damaged.

The three young men were tried in this week's Recorder's court on charges of reckless driving. McInnis and Beazeale were found guilty and the case was not pressed as to Hanks. The three are said to be young men of fine character and among those who appeared in their behalf at the trial were the president of the University student body, the sheriff and the supervisor of Marlboro county, S. C., and the clerk of the district court, also of Marlboro county. The Judge had not rendered his judgment, but still had the case under advisement at our latest report.

MUST FACE TRIAL FOR "BORROWING" GASOLINE

Policeman Newton and his dog "Roscoe" captured two young men early Monday morning transferring gasoline from a car parked in front of the Jefferson Inn to their Pontiac. Brought before Mayor Stutz later in the day they gave their names as Robert and Charles Wallon of New York. They have been sent to Cartrage for trial.