

THE PILOT

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NELSON C. HYDE, Managing Editor
BION H. BUTLER, Editor
JAMES BOYD STRUTHERS BURT, Contributing Editors

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A MATTER FOR SERIOUS THOUGHT

This new school election that we are about to vote for was scheduled too soon after its announcement. It is the most serious election we have probably ever held in the county, for it proposes the issue of \$232,000 in new bonds on top of the vast debt already existing, and which we have no definite idea of how we are to extinguish it. We should have been given more time to deliberate over this project. Very few of us who will be called on to vote on the subject can have anything like an intelligent idea of the situation in the county as regards the need of the new financing or the power of the people to pay taxes to care for the interest on the new loan, to say nothing of extinguishing the principal, while at the same time paying interest and principal on existing loans and also maintaining the costs of running the county.

This matter should have been given the fullest kind of publicity and public discussion by men who are familiar with finances, with county affairs, with the needs of the schools, with the relations of all sections of the county with each other and with schools, finances and all minor as well as major detail. We should have analyzed our county finances, our income, our possible ability to maintain our present income, the difficulties that are facing the county in collecting the taxes now accruing as well as those that are due and those that have been overdue for a long time, some as far back as six or seven years. Maybe we can handle this proposed increase in debt, and may be we can not, but no one has yet shown us a definite statement as to our resources and liabilities which gives any idea of how we stand in regard to ability to care for even the present debt and current expense account, to say nothing of an increase. Perhaps we may have ample financial basis for an indefinite increase in our public debt, and perhaps we may not be on safe footing concerning the debt we already have tied about our necks. The Pilot does not know the situation, and the vast majority of the voters have no sufficient knowledge of affairs to justify casting a vote, for the whole motive must be one of emotional enthusiasm or opposition and based quite entirely on the advice of some one who gives out some information that may be sufficient to use as the base of opinion or may not.

The commissioners have endeavored to arrive at a conclusion in this matter, and have worked hard enough to entitle them to the appreciation of the people of the county. But they have been urged by different elements to do one thing or another, and they are very much perplexed over the situation. But they have passed the responsibility on to the people, leaving it for a public vote to settle. Before we take any positive step as a people we should have more information than has been given out.

It appears that the county is now carrying more than a million dollars of debt, not counting the township and village debts. The question is how far into debt we can go with prudence. This is a matter for every voter to decide for himself, for it is the taxpayers who foot the bill and who will have the burden on their shoulders for a long period of years into the future.

This is not a question of politics, that god we worship so devoutly but which pays no taxes. It is not a question of sectional division of the county for the taxes are laid on all alike, and the delinquent tax sales indicate the situation many taxpay-

ers are already struggling. How much more of a load can be carried is worth while investigating. And now is the time to make the inquiry. Never was a campaign of education more positively needed than now, and the voter who does not apply himself to finding the facts in the case may later see where knowledge will be too late. This is the day to study this subject critically and to the finish, so you will know how to vote.

MEN OF THE OIL COUNTRY

A story in the Oil City Deric telling of the tribute paid up there in the Pennsylvania oil town to S. Y. Ramage, of Pinehurst, brings to mind the striking part some of the familiar faces of the new Sandhills have taken in the development of this marvelous nation. Pinehurst and Southern Pines have a fair representation from the oil country. Mr. Ramage is one of the best known of the group. He has been active here for years, helping in the development of the community. Along with him are others. Patriarch of the oil country delegation is John L. McKinney, who was in at the beginning in Titusville soon after Drake brought in the first well that laid the foundation of the great petroleum industry. McKinney was of the progressive fellows who founded the Standard Oil Company, the National Transit, the United Pipe Lines and the great distilling and distributing agencies. He and John D. Rockefeller are about the only survivors of that earliest day. Mr. Rockefeller has been an occasional visitor at Pinehurst and Southern Pines, but Mr. McKinney, his old time business associate, has a permanent winter home in Southern Pines.

Another permanent winter resident in the section is Theodore Barnsdall, at Knollwood. William Barnsdall, the younger man's grandfather, was one of the pioneer group with McKinney and Rockefeller, joining early in the first work in the Titusville field, and Theodore Barnsdall, son of William and uncle of the younger Theodore Barnsdall at Knollwood, was at one time the largest individual oil producer in the world. The Barnsdall Company is still one of the great organizations. Up on Weymouth ridge are the homes of the Howlands, Krafert, Henne and other representatives of the original Pennsylvania oil field, and others are here and there in the Sandhills, a mighty helpful and progressive factor in what has been done in this section.

Mr. Ramage has been a history maker in Pennsylvania and in the national development, and he has been an active member of the Sandhills in the creation of the fine establishment for the enjoyment of life that this section affords. His Oil City friends are assured that he has friends in North Carolina who are fully appreciative of his value here as well as up there.

THE Z. V. B. PLAN FOR MOORE COUNTY

Mrs. Zeb Blue, when she proposed what Leonard Tufts calls the Z. V. B. plan for Moore county presented a scheme that is capable of making Moore or any other neighborhood that will adopt it, a self-dependent community, prosperous and happy. Moore county is more than ever in shape to thrive if something like Mrs. Blue suggests can be taken as the foundation of the plan. Here is not everything in the world, but here are so many things on which men depend that in Moore county can be made one of the most ideal places to live that the world can show.

It is possible we are on the verge of a social revolution that will compel a return of the movement of population from the city to the country, for the task of making and moving to the city the food supply the collected millions in the city require is becoming a task that is hard to carry on. City life stifles human interest and action. The only result is a thinning out of the mass of people from the big centers or some disastrous social development that threatens the nation, just as the concentrated population of the Oriental countries has brought to India, Japan and China problems that possibly they can never solve.

Mrs. Blue has proposed the basic principles of a plan to make the county a thrifty and progres-

sive unit of American life. She has suggested enough to justify some sort of a start, and when Leonard Tufts enlists under her leadership she has already recruited a great army, for Mr. Tufts is a clear thinker and an active worker. If they can get a following they have already started what may be the most important thing this county has ever known, for it is a self-operating uplift and economic process that will grow as it is encouraged.

Here in Moore county is much more than merely a winter resort. Climate, soil, surroundings, natural resources and everything necessary to the comfort and maintenance of mankind is available. We have the railroads, the highways, the water facilities, fuel possibilities, good stock of people. We have the little towns that can be the nucleus of thrifty and happy communities. We have what is most essential, the room to operate these little centers of industry, home making, social existence and happy life. Over at Vass the cotton mill is a center of desirable life and activity. Carthage has its helpful factories. Cameron is a center of dewberry production. Aberdeen has much promise. High Falls is an ideal little industrial community with its mills and its farm people all around. The lumber mills sprinkled over the county are small industries but they contribute to the industrial stimulus of their communities. The talc mines are centers of subsistence. Hemp is growing and giving great promise. West End with its

GRAINS OF SAND

We don't know how many physicians there are in Moore county but we'll wager the M's lead. Ke know of eight whose names begin with M.

There are 83 golf courses in North Carolina, more than we would have guessed but still less than one to a county. Moore boasts ten percent of this total, and Pinehurst has more than any city in the state.

To the best of our knowledge and belief Realtor Potts is the only waistcoat wearer in the Sandhills in Summer.

Georgia Belle is still a great girl in this section, and Elberta is another feminine name that is making a bit.

Thad Page, Senator Bailey's secretary, is down from Washington for a visit to home folks in the Sandhills. He has also seen some folks who would accept jobs if urged.

Nobody around here is worrying because a lot of other places are stressing warmer sunshiny weather these days than we are registering in Moore county.

The steadily increasing number of automobiles in this neighborhood looks as if prosperity is having an influence—unless credit is working freely again.

Instead of worrying about finding a market for surplus wheat in foreign countries we may yet be glad that the other countries have been making a surplus in case our crop falls so far short that home-supplies will not keep us in bread. Things don't always work out like the program reads.

In spite of the repeal of the prohibition amendment Southern Pines is soon to have another big water tank on top of the hill—water, mind you.

Don't let this kind of weather keep you from engaging your winter wood supply.

Did you know the Sandhills has a new amateur orchestra. It came about because Liv Biddle bought some drums, learned to play them. Beating drums and cymbals all alone grows monotonous so Liv set out to build an orchestra. It comprises Mrs. Herbert Vail on the piano, Herbert on the mandolin and Bob Page on his guitar. They do well the few pieces they have learned and have played for several dances this summer. Herby Vail occasionally doubles on the violin. He's a versatile chap, the Kiwanis Club's secretary. Plays good golf and tennis and was on last year's Pinehurst baseball team.

Aberdeen Lake, since last year's improvements under CWA funds, has become the most popular of local swimming holes. It has cooler water and all the conveniences, good div-

ing boards, good beaches, plenty of space for all ages and sizes to swim in safety.

Southern Pines has five private swimming pools.

John Bloxham introduced shorts to Sandhills summers. He also stuck religiously to white flannels throughout winters, regardless of temperatures. It was not an uncommon sight in John's days in Southern Pines to see him in his white breeches standing beside Jim Boyd in his coonskin coat

meeting trains from the north in mid-season.

Within the past week two negroes entered the Moore County Hospital with eyes full of buckshot. One will lose the sight of one eye; the other of both. They were not engaged in the same fracas.

Who can name the Republican candidate for the United States Congress from this 8th District?

Prices for cantaloupes were such a disappointment they closed the melon market at Raeford a few days after it opened.

Judge Humber fails to gain and it is unlikely that he will be back on the bench before his term expires at the end of this year.

When Aberdeen plays Southern Pines O. D. Park of The Pilot staff is literally on the fence. He has one son on the Aberdeen team, one on Southern Pines. When one is pitching to the other he doesn't know whether to hope the pitcher strikes out the batter or the batter gets a home run off the pitcher.

IN CARTHAGE ON BUSINESS

H. C. Jones, general manager of the Jones Department Stores which are located in eight towns in this state, was a business visitor in Carthage Monday.

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SENATOR BAILEY'S WORK IN WASHINGTON OUTSTANDING

Thad Page is home for a brief visit from Washington, where as secretary for Senator J. W. Bailey he is kept exceedingly busy. Mr. Page says Senator Bailey has been one of the most useful and active members of the senate through the session, trying energetically to serve the State of North Carolina in a manner creditable and profitable to the State and the people and at the same time to broadly represent the whole nation. Some new political features have developed in Washington in the last year or two, and out of the hurly-burly Mr. Page says Mr. Bailey will come with a position and substantial confidence of the people of his state as they come to realize better what difficult complications have been arising all over the country since the last congress convened.

But the folks who have kept up with the papers and with the daily reports of the Congressional Record are aware that Senator Bailey has been one of the active workers and clear thinkers and sincere students of public affairs and that he ranks today as one of the leaders in the national assembly.

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NEW REDUCED PRICES		
STANDARD MODELS	New Reduced List Price	Amount of Reduction
Sport Roadster	\$465	\$25
Coach	495	25
Coupe	485	25
MASTER MODELS		
Sport Roadster	540	35
Coach	530	35
Town Sedan	615	30
Sedan	600	35
Coupe	560	35
Sport Coupe	600	35
Sedan Delivery	600	45
COMMERCIAL CARS		
Commercial Chassis	355	30
Utility Long Chassis	515	50
Dual Long Chassis	525	50
Utility Chassis and Cab	575	50
Dual Chassis and Cab	595	50
Utility Long Chassis and Cab	605	50
Dual Long Chassis and Cab	625	50
Commercial Panel	575	35
Special Commercial Panel	595	35
Utility Panel	750	50
Dual Cab and Stake Body	690	50
Dual Long Cab and Stake Body	740	50

Above are list prices of passenger cars at Flint, Mich. With bumpers, spare tire and tire lock, the list price of Standard Models is \$18 additional; Master Models, \$20 additional. List prices of commercial cars quoted are f.o.b. Flint, Mich. Special equipment extra. Prices subject to change without notice.

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