

A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory of North Carolina

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FIVE CENTS

## FAMOUS TIMBER AND BRUSH HORSES ENTER RACES HERE

New Steeplechase Course on  
Midland Road Ready For  
Big Meeting March 16

### HUNTER TRIALS IN A. M.

With the new race course of the Sandhills Steeplechase & Racing Association, midway between Pinehurst and Southern Pines on the double road, rapidly nearing completion, and with an entry list of some of the fastest horses in the country, the inaugural meeting here on Saturday, March 16th gives promise of being a day long to be remembered in this section.

Workmen have been busy all week putting the finishing touches on the brush and timber fences, and with the completion of these today or tomorrow they will turn their attention to final work on the course itself, making sure that the footing is right for the fleet animals that will vie for victory in the three events carded for the afternoon. The timber race will be three miles over 12 stiff fences, the two brush races each two miles over the brush jumps, which stand over five feet and of which 12 must be negotiated by the sturdy steeplechasers.

#### Fine Entry List

Among entries in the various events received to date are horses which have won some of the biggest races in the country. To mention a few are Fairy Lore, owned by Noel Laing of Amisville, Va. and Southern Pines; Dock Light, owned by Arthur Hagen of Wayne, Pa.; War Crier, owned by Carleton Palmer of New York; Muskogee, owned by Mrs. T. A. Somerville of Upperville, Va.; Oliver C., Mrs. Somerville's fast timber topper; Hal Dale, owned by Mrs. Simon Patterson of Pittsburgh, Charioter Noel Laing's timber horse which won last year's Carolina Cup at Camden; Blue Admiral, owned by J. E. Ryan of New York and Camden; The Stag, owned by Richard K. Mellen of Pittsburgh; Navarino, Mrs. Somerville's fast brush horse; Huntsman, owned by Mrs. Palmer; Aughrim Boy, owned by Mrs. J. E. Ryan, and Lough Rose, owned by William Woodard of Camden. It is probable that Verner Z. Reed, Jr., of Pinehurst and Newport, R. I., will also start some of his horses in one or more of the events.

The races are to be in the afternoon. In the morning hunter trials will be held on a special course inside the brush course at the new field. There will be events for thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred hunters, and already large numbers of entries have been received.

#### Officials Announced

The following are to act as stewards at the race meeting: Granger Gaither of Camden, Warner Baltazzi of Aiken and T. A. Durant of New York. Judges will be C. W. Middleton of Pinehurst, Verner Z. Reed, Jr., and Gen. Angus McCloskey of Fort Bragg. P. S. P. Randolph, Jr., will act as clerk of course, William Baker of Pinehurst and Providence, R. (Please turn to page 5)

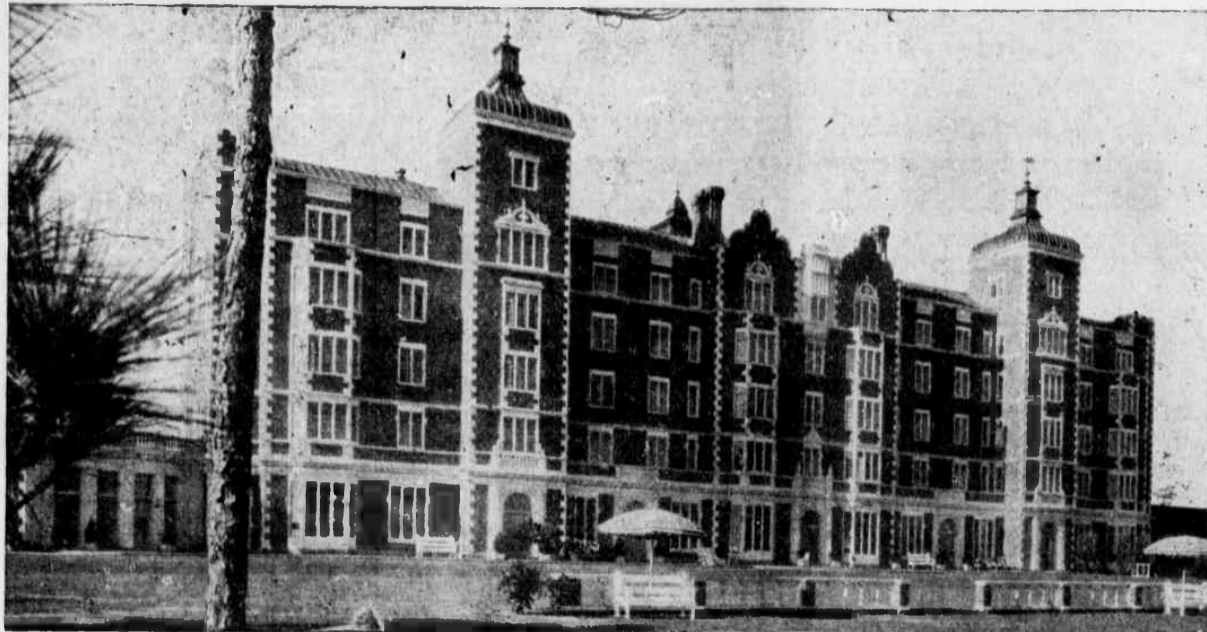
## Invitations Out For Women's Mid-South

### Big Entry List Expected For Feature Golf Event in Southern Pines

Two hundred invitations went out this week for the annual Women's Mid-South Golf Tournament to be held on the Southern Pines Country Club No. 1 course on April 4th and 5th. Chairman E. C. Stevens and his assistant, Howard Burns, look for a big entry list this year, with many of the country's leading golfers competing.

This tournament has been won in the past by names high in the golfing firmament, such as Glenna Collett Vare, Virginia Van Wie and Maureen Orcutt. Miss Helen Waring of Pinehurst was victor last year when 85 took part in the competition. Miss Charlotte Glutting, New Jersey State champion, was runner-up.

## Pine Needles Inn on Knollwood Heights Is Sold



The Pine Needles Inn, Acquired by George T. Dunlap, Sr. and Associates, All of Pinehurst

## Rather Be a Fox Hunter Than Write Novels, Says 'Jim' Boyd

Southern Pines Author, in New  
York Interview, Says Writing  
Is Constant Disappointment

James Boyd, who has written three novels and is here from Southern Pines, N. C., to correct proofs on a fourth, expressed puzzlement yesterday as to why he did it when he would much rather be a fox hunter, says the New York Tribune issue of March 1st. He could only suggest a blasted career as a chemist, a bad case of sinus and long suffering from a Presbyterian conscience as the elements which had conspired to turn out "Drums," "Marching On," "Long Hunt" and now "Roll, River," as it is tentatively called.

Sitting yesterday in a cubicle at Charles Scribner's Sons, 597 Fifth Avenue, Mr. Boyd, who looks like Eugene O'Neill, with the same high forehead, the same grave eyes, the same type of mustache and the same parentheses of character lines on each side of the mouth, depreciated the literary life.

"I don't know why I write," he said, brandishing a batch of galley proofs. "It's a constant disappointment. Got to be, I suppose. Nobody can ever realize what he wants to express by the use of words. Words are such a clumsy tool, you know. I suppose it's my Presbyterian upbringing, the idea that every man has got to do something—just can't sit around all day. God knows, though, I admire a fellow who can really loaf. He's a genius. But besides loafing and fox hunting I don't know anything I would rather do than write, though I hate to sit down to it."

#### Fox Hunting Career

"You might think fox hunting isn't much of a career—well, it is. Hunting foxes, really hunting them, is an adequate career for any man, no matter who he is. It will take all your best efforts for life to understand the handling of dogs, their training, the habits of foxes, how to take horses over the jumps—a tremendous literature on each of these subjects."

The novelist spoke with much more pride of his pack of forty hounds— (Please turn to page 5)

### HUNT BALL FRIDAY NIGHT TO PRECEDE RACE MEETING

Invitations are going out within the next day or two for a Sandhills Hunt Ball to precede the race meeting of the Sandhills Steeplechase & Racing Association a week from tomorrow. The event will take place at the Pinehurst Country Club on Friday night, the 15th, and proceeds from the ball, over and above expenses, will go to the Kiwanis Club's hospital bed fund.

Named on the committee for the ball, as sponsors, are L. L. Biddle, II, William Baker, Nat S. Hurd, Nelson C. Hyde, Almet Jenks, Noel Laing, Charles W. Picquet, P. S. P. Randolph, Jr., H. Stacy Smith, James W. Tufts, Verner Z. Reed, Jr., Herbert D. Vall and Sprigg D. Camden. (Please turn to page 5)



JAMES BOYD

## DEPUTY L. A. KELLY RESIGNS AS CHIEF AIDE TO SHERIFF

Fingerprint Expert to Specialize  
in Broader Field of De-  
tective Work

L. A. Kelly of Carthage, who for nearly twelve years has served as chief deputy sheriff of Moore county, has tendered his resignation to Sheriff C. J. McDonald, to become effective on April 1st. Mr. Kelly will specialize in the broader field of detective and fingerprint work. His new duties will necessitate his traveling from place to place, but it is not known where he will make his headquarters.

Mr. Kelly, soon after leaving school, became chief deputy to Sheriff Fry and served with him for five years. When Mr. Fry was succeeded by C. J. McDonald, Kelly was retained and throughout the years he has rendered valuable service to the county, showing himself to be level-headed, fearless and intensely interested in his work. Mr. Kelly throws himself into the solving of a misdemeanor with almost the same zeal that he displays in unraveling a felony and he has worked with marked success on all kinds of cases from petty larceny to first-degree murder. Only a few weeks ago he brought back from Missouri an alleged murderer who had successfully evaded the arms of the law for four years only to be tracked down at last by this persistent officer's efforts.

**Solved Intricate Crime**  
Another of this officer's good piece of work was the solving of the mystery of who shot a colored man by the name of Sneed as he sat at the table eating supper one evening at his home some five miles east of Carthage. The shooting was a mystery to the wife, who was present and from whom the details were secured. She thought that someone had slipped up to the door and fired the fatal shot, but the officer figured that the shot must have been fired from (Please turn to page 5)

## Property Acquired Includes 500 Acres of Land, with Build- ing Lots and Golf Course

The recent purchase of two of the most valuable hotel properties in this resort area by local capitalists bears witness to the confidence of those best qualified to foresee what the future has in store for the Sandhills.

A few months ago the John Sprunt Hill interests, of Durham, N. C., bought the Mid-Pines Country Club which is now enjoying a successful season, and last week a transaction of equal importance and significance was consummated when George T. Dunlap, Sr., and several associates, all Pinehurst residents for many years, acquired all the underlying liens of the Pine Needles Inn, and with completion of the customary legal procedure will become its owners.

The negotiations, completed by O. H. Stutts, manager of Pinehurst Warehouses, have been pending for some two years involving a vast amount of detail work delayed by the fact that many of the bonds were held in comparatively small lots scattered far and wide. The new purchasers have now bought them all including those secured by both first and second mortgages, and will proceed at once with the organization of a close corporation to take and hold title. The charter, already prepared, provides for the issue of \$100,000 of preferred stock and \$100,000 of common, and the firm name will be Patuxent Development Company, Incorporated. It is interesting to note in passing that this name, meaning "rolling hills," was selected by the late Bion H. Butler just prior to his death, virtually his last act.

#### To Restore Golf Course

For some time rumors have circulated that strong interests were purchasing the bonds, and many fantastic rumors have been current, but until the last block was in hand those interested preferred not to make the facts public. This is the first authenticated report.

While Mr. Dunlap and his associates have not yet formulated com- (Please turn to page 5)

## Drowning Creek Stocked With Trout

State Stocks Waters Here Af-  
ter Tests Reveal It Among  
Coldest in N. C.

Rainbow trout have come to the Sandhills.

For the past week John D. Chalk, Commissioner of the North Carolina Division of Game and Inland Fisheries, has been busy putting some 5,000 yearling Rainbow and Brown trout in Drowning Creek.

Mr. Chalk stated early this week, upon completion of the task, that tests had shown that the waters of Drowning Creek were among the coldest in the state, and the department believes that the trout, which thrive only in cold water, will do well here.

Dr. L. B. McBrayer wanted to know how they were going to tell if the fish were thriving, and Mr. Chalk told him that a year from this coming May, in the full of the moon, he would come down and "let Doc take a fly rod and see for himself."

## Death Caused by Monoxide Gas Poison, Circumstances Unknown, Davidson Verdict

### Press Coverage

Inquest Hearing Headlined  
Throughout Country Due to  
Prominence of Families

Due to the prominence of the Statler and Davidson families, the inquest at Pinehurst this week has been headlined in the press of the entire country. The Associated Press, United Press and Hearst papers, as well as a few individual papers, had special writers here. Direct wires were run into the old Pinehurst Community House, over which the testimony was sent to press headquarters as rapidly as it was given, and specially chartered airplanes carried photographs from witness stand to distributing points in Atlanta, Ga., and New York each day.

Coroner's Jury Out Less Than  
15 Minutes After Inquest  
Lasting One Week

### MANY WITNESSES CALLED

"Death caused by carbon monoxide gas under circumstances unknown," was the verdict returned by the Coroner's jury which heard the evidence in the case of the strange death of Mrs. Elva Statler Davidson, wife of H. Bradley Davidson of Pinehurst, after an inquest which lasted one week. The verdict was returned shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon after the jury had been out less than 15 minutes.

Mrs. Davidson, 22-year-old heiress of the late E. M. Statler, prominent northern hotel owner, was found dead in the garage of the Davidson's Pinehurst home about 9 o'clock last Wednesday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson had returned less than five hours before from a party at the Montesanti Spaghetti Camp on the old Pinehurst-Southern Pines road, a party which followed the Charity Ball for the benefit of the Moore County Hospital, which they also attended at the Pinehurst Country Club. The Davidson butler found the body, partially in, partially out of the car in which they had returned home. The garage was filled with monoxide gas. Dr. M. W. Marr worked unsuccessfully to restore her to consciousness, but to no avail. In fact at the inquest he stated he believed she was dead when he arrived upon the scene.

#### Many Witnesses Called

Throughout the past week witness has followed witness on the stand in the old Pinehurst Community House, used for the hearings, in an effort on the part of Acting Coroner Hugh Kelly to determine the cause of Mrs. Davidson's untimely death. These witnesses were, grilled by Solicitor Rowland Pruette of Wadesboro, prosecutor of this judicial district, and by attorneys representing the Statler family. M. G. Boyette of Carthage represented Mr. Davidson at the hearings.

An autopsy, performed by Dr. C. C. Carpenter of Wake Forest College, revealed a number of bruises on Mrs. Davidson's body, but no evidence was presented during the inquest to substantiate a theory that she might have come to her death by any other means than the monoxide gas poisoning.

Early in the proceedings Solicitor Pruette eliminated the theory that Mrs. Davidson's death might have been an accident. She was lightly clad when found, and in a garage with the doors closed behind her.

## Fort Bragg Band and Battery Invited Here

Expected to Again Be a Feature  
Attraction of Spring Blossom  
Festival

President Hugh Benterley of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce and S. B. Richardson, managing director of the Spring Blossom Festival to be held here the week of April 8th, visited Fort Bragg this week and tendered an invitation to General McCloskey to send a battery of artillery and a regimental band there for the week of the carnival. They were among the features of last year's inaugural festival.

Meanwhile plans for other attractions and activities that week are rapidly rounding into shape, and there is every indication of a bigger and better festival than the previous one. The Seaboard Air Line Railway, which has been advertising the Spring Blossom event from New York to Florida in its literature, reports much interest and its officials look for a big crowd.

The Kiwanis Club at its meeting Wednesday voted to lend its aid in making this year's Pinehurst Dog Show bigger and better than ever. The show will be managed by Col. G. F. Hawes, and a Kiwanis committee will be named to cooperate. The show is scheduled for April 15th.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE HERE THIS MORNING

The women of Southern Pines are asked to unite with the thousands of women all over the world in the Day of Prayer today. This year the service will be held in Emmanuel Episcopal Church, at ten-thirty a. m.

The women of the Baptist Church will lead the program which will be used universally. There will be an offering, to be divided between three important fields of Christian Service.