

THE PILOT

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A STORY IN HEADLINES

What has the federal government got against North Carolina? What is becoming of the more than a billion dollar appropriation for relief measures? The following headlines in papers of the state during the past few days cause one to ponder:

SMALL PWA FUND COMING TO STATE

North Carolina Gets Only Three Millions; Mere Fraction of Total Sought

PROGRESS IS SLOW IN CUTTING DOLE FOR THIS STATE

WPA Program Taking Definite Form But Only \$100,000 Actually Received

STATE IS LOSING \$7,000,000 HOPE

Waynick Told Federal Funds Expected for Road Work Will Not Materialize

ROOSEVELT CALLS INDUSTRY TO BEAR HUGE RELIEF LOAD

Says Time Has Come for Private Business to Provide More Employment

As for Moore county, the only project, under either Public Works Administration or Works Progress Administration, so far under way is rebuilding the Aberdeen lake dam for which \$4,111 of federal funds were allowed. That was a WPA grant. Of PWA projects we read in a Washington despatch of last Saturday:

"Final North Carolina PWA allotments, containing only \$2,999,862 in direct federal grants, or only about one-eighth of the sum requested, were made public today." None of this sum comes to Moore county.

THE WRATH OF RAEFORD

The Pilot hereby extends its sympathy to the State Highway Commission. By their decision to let U. S. Highway No. 15 traverse its old original course through this section, the commissioners have brought down upon their heads the wrath of Raeford. And if one can wade through the invective produced by the pen of the editor of the Raeford News-Journal, there seems little doubt but that said heads are in dire jeopardy. Even the next gubernatorial election is to be settled by Hoke county if the News-Journal has its way.

But we will not keep you longer in suspense. Here it is, clipped from the last issue of our esteemed contemporary to the east:

As an ironical termination, if it be a termination, to the childish squabble by the present highway commission over the location of U. S. 15 through North Carolina old 401, the route through this state that carried more North-South travel last season than any other road in the state, now has the disgrace of carrying on all its markers the number 15A, something of an alternate detour, it may be taken, to the death trap through Sanford, Chapel Hill and the seat of power of the mighty Durhamite, of liquor and hotel fame. What was thought to have been an honest approach to the solution of a difficult problem by the highway commission has turned out to be but another of those things that nearly caused the change in a gubernatorial contest last election and would have if the voters had had but another week or two to really learn the stack-up of the commission in politics. Which is another way of saying that instead of marking 15 through Sanford and other points as 15W and through Raeford as 15E the commission has seen fit, in all its majesty, glory and power, to short-change and two-time the

Eastern route and endeavor to make water run up Hill—Chapel Hill or what Hill have you. A blind, deaf and dumb man, even though he were a member of the highway commission, would know in one journey which of the two routes was best suited for trunk line travel, which line had gone to infinite expense and trouble to build its traffic and which line on account of impediments—insurmountable—put there by nature, made one better than the other. Yet these considerations count for nothing with a body of men who draw fat salaries at the expense of the tax payers—who have taken oaths to do their full duty as public officials of this state.

The people of this section had no desire to rob another section of its highway—the matter was not of their choosing and if 401 had been let alone no complaint would have been heard. Then when there was merit in the claims of both sides a possible solution was offered when the suggestion was made that one route be marked West and the other East. This left each line on its merits and old 401 was willing to stand on its merits or not at all. Everyone expected that the two courses would be so marked but when the signs come up a few days ago with 15 going by John Sprunt Hill and other points and 15A by Raeford a most violent reaction set in. Old 401 is not satisfied to be an alternate to any other road and the last of it will not be heard until a change is made either in the marking or in the personnel of the body that perpetuated this outrage. And to add insult to injury, where it is customary to put E or W in smaller type than the number the commission in this instance put the A in the same size type as the 15 and the casual observer would take it to be 15A.

This journal cannot vouch for how but one person will vote in the primary next June, but it is a safe bet that if any one of the five candidates for governor will promise to fire every member of the highway commission, he will get the unanimous vote of Hoke county.

We are inclined to the belief that the Raeford News-Journal misunderstands the 15A which appears on the road signs through its bailiwick. One would gather from its diatribe that it is laboring under the delusion it stands for 15-Alternate. Of course we over here in Moore county all know it means 15-Almost.

OUR B. & L. ASSOCIATIONS

It is not the forte of a newspaper to recommend investments. There could be no more dangerous step for the public press to take. But where a type of investment has stood the test of time, The Pilot sees no reason why it should not speak out. It may be doing someone a service to mention it.

We have here in the Sandhills several building and loan associations, because they combine, if we can judge by their records, safety of investable funds with community upbuilding, with the providing of homes for persons in the lower brackets of earning power. Throughout the Depression these associations stood like the proverbial Rock of Gibraltar, meeting all obligations, building up their reserves, protecting their clientele, aiding deserved ones to own their own dwellings.

Some of these associations are starting new series for subscriptions at this time, which prompts this editorial.

"There is no material investment based on a more solid foundation," says the advertisement of one of them, and continues: "Safe, because secured by real estate valued at twice the loans made. Non-taxable, adding from two to three percent over other investments."

Sound institutions soundly administered by respected business men of the community deserve an occasional pat on the back. Hence a word for the B. & L.

Grains of Sand

North Carolina collected 44 percent more sales tax during the first quarter of the present fiscal year, which ended Monday, than it did during the first quarter of the previous fiscal year. This, of course, due to the elimination of exemptions, increased business, better collection methods.

Frank McCluer of Aberdeen has done a great job on the clearing of

the little lake on Bethesda Road familiarly known as Powell's Pond. What was almost an eyesore from neglect is now a community beauty spot. If you haven't driven out Bethesda Road lately, go by and observe the transformation.

East Pennsylvania avenue, Southern Pines, is developing a little business colony of its own. Or perhaps we should say professional colony. Dr. Daniels started it with a building on the corner of the alleyway leading to the Men's Club. Then E. W. Reinecke put up a building to be used jointly by his contracting concern and Attorney W. D. Matthews. Now Dr. P. J. Chester is planning another building for his offices.

The Village Court Building in Pinehurst has been enlarged to provide sizeable quarters for the Carolina Pharmacy. The O'Brien Pharmacy, formerly occupying the quarters, has moved into the Pinehurst Department Store building, putting Pinehurst's two drug stores within a stone's throw of one another. The ABC store has its sign up on Market Square near the store vacated by the Carolina Pharmacy.

Charlie Picquet has named his new estate on the double road "Wayondah."

Forestry projects will be inaugurated mainly to demonstrate to private land owners in the State the value of farm forests as a permanent development. James M. Gray, regional of the Resettlement Administration's Land Utilization Division. Plans for these projects will be announced soon. Land classed as unsuited for agricultural purpose will be used, the projects to be scattered to give opportunity for farmers all over the State to observe the work. Some of the areas will be used for recreational, grazing and wild life sanctuary purposes. Landowners will have opportunity to sell their land in areas selected, based on expert appraisal, and aid will be given families selling their land to the government in settling elsewhere, Mr. Gray said.

Only 49 forest fires, burning over 1,786 acres of land and doing damages of only \$4,593 were reported by the 56 counties cooperating in forest fires.



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