

THE PILOT

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A FEW KNOCKS TO OFFSET THE BOOSTS

Ideas have scaled down like everything else these days. Though an occasional die-hard in the community will be found to rave happily of Community Centers and Swimming Pools, on the whole the talk is of less magnificent affairs. Even the Dogwood Festival has dwindled to more home-like proportions. Where in the old days men spoke in terms of five hundred-room fireproof hotels and autodromes, they now are brought close to earth, if we may use the term, in the consideration of garbage disposal and the town dump.

The first of the year is not a bad time to look over a few of these more humble problems. More and more we who live here are coming to feel that this is a town to be lived in, not just visited. And though sumptuous improvements may catch the eye, they contribute little to the pleasantness of life in this town, life for the folks who do live here. There is just a possibility that we have made a mistake in the past in emphasizing the transient visitor at the expense—for it has been decidedly at the expense—of the permanent dweller. It is possible that we should change our ideas and try simply to make Southern Pines a pleasant place to live.

There are many places where this good work could begin. It might begin by considering the arrangements for catching trains which, on a dark night when there is heavy travel, are as bad as can be; it might take up the shortsighted policy of some of our local merchants in jacking their prices up over those of neighboring towns; it might urge better support of our town assets: the library, the music association, the country club. In due course these subjects will be considered but as a start must be made somewhere we may as well begin on the ground and work up.

The Civic Club long ago did a fine piece of work in its campaign to clean up the town. It would be an excellent thing if it and the other civic bodies would go on from there, now, to clean up the country-side. One crying need comes to mind: the messiness of so many roadsides. Though there is an established town dump in the hollow below town, it is still the custom amongst some of our citizens to haul their garbage—or permit it to be hauled—out along a woodsroad or even a county highway and dumped into the ditch or the woods. There it lies, an unsightly, unsanitary mess of refuse, tin cans, broken crockery, dirty papers, and boxes which break up and scatter far and wide. It is an eyesore along our roads and pretty woodland trails, an attraction for flies and vermin, a menace to horses and dogs and walkers. There are not just a few of these garbage dumps. Those who ride and walk much can testify to stumbling across cans and refuse continually as they go through the woods.

We do not know to what authority one can legally appeal for control of such a nuisance. It is hardly possible that an over-worked county health service can accomplish much. But public opinion led by our Civic Club and our Chamber of Commerce could in short order clear the countryside of these garbage heaps as they cleaned up our streets and yards in town. To start the ball rolling, we offer the suggestion that those among us whose garbage is hauled away by local garbage men inquire where it is thrown and see to it that it is dumped in the appointed place.

In cleaning up the countryside, it might be that a rather unsightly stretch of road could be improved. About half way be-

tween Aberdeen and Southern Pines, route Number 1 passes a real estate development which was started, we believe, and never quite finished. The pillars and curbing are there and the beginnings of roads which lead to empty fields or tangled vineyards. It would be a fairly simple job to take down the pillars and perhaps plant pines across the roadways to conform to the rest of the highway planting. We imagine the owners would be willing to have it done. It would add greatly to the attraction of this stretch of road and would be an excellent project for local Chambers of Commerce to undertake.

More Knocks next week!
—K. L. B.

SLAVES OF COTTON

It seems not to be generally appreciated by northern and western people that cotton can only be grown where wages are very low, except perhaps in sections where its cultivation can be carried on under machine conditions. The cash farm wages in the southeast average \$1.02, whereas it is \$2.22 in New England, and in the Mid-Atlantic States \$1.90.

Cotton plowing starts in February and except for August the labor of planting, chopping (thinning), cultivating, picking and hauling continues till November and for the most of the time from "sunup" to "sundown" for the farmer and his family. Unless the family is large extra labor has to be employed. One family can on the average handle about 15 acres, for it requires a lot of hand labor, much like market gardening. It is rather difficult to learn how to grow unless one is "born and suckled between the cotton rows."

The average farmer raises seven and a half bales, or half a bale to the acre, which at present price (12 cents) yield a total of \$450 for the lint, \$100 more for the seed, and for other cash crops and benefits \$111—a total income of \$661. If he owns land and equipment his fertilizer costs \$100, taxes and fire risks \$40, and ginning \$23, leaving him \$478 for the labor of himself and his family on a \$2,500 investment in land, buildings, tools and livestock.

However, 70 per cent of the growers are tenants. A tenant feeds the mule and gets for his labor half the lint but none of the seed or benefits, and very little of any other cash crops. So 70 per cent of the growers average about \$250 for their work and that of their family. They are provided with a shack and a "patch" for vegetables and some have a pig and some hens to help them out.

With say eight cent cotton the tenant would get \$160. At 22 cents, which was the average from 1917 to 1932, the tenant got about \$425, but even at that he didn't accumulate enough but what the old saying held true: "When a cotton tenant moves all he has to do is spit on the fire and call the dog."

Except during the drought in the west and the low prices of recent years there has been no such poverty anywhere in the United States as among the cotton tenants in the Southeastern states.

The carry-over of United States cotton steadily increased from 4,500,000 bales in 1929 to 13,500,000 bales in 1932 and was

11,000,000 bales in 1934. A carry-over of seven or eight million bales is ample, since we only consume four to six million bales. If there had been no acreage reduction we would now have over 20,000,000 bales.

Whether what was done by the Federal government was the best way to handle the situation is hard to say, but something must be done, since due to the present balance in trade we can't expect its export to again reach the former figures.
—Leonard Tufts.

A CONSERVATIVE INSTITUTION

Stockholders of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Southern Pines met this week and re-elected their directors for another year, which is as it should be. They also added two esteemed citizens to the board, Dr. W. C. Mudgett and M. G. Nichols

Southern Pines has a banking institution in which it should take considerable pride. Its careful and conservative management during the depression was responsible for its being among the first banks in the state, in fact in the country, to re-open following the banking holiday of March, 1933. It has followed the same policy of safe banking since then, and last week presented a statement of its condition on the last day of 1935 which reflects credit upon the officers and directors.

That there is genuine confidence in the institution on the part of the community is revealed in the item of deposits. They totalled but a few dollars short of half a million on December 31st. Less than half of these are invested in loans and discounts, about one-quarter in obligations of the United States Government and other readily negotiable bonds, stocks and securities, and approximately one-quarter is cash in its own or the vaults of other banks. Its condition is, therefore, highly liquid.

GIRLS LOSE, BOYS WIN AGAINST LEMON SPRINGS

Seeking another victory in the county race, the Southern Pines basketball teams are journeying to Hemp tonight. So far the teams have played two county games, the girls winning one and the boys two. Next Tuesday night they will play in Pinehurst.

Tuesday night the Southern Pines teams met Lemon Springs on the local court. The local girls played a good game but lost to the tune of 40 to 32. Mary Elizabeth Cameron led the scoring for Southern Pines.

The boys' game was a fast, hard-fought one. Many long field goals were made by both teams, most of them by the Lemon Springs boys. The final score was Southern Pines 26, Lemon Springs 23. Bob Beck with ten points led the scoring for the locals while Ed Newton found the range for eight points.

Last Friday night in a game with Vass the local girls lost 36-25, while the local boys won by a score of 47-19. This was the first chance the Southern Pines teams had to display their new suits and they showed up well.

MISS ADAMS CHEERLEADER

Miss Lelia Adams, a senior, was last Friday elected head cheerleader of Southern Pines High School. Two assistants, Wilbur Scheipers, a seventh grade, and Stanley Tobin, a senior, will help conduct the cheers at the games. Two alternate cheerleaders were elected, Ray Hayes and

CARO-GRAPHICS by Murray Jones, Jr.

BABY BLEACHER, 11 WILMINGTON
SOLD HIS CASE OF MEASLES TO HIS SCHOOLMATES AT 10 CENTS PER CASE

DO YOU KNOW YOUR STATE?

ALBEMARLE SOUND
A DOUBTING THOMAS
THE LARGEST COASTAL BODY OF FRESH WATER IN THE WORLD

THOS. WOLFE-ASHEVILLE
HIS "OF TIME AND THE RIVER" HAS RECEIVED MORE REVIEW SPACE THAN ANY OTHER BOOK IN A LONG TIME

DID YOU KNOW THAT ONLY ONE CABINET PORTFOLIO-THAT OF SEC. OF THE NAVY HAS EVER BEEN HELD BY NORTH CAROLINIANS? 5 TARHEELS HAVE HELD IT!

DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 1933, THREE COUNTIES, DURHAM, ROCKINGHAM & FORSYTHE, PRODUCED MORE FACTORY PRODUCTS THAN ALL OTHER COUNTIES COMBINED?

THE EDITORS OF CARO-GRAPHICS INVITE YOU TO SEND IN INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY.

Tax Collections in State Gain 12 Percent in Last Six Months

Sales and Gasoline Taxes Are Responsible For Major Part of Increase

The State of North Carolina goes into the New Year with its tax collections boasting a 12 per cent increase for a six months period ending December 31 over the corresponding period for 1934.

The Department of Revenue announced that collections totaled \$25,759,666, a gain of \$2,789,250.

Collections under the three percent sales tax levy and the gasoline tax increased over two million dollars and one and a half million dollars, respectively, over the half-year totals a year ago.

The sales tax increase was due probably to the fact that nine basic commodity exemptions were effective after the General Assembly of 1935 adjourned.

Collections were 11 per cent below December 1935 in automobile license plate taxes due to a 27 per cent decrease in fees, while payments under motor vehicle division levies were down 21 per cent. December collections total \$4,096,584.

Dr. M. C. S. Noble, Jr., assistant revenue commissioner, explained that despite the fact that the 1935 General Assembly made a reduction in automobile tag fees, the total collections under the vehicle division were down only 21 per cent due to increased automobile registration.

Collections during the six months period under the regular classifications were up 22.61 per cent to \$13,421,845 partially due to an increase of more than one and three-quarter million dollars in sales tax collections.

The sales tax payment during December did not net the State as much as in November, when an all-time high mark of more than a million dollars was set.

Collection in December

Collections during the past month totalled \$953,671 and brought the payment for the six months period to

\$5,111,341. This compared with \$3,710,118 during the six months period of 1934. Sale of automobile plates during December, 1935, brought in \$907,362 compared with \$1,761,885 during the corresponding month in 1934. Collections during the past month brought the half year's total to \$1,494,278 compared with \$2,323,955.

Total collections under the motor vehicle levies amounted to \$12,337,820 for the six months period in 1935, an increase of 2.61 per cent over the same period a year ago.

During December regular classifications netted the State \$1,302,888 while the motor vehicle levies brought in \$2,793,696.

Other Licenses

Inheritance, license "B", income and beer taxes showed gains both in December and six month period totals. Franchise levies dropped in December from the collections the same month of 1934 but showed an increase on the half year basis.

Gasoline tax collections continued to show an increase during December and the half year periods. During December collections under the motor fuel levy were \$1,734,152 and brought the half year total to \$10,152,619. This compared with \$1,663,988 during December 1934 and \$9,075,637 during the six months period.

MATTHEWS HEADS ROADS COMMITTEE OF KIWANIS

At the weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen on Wednesday in the Aberdeen Community House, President J. Fred Stimson appointed the following special committee on roads:

W. Duncan Matthews, chairman; Paul H. Dana, Dr. W. E. Overcash, O. Leon Seymour and C. J. McDonald.

Louis Scheipers, newly elected member, was added to the Committee on Underprivileged Children.

Jimmy Ross, both of the seventh grade. These cheerleaders receive passes to all home games while Lelia Adams will receive a letter for her work this year.

PINEHURST HOST TO HI-Y CLUBS OF THREE TOWNS

On Monday night the Hi-Y Clubs of Southern Pines and Aberdeen were the guests of the Pinehurst Club at the Community Church in Pinehurst. The group was addressed by Dr. W. Taylor, who has been a missionary to China for the past 35 years. Dr. Taylor spoke on the effect of civilization and Christianity upon the Chinese people. Musical entertainment was furnished by two members of the Dixie Cotton Pickers, an organization composed of Pinehurst boys. After the meeting was adjourned refreshments were served and several more selections rendered by the musicians.

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Market Specials	Grocery Savings
All Pork Sausage, lb. 21c	Fat Back, nice and thick, lb. 13c
Smoke Sausage, lb. 19c	Good Laundry Soap, 4—5c
Bologna, lb. 15c	Bars 14c
Hams, half or whole, lb. 29c	Loose Grits, 3 lbs. 10c
Franks, (hot dogs) lb. 20c	Split Pinto Beans, 4 lbs. 15c
Bacon, Best Grade, lb. 38c	Brooms, Special 23c
Hamburger Steak, lb. 12½c	Ginger Snaps, lb. 10c
Chuck, (Pot) Roast, lb. 15c	Campbells Pork and Beans 5c
Stew Beef, Best Ribs, lb. 12½c	Eggs, dozen 29c
Home Dressed Hens, lb. 25c	Pure Coffee, lb. 11c

Ritz
The famous
Butter Cracker
23c

OTHER Cooking Fat prices have gone up and up BUT NOT CRISCO

Buy Now

1 lb. can 23c
3 lb. can 67c

CRISCO
THE DIGESTIBLE SHORTENING

Rib Roast, lb. 23c	T-Bone Steaks, Special, lb. 29c
Round Steak, lb. 24c	

Best Grade Standard Tomatoes, per can—7c; Doz. 79c
Green Giant Peas—The Marvel Vegetable of the Season—Special, can 18c; Doz. cans \$2.09
Maxwell House Coffee, lb. 27c
Log Cabin Syrup, can—25c; Pancake Flour Free.