



Industrial Section of THE PILOT



SECOND SECTION

Southern Pines and Aberdeen, North Carolina, Friday, October 30, 1936.

FIVE CENTS

HEMP BOOMING IN WAKE OF SUCCESS OF BIG SILK MILL

County's Leading Industry
Boosts Population of Northern
Village to 2,000 Persons

RAYON PLANT EXPANDING

The village of Hemp is just far enough away from the populous regions of Moore county for little to be known of the county's leading industry, the Pinehurst Silk Mills, located there. This company, manufacturer of rayon and artificial silk products, is the largest employer of labor in the section, with between 300 and 400 persons engaged in a modern plant which is expanding to care for the trade demands made upon it. Its weekly labor payroll runs in excess of \$5,000.

The growth of the business has put Hemp "on the map" in Moore county. This little northern village is enjoying a boom that has already reached proportions. The population now numbers close to 2,000; the town has recently been incorporated, has a new water system, new pumping station, filtering plant, sewage system and disposal plant. It has a new Town Hall, with offices for mayor and other officials, an assembly hall, space for fire apparatus and an apartment for firemen. W. P. Saunders, superintendent of the Silk Mill, is mayor; Mrs. Ruth Loy, town clerk, and the town commissioners are E. C. McSwain, E. R. Brown, A. F. Lowdermilk, G. B. Williams and E. M. Ritter.

Hemp is also the home of historic Elise Academy, long one of the counties leading educational institutions. And newest among its enterprises, Hemp has a weekly paper, the Plain-Dealer, published by Stacy Brewer, former publisher of The Pilot. Its first number came out last week.

Talc Industry Dates Back to Aborigines

Standard Milling Company, Near
Hemp, One of County's Major
Producers

By Charles Macauley

One of the busiest industries of Moore county may well be said to be the lineal descendant of operations carried on by the long forgotten aborigines once inhabiting the rolling hills about Cabin Creek. Where once the Indian craftsman hewed out his "soapstone" pots the Standard Mineral Company of North Carolina mines for what is generally known as "talc" but which is actually pyrophyllite, a hydrous aluminum silicate, talc being a hydrous magnesium silicate.

Located a mile southwest of Hemp, on the Norfolk-Southern Railway, the property including the main shaft 200 feet in depth, now includes an acreage said to show deposits of over a million and a half feet of workable deposit.

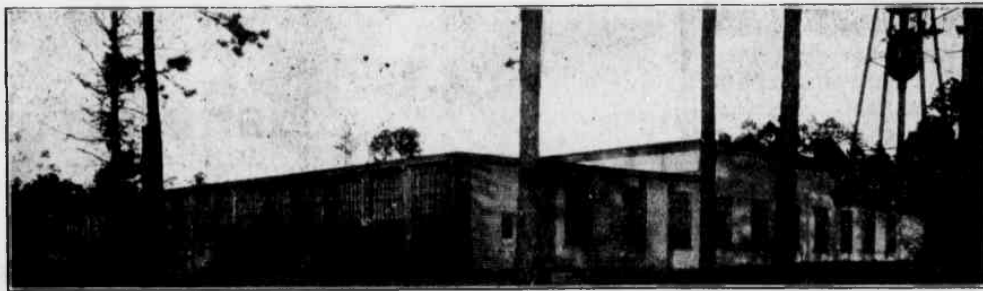
A little over a year ago the company erected a new grinding mill, a steel framed structure, L-shaped, running 180 feet on the longer leg and 140 feet on the shorter, two stories in height, and in which they installed grinders, separators, screens and all the machinery for the reduction of the crude pyrophyllite of the mine into marketable products used in the manufacture of talcum powders, wall-papers, and as a basis for many lubricants and soaps.

The company, of which H. H. Beckwith of Knollwood is a principal shareholder, and Vinson Johnson of Southern Pines manager, has a widespread demand for its product and may well be reckoned among the leading industries of the county.

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT GIVES EFFICIENT SERVICE

Under the efficient management of Ralph Chandler, the Carolina Power and Light Company, one of the largest public utilities in the south, maintains a modern office on East Broad street, Southern Pines, and this company furnishes power and light for the entire Sandhills. In addition to this service, electrical supplies of all kinds may be purchased from the Southern Pines office, headquarters in this section.

Moore County's Largest Industry



Plant of the Pinehurst Silk Mills at Hemp

HANDKERCHIES IS MOORE COUNTY'S NEWEST INDUSTRY

M. C. McDonald and His Son
Turn Out Linen and Cotton
Goods in West End

FINDING READY MARKET

It seems a far cry from the manufacture of automobile bus bodies to men's handkerchiefs, but M. C. McDonald and his son have accomplished the transformation in their plant at West End, and are already putting on the market a high grade line of cotton and linen goods. This is the youngest of Moore county's industries, and shows every prospect of becoming one of the most successful.

"We have had no trouble in marketing all the handkerchiefs we have been able to manufacture to date", said Mr. McDonald Senior this week. "We have been keeping the little plant busy and are sufficiently encouraged by the reception of our product to date to expand, and I believe we have a new and sizeable Sandhills industry in the making. We are the only concern making handkerchiefs in this section."

The company is called the Carolina Handkerchief Company. It is importing its linens from Ireland, and buying the best grade of cotton cloth for its less expensive grade goods. M. C. McDonald, former member of the Board of County Commissioners, dividing his time between peaches, apples and the infant industry.

Maxwell and Gardner Convention Speakers

Revenue Collector and Former
Governor on Toast List for Cot-
ton Convention in Pinehurst

A. J. Maxwell, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Department, and former Governor O. Max Gardner will be the principal speakers at the annual convention of the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers Association, at Pinehurst, November 5 and 6, according to Hunter Marshall, of Charlotte, secretary of the association. Approximately 250 are expected to attend.

Outstanding figures at the convention will include Taylor R. Durham, secretary of the Southern Hosiery Manufacturers Association, and David Owens, former president of National Retail Dry Goods Association.

A golf match is planned for textile manufacturers, in charge of J. D. Sandridge, of the I. E. duPont Company. Cotton Association directors will meet November 5. Harvey Moore, of Charlotte and Concord will preside.

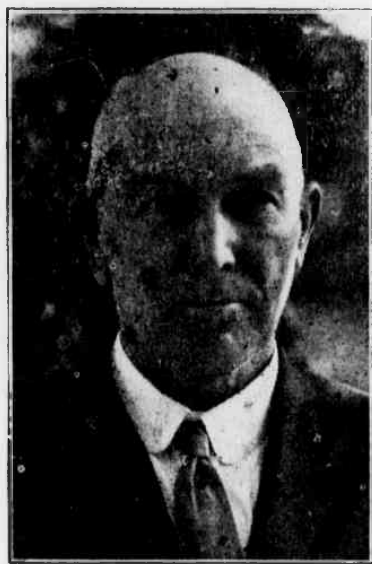
TWO BUSY FURNITURE FACTORIES IN COUNTY

Moore county has two busy furniture factories, the Sandhills Furniture Company at West End and the Morristown Manufacturing Company at Vass. The former makes reproduction and period furniture of the highest grade, supplying a discriminating market. Fred W. Von Canon is at the head of the company, which markets its products through a subsidiary, the Colonial Furniture Company. This latter concern has an attractive showroom for the display of samples of the parent company's manufacture.

The Morristown company recently took over the old tobacco warehouse in Vass and has turned it into a model plant for the manufacture of various types of furniture. H. D. Mielsman of Southern Pines is the head of the company, the products of which find a ready market in the north.

Great Opportunity for South in Development of Wine Industry

Manufacturer



M. C. McDONALD

Taylor Chemical Co. Moves to New Plant

Chemical Concern Takes Posses-
sion of Building on Aber-
deen-Pinehurst Highway

Burned out of the plant which it had occupied for some time, in a fire last June, the Taylor Chemical Company, one of Aberdeen's leading industries, has moved into its fine new building on the Aberdeen-Pinehurst highway, and is now operating there.

This concern, ably managed by John M. Taylor, manufactures and distributes throughout this section spraying materials and chemicals for the peach, apple, tobacco and cotton grower. It handles only the highest grade products, and serves a satisfied clientele.

During the interim between the burning down of the plant the company formerly occupied near the Gulf Refining Company offices, and the completion of its new building Mr. Taylor made temporary headquarters in the Saunders Warehouse building.

Hand-Woven Tweeds To Be Manufactured Here

New Plant For Per Mano, Inc. Is
Nearing Completion on
Midland Road

A new Sandhills business concern, almost ready to begin operation, is that of Per Mano Inc., managed by H. B. Chatfield, of Pinehurst, and devoted to the manufacture of fine, hand-woven tweed goods. Workmen are now busy putting the finishing touches to the large handsome stucco and brick building on the Midland Road between Pinehurst and Southern Pines. Installation of looms and other necessary weaving equipment will begin soon and it is expected that the plant will open next month. Local labor will be employed. Mr. Chatfield, who operates another plant in Marion, Mass., is yet undecided as to whether this Moore county plant will eventually become the home office or not.

Per Mano Inc., is one of a few outstanding concerns in the United States devoted entirely to manufacturing hand-woven goods.

BANKS CLOSED TUESDAY

The Citizens Bank & Trust Company of Southern Pines and the Bank of Pinehurst, with branches in Aberdeen and Carthage, will be closed all day next Tuesday, election day, a legal holiday.

Garrett & Company Reopen Plant in Aberdeen, Predict- ing Great Future for Wines

Encouraged by the passage of a wine law in North Carolina, classifying wine as a food, Paul Garrett, president of Garrett & Company, Inc., pioneer American wine growers, has re-opened the old wine plant in Aberdeen, abandoned when prohibition went into effect, and the grape industry is given a stimulus here which is expected to develop into one of the substantial enterprises of the Sandhills.

Garrett & Company originated in North Carolina, in 1835, and Mr. Garrett is a native of the state. Consequently, he has always had a special interest in the possibilities of the state as a grape-growing and wine-making factor in the industry of the country. Mr. Garrett was particularly well pleased when North Carolina gave encouragement to the industry by the passage of a law classifying wine as a food, and now with indications that that part of the law which gives preference to wines grown within the state over wines imported from other states, the Garrett Company is fully equipping its Aberdeen plant and has high hopes that it will prove a great success, both from the company's standpoint and as an impetus to the agricultural and industrial prosperity of the state.

Extensive Operations

Before prohibition, Garrett & Company had 18 press houses and wineries all over the country, and these are being put back in operation as rapidly as possible. The main winery as well as general offices are in Brooklyn, N. Y. Plants in Penn Yan, N. Y. and in Cucamonga, Cal., with their vineyards adjoining, are show-places. A new plant is being opened in Atlanta, Ga., and a large plant formerly operated in St. Louis, Mo. is expected to be re-equipped soon.

"We draw our supplies of grapes from our own vineyards in New York and California," said W. F. Hope, vice-president, in an interview with The Pilot. "Every year we purchase Suppennong grapes particularly, and blackberries from growers all over the state of North Carolina. Mr. Garrett is urging farmers in North Carolina to increase varieties, assuring them of a market for all they can harvest. We took all they would give us this year, and would have taken more. We had a receiving base for blackberries and grapes in Wilmington this year as well as in Aberdeen, and would open a plant in that part of the state if we could be assured of sufficient supplies to keep it going."

Mr. Garrett is of the firm belief that wine will become as popular in the United States as in France and other foreign countries, and says the South has a great opportunity to achieve another of its great successes by adding wine production to its cotton and tobacco industries.

Highfalls Has Busy Cotton Yarn Factory

Demand For Products of This
Mill Keeps Plant Busy
Throughout Year

High grade cotton yarns are manufactured by the Highfalls Mills, Inc. at Highfalls, in the upper end of Moore county. This mill takes advantage of the water power so plentiful in that section. It employs a large number in its yarn manufacture, and its products are in such demand as to keep the plant busy throughout the year. John L. Currie, brother of Chairman Wilbur H. Currie of the Board of County Commissioners, is heard of the company.

Industrial Plants of Moore County Give Employment To Over 1,200 Persons

Vass Mill Head



ALTON M. CAMERON

VASS COTTON MILL RUNNING ON FULL TIME; EMPLOYS 75

Busy Plant Provides Market for
Cotton Grown by Farmers
of This Section

FOUNDED BY A. CAMERON

By Mrs. S. R. Smith

The Vass Cotton Mill, which began operations in Vass in 1911, has been the leading manufacturing enterprise in its community since its organization, furnishing employment to a large number of people and a market for the cotton grown by farmers of this entire section.

The mill, which at present employs from 65 to 75 hands on two eight-hour shifts, is running full time and has been throughout the entire year with the exception of a couple of weeks last February when it dropped to half-time.

A fine grade of knitting yarn for hosiery and underwear is manufactured and it is being sold as fast as it can be made ready for the market. Cotton grown locally and quite a lot that is shipped in from Georgia is used in the manufacture of the yarns.

The Vass Cotton Mills Company was founded by A. Cameron, who in 1907-'08 erected the mill building and the first ten cottages. It was incorporated in September, 1909 with the following officers: A. Cameron, president; J. A. Keith, vice-president; W. B. Graham, secretary-treasurer. The present officers are: A. M. Cameron, president; J. R. McQueen, vice-president; W. B. Graham, secretary-treasurer. Mr. Graham has been treasurer of the company since its organization.

Cooperative Spirit

An unusually fine spirit exists between the management and the employees, which is evidenced by the fact that several who work in the mill have been there since around the time it began operation. Some have reared children there who are now married and working beside them, and the mill population is made up of thrifty families who have no desire to shift from place to place.

The mill cottages are equipped with electric lights and water is piped to each house. These are rented to the workers for a nominal fee. During the depression when the mill was not running, the company allowed its workers to remain in their homes with rent and lights furnished free, and when it was necessary to reduce wages slightly, the workers reciprocated by taking their cut without a murmur.

It is estimated that there are around 75 hogs owned by mill workers to be slaughtered when cold weather comes. These are kept in pens in pasture adjacent to the mill village. Each family has a plot of land for a garden and corn is grown for fattening the hogs. A number of the workers keep cows for their milk supply.

Moore county has five weekly newspapers, two winter dailies.

Annual Output Estimated at
Well Over Three Millions;
Payroll Over \$500,000

Moore county has some 20 industrial plants employing well over 1,200 persons and paying out in wages considerably over half a million dollars a year. The annual output of these plants is estimated at well over \$3,000,000. The last figures available from the State were for the year 1933, which showed 18 establishments, an average for the year of 935 persons employed, and wages totalling \$486,319. Since then several of the larger concerns, particularly the Pinehurst Silk Mills at Hemp, have greatly expanded, increasing their working force and payrolls. And several new concerns have started up.

The 1933 figures show the cost of materials, fuel, and purchased electrical energy then to have been \$1,303,486, and the value of products \$2,227,625. These figures have both been greatly increased since then.

In addition to the numerous industrial plants described elsewhere in this section of The Pilot, there are some 40 sawmills in the county producing about 20,000,000 board feet of lumber each year. Probably 100,000 oak ties are also made and shipped. The estimated stumpage value of the timber cut annually is around \$80,000.

Brick and tile clays occur in the northeastern part of the county. Sand and gravel occurs in the southern part of the county at a number of locations. Pyrophyllite (talc) occurs in a series of lenses from Glendon to Hemp and this is the only deposit of such material in the United States which is worked commercially. Many types of excellent building stone are found here. Mineral production in the county for 1926 was \$213,864.

Hosiery Made Here Finds Wide Market

Currie Mills at Carthage Employ
100 in Production of Cot-
ton and Rayon Goods

Carthage, county seat of Moore county, is well acquainted with its most successful industrial concern, the Currie Hosiery Mills, but it is less well known in the more thickly populated lower end of the county, where minds are on resort and travel business rather than textile manufacturing.

Wilbur H. Currie, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, took over the old Bismark Hosiery Company in 1930, and under the name of the Currie Hosiery Mills, Incorporated, has developed the enterprise into a most successful business. The company specializes in the manufacture of men's seamless hose in cotton and rayon acetate, and numbers its satisfied customers in all parts of the country. Close to 100 persons are employed in the plant in Carthage, and that "business is good" is evidenced by the fact that the factory is operating two shifts at the present time.

FOUR RAILROADS SERVE COUNTY'S INDUSTRIAL NEEDS

Moore county's industries are served by four railroads. The Norfolk Southern looks after the needs of the upper end of the county, the rayon products of the Pinehurst Silk Mills, and the talc mining industry near Hemp, and a branch of this railroad running down from Star to Aberdeen serves the industries of West End and Aberdeen.

The Seaboard Air Line looks after the industrial requirements of Cameron, Vass, Southern Pines and Aberdeen, while the Aberdeen & Rockfish shoots east from Aberdeen to Fayetteville, caring for that section. The Moore Central Railroad handles freight out of Carthage, with Sanford as its terminal.

TWO TELEPHONE COMPANIES OPERATE IN MOORE COUNTY

Moore county industries are served by the Central Carolina Telephone Company and the Piedmont Telephone Company.