

A Paper Devoted to the Upbuilding

of the Sandhill Territory

North Carolina

VOL. 18, NO. 23.

Southern Pines and Aberdeen, North Carolina, Friday, May 13, 1938.

FIVE CENTS

**J. R. PAGE DIES OF HEART ATTACK AT HOME IN ABERDEEN**

Sole Survivor of Five Brothers Whose Fame Transcended State Lines

**FUNERAL ON SATURDAY**

Junius Robeteau Page, sole survivor among five brothers whose fame transcended State lines, died suddenly yesterday morning at 6:00 o'clock at his home on Page Hill in Aberdeen. He had retired in apparent good health Wednesday night, suffering a heart attack upon awakening about half an hour before his death.

"Chris" Page, as he was known throughout the Carolinas, was a brother of Walter Hines Page, United States Ambassador to Great Britain during the World War; of Henry A. Page prominent in councils of state in North Carolina for many years; Robert N. Page, long Representative in Congress from this district, and Frank C. Page, who, as State Highway Commissioner, initiated the good roads movement in North Carolina. Ambassador Page died shortly after his return from distinguished service to his country in London through the trying days of the war, and the three other brothers have passed on within the past six years.

**Managed A. & A. Railroad**

"Mr. Chris," as so many affectionately called him, was born at Cary in 1866, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Allison Page. He was educated in the public schools and in 1880 married Myrtle McAuley of Rockingham, who survives him. With his brothers he early became interested in lumbering in this section of the state. Mr. Page developing the railroad facilities necessary to the hauling of timber. He served for many years as general manager of the Aberdeen & Asheboro Railroad, now a part of the Norfolk Southern system.

With his retirement from active connection with this railroad Mr. Page became keenly interested in tobacco agriculture, and was for several years the head of the North Carolina Tobacco Cooperative Association. He later became president of the Bennettsville & Cheraw Railroad, a position he held at the time of his death, and was for a time active in the management of the Cape Fear Railroad.

**Retiring Disposition**

Though he never held public office, he was approached on numerous occasions to stand for election (Please turn to page four)

**Purdum To Dedicate New S. P. Postoffice**

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Will Make Address Here Saturday, May 28

Smith W. Purdum, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, will officially dedicate Southern Pines' new Postoffice building on Saturday, May 28th. Arrangements for the dedicatory program are being made by a committee of the Chamber of Commerce, headed by Dr. George G. Herr.

The dedication will take place on the same day that the North Carolina division of the National Association of Postoffice Clerks is holding its annual convention in Southern Pines, and Mr. Purdum will address this group as well as make the dedicatory speech. Mr. Purdum, who is in charge of postoffice buildings, operations, supplies, etc. of the Postoffice Department, is an appropriate choice for the dedication, having had as much to do as any other person in providing the city with its new building.

The dedication program will start at 11:00 o'clock in the morning and last one hour, during which time many of the stores in town are expected to close.

Prominent among others who are expected here for the dedication is Paul R. Younts, postmaster at Charlotte, who is Executive Chairman of National Air Mail Week, May 15 to 21.

**Bion Butler's "Old Bethesda" Offered New Pilot Subscribers**

**Third Generation**



LELAND McKEITHEN

**Youthful Attorney May Follow in Footsteps of Grandfather, Father in County Service**

If the voters of Moore county send Leland McKeithen to the office of Prosecuting Attorney this fall they will launch a third generation of the McKeithen family into public life. The youthful attorney's grandfather, N. A. McKeithen of Carthage, was Register of Deeds for sometime. His father, Edwin T. McKeithen, is business manager of the Moore County Hospital.

Leland McKeithen was graduated from Aberdeen High School in 1929, from Davidson College (with a Phi Beta Kappa key) in 1933, and from Duke Law School in 1936. Upon being admitted to the bar in '36 he began the practice of law in Pinehurst. He is secretary of the Pinehurst Chamber of Commerce, secretary of the Moore County Council of Boy Scouts, a member of the Sandhills Kiwanis Club, and a teacher in the Presbyterian Sunday School in Aberdeen. He announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for County Prosecuting Attorney soon after M. G. Boyette's announcement that he was retiring from the post to seek a Senatorial toga, and is reported to have bright prospects in his race against E. J. Burns and J. H. Scott of Carthage.

**IMPROVEMENT IN PHONE SERVICE HERE PROMISED**

**Pinehurst Chamber of Commerce Hears Report of Delegation to State Hearing**

Immediate improvement in telephone service in Pinehurst was promised the committee of the Pinehurst Chamber of Commerce which attended the recent hearing in Raleigh. Dr. T. A. Cheatham reported at a meeting of the Chamber held last week in the Village Court Grill. Several important matters were discussed at the meeting.

Dr. Cheatham told of the visit of himself and other delegates to the North Carolina Utilities Commission and of the promise of the Central Carolina Telephone Company to improve its service. The matter of rate reduction was postponed until a further investigation of the company's books, now in progress. Leonard Tufts, chairman of the Chamber's Health committee, told of the interest in and large attendance at the venereal disease clinic which are being conducted by Dr. Frank Owens and Dr. M. W. Marr. E. T. McKeithen brought out the fact that a new State law subjects an employer who engages a domestic servant who cannot show a clean health card to possible indictment. Due to the expenses of the necessary medicines, and the fact that the \$223.40 raised by the recent matinee races for the fund will be exhausted long before its purpose is accomplished it was decided to circulate a letter to all residents of Pinehurst asking for financial assistance (Please turn to Page Ten)

**Fascinating History of Church and of Scotch Settlement Here Made Available at Low Cost**

Through arrangement with the publishers, The Pilot has been able to procure a limited number of copies of "Old Bethesda," the historical work of the late Bion H. Butler, for many years editor of this newspaper. We have felt ever since the publication of this book by Grossett & Dunlap that copies should be in every home in the Sandhills. This is not possible due to the limited number, but The Pilot has succeeded in procuring a sufficient supply for widespread circulation, and desires to make these available to the public.

"Old Bethesda" is not only a history of the famous church at Aberdeen, but of this section of North Carolina. It abounds in interest in its tales of the pioneers here, of the old families, the development of the neighborhood. But it is more than that. "A travelogue of the ages—the journey of forty centuries from Shinar to the Head of Rockfish," Frank Smethurst of the Raleigh News & Observer called it when he reviewed the book. And he summed up:

**Editorial Praise**

"It is trite and commonplace to say Mr. Butler's book is a needed contribution to the written history of North Carolina. Yet only a reading of its vividly interesting pages will serve to afford a fair valuation of its worth and richness."

And the late Wade Harris, editor of the Charlotte Observer, said: "Not only a history of old Bethesda, but a history of the Scotch territory of the state and a valuable contribution to the history of North Carolina."

The book carries an introduction by James Boyd, well known Southern Pines author.

"Old Bethesda" is richly illustrated, showing views of the church itself, of the cemetery surrounding it, of the old slave gallery, the tomb of Walter Hines Page, and photographs of Jonathan E. Buchan, Peter Cornelius Shaw, John Blue and John B. Graham, long ruling elders; James McNeill Johnson, elder and treasurer, and "Aunt Winnie," an old slave chatting with Mr. Butler.

The book was priced upon publication at \$3.00 a copy. To place the book in households in the neighborhood which Mr. Butler knew and loved so well The Pilot is making the following offer:

For each new One-Year Subscription to The Pilot, at \$2.00, plus 50 cents, a total of \$2.50, we will send you, post paid, one copy of "Old Bethesda."

Present subscribers to The Pilot will be supplied copies of the book at One Dollar per volume if requested at time of renewal of their subscriptions for one year.

This offer expires July 1st, 1938. Subscriptions and checks should be sent to The Pilot, Circulation Department, Southern Pines, N. C.

**Straw Vote**

**Pilot To Show Status of Races for Congress, Senate and Local Officers**

The Pilot, in cooperation with one newspaper in each of the twelve counties of the 8th Congressional District, is conducting a straw vote to determine which way the wind blows in the squabble for the seat in the House of Representatives now held by Walter Lambeth of Thomasville. It will also show the trend in the Democratic race for U. S. Senate between Senator R. R. Reynolds and Frank Hancock. The results of the poll will be published in The Pilot issue of May 27.

The poll in this county also will reveal the trend in the following local contests:

Judge of Recorder's Court between S. R. Hoyle of Carthage and J. Vance Rowe, present incumbent, of Aberdeen.

Solicitor between E. J. Burns, Carthage; Leland McKeithen, Pinehurst and J. H. Scott, Carthage.

**ROTARY CLUB IS ORGANIZED IN SOUTHERN PINES**

Sixteen Charter Members Choose June A. Phillips President, Elect Other Officers

**TO MEET EACH FRIDAY**

For many years Rotarians among seasonal visitors to the Sandhills finding no local Rotary club have journeyed to Sanford to attend the meetings of that organization. This trip will no longer be necessary, the past week having seen the formation of the Rotary Club of Southern Pines, the newest member of the galaxy of civic organizations working for fellowship and the advancement of the Southern Pines community.

At a meeting in Jack's Grill on the evening of April 29th, attended by J. A. Phillips, G. A. Pierce, O. L. Broom, Dr. L. M. Daniels, V. P. Clark, F. H. Harwell, E. H. Lorenson, M. F. Grantham and L. T. Clark, District Governor J. Shepard Bryan, and other Rotary officers from Troy, Dunn, and Sanford, addressed the group, their subject being the advantages and benefits of Rotary organizations in which membership is active and representative of each line of business and profession in the city.

This group met again at the Southern Pines Country Club on the night of May 5th, and with C. J. Simons, R. F. Dorn, E. E. Merrill, C. P. Osborne, D. C. Jensen, P. M. Van Camp and J. G. deBerry proceeded with the formal organization of the club, the sponsor being the Rotary Club of Troy. Following a talk by Mr. Bryan and other visiting Rotarians officers were elected for the year. They are June A. Phillips, president; C. J. Simons, vice-president; Milford P. Grantham, treasurer; Garland A. Pierce, secretary, and V. P. Clark, sergeant-at-arms. The members will meet at Jack's at 7:00 o'clock this Friday evening when a regular meeting place will be chosen for their weekly gatherings which are to be held at 12:15 o'clock every Friday.

The secretary, Garland Pierce represented the new organization at Charlotte on Tuesday, attending the district convention of the 188th district of Rotary International.

**Dr. Herr Again Heads Precinct Committee**

**Is Re-elected at Democratic Meeting Held Saturday in Southern Pines**

Dr. George G. Herr was re-elected chairman of the Southern Pines Democratic Precinct committee at the party's rally held last Saturday afternoon in the Municipal Building. Chosen to complete the committee were Mrs. Eugene Woodward, D. Al Blue, Ernest Wilson and Dr. L. M. Daniels.

Tomorrow, Saturday morning, local Democrats will attend the county convention to open in the courthouse at Carthage at 11:00 o'clock. Chairman Herr said yesterday that "every qualified Democratic voter is welcome to attend this convention as a delegate."

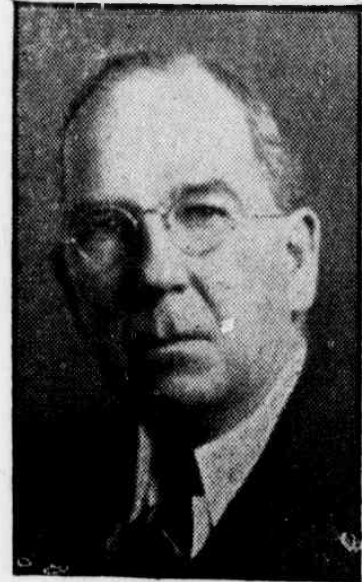
Primary registration books were opened at the Municipal Building last Saturday by Hiram Westbrook, registrar for the Southern Pines election district. Mr. Westbrook will continue to be there each Saturday through May 21st, the books closing at 5:00 o'clock that day. Voters who cast ballots in the 1936 general election are registered; others should register this Saturday or next if they desire to vote in the primary election next month.

**SENATOR "BOB" REYNOLDS TO ADDRESS WOODMEN ON JULY 4**

United States Senator Robert R. Reynolds will be the speaker at the celebration to be staged at Vass on July 4th by the Woodmen of the World. All camps of the organization in the Sandhills will take part in the celebration.

**Purchase of Property For Civic Center To Be Settled By Vote of City Taxpayers**

**See Close Race**



SAM R. HOYLE



J. VANCE ROWE

**Real Fight On For Democratic Nomination for Judge of Recorder's Court**

It's going to be a close race for Judge of the County Recorder's Court, according to those who profess to know about politics in these parts. Mr. Hoyle, who has been county attorney and who served as Recorder for some time following the death of Judge George H. Humber, has been busy throughout the county and has been assured wide support. Friends of Mr. Rowe, present Recorder, look for him to be nominated in next month's primary for another term, but both sides agree "it's going to be a close race."

**State Parks Officials Here Next Thursday**

**Will Be Guests of Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce at Dinner at Civic Club**

Representatives of the State Parks Commission, a branch of the Department of Conservation and Development, will pay Southern Pines a visit next Thursday and the Chamber of Commerce is entertaining them at dinner while here. The group is making a tour of the state, and Hoffman, which the State is considering taking over from the federal government, on Thursday afternoon.

The 15 or more representatives are due to arrive in Southern Pines at 7:00 o'clock and will be the guests of Chamber officials and others at the Civic Club for dinner. They will spend the night here, leaving at 9:00 o'clock the next morning. The committee in charge of their reception and entertainment comprises H. J. Betterley, R. L. Hart, the Rev. J. Fred Stimson and Howard Burns.

**DR. ERWIN TO SPEAK**

Dr. Clyde Erwin, State Superintendent of Instruction, will address the meeting of the Sandhills Kiwanis Club next Wednesday.

**Southern Pines Board Calls Special Election on Acquisition of Broad Street Site**

**PRICE OF SITE \$9,000**

A special election will be held in Southern Pines, probably during the month of June, to determine the wishes of the taxpayers in the matter of purchase by the city of the property between the Mudgett Building and the United States Postoffice on West Broad street. The site is desired by a large group of citizens for development as a civic center, the eventual plan being to erect on the property a library building and city administration building.

At a meeting of representative citizens held last Thursday in the office of Postmaster Frank Buchan a committee was appointed to appear before the Board of Commissioners and petition the calling of a special election. This committee, comprising Alfred B. Yeomans, James Boyd and Paul T. Barnum, appeared before the board on Tuesday night. Mr. Yeomans reviewed the efforts to secure the property for the purpose of a civic center, and on motion of Commissioner Charles S. Patch the board voted to call such an election. The date was not set.

**Caucus Action Favorable**

Following the favorable action of a caucus held in the Southern Pines School in April of last year the commission voted to purchase the property for \$9,000 from J. J. Harrington, subject to approval of the Local Government Commission at Raleigh. This Commission ruled, however, that the purchase of real estate for anything other than a public necessity could not be authorized unless sanctioned by the taxpayers in special election. The purchase of the property was not deemed by the State body as a public necessity.

It is now understood that Mr. Harrington has agreed to hold the property under option to the town pending the outcome of the building in the special election. Upon receipt of this written option from Mr. Harrington the town board will set the date for the election, legal notice of which will appear in The Pilot.

**Arguments For Purchase**

Those desiring purchase of the Harrington property by the city argue that it is ideal for the purpose desired, that acquisition of the property will protect the new postoffice from the encroachment of business, that it is only a question of time before Southern Pines must provide new quarters for its library, a distinct civic asset, and also only a question of time before new quarters will be needed for city administrative offices. In answer to the argument of some opponents to the purchase who say the city owns enough property on which to erect these buildings directly opposite the site in question, they maintain that the city park is needed in its entirety for park purposes, that much of the area has already been taken over for tennis courts, more of which are needed, and for playgrounds for children, and that the balance is needed for residents and visitors seeking a restful out-of-door community center.

It has been pointed out by the proponents of the purchase that the necessary bond issue could be spread over a sufficient number of years to but slightly affect the tax rate. And finally, they maintain that with the city owning both sides of most of the Broad street block between Pennsylvania and New York avenues, a civic center could be provided which would be as beautiful as that in any city in the country, in addition to serving essential utilitarian purposes.

**MISS HELEN PACKARD TO WED WALTER J. SMITH**

The engagement has been announced of Miss Helen Elizabeth Packard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David S. Packard of Southern Pines, to Walter Jerome Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Smith of Norwood, Pa.