

Southern Pines and the Army

Southern Pines... Its Evolution From a Sand Barren to a World Famed Resort

Surviving Pioneers Proud of Their Beautiful Town; Its History Briefly Told

By CHARLES MACAULEY

For the information of the many new residents of Southern Pines we herewith present in concise form the salient facts of its history—the story of a town built upon sand from practically nothing into a world-famed winter resort.

As a town, Southern Pines can celebrate its 60th anniversary though its most material progress was made in the last 20 years. The preceding 40 years were the days of the pioneers carrying out the plans of its founder, the late John T. Patrick. Started in 1883, in a desolate sandy barren that was the despair of the State, it is now a thriving municipality of upwards of 3,500 inhabitants, occupying modern homes, located in well kept grounds on tree and shrubbery lined avenues, of which the major part are surfaced. They have adequate police and fire protection, ample supply of pure water from the municipal plant. Enjoy the advantages of excellent public and private schools, a fine library, churches of five denominations, a splendid country club, good postal, telephone and telegraph service, numerous stores, and services of an exceptionally able body of physicians, dentists, pharmacists and lawyers.

Indian Trails

The first Europeans, hunters from Virginia and the North Carolina coast settlements, undoubtedly came in contact with the Indians, but as they left no records what little we know is almost all traditional. For the most part they were roving bands of Siouan stock who used two well defined trails within our limits. The "Peedee trail" passed through West Southern Pines; the "Yadkin trail" passed through Manly and is now a part of the Midland Road. Both trails were used by the first settlers of Moore County and soon became travelled roads. While numerous camp sites and some few village sites are quite near, the only actual site within our corporate limits was at the spring head near the Peedee trail, now Bennett street and Illinois avenue.

Beginning about 1745, and continuing at intervals for the next 80 years, settlers almost entirely from Scotland and the Western Isles located at many points contiguous to our present limits, but in common with all Seaboard states, the westward trek of the third and fourth decades of the 19th century caused a severe loss in population to the Sandhills. Here, this may have an even earlier impetus, owing to the desperate and bitter struggle between the Whigs and Tories in the latter years of the Revolution. Outside of their raids and forays there were no battles or passage of regular troops of either armies.

These first settlers found a country of rolling ridges with deep cleft valleys interspersed with easily fordable clear streams; land topped with awe-inspiring stands of magnificent timber of which the stately long leaved pines predominated; ground carpeted with a lavish growth of partridge peas so luxuriant as to grow almost knee high — a food eagerly sought by the profusion of wild life ranging the forests. White tailed deer, bears, wolves, turkeys and doves were so numerous as to be a menace to fields and to the cattle turned into the woods to forage, though the once numerous buffalo had gone.

First Town Site Settlers

The first actual known settlers within the present town limits were McNeills, whose grants for the most part were southeast and southwest of the present Morganton Road. A family graveyard is now part of Mt. Hope Cemetery. The first sale known was that of (John) McNeill to Charles C. Shaw in 1820, who for a number of years lived with his family in the McNeill cabin on the site of the (Continued on Page 2)

AS WE SEE IT

In sections two and three of this Annual Issue of THE PILOT its staff has labored to present a word picture of the war as it affects Southern Pines, its citizens, its men in the service, the men and women in uniform who make their home here, or are temporary visitors from Fort Bragg or Camp Mackall, and the efforts of our people either individually or as members of civic bodies and churches for the comfort, welfare and entertainment of all in uniform.

Legion Hut Proves Boon to Weekenders

Soldiers and Families Appreciate "Train Meeting" Service of Legionnaires

By L. D. WILLIAMS

Shortly after Camp Mackall was opened last Spring, Sandhills Post of American Legion decided that something must be done to assist the soldiers on pass here over the weekend, as hotel accommodations were entirely inadequate. As funds were low, it was decided that whatever was done must be of a temporary nature.

A committee was appointed by Commander Currie and in a few days a truck load of mattresses donated by Pinehurst, Inc., was unloaded at the Legion Hut. A call was made to the Auxiliary who provided light bedding, coffee and doughnuts. Plans were made to build platforms



H. J. BETTERLEY

The Present Town Fathers



W. DUNCAN MATTHEWS, Mayor



L. V. O'CALLAGHAN



E. C. STEVENS



M. F. GRANTHAM



A. B. PATERSON

U.S.O. Is Mecca of Army Men, Women

Many Forms of Amusement and Personal Services Are Provided by Club

By GEORGE B. FERRY

The U. S. O. Club in Southern Pines is housed in an attractive, well kept building, complete with terrace, stone walks and gardens. The interior is spacious, ideal for the well attended weekly dances held each Saturday night. Music for the dances is furnished by the generous services of the bands of various units from Camp Mackall.

Each Wednesday evening is devoted to dancing classes conducted as an aid to those who desire to learn to dance. These classes are helpful and still lots of fun.

The reading and writing room is comfortable and offers many current publications, a variety of books and generous supplies of stationery.

A grand assortment of games varying from two to many more participants' amusement are within reach. There is also tennis equipment on hand which is available for use on the courts opposite the Club.

The new shower facilities are a great boon to the men. Included therein are shaving and shoe shining aids.

Refreshments are served on Wednesday afternoon and evening, also Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings and breakfast on Sunday morning.

The U. S. O. Club under the auspices of the National Catholic Service began operations under the date of June 18, 1943. The total attendance of the guests at the Club is 25,338 to date. Throughout Southern Pines in various advantageous locations may be seen the Red, White

Red Cross Reports All-Out Service

Ministrations of This Humanitarian Organization Reach Around the World

By MRS. E. V. HUGHES

Every type of trouble known to man walks in the office door of Moore County Chapter, American Red Cross, in a week. The Executive Secretary studies the nature of the difficulty and dispatches it to the department or departments best equipped to work out an adequate solution, as the problem may require the services of the County Chairman and the Executive Board, the Home Service Bureau, and all the Special Volunteer Services. But have no fear! If it requires the attention of every volunteer, it will get it. Red Cross does not shirk responsibilities.

If the problem is of distressing proportions it is safe to presume that it will become a first consideration of the Home Service Bureau, with one or more of the service corps assisting. The usefulness of this department has expanded beyond the most daring anticipation since November, 1942, as a result of the sudden intake of population following the establishment of the Airborne Command at Camp Mackall. According to the November, 1943, report, Home Service was this year's outstanding achievement.

Three Home Service case workers carry on this tremendous program. They give counsel on and obtain maternity care for wives and medical and nursing care for infants of enlisted men in military service; allotments and allowances for dependents; make claims for compensations and government benefits to ex-service men, help secure vocational rehabilitation for them and arrange for their hospital and medical care; assist in communication between service men and women and their families; complete data on social histories for medical departments; make reports on home conditions needed by commanding officers in deciding on discharges, furloughs, and clemency; give financial help in special family needs; help to meet other family difficulties as well as soliciting the aid of other agencies; make temporary emergency loans; verify the necessity for emergency furloughs; secure information necessary to the release of men because of "dependency"; investigate and give counsel in A.W.O.L. and desertion cases; get letters, cables and radiograms to American prisoners of the enemy. If a form is to be filled out, the Home Service Department fills it. The War and Navy departments look to Red Cross for all of the above services.

In the last year between 2,500 and 3,000 Home Service Cases were handled by Moore County Chapter. Many allotment and allowance forms were filled out. Allotment is that part of his pay a soldier signs over to his dependents, in which they benefit according to their kinship. An allowance is what the government allows a family in need in addition to the allotment. Patient education on how to obtain these benefits is necessary for many. The forms are complicated and, while the government is exceedingly efficient at answering appeals, errors in application, frequent change of address and other confusing situations arise to interfere with results. Allotment checks get lost or are delivered to the wrong parties. Two women with the same name complicated an allotment check here several weeks ago. The two women had the same name and lived on the same street in the same town, but were unacquainted. The check went to the wrong woman, who was told, when she asked for an explanation, that her husband was a prisoner of the Germans. She appealed to the Red Cross, who investigated. Many hours of work were required to clear this case, get the allotment check to the right party and information correctly classified, but Red Cross did it.

A type of case requiring considerable investigation is the verification of illness and death in families of (Continued on Page 3)

The present board of Southern Pines commissioners is headed by Mayor W. Duncan Matthews, with Commissioner L. V. O'Callaghan as mayor pro-tem. Mr. O'Callaghan has served on the Board since 1927; E. C. Stevens in 1929, and again from 1935; H. J. Betterley from 1937 and M. F. Grantham from 1941. A. B. Paterson is the new member having been elected to office in 1943. Mayor Matthews has served since 1941. Howard Burns, City Clerk and Treasurer, has served since 1925.

Presbyterians Began Red Cross Canteen Soldier Work in '40

Now Have Bathing, Shaving and Sleeping Facilities in Church Basement

By L. VAN FOSSEN

The Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church first started taking care of our soldiers' comfort during the maneuvers which were being held in this area in the fall of 1940 by installing an electric water heater and showers in the basement of the church so that the tired and dusty men could have the comforts of a good hot bath when they came to town.

After war was declared, the large number of soldiers that were stationed near Southern Pines taxed the local hotels to capacity with the result that soldiers were sleeping on benches in the park, the railroad station and any other place that (Continued on Page 8)

ington, Chester I. Williams, J. F. Smith; Adjutant, L. D. Williams; Finance Officer, L. V. O'Callaghan; Publicity, D. A. Currie.

Carried On Splendidly at Civic Club for Four Months Prior to Coming of U.S.O.

When the need first arose in Southern Pines a year ago for a place the soldiers could use during their time off, the Red Cross Canteen Corps was called into service. The Corps consisted of 21 women, who had taken the prescribed Red Cross course of 40 hours, and 14 Canteen Aides who assisted them. The Canteen chairman was Mrs. Eugene C. Stevens, vice-chairman, Mrs. H. Holabird Towne, and Mrs. Guy Whittall was treasurer.

The Corps was fortunate in securing the use of the Civic Club, which they turned into a hospitable place for recreation, providing the soldiers with books, magazines, games, writing material, radio and victrola, and serving sandwiches, homemade cakes, coffee and cigarettes to all who came. It proved a most popular place and men were entertained from every state in the union.

The funds for this enterprise were (Continued on Page 8)

and Blue signs of the USO. To some, these signs mean long hours devoted to the carrying out of a great moral responsibility belonging to all, that of serving and aiding in every way possible the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families. To others, these signs convey a message of welcome and an invitation to explore the facilities for comfort and pleasure offered by the organization. It is the duty of every U. S. O. Club to afford the opportunities for meeting and solving many problems which confront the vast numbers of our national population forced to move constantly from one location to another. It is the hope of every U. S. O. Club to be able to offer a place of warmth and friendliness, to read, rest, dance and sing. A haven for companionship and hospitality.

U. S. O. services are available to five feminine groups. These groups include wives, mothers and children of men in uniform; women in the Armed Forces, WACS, WAVES and SPARS; U. S. O. Senior and Junior Hostesses.

Today women are filling up the ranks left by men in the Service. Women are in the Armed Forces; they are taking civilian jobs on the assembly line; they are fitting into (Continued on Page 5)