



THE PILOT



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TEN CENTS

County Peach Crop Is a Near Failure Because of Damage From Worms

Many Growers Are Forced To Destroy Entire Yield

Moore County's peach crop, the main agricultural interest of this section, is almost a total failure.

Statements by individual orchard owners and the Peach Growers' Association confirm the tale of loss in practically every part of the Sandhills section. Whole carloads of peaches have been condemned by the government inspectors and peaches sent north have been dumped into the river.

The loss is attributed entirely to the damage caused by the curculio fly. Peaches in practically every orchard are wormy, the condition running as high, in some orchards, as seventy-five or eighty percent of the crop. In many cases growers have ceased shipment. One of the largest orchards in the Eagle Springs section, comprising some four hundred acres, when examined a few days ago was found to have no peaches unaffected. West End growers report similar conditions, a leading grower of that section reporting seventy-percent loss in his orchard, while in an adjoining orchard the crop is not even being picked. Orchards below Sanatorium show slightly less damage, from forty to fifty percent being of moderately good quality. One of the few orchards reporting a good crop is that of Richard Lovinger near Jackson Springs.

Reasons given for the failure are varied and it is probable that it is the result of several factors. In many orchards, due to the scarcity of labor last year, the drops were not picked up allowing the worms to breed in the fallen peaches. There is also a possibility, now being investigated by the government, that the spray used was of inferior quality. Some growers, however, point to the weather conditions of the past spring which with the early warm spell, followed by four weeks of unusual cold, made ideal conditions for the development of the curculio fly. They say that during the present damp cold spell flies are still attacking the ripe peaches and that one fly will sting as many as a thousand peaches.

What fruit is passing inspection is bringing a top price of \$4.00 to \$4.50 a bushel. Condemned peaches may not be sold outside the state, but the rule does not affect within-state sales which run from \$1.00 to \$2.00 a bushel.

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Eureka Lad Is Thought To Have Spotted Fever

Lee McCaskill, 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. D. L. McCaskill of the Eureka Community near Carthage, is quite ill at the Moore County Hospital and he is thought to be suffering from Rocky Mountain spotted fever, although at the time Dr. Willcox, county health officer, discussed the case with a PILOT representative Tuesday, a report on the case had not been received. The lad became ill last week.

Dr. Willcox asked that parents be warned to look their children over from head to toe if they go into the woods, as the fever is transmitted by the bite of a wood tick. There has been one fatality in the county this summer which was attributed to spotted fever.

EYE CLINIC IS HELD

Sponsored jointly by the Moore County Health Department and the Welfare Department, working through the Commission for the Blind, an eye clinic was held at the court house Tuesday and Wednesday. Dr. Paul Barnes of Charlotte, assisted by Mrs. Kay Johnson of the State Commission. Approximately seventy indigent persons of the county were examined.

MY BABY NEEDS . . .

Airplane Stamp No. 4 in War Ration Book, No. 3 will become valid as a shoe stamp on August 1st. And, with a happy disregard of reality, the OPA adds that Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are valid now and will be indefinitely. But My Baby done got these 1, 2 and 3. Mr. OPA, sir . . . long, long ago.

THAT'S THE STUFF!

The following letter was received by The Pilot Editor, who urges that all who favor this important legislation write to the Senator from North Carolina, assuring him of their fervent support.

Dear Editor:— Thank you for your letter of July 13th in regard to the Bretton Woods Legislation. I am supporting this legislation.

With all good wishes,
Yours truly,
J. W. Bailey

Patriot Picquet Says, "Pass, Free!" To 392 Bondbuyers

Charles Picquet, owner of the Carolina Theatres in Pinehurst and Southern Pines, reports that he has honored 392 free passes to the movies these last few weeks.

When the Mighty Seventh War Bond Drive started Picquet announced that he would give a free pass to the movies to every bond buyer during the drive. The 392 passes which Picquet reports would amount to \$43,680.00 maturity value in bonds.

The chairman of the drive, E. C. Stevens, adds to this splendid report the short but telling comment which will be echoed by everybody: "Pretty swell!"

Packed Red Cross Car Runs Off Road With Little Hurt

Nine people had a narrow escape from serious injury Tuesday morning when the Red Cross Motor Corps car went out of control on the Pinehurst-Carthage highway about a quarter of a mile beyond the Moore County Hospital and left the road by way of a slight embankment. Mrs. Dyer, Home Service secretary, was using the car to transport eight colored people from Addor to an eye clinic in Carthage when something apparently went wrong with the steering gear. The car was not badly damaged.

Although Mrs. Dyer came out with a cut knee, she remained with her charges until they had been looked over at the hospital. An elderly man was kept for observation, but the others were able to return to their homes.

SO NEAR . . .

As the trooptrain rounded the curve above town the Sergeant from overseas got out on the platform. Maybe they'd slow down; maybe they'd stop; maybe he'd see somebody; maybe it would be the Right Somebody.

The train tooted to cross Vermont Avenue; tooted again to cross Connecticut; slowed up, slower and slower; another toot for New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, New York . . . and stopped. And there it was right in front of him: his own home. He hung out of the window, he started to get off.

"Hey!" yelled the conductor, "Going right on, get back up there!"

He got. Was nobody going to come out? Of course it was early but why the . . . After all here was the wandering boy home from the wars, right in front of his own home and NOBODY . . .

"All aboard!" yelled the brakeman in his ear, "Are you on?" with a grin.

"Yes," the soldier replied with dignity, "I am on", and climbed resignedly back into the army again. For one more day (But just ONE more day!)

Hugh Cameron Hurt

Hugh W. Cameron, son of D. D. Cameron of Niagara and a nephew of the Misses Mary, Gusie, and Rebecca Cameron was injured in an explosion at the shipyards in Jacksonville, Fla. last week.

He was taken to a hospital in Jacksonville, where his condition is reported to be improving.

Board Considers Town Affairs, Adds To Police Force

Johnson Suggests Refuse Collection Could Be Improved

The Board of Commissioners of Southern Pines met Friday night at the City Clerk's office, the full board, with the exception of Chan Page being present.

A citizen attending the meeting was R. C. Johnson, who urged certain improvements in the collecting of town refuse. While disclaiming any wish to criticize, he said he felt too much was being scattered on the streets or left behind when the truck made its rounds and suggested that more care should be observed. The Commissioners agreed with him and promised to look into the matter.

A letter from C. E. Hayble to the board was read and its contents discussed. The mayor reported to Hayble, who was present, that the troops in question had left camp and that the provost marshal was assigning one more M P to night duty in town. He felt, he said entirely confident that there would be no more trouble.

Highlight of the evening was the appointment of an extra man to the town's police-force, to be on duty at night. A motion was made by E. C. Stevens, seconded by Charles Patch and passed, that Ray McDonald be engaged as full time police officer. McDonald is the son of Arch McDonald whose farm is on the old Bethesda Road. He is thirty-one, recently discharged from the Navy, and has had several years' experience as a policeman before the war.

The awning ordinance was discussed, and it was urged that it be enforced where awning supports were dangerously low.

A letter was read from several of those residing near the school along Ridge Street, agreeing to the proposed closing of the street between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Avenues. The Board voted that a foot path be kept open across the school property, and that the closing of the street itself be scheduled for September 1st, to allow time for ample consideration.

The Zoning Committee urged that, due to the complexities of the problem presented in outlining the limits of the business section of West Southern Pines, all the members of the board should join in the survey which they are making.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

Special Services Will Be Held At Manly Next Week

The Rev. Harry L. Bowlby, D. D., of New York City, general secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance of the United States and formerly for nine years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Altoona, Pa., has been engaged to conduct a special series of services in Manly Presbyterian Church, beginning Sunday, July 22, services will be held each evening through July 29, the music starting at 8:00 o'clock and lasting for half an hour before Dr. Bowlby speaks.

Since entering upon his work with the Alliance, which is an interdenominational organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of the proper observance of the Lord's Day, Dr. Bowlby has spoken from thousands of pulpits and platforms. He is the author of several treatises on the Sunday question.

The Manly pastor, the Rev. Troy D. Mullis, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to all interested persons.

On the closing day of the series July 29, Dr. Bowlby will bring two messages, one at 11:00 a. m. and the other at 8:30 p. m. Sunday, July 22, he will preach at 11:00 a. m. at Caldee Church, which is having its homecoming on that day.

LEAVES FOR MICHIGAN

Lt. (jg) Fred Weaver left Thursday for Grosse Ile, Detroit, Mich., after visiting his mother, Mrs. Ada Weaver, in Southern Pines.

WELCOMED HOME



Sergeant Carl G. Thompson Jr., who has spent the past two years in England, serving in a photographic unit of the 490th Bomber Group, part of the famous Eighth Air Force, returned to Southern Pines last week. He will have a thirty-day furlough before reporting back to the Greensboro Air Base. Sergeant Thompson was the former editor of The Pilot.

Gerald Thomas Hit In Carless Play At Aberdeen Lake

Gerald Thomas, twelve-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thomas of Southern Pines, was injured at the Aberdeen Lake on Thursday, July 12, escaping serious harm by a narrow margin in an accident which might have proved fatal. Struck in the mouth by a bottle, he was rushed to the hospital, where he remained for five days before returning home.

The bottle was thrown by Bob Straka, who with three other Southern Pines boys: Allen Pope, Fred Hall, Jr., and Ralph Kleinspehn, were rough-housing on the shore, throwing a beer bottle back and forth. Grabbing it from the others, Straka turned and threw it full-force toward the water where it struck Gerald Thomas in the face.

Bob Straka picked the younger boy up, carried him to the bathroom and then called Claude Bobbitt who was nearby and who took Gerald in his truck to Dr. Medlin's office, Straka accompanying them.

There it was found that three upper teeth and four lowers had been knocked out, and the boy was bleeding profusely and suffering from serious shock. Dr. Medlin administered first aid and called Mrs. Thomas who came at once and took her son to the Moore County Hospital. Here Dr. Pishko treated him further for shock and administered sulfa drugs.

Gerald remained in the hospital for five days, returning home on Tuesday with orders to remain quiet for some time.

Carolina Moon Brings Carolina's Sergeant Thompson Back Home Again

"One Friday morning in England, the next Friday morning in Southern Pines (And still raining, only don't tell anybody I said that)"

The former editor of the Pilot and present Sergeant of the 490th Bomber Group attached to the 8th Air Force sat back in the visitor's chair and grinned.

"You brought it with you!" "Oh, of course, that's right. It never rains here, does it? You know I really thought over there that it never did rain at home and that it never did anything else in England. How I longed for a bit of Carolina sunshine!"

Sgt. Carl Thompson arrived back from overseas last week. Though his train going to Ft. Bragg came through Southern Pines on Friday he did not get here to stay until Monday. Then came the first carefree happy stroll up Broad Street, to which he had for so long looked forward. With his sister Ruth in tow, he walked along, grinning, he said, like a Cheshire cat. (And Carl knows at first hand now just how Cheshire cats grin, or he should, having spent almost a year without grinning distance.)

"Hey, Paul, how are you? Pop Hayes, how's the book business

Crash In Aberdeen Kills Soldier And Injures Companion

Motorcycle With Four Aboard Fails To Negotiate Turn

Bad weather, bad judgment and high spirits were responsible for an accident in Aberdeen Saturday night, which took the toll of a soldier's life and badly injured one of his companions.

Leaving Scottie's around midnight, in a heavy rainstorm, a party of four, two girls and two soldiers, boarded one motorcycle and headed for Aberdeen. Apparently confused by the down-pour, they missed the turn at the dead-end intersection of Highway I in Aberdeen and crashed into the barricade.

Jim Reilly of Aberdeen saw the crash and called the night policeman, W. G. Davis, who summoned Powell's ambulance from Southern Pines and notified Camp Mackall, while doing everything possible for the injured. The soldier, Joseph P. Toth, who was driving the motorcycle, died on the way to the camp. One girl, Betty Lincoln, was seriously injured and is at Moore County Hospital. The other soldier was not badly hurt, while the second girl escaped in the crowd and her identity is not known.

Army authorities are in the process of investigating the circumstances surrounding the accident which are, in certain respects, still confused, though as far as can be ascertained the above facts are correct.

The soldier, whose mother, Mrs. Anna Tobin, lives in Gypsum, Ohio, was a paratrooper in the Airborne Center Training Detachment at Camp Mackall.

County Civilian Defense Praised

The Moore County Council of the office of Civilian Defense has received the following certificate of appreciation:

"The State of North Carolina awards this certificate for patriotic, loyal and unselfish service in Civilian Defense in World War II to the Moore County Council of the North Carolina Office of Civilian Defense, (signed) R. Gregg Cherry, Governor of North Carolina, R. L. McMillan, Director, N. C. Office of Civilian Defense."

This certificate, dated June 13th, has been framed and will be on display in the courthouse at Carthage. James W. Tufts was County Chairman. The leaders in the areas of the county were the Rev. W. L. Warford for Carthage, Forest Lockey for Aberdeen, Dan McCrimmon and A. S. Johnson for Robbins, J. L. Deyoe for Pinebluff, F. T. Keating and Col. G. P. Hawes for Pinehurst, John Howarth for Southern Pines, M. C. McDonald for West End, L. B. McKeithen for Cameron.

ON LIBRARY BOARD

Stuart Evans of Robbins was appointed by the County Commissioners, meeting in recessed session last Monday, as a member of the Moore County Library Board to fill out the unexpired term of T. Roy Phillips. Mr. Phillips, former principal of the Westmore School, is leaving the county to become principal of the Candor Consolidated School District.

At the meeting of citizens held Tuesday night to plan a community organization for Southern Pines, discussion centered around the Chambers of Commerce, Senior and Junior. Morris Johnson explained that the Junior Chamber had been given up when there were no longer any "juniors" in town, and A. S. Newcomb, secretary of the Senior Chamber, described the moves which had been made to keep that group alive.

Asked by the Pilot to submit an informal account for publication Newcomb complied with the following short report.

In April, 1942, Mr. C. N. Page, then president, asked me to assume the secretaryship of this chamber of commerce, explaining that on account of the turmoil and extra work for everybody resulting from the country's war preparation; neither he nor Mr. Betterley, the secretary, had time to devote to outside matters, so the organization was about to die and leave behind a stench in the form of some \$150 in unpaid debts.

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Citizens Group of Southern Pines Meets to Start Civic Organization

AMAZING RECORD

As we go to press Eugene C. Stevens, chairman of Moore County's Seventh War Loan Drive, reports that \$1,253,315.75 was raised in the county. This is 105% over the county quota of \$611,000.00. The "E" Bond quota was \$397,000.00 and the amount bought in Moore County was \$397,291.75.

Mr. Stevens says the total amount raised is a quarter of a million dollars more than was raised in any of the other bond drives in Moore County.

F. H. Brown Joins Mid-South Motors Firm In Aberdeen

Ferrell H. Brown, formerly of Troy, has joined the Mid-South Motors, Inc., automobile firm in Aberdeen and has moved his family to this town. Mr. Brown before coming to Aberdeen was associated with Harris motor company in Troy. He has purchased an interest in the Mid-South Motors and will serve as assistant manager, according to an announcement by O. Leon Seymour, senior partner of the firm.

The Browns are occupying an apartment in the Kirk house on Poplar street. They have one 12-year-old son, Ferrell, Jr. Mr. Brown has been in Aberdeen for about 2 months but only moved his family there last week.

The Law Nabs Escaped Convict, Gets Stolen Car at Conway, S. C.

Junior Hughes, one of the three convicts who escaped from the State Prison Camp near Carthage by climbing over the fence late Sunday afternoon, July 8, was taken into custody at Conway, S. C., early this week, and the car of Dan Stewart of Vass, which was stolen from his yard Tuesday night, was found near Conway, where it had been abandoned after the gas gave out.

Hughes, who had been sent up from Davidson County to serve an eight months sentence imposed for vagrancy and non support, was taken from Conway to the State Prison in Raleigh.

Newcomb Reports On Chamber of Commerce

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After consulting Mr. Betterley, Mr. Burt, Dr. Herr, Mr. Stevens and others who had long been active in chamber of commerce affairs, and believing that any place, especially a resort, that doesn't maintain a chamber of commerce or similar organization

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Sets Next Tuesday at 8 P. M. At The School As the Time and Place

At a meeting held at the Civic Club in Southern Pines, Tuesday night, a representative group of citizens of the town gathered to discuss forming a new organization for progressive citizenship.

Present were: Morris Johnson, John Ruggles, Frank Buchan, Virgil Johnston, A. S. Newcomb, G. H. Buttry, Dr. E. W. Bush, L. V. O'Callaghan, Charles S. Patch, L. D. McDonald, D. G. Stutz, the Rev. Thompson E. Davis, and W. S. Bushby.

Postmaster Buchan assumed the chairmanship and explained the purpose of the meeting. He said that Morris Johnson had been responsible for getting the meeting together, with the idea that the town needed an organization to take the place of the old Senior and Junior Chambers of Commerce which performed so many useful purposes for the town in times past and acted as a nucleus of all interests combining for the common good.

A. S. Newcomb elaborated on the chairman's thought, describing the work of the past and how the set-up of the Senior Chamber, of which he was the last secretary, had been carried on. He reported continued interest on the part of many and substantial dues contributed. A motion was passed thanking Newcomb for his efforts.

The chairman then threw the meeting open, calling upon one after another of those present for his opinion. There was general unanimity. Mayor O'Callaghan expressed himself as being certain the town board would welcome the forming of the organization contemplated. He recalled that he had suggested something of the sort soon after his election. He promised 100 percent cooperation personally and as mayor.

Former Mayor Stutz said: "The old Chamber of Commerce was a good thing for the town and I feel that a period lies ahead when, without such an organization, the town would be at a great disadvantage. I feel that a strong Chamber of Commerce or other organization of the same type would benefit us all."

Mr. Patch urged that the group take definite action in planning for a citizens' meeting as soon as possible, and that they have a set-up ready to present. He felt that stress should be laid on the definite needs of the town, one of which, he said, was a credit.

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Mrs. Decia Welch Dies Suddenly Of Heart Attack

Mrs. Decia J. Welch, prominent business woman of Southern Pines, died at her home on May Street at 4:30 Saturday afternoon following a heart attack.

The daughter of Mrs. Sarah Ella Brooks of Raleigh and the late William T. Brooks, Mrs. Welch was born in Wake County July 20, 1883, and came to Southern Pines eighteen years ago. She was a recent purchaser of the long established Hayes Dress Shop and for many years had been an assistant to Mrs. Hayes.

Funeral services were held in the Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church of Southern Pines at four o'clock Monday afternoon the Rev. Thompson E. Davis and the Rev. J. O. Long of the Page Memorial Church of Aberdeen officiating. The church was decorated with flowers sent by her many friends. Pallbearers were L. D. McDonald, W. E. Blue, J. T. Overton, C. L. Worsham, C. R. Mills, and P. F. Buchan. Honorary Pallbearers were C. L. Hayes, Charles S. Patch, and P. T. Barnum.

Mrs. Welch is survived by her mother, Mrs. Sarah Ella Brooks of Raleigh, and five daughters: Mrs. Zack Duncan of Reno, Nevada; Mrs. George Goldstein of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mrs. H. H. Elder of Siler City, N. C.; Mrs. Richard Royal of Hendersonville, N. C. and Mrs. Jeannette Gillett of Southern Pines. Also living are four sisters, four brothers, and twelve grandchildren.

Mrs. Welch was active in the community and leaves many friends who mourn deeply her passing.