



# THE PILOT



VOL. 26. NO. 14

Southern Pines, North Carolina, Friday, March 1, 1946.

TEN CENTS

## Duncan Matthews Dies In Moore Co. Hospital Tuesday

### Death Comes To Late Southern Pines Mayor After Long Illness

Following a long illness, and confinement in the Moore County Hospital during the past seven weeks, W. Duncan Matthews died unexpectedly, shortly before two o'clock Tuesday morning.

With his passing Southern Pines loses another of its civic leaders as Mr. Matthews, aside from his former official capacity as Mayor of the city, was ever active in forwarding measures for the public good and with advice freely given in private affairs, which coupled with a happy smile, gained him a host of friends.

Born May 26, 1890, at East Bend, Yadkin County, N. C., the son of the late Rev. J. M. Matthews, he was a graduate of the Mount Pleasant Collegiate Institute, and Trinity College. Following a year spent as a teacher in the Sampson County schools, he moved in 1911 to Vass where he married Rachael Cameron, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. Cameron, on February 27, 1913.

He became a member of the faculty of the Vass-Lakeview School, later becoming principal, which office he held until 1927. Becoming much interested in civic affairs, he was elected mayor of Vass. During this time he was intent on becoming a lawyer and studied law at home, going to Wake Forest for a final summer course. He took and passed the State Bar examinations in 1926. First establishing an office in Vass, he moved to Southern Pines making his home here in 1935. In May, 1941, he was elected mayor of Southern Pines and reelected at the close of the two year term. He was a member of the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs.

Mr. Matthews is survived by his widow, three sons, Joseph A., of Orangeburg, S. C., Preston and Warren of Southern Pines, two grandchildren Lana and Kay Matthews of Southern Pines, a daughter, Mrs. Harry Fullenwider of Southern Pines, a sister, (Continued on Page 5)

## NEVER!

From Berlin, Captain Ben Bradin writes of the "amazing and endlessly frustrating channels of this APO," and of the papers which he has not received—the Pilots wandering over Europe like "the thousands of ragged bits of humanity of eastern Europe, floating hither and thither . . . The shocking picture," he continues, "of these bits from the flaming torch of mental integrity, these brave banners of Truth (the Pilots) wandering helplessly and hopelessly over the face of Europe for years, ever in alien hands, until they become so dog-eared and illegible that the 'Sand Box' could scarcely be deciphered. . . . And so, to daughter Jane, "I picture you now, after reading this, rushing in girlish enthusiasm to the Pilot office, crying, "No, never shall the Pilot join the ranks of the D. P.'s!"

## Former Mayor Dies



W. D. MATTHEWS

## Local Five Downs Jonesboro To Cop District 4 Title

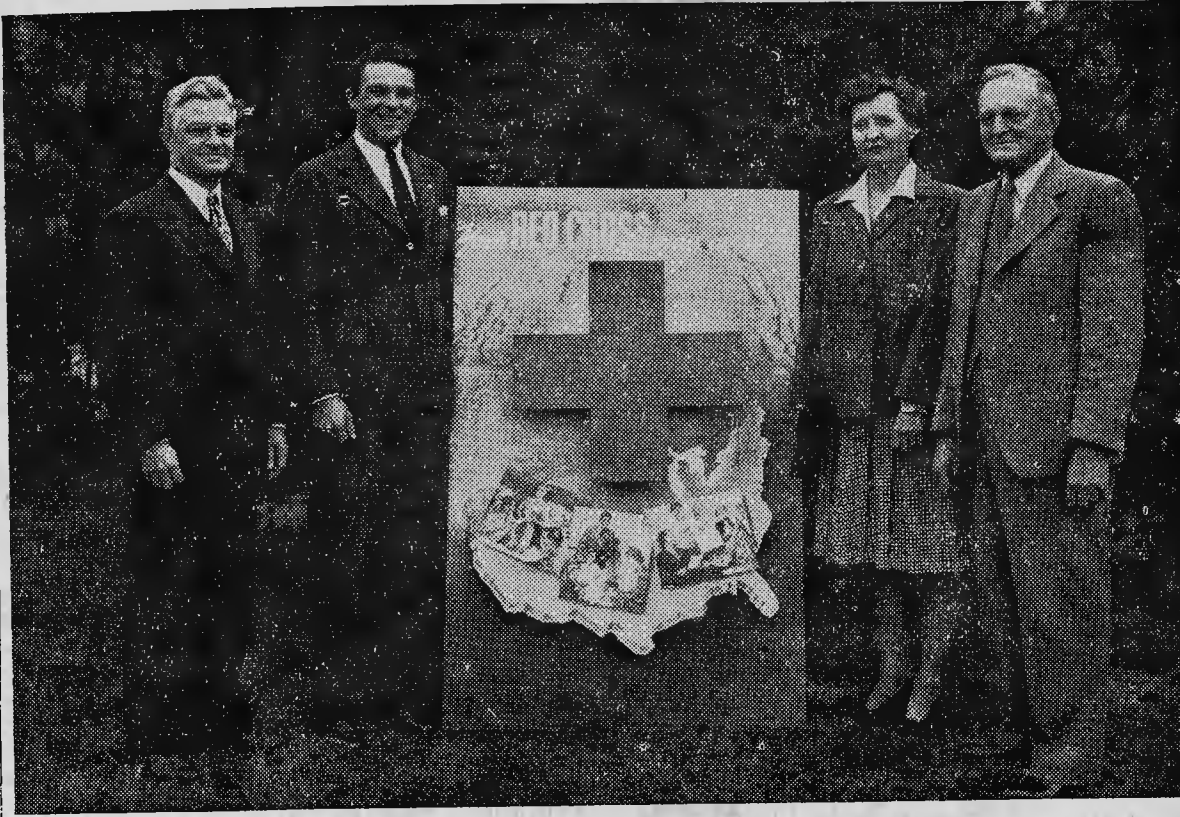
### School Basketeers Take Double Bill 29-19 And 32-12

by Jack Bilyeu

A strong and well-coordinated Southern Pines aggregation put themselves a step nearer state laurels on Wednesday night by defeating a game crew of Jonesboro contenders to the tune of 32 to 12 in a clash for the 4th District title within the Class C Eastern Conference. In a spirited preliminary to the championship fray, played on neutral ground at Aberdeen, the girl basketeers of Southern Pines downed Jonesboro girls 29-19.

Playing nip and tuck ball through two quarters, the contenders, tense and aggressive, appeared evenly matched until, with a flurry of baskets in the (Continued on Page 5)

## Know Your Red Cross Drive, Chairmen in Southern Pines



"Your Red Cross must carry on!" is the slogan advanced by these four energetic-appearing citizens pictured supporting the Red Cross emblem above. Left to right, they are: John S. Ruggles, drive chairman for the town of Southern Pines; Hermann Grover, chairman for hotels and rooming houses; Mrs. James S. Milliken, chairman for the residential districts; and Sam B. Richardson, chairman for the business district. (Photo by Humphrey)

## Launched Today, With Local Quota Set At \$6,500, Red Cross Fund Campaign In Moore Gets Underway

Plans for the 1946 Red Cross Fund Campaign in Moore County were definitely reviewed at a joint meeting of county Red Cross officials and the Sandhills Kiwanis Club, held at the Southern Pines Country Club on Wednesday. As Red Cross field and executive officials, county and community chairmen and workers joined with the Kiwanians in a last minute "council of war," the fund campaign was outlined as an accelerated drive getting underway today, March 1st, to extend through March 9th.

A. L. Burney of Southern Pines, drive chairman for Moore County, has announced the county quota as \$20,400, while the quota for Southern Pines has been set at \$6,500. Last year's county quota was \$39,200, which generous response of the various communities upped to a peak of \$50,000.

Presenting to the assembled businessmen local workers representing the eight volunteer services organized within the Red Cross, Mrs. William J. Kennedy, executive secretary of the Moore County Chapter, stressed the im-

portance of post-war service. Men now in the hospitals at home and overseas, members of the armed forces awaiting return to the States, and those continuing in their service abroad—these men and their families must not be forgotten by those whom they defended, Mrs. Kennedy emphasized.

Overworked staffs of government hospitals everywhere are desperately in need of Red Cross assistance in caring for these men through their illness and loneliness, she stated. Now more than ever before, it was pointed out, there is urgent need that "Your Red Cross carry on."

The Red Cross workers presented were Mrs. Arthur Joistad, Hospital Recreation; Miss Harriet Barnum, Home Service; Mrs. A. L. Burney, Production Corps; Mrs. J. T. Overton, Surgical Dressings; Miss Dencie Trousdell, Motor Corps; and Suzanne Humphries, aged seven, representing the Junior Red Cross.

A strong and eloquent appeal for the current drive was made by Harrison Straub, assistant field director at Fort Bragg, who

was principal speaker. Having accompanied the distinguished 17th Airborne Division throughout its activation, training, and service in various theatres of action, Straub presented a comprehensive report of Red Cross work under combat conditions. Stressing the present need of providing for those still in service, he pointed out that the armed forces had made a request to Red Cross officials that the organization service be continued in the veterans' hospitals.

Also present at the meeting were Miss Mary Phillips, Red Cross general field representative, and Miss Laura Kelsey, co-chairman of volunteer special services.

For conducting of the 1946 fund campaign in Southern Pines, John S. Ruggles, local chairman, stated in an interview this week that a system has been devised for personally contacting each and every citizen. Chairman for the business districts is Sam B. Richardson, who has appointed a sub-chairman for each commercial building in (Continued on Page 8)

## Forest Fires Fanned By High Wind Do Widespread Property Damage

### Five Separate Blazes On Tuesday Keep Fire Fighters On The Run

#### PLEASE RETURN

Following a jump by units of the 82nd Airborne Division on last Thursday, February 21st, northeast from Southern Pines along the Manchester Road, officers of the airborne have asked citizens to return parachutes and equipment found to the Police Department in Southern Pines. Hopefully submitting their request, the military states that upwards of a \$1,000 worth of the red, blue, and green silk has gone unrecovered following jumps in the past.

## J. Talbot Johnson To Run For State Senate from Moore

### Aberdeen Lawyer Known for Interest In All County Affairs

J. Talbot Johnson, of Aberdeen, has announced that he will be a candidate for the State Senate from Moore County.

This year it becomes Moore County's turn to nominate a candidate for our district, which comprises the three counties of Moore, Hoke, and Randolph. The present incumbent, Ryan MacBride, nominated from Raeford, retiring automatically at the end of the two year term, leaves the way open for the announcement of Johnson's candidacy.

In making his decision known, the Aberdeen attorney said: "I have long coveted the honor of representing Moore County—my native heath—as State Senator. Actuated by this ambition, and encouraged by endorsements from friends throughout the county, I shall be a candidate for this office in the forthcoming Democratic Primary.

"If I am honored with the nomination and election, it will be my avowed purpose and pleasure to represent the citizens of this County, District, and State to the best of my ability, in all matters relating to the general welfare of the public."

Well-known in Moore County affairs for many years, this is the first time the candidate has turned towards the state political (Continued on Page 5)

The facts that there had been a hard rain the previous night and that the strong wind which blew all day did not shift, probably saved the towns of Southern Pines and Aberdeen from serious devastation by fire, Tuesday.

In the case of Southern Pines and Manley, another thing that helped was the self-sacrificing spirit of those land-owners and neighbors who, starting soon after twelve noon when the fire was first discovered, remained on the job, fighting fire till four o'clock the following morning.

Starting from a spark blown into the surrounding woods from the fire under the washpot of Sally Gibson, on Young's Road, the fire spread to the land of the Stoneybrook stables, and the Younkens farm. It crossed the Yadkin Road, despite efforts at a backfire, and burnt the woods and one of the pastures and a barn on the Moss' Mileaway Farm. Hard work on the part of Ozelle and Mrs. Moss and their men saved the main pasture and stables and confined the fire to the wooded area. Here it raged unchecked, though two parties of fire fighters, one led by Ozelle Moss and one by Harry Goldsmith and Babe McCrimmon, were working on opposite sides to gain control. The small light truck of the Southern Pines fire department, Assistant Chief L. S. Rowell in charge, attempted some help, but did not remain on the scene very long.

Meanwhile from Aberdeen, simultaneously with discovery of the Young's Road fire, came news of a brush fire on Page Hill spreading to the rear of the houses and the Chemical Plant on the Aberdeen Road. Answering that call, the Southern Pines pumper truck with Chief O'Callahan went to the scene, but finding their services superfluous, returned to their quarters. Their return was followed by a call from the Younkens farm where the fire fighters were desperately trying to save the barn. The truck answered the call but too late to be of any avail. Again, at 5:45, they answered a call to the old Southern Pines-Pinehurst road where a blaze was sweeping towards Mt. Hope Cemetery.

At a late hour Tuesday night Aberdeen farmers were fighting fire around Dr. Chester's house in the old Marlboro farms property. The Pinehurst firemen were battling fires coming up through the Chapin Orchard from the south, while all night the band of local fire-fighters back of the Moss farm, reinforced now by the Boyd brothers and others from neighboring farms, tried hard to save the fine woodland, much of it the best of the fox-hunting country.

The high strong wind blew steadily on into the night and everywhere forest wardens and soot-faced crews of tired men battled amid the dense smoke and crackling brush.

As to the Southern Pines fire, the verdict was: carelessness started it; more men and more equipment might have stopped it.

## Keep Ration Book 4!

Housewives were advised today by the Office of Price Administration to retain in their possession War Ration Book 4, now used to obtain sugar.

Although the currently valid sugar stamp 39 is the last stamp in War Ration Book 4, that is specifically labeled for purchases of sugar, spare stamps in that book will be designated as sugar stamps from time to time.

Sugar Stamp 40 was used for the 1944 home canning program . . . OPA, you're telling us!

## Miss Bruton Addresses Auxiliary Wednesday

Miss Ellen Bruton, who is returning to the Moore County Hospital as superintendent of Nurses will speak to the Hospital Auxiliary on Wednesday, March 6. The meeting is scheduled for 10:30 A. M., in the living room of the Nurses' Home, and all women, whether members or not, are cordially invited to come.

A native of Moore County, Miss Bruton has seen the Hospital grow from 35 beds to the present crowded capacity of 85, and her familiarity with hospitalization problems in this area should make her talk especially interesting.

## Letter To Editor Stressing Forest Fire Control Comes At Opportune Moment

Dear Editor; I have read with interest your editorial in THE PILOT of the 15th instant, ("The Loan to Britain").

I believe your version is right, and I wish to compliment you on your knowledge of this important subject.

I notice also the following editorial in the same issue in regard to Wind, Fire and Woods. The State of Massachusetts has a well backed law whereby all citizens are obliged to have proper authority for burning any rubbish or brush. This order is carefully followed by the proper officials.

If such were possible in North Carolina, I believe fewer forest fires would take place. For some reason, North Carolina is, or at least the various counties in the

State are, very lax in following up the present menace due to no control of these brush fires.

Sincerely yours, C. T. Crocker

(The Pilot is extremely complimented to receive such a letter, from such a man. Compliments are always gratifying but when they come from one who speaks with the authority of experience and knowledge, they are doubly so. These are parlous times; it is good to know for sure that we are on the right side. And when such a man as C. T. Crocker agrees with The Pilot then we know we are on the right side. The writer's comment on forest fires is particularly pertinent, coming the day after one of the worst series of such fires this community has seen in a long time. Ed.)

## Johnston Joins Staff of Pilot

The Pilot takes pleasure in announcing the addition to its staff of Thomas G. Johnston, formerly of Aberdeen.

Appropriately enough, the newest member to take service under The Pilot, comes to the Sandhills straight from the sea. Entering the Navy in 1942, Tom Johnston saw service first as a lieutenant in charge of Navy gun crews in the Pacific and Atlantic, and for the last year and seven months, as skipper of an LSM with the Amphibious forces in the Pacific.

Previous to his war experience, Johnston spent the years after he left Princeton, acting as copywriter and photographer with the New York advertising firms of J. Stirling Getchell, Inc., Batten, Barton, Durstine, and Osborne, and McCann-Erickson, and one year as "Senior Promotion Specialist" with WPB in Washington, D. C.

He brings to The Pilot the benefit of his experience in the advertising field and his skill as a photographer, coupled with his native love of the Sandhills and interest in everything to do with Moore County. He is the brother of Mrs. Lee Page and is married to the former Isabel McMullen. They have two little boys.

## TRA. LA!

The flowers that grow in the spring are starting early to show that they have a great deal to do with the case of beauty in these here parts. With the accent on camellias, the Fayetteville Garden Club is staging a camellia show on March 7th and 8th, at the USO on Anderson St.; entries to be March 7th between 10:30 and 12:30.

Get busy, gardeners!

## March of Dimes Is March of Dollars

Leading again this year in gross contributions to the county-wide drive in the national fight against infantile paralysis, citizens of Southern Pines gave \$1,550.59 as a grand total for the local campaign, community chairman Paul C. Butler announced early this week.

This year's contributions from Southern Pines represent an increase of \$22.05 over the amount collected in 1945, and a total of \$700.59 above the quota for this year, which had been set at \$650.00. Clifton H. Blue, county March of Dimes chairman, has expressed his appreciation to Chairman Butler for his most (Continued on Page 5)

## 26th Annual Golf Play For Seniors

Coming in with 79's over the No. 1 course of the Pinehurst Club, two players from northern clubs, Francis R. Ryan of Wheatley Hills, Long Island, and Robinson Cook of the Hartford, Conn., club, were best in the qualifying round of the 26th annual Senior's championship which got underway at Pinehurst on Monday.

Limited to players 55 years of age and over, the Senior's tournament was divided into four age classes. Ryan and Cook took the honors in class D as well as the low qualifying prize.

Winners in Class A were Hugh R. Hatfield, Hanover, Mass.; H. Frederick Leash, Brookline Club, Boston, Mass.; and F. T. Wheeler, Shuttle Meadow club, New Britain, Conn., who tied with 91's. Leading the Class B field were Robert W. Smith, Greensburg club, Greensburg, Pa., with 85, while Class C honors went to M. S. Little of the Darien, Conn., club, with 83.

Advancing to the semi-finals in the Senior's tournament on Tuesday, both Cook and Robinson took their matches in the top-flight division of play. Ryan defeated E. G. Riley, of the Pinehurst club, 5-4, while Cook bested Howard G. Phillips of Pinehurst 1 up.