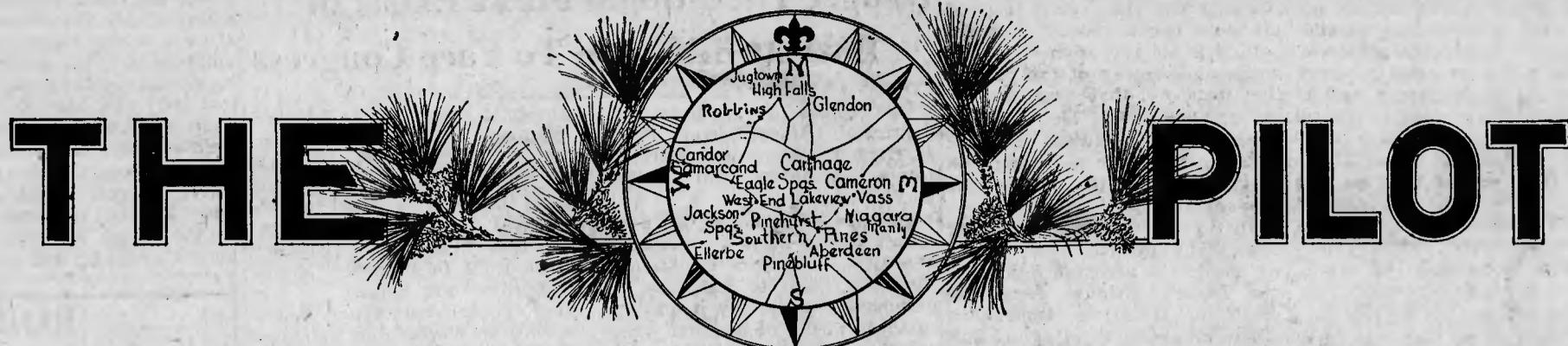


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VOL. 29 NO. 2 16 PAGES THIS WEEK Southern Pines, N. C. Friday, December 5, 1947. 16 PAGES THIS WEEK TEN CENTS

County Board At Odds With State Licensing Body

Construction Of Vass-Lakeview School Subject Of Dispute

Farrell Explains Board's Position

Contention of the North Carolina Licensing Board for Contractors that the Vass-Lakeview school is proceeding contrary to state law, through not having the supervision of a licensed contractor, is being met by a decision of the county board of education to carry on "as is" and let the state board take what steps it may. The Pilot learned this week.

The school, largest in the county, is being built by a county construction crew under supervision of the foreman, N. N. McDonald, and is about 30 per cent completed.

When the protest of the state licensing board was first registered, the county board sought and secured opinions from both Attorney General H. W. McMullan and County Attorney M. G. Boyette that it was all right to go ahead, according to F. D. Farrell, board chairman.

While it was far preferable to have a licensed contractor, the county board had met requirements in trying to get one, without success; and replacement without further delay of the 550-pupil school, burned down last March, was to be considered of first importance, the opinions stated.

State Law

The state law requires that any construction or repair work necessitating expenditure of \$10,000 of public funds must be done through a regular procedure of advertising for sealed bids, public opening of the bids and awarding of the contract to the lowest qualified bidder, "except in case of special emergency involving the health and safety of the people and their property."

According to Farrell, this was considered such an emergency. The state licensing board says not.

Protests have been made by mail and through a recent visit of a representative of the state licensing body to H. Lee Thomas, county school superintendent. The representative named some local contractors, suggesting that one be employed to satisfy conditions of the law. One of them, A. B. Sally, of Pinehurst, was then approached, Thomas said, and replied that he would "consider" undertaking the supervision, but the matter has not been followed up.

Farrell reported that bids were twice advertised for. The first time, all on the general contract were rejected as being too high. The second time, the general contract was about to be let to the lowest bidder, a Sanford contractor, and it was found he was not licensed. No other bids were considered "within reason." It was then that the decision was made to put McDonald in charge.

No Answer

No answer has been made to the state board's protests, and none is likely to be, both Farrell and Thomas declared, implying that "the next move is up to them."

According to laws and regulations governing general contracting in North Carolina, the next move may be the reporting of the case to the county prosecuting attorney and assistance by the state body in prosecution of the case. Violation of the law constitutes a misdemeanor.

An injunction to stop construction of the work may be issued pending a court decision.

In following the present procedure, Farrell said, the county is adhering to a practice of long standing, here and in other places. Before coming to Moore county, for which he has built four schools, McDonald built two for Hoke county.

The practice saved Moore county. (Continued on Page 5)

BANQUET

Henry House, former All-Southern fullback of the UNC team, now a member of the physical education department of the University, will be the speaker at the banquet to be given at the Southern Pines Country club this evening (Friday) for the undefeated high school football squad, with the Elks as hosts.

House will also show movies of the university team in action. Other events of the evening will include presentation of the VFW trophy to the most valuable team member; awarding of letters and emblems, and other honors for both the teams and their coaches.

Ladies' Night will be observed by the Elks' lodge in conjunction with the banquet, which will be held at 7 o'clock.

Cabaret Will Be Feature Of Dinner Dance At Club

Historical Association Sponsors Gay Affair Here During Holidays

First entertainment being announced for the Christmas holidays, this year is the Cabaret Dinner Dance to be given under the auspices of the Moore County Historical Association.

The date of December 27th has been set aside for this event, with the Southern Pines Country Club as the place. Tickets are to be sold for the Dinner Dance by members of the association, with Mrs. Julian Bishop, of Knollwood and Horse Shoe Quail Farm, Carthage, heading the ticket selling committee.

Reports show that an evening of unusual entertainment and holiday spirit is in store. The Scottish cabaret which will be the feature of the evening is being kept a dark secret till plans are fully materialized, but it is rumored that search for talent which has carried those in charge, Mrs. James Boyd and Mrs. Ernest Ives, as far afield as Chapel Hill and Red Springs has not gone unrewarded. Local talent, of which the Sandhills can boast a great deal, will play an important part. The officials of the Southern Pines club are cooperating to make this an outstanding social event, with Hunter Johnson, restaurateur, promising that the dinner, served in the big candlelit room, will be GOOD.

"That's what we want," stressed the committee in charge, "This is, after all, to raise money for the (Continued on Page 5)

Peach Growers Plan Organization For Marketing

Representatives of the North Carolina and the South Carolina peach growing industry met in Charlotte Monday and approved in principle a marketing agreement for the industry.

The organizations sending representatives to the meeting were the peach growers associations of the two states, and the Farm Bureau committees of the two states assigned to the peach industry.

R. E. Heffernan of the department of agriculture, presented the views of the department on marketing of the peach crop in this area.

The purpose of the agreement as previously announced is to improve the type of product marketed from the Carolinas peach country, and to insure support of prices by controlling handling of the crop from year to year.

Committee

It was decided at the meeting that the marketing agreement shall be administered by a committee made up of representatives from every one of the peach growing areas in the two states. On the committee will be four men from the North Carolina Sandhills, four from the South Carolina Piedmont, two each (Continued on Page 5)

Butler Receives 1947 Builder's Cup



Sandhills Kiwanis Club Observes Its Silver Anniversary With Fine Party



DR. C. W. ARMSTRONG

Basketball Games Scheduled For Coming Season

The schedule of boys' games for the coming basketball season was announced by Coach A. C. Dawson of the Southern Pines High school, following a meeting at Raeford Tuesday night attended by representatives of schools in District 4 of the North Carolina Athletic association. The first game will be held next Friday.

Also arranged were four conference games for next fall's football team, as follows—September 29, West End, there; October 6, Pinehurst, here; October 13, Red Springs, there; October 20, Robbinston, here. Four non-conference games are also to be arranged.

The 18 games of the 1947-48 basketball season will be played mostly away from home, as the Southern Pines school has no gymnasium this year. Several "home games" will be played on the Aberdeen court through courtesy of the Aberdeen High school.

The schedule: December—Friday 12, Laurinburg in Aberdeen; Monday 15, Pinehurst, there.

January—Friday 9, Laurinburg in Laurinburg; Tuesday 13, West End in Aberdeen; Friday 16, Aberdeen in Aberdeen; Tuesday 20, Robbinston, place to be arranged; Friday 23, Carthage in Carthage; Monday 26, West End in Aberdeen; Friday 30 and Saturday 31, Morehead City at Morehead City.

February—Monday 2, Aberdeen in Pinehurst; Friday 6, and Saturday 7, Morehead City in Aberdeen; Tuesday 10, Cameron in Cameron; Friday 13, Pinehurst in Pinehurst; Monday 16, Robbinston in Aberdeen; Friday 20, Carthage in Aberdeen.

The Moore County tournament will be held during the week from Tuesday, February 24, through Tuesday, March 2.

PLAY AT ABERDEEN

The senior class of Aberdeen High school is presenting "The Groom Said No," a comedy in three acts by Ruth and Nathan Hale this evening, (Friday), at 8 in the Aberdeen High School auditorium.

International President Speaks; Honors Are Given

In the same room at the Mid Pines club where it was organized in 1922, the Sandhills Kiwanis club celebrated its silver anniversary Monday night with a birthday party worthy of the high achievements which have gone before, and of the constructive future which lies ahead.

Highlights were the awarding of the Builder's cup to Paul C. Butler, of Southern Pines; the pungent and purposeful address of the distinguished speaker, Dr. Charles W. Armstrong of Salisbury, president of Kiwanis International; honors paid to charter members who were present; presentation of funds for hospital use, in keeping with a custom of long standing; the singing of songs, in the leading of which Charlie Picquet, master of ceremonies, kept the spirit of good nature high; the gifts of silver ash trays to the ladies; the sumptuous dinner; and the fine fresh harmonies of the Pinehurst High School Glee club, in a half dozen numbers directed by Paul V. Peck.

Founders Honored

Paul C. Butler, president, presiding, gave the President-Elect Leland McKeithen the honor of recounting highlights of the club's history and honoring its founding members, seven of whom are still active in the club. G. C. Seymour was unable to be present. Presenting silver initial watch chains to R. L. Chandler, Sr., Dr. T. A. Cheatham, J. Talbot Johnson, Sam B. Richardson, I. C. Sledge and Charles W. Picquet, McKeithen expressed the hope that "we will all be together 25 years from now, when the gifts will be of gold."

Recognition was also given A. S. Ruggles and E. T. McKeithen, charter members no longer active in membership, but present as special guests in the company of their Kiwanian sons.

Garland McPherson, chairman of the underprivileged child committee through which the club's major work over the years has been effected, paid tribute to a man who, he said, "does more for underprivileged children than anyone I know of"—Judge William A. Way, prevented by illness from being present. To E. T. McKeithen, Moore County Hospital administrator, McPherson presented a check for \$365, representing admissions paid in 1947 by visitors to Judge Way's Carolina Orchid Gardens, turned over in full toward the support of the Kiwanis bed for underprivileged children; and a second check for \$375, to buy a resuscitator.

Builder's Cup

To Dr. Cheatham fell the privilege of awarding the club's highest honor to one of its own members—the Builder's cup. Its recipient may have been surprised (Continued on Page 5)

Mrs. McCain Is Elected President Hospital Auxiliary

\$1,000 Gift For Equipment Is Made By Unnamed Donor

Christmas Party Planned

Mrs. P. P. McCain of Southern Pines was elected president of the Moore County Hospital auxiliary for the year 1948, at the annual election held Tuesday morning at the Nurses' home.

Other officers elected were Mrs. M. G. Nichols, Southern Pines, retiring president, to the office of first vice president; Mrs. W. D. Hyatt, Pinehurst, second vice president; Mrs. William F. Hollister, Southern Pines, secretary, and Mrs. J. B. Edwards, Aberdeen, treasurer.

The names were unanimously accepted as presented by Mrs. T. A. Cheatham for the nominating committee.

Twenty-five members were present at the meeting, which was one of the year's most momentous.

A gift of \$1,000 was reported, to be used for hospital equipment according to the unnamed donor's request. Mrs. Nichols, presiding, announced that all such gifts, large and small, would be most gratefully received and that the donor's wishes as to their uses would be carefully respected.

Another gift, long sought by the auxiliary, was announced—a Santa Claus suit, donated by Leo Erhardt of Pinehurst for use at the annual Christmas party for children at the hospital.

Plans for this year's party were discussed, and Mrs. J. Talbot Johnson, of Aberdeen, was appointed general chairman.

Children Set Fire, 32 Acres Are Burned

Tiny children playing with matches outdoors while their mother lay ill inside the house caused the county's first forest fire of the winter season Wednesday, near West End.

The fire covered some 32 acres of timberland, according to Fire Warden E. W. Davis, whose crew extinguished it after a stiff fight and with much help from neighbors. The entire crew of a nearby sawmill joined the fight. "Cooperation was excellent and we are very grateful," Davis said.

Only the fact that the wind veered toward the forest saved the home of the tenant farmer on the Bob Von Canon place, where the sick mother was in bed. A little son and daughter, aged two and three, had set the fire outside.

With the worst season for forest fires now beginning Warden Davis issued a strong reminder for the most careful vigilance on the part of all those living near woods, or passing through them on foot, horse or in a car.

Wagram Youth Is Gravely Injured In Second Accident at Sanatorium Curve

John Thomas Walters, Of Raeford, Dies Of Injuries Sustained Two Weeks Ago

Stephen A. McLean, 30, of Wagram, was critically injured early Wednesday when his car went out of control on the curve near the Negro unit of N. C. Sanatorium, close to the spot where, on November 22, two young Raeford men were hurt in a similar acci-

dent, one of them fatally. The victims were taken into the Sanatorium and given emergency treatment in both instances, then brought to the Moore County Hospital, where late on Wednesday of this week McLean had not recovered consciousness, and William Lentz, of Raeford, was still a patient.

John Thomas Walters, 30, of Raeford, died at the hospital last Friday, the victim of numerous skull fractures, a broken leg and other injuries.

McLean, the son of Mrs. Allen McLean of Wagram, was found unconscious in the wreck of his demolished car on the Sanatorium curve about 3:30 a. m. Wednesday by the driver of an oil tanker. It was apparent that, traveling south from Aberdeen, he had lost control of the car, which skidded for some 400 feet, left the road and returned to it, only to overturn within a short distance. His condition is said to be grave.

He was driving a 1947 Chrysler sedan. In the earlier accident, Lentz and Walters were returning to Raeford after seeing the Duke-Carolina game when they lost control of their car and hit a pole at the Sanatorium curve. The car burst into flames, which were extinguished through the heroic action of Sanatorium staff members in saving the injured men.

An ironic highlight is that, after the victims were removed from the wreck and taken into the Sanatorium on stretchers, someone came along who was just the opposite of a Good Samaritan. Two wheels with their tires, (Continued on Page 5)

Madigan Car In Wednesday Collision

Obeying a photographer's first instinct—to save his camera if it kills him—Col. Donald L. Madigan narrowly missed serious injury in a collision at the intersection of West Vermont avenue and May street Wednesday about 5:15 p. m.

Driving down the Vermont Avenue hill from his home on the Ridge Street corner, Colonel Madigan put on brakes for the intersection, then grabbed for his very excellent camera as it started to fall from the seat beside him. As a result his foot slipped from the brake to the gas pedal, and the car leaped forward into the crossing, hitting the back end of a pickup truck driven by John Seward, of near Manly.

The bumper was knocked from the back of the truck and the Madigan car spun across the street and jumped the opposite curb. Its radiator, bumper and headlights were badly smashed. Colonel Madigan suffered some bruises and was badly shaken up.

P. S. He saved the camera. (Continued on Page 5)

"Next Time May The Gifts Be Of Gold"



Six of the seven charter members of the Sandhills Kiwanis club still active in the club after 25 years, received silver initial watch chains at the Silver Anniversary banquet. Leland McKeithen, president-elect, told them, "May we be together 25 years from now, when the gifts will be of gold." Reading from left, they are S. B. Richardson, R. L. Chandler, Sr., I. C. Sledge, J. Talbot Johnson, Rev. T. A. Cheatham, Charles W. Picquet, with McKeithen at right. G. C. Seymour, a member of the group, was absent. (Photo by Emerson Humphrey)