

Citizens Plan Collection For Youth Program

Will Raise \$750 Of \$2,200 Needed

Cameron Elected

The citizens' committee, meeting at John Ruggles' office Monday night, agreed to raise \$750 of the \$2,200 budget for the summer recreation program here.

In this they are following a tradition set in the past couple of years, when this group of citizens, interested mainly in support of youth and school projects, has each year undertaken a large part of the financial responsibility for the summer program sponsored by the Council of Social Agencies.

They are starting June 1 on their fund-raising, and hope to have it accomplished by the open-house it accomplished within a week.

June Phillips presided over the meeting, at which Herbert N. Cameron was elected as a new member of the group. An unofficial discussion was held of the situation now before the town, in which it is to be decided whether the Millen Park property is to be restored to use or discarded. E. C. Stevens gave a brief summary of the history of the park.

Present at the meeting were C. N. Page, C. L. Worsham, George C. Thompson, John Ruggles, E. C. Stevens, N. L. Hodgkins, J. T. Overton, Harry Lee Brown, L. T. Clark, J. W. Dickerson and June Phillips. Unable to attend were Morris Johnson, L. V. O'Callaghan, W. D. Campbell and John E. Clint.

Three Injured As Fire Destroys Niagara Home

Five people barely escaped with their lives in an early-morning fire at Niagara Sunday, when the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Seward was completely destroyed with practically all of its furnishings.

Mr. Seward, who received painful burns and was overcome by smoke as he sought to go upstairs to rouse others sleeping there, is a patient at the Moore County hospital. Mrs. Seward and their small son escaped by a window from their downstairs bedroom.

Mrs. Seward's screams aroused Miss Margie Glass, of Southern Pines, their house guest for the night, and she ran down a smoke-filled hall to awaken John Wesley Seward, Mr. Seward's brother. They found the stairs completely blocked by flames, climbed out of a window onto a porch and jumped.

Both injured their ankles. Taken later to the Moore County hospital, they were given treatment and Miss Glass' leg placed in a cast as a bone was found to be fractured.

Origin of the flames is said to be unknown, and the house burned so rapidly there was no time to investigate where it might have started. The Seward's in their downstairs room were said to have awakened about 5:40 a. m. to find their room filled with smoke and the fire already well under way outside their door.

The house was in the heart of (Continued on Page 5)

BEFORE YOU VOTE . . .

see State of the Union. This is the movie playing at the Carolina Theater tonight and Saturday.

What Spencer Tracy, as the candidate for president, has to say is something a lot of Americans need to hear. He says it, too, with an earnestness that sounds like the real thing.

The picture is a hard-hitting expose of the crooked political game that bad politics can be, but it gives an idea of what good politics can be, too.

Congratulations to our Charlie for giving us a chance to see it!

29 Boys And Girls Win High School Diplomas Tuesday Night



Southern Pines High school's class of 1948: First row, from left, Marguerite Assad, Amelia Willcox, Mrs. Mildred Weatherspoon Wright, Peggy Phillips, Carolyn Chester, Patricia Caddell, Shirley Dana, Sue Hall, Algene Wilson, Audrey Epps. Second row—William Warner, John Calloway, Robert McClellan, Pauline Crain, Myrtle Butler Dorothy Gale, Alfred Viall, Bryce Garner, Jerry Thompson. Third row—Neil Bailey Tommy Mattocks, Jordan Frassinetti, Windham Clark, Ted York, George Hodgkins, Eugene Maples, Joe Kimball, Peter Myers, Howard Scott Burns, Jr. (Photo by Humphrey)

Commencement Events Will Be Held Sunday, Tuesday At Local Churches

VETERANS' VIEW

Members of the Sandhills Veterans association considered the matter of Millen park at their meeting held Monday evening at the home of E. J. Austin.

While the problem as to whether or not the town should restore the park was of more particular interest to the members from Southern Pines, all the veterans agreed that such a place could be useful as a recreation spot for organizations such as theirs, as well as the general public.

E. J. Austin was named chairman of a committee to look into the situation, with a view toward endorsement or non-endorsement by the veterans' group of a resolution favoring restoration of the property as a park.

Billy Warner Wins Scholarship To Harvard

William B. (Billy) Warner, a member of this year's graduating class at the Southern Pines High school—valedictorian, in fact—has been notified that he has been awarded a Harvard Club scholarship to Harvard university, which he plans to enter in the fall.

The scholarship will give him \$600 a year toward his college expenses during his undergraduate years, as long as he maintains the requisite grades. And those who know Billy have no doubt about his ability to do that, and plenty more.

He has consistently maintained an average of E or better all during his school years, and has also achieved success in other phases of school life. He is president of the Student Council; has served as business manager of all the athletic teams this year and last; is a former president of the Teen Age club, and was president of his class in his freshman year.

He is a member of the Beta club and Hi-Y, student leadership and service organizations. His plans for the future are not definite as yet, but at present he is inclined toward the study of international law.

Billy, 18 years old this month, is the son of Mrs. Ruth Swisher, head of the high school commercial department, and the late William B. Warner. His stepfather is Dr. O. J. Swisher, who is connected with the state department of public health at Raleigh.

Baccalaureate Service, Graduation Scheduled

Southern Pines High School commencement events will be held Sunday evening, Tuesday morning and Tuesday night, culminating with the awarding of diplomas to 29 boys and girls of the class of 1948.

For lack of an auditorium, the events will be held in local churches, the evening programs in the Church of Wide Fellowship and that of Tuesday morning at the First Baptist church.

The baccalaureate service Sunday at 8:15 p. m. will present as speaker Dr. Mark Depp, pastor of Centenary Methodist church at Winston-Salem, with "A Place for Religion" as his sermon subject. Three local pastors will also take part, the Rev. T. G. Humphries, of the Church of Wide Fellowship, offering the invocation; the Rev. F. Craighill Brown, rector of Emmanuel Episcopal church, giving a Scripture reading, and Dr. Thompson E. Davis, of Brownson Memorial Presbyterian church, asking a benediction.

Music, with Mrs. L. D. McDonald at the organ, will include a hymn by the congregation: "The Nation's Prayer," and "Lead Me, Lord," sung by the high school glee club; processional and recessional of the senior class, in cap and gown.

Honors and Awards

Honors and Awards exercises will be held Tuesday at 11:15 a. m. at the First Baptist church, with Billy Warner, president of the Student Council, presiding. (Continued on Page 8)

SOFTBALL

Hold your hats, folks! A softball war is due to start between church teams on Monday, with the game called for 6:15. It will be a scrap between the Presbyterians and the Episcopalians, stout fellows, as everybody knows. Chances are there'll be full congregations there to help for their sides.

Word of the internecine fray has spread and a sixth team, that of the Manly Presbyterian church, has been added to the Church Softball League since we got that story printed on page 18, and will make its bow against the Wide Fellowship team Thursday afternoon.

We don't know what the Church Union folks would say to these battles among the brethren, but we think they're wonderful.

Batter up, deacon!

Local Democrats Named To Party Posts At Raleigh

Paul C. Butler and Mrs. P. P. McCain of Southern Pines, and Miss Helen Fields of Pinehurst, were elected to the state Democratic executive committee, at the Eighth District meeting preceding the state convention at Raleigh last Thursday.

Butler was elected as representative of Moore county, and Mrs. McCain and Miss Fields as two of six members at large from the district.

Poul C. Butler was also named (Continued on Page 5)

C Of C Committee Will Investigate Park Possibilities

Discussion by Chamber of Commerce directors Tuesday evening on the subject of whether Millen park can be restored to usefulness—or maybe made a greater asset to the town than it ever was before—resulted in the appointment by Chairman John S. Ruggles of a committee to study the situation and make a report at the next meeting.

Herbert N. Cameron was named chairman of the committee, with Hoke Pollock and Philip J. Weaver as members.

Pollock, in the preliminary discussion, had voiced doubts as to whether the park, at present owned by the town, could be restored at a reasonable cost. He had heard it estimated, he said, that it would cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 to do the job.

The possibilities that it need not cost this much, and that the place might be made into a real garden spot and tourist attraction, were voiced by others. Once cleared, the five-acre woodland which may be turned back to its owner, for lack of maintenance and use, would be a naturally beautiful site for azaleas, iris and other planting suitable to its moist, shaded soil, it was thought.

Though all did not agree that the project would be practicable, unanimity was seen in their expressed sentiment that to see all the timber cut and the land become a waste, as may happen if the town discards the park, would be extremely undesirable. Several of the directors said (Continued on Page 5)

Many Would Like To See Park Restored; Believe It Could Become Asset To Town

Practically everybody in town would like the Millen Park situation looked into more thoroughly before the town decides to return it to its former owner, according to what the Pilot learned cross-questioning up and down the street.

Many had seen and noted the pictures in the paper last week, showing the wooded "bird sanctuary" as it looked when given to the town 20 years ago, and as it looks now—a neglected jungle. Most of them seemed glad to say their say—with names attached.

In addition, some have written letters—see them on the editorial page this week—and the Chamber of Commerce and Sandhills Veterans' association have named committees to study the situation. Interest has been general, and concern widespread for the fate of the "bird sanctuary." The Pilot's "inquiring reporters" found just one dissenting

view. It's right in with all the rest:

L. D. McDONALD—My personal opinion is that the town should keep the park. Parks are important to any town. I think the lake should be fixed up, too, if possible, and the people allowed to use the place. I've lived here 11 years and I've never even been down there.

E. J. AUSTIN—I certainly do think we should keep the park and maintain it. A place like that would be a great loss if we were to let it go without ever realizing its possibilities. I didn't even know the town owned it until I saw it in The Pilot.

MISS BETTY BAUCOM—The Teen Agers could certainly use a park here in town. We like to go on picnics and always have to use cars to get to picnic places somewhere else. It would be fine if we had a place in town with woods and a lake.

J. W. ATKINSON—As long as it already belongs to the town, enough should be spent to keep it up, if it isn't too much. Once it is put in order, it should be easy to keep it that way. I remember when it looked lovely out there. There are a lot of kids in that section of town and it would be fine for them.

GRAHAM CULBRETH—Parks went out with the Model T, in my opinion. Nobody would use it but little children and it wouldn't be worth fixing it up just for them. I think we ought to give it back.

MRS. MONTIE MICHAEL—I think we really should have a park like that. This is a tourist town, and everything that makes the town nicer is so much better for us. It would be a big help. As it is, it is no use to anyone.

ARTHUR C. REED—I am for anything that will make our town (Continued on Page 5)

Primary Election Expected To Draw Throngs To Polling Places Saturday

ABANDONMENT

The long-fought battle of Carthage citizens to get the Moore Central railroad running again appeared to be lost last Friday when the ICC announced a decision favoring abandonment of the road.

The railroad, petitioner for abandonment, was reported to have a cash balance of 15 cents, with more than \$31,000 in judgments stacked up against it. Investigation showed that it would take at least \$50,000 to get the railroad in running order again, the ICC reported, whereas an offer of \$60,000 had been made to convert the physical assets to junk.

No mention was made of possible complications arising from a lien of the Internal Revenue department, for unpaid federal taxes, which has been placed on all property of Van B. Sharpe, of Pinehurst, owner of the Moore Central railroad.

Voters Will Choose Party Candidates For Many Offices

Campaign Has Been Hot

Southern Pines' largest registered electorate in many years, is expected to present a number of complications at the town's one voting place, the Community building, where the polls will be open from 6:30 a. m. to 6:30 p. m.

Tom G. Wicker, registrar, has asked that those who can cast their votes early do so, to avoid crowding and waiting during the final hours. More than 1,000 are expected to cast their votes here, and if these are spread out fairly evenly through the day they can be served without delay.

Saturday is also a registration day for the school bond issue special election in the Southern Pines district. Wicker says he will register any who come, who cannot get there at any other time. However, he suggests that registrants for the special election come Friday if possible, or any day next week, after the primary is over. The school bond issue election registration will continue through June 5.

Saturday, Democratic candidates for state offices for governor right on down are to be elected, and also for a number of county offices. With few contenders, the county contest has been far overshadowed in interest by that of the state, where battles are being fought on a vast scale for the major offices, and candidates are neck and neck.

In Moore county, the only contests are in District 5: between Gordon M. Cameron and Everett P. Hinson for the board of commissioners, and between Jere McKeithen and W. D. Shannon for the board of education. Other offices to be filled at this time are sought by the incumbents (Continued on Page 5)

Betty Teeter Is Named Winner Of Vets' Scholarship

Miss Betty Teeter, of Jackson Springs, a member of the class of 1948 at West End High school, was chosen Saturday to receive the Sandhills Veterans Association scholarship for a three-year nurse training course.

Miss Thelma McKenzie, of West End, Rt. 1, salutatorian of the Pinehurst High school's graduating class, was selected as alternate. Miss McKenzie is the daughter of Mrs. Ada McKenzie and the late Mr. McKenzie, and is the youngest of five children.

Four young ladies were interviewed by the board of judges meeting at the Nurses' home, and a comment of one of the judges later was, "I wish we could have chosen them all. They are splendid girls, all with fine school records and showed great promise. I hope all will continue with their nurse training ambitions."

Richard Greer, of Aberdeen, president of the Sandhills Veterans association, presented the scholarship to Miss Teeter at her high school graduation exercises at West End Tuesday night.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Jennie Teeter, who is a nurse at Moore County hospital. Her father was a World War 1 veteran. There are three children in the family.

Selection was made on the basis of all-round achievement at school, personality, good health and aptitude for a nursing career. The only condition attendant upon the scholarship, which provides around \$300 a year for incidental expenses of the training, is that the winner return to Moore county to practice her profession following graduation.

This is the veterans' association's contribution to the Good Health program of state and county. Their first scholarship winner, Miss Leatrice Simpson of Lakeview, is now completing her first year of training at High Point Memorial hospital.

Miss Teeter will select her training school. If for any reason she is not accepted, or cannot proceed with her training as planned, Miss McKenzie will receive the scholarship.

PINE NEEDLES

No further news this week on the sale of the Pine Needles to the North Carolina Catholic diocese, as it was reported that negotiations stand just where they did last week.

With several technicalities yet to be ironed out, the diocesan lawyer was summoned away by a death in his family, necessitating a delay of several days.

A meeting of all parties was expected to take place this week end.

Another Robbins Child Has Polio

Moore county's fifth—or maybe sixth—case of polio within the month developed last week, when Marcus E. Preslar, Jr., seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Preslar of Robbins, came down with the disease.

He was taken to the Guilford Polio Center at Greensboro Sunday, said Dr. J. W. Wilcox, county health officer. Aid is being given by the Moore County chapter of the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation, it was learned from Paul C. Butler, chapter chairman.

All the cases so far—five of them confirmed, one never definitely so—have been in and around Robbins. The Preslar child lives within a block of the school, where he is in the second grade.

Henry Davis, 10, was brought back to his home on Steeds, Rt. 1, from Rex hospital, Raleigh, much improved, according to Chairman Butler, who says also that the word from the two little Davis girls, Menry's cousins, also of Steeds, Rt. 1, is that they are doing nicely at the Guilford Polio Center. He has no new information on Willard Williams, of Robbins, who was taken to Duke with his little sister Martha, the one whose case was never definitely confirmed.

The Preslar child's case is polio of the throat, which can be very serious. However, memories of the miraculous recovery of little Patty Dupree, of Southern Pines, from this type of polio last summer offer hope.

The closing of the county schools last week, and of the local school this week will make it easier for parents to protect their children from crowds in the face of the continued incidence of polio, said Mr. Butler. Precautions taken now may prevent the spread of the disease.

He asked that parents not take their children about the county or into crowds.