

Carthage, Aberdeen Tobacco Markets Keep Early Date, Open Sale Thursday

Company Buyers Stay Away, Graders Say They Won't Grade

Good Prices Prevailing

Tobacco markets opened at Carthage and Aberdeen Thursday morning, with government graders present but declining to grade in the absence of company buyers.

The start of the sale was delayed as warehousemen, graders and independent buyers met to hash over the situation. On decision to proceed with the sale anyway, a full explanation was made to the growers present, who were advised that they could "turn their tickets" to prevent sale if they wished to do so under the circumstances.

It was not reported that any bid was made, and the sale proceeded briskly, with good opening prices prevailing, and the floors soon cleared at the Aberdeen, Planters and Carter's warehouses in Aberdeen, and McConnell's and the two Smothers Brothers warehouses at Carthage.

Faith Is Shown

Offerings were somewhat light but faith in the markets, which opened this year for the first time on the same date as the Eastern Belt markets, was shown by a number of growers who brought their tobacco early to the floors.

Though the tobacco men had announced some weeks ago, and repeatedly affirmed, their decision to open August 19 instead of the assigned date of September 2, the opening remained dubious on account of the uncertainty of securing government graders. This was left in suspension until Wednesday. Two graders arrived at Carthage and one at Aberdeen Thursday morning.

What action will be taken to (Continued on Page 5)

Straka Reports

Poolroom Looted

Theft of a considerable amount of money from his place of business, with some merchandise, was reported to city police this week by George R. Straka, proprietor of Straka's Pool room.

The business was closed for a month while Mr. Straka was out of town from July 12 to August 12. On going to his place to open up last Friday morning, Mr. Straka said, he found that \$148.36 in cash had been taken, also a box of cigars and two cartons of cigarettes.

A search of the basement revealed that two cases of beer belonging to the VFW clubroom upstairs were also missing.

He said the cash was in bags, which had been placed in a bucket and hidden. It consisted of \$103 in pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, half dollars, one-dollar bills and five-dollar bills separately counted and bagged, with \$45.36 in another bag, Mr. Straka reported.

No window or door appeared to have been forced, he said, and it was believed the intruder had a key.

He also said that last weekend, someone entered the home of his mother, Mrs. Mary R. Straka, took about \$2 in change and drank a quart of milk. No one was home at the time. A roomer, Sergeant Stubbs, said he heard an outside door slam as he entered, and believed he had frightened the intruder away.

In regard to the theft at his place of business, Mr. Straka said that a friend had told him of a man seen inside, through a window, early on the morning of July 29. The man was described as wearing a light colored shirt. From other details of the description, Mr. Straka said he believed he could identify the intruder as a man who had recently passed some bad checks here. Acting on information he secured, he drove to Hyde county and had a warrant issued.

It was on Saturday night, August 7, that a number of break-ins occurred south of town and in Aberdeen. Five were reported, with none inside the Southern Pines city limits.

FLAGPOLE

The red, white and blue will soon be flying from a new 60-foot flagpole at the High School Memorial park. In fact, a crew is working hard to get the pole ready for the first flag-hoisting in time for the N. C. Championship Softball tournament, to open at the park this afternoon.

The flagpole is the gift of the Sandhill post, American Legion, to the Southern Pines school. Bedded in concrete, it will stand as a permanent and inspiring addition to the athletic field. Charles Swoope of Pinehurst, post commander, is in charge of the installation.

This is the third important gift of the year to the field, marking it as a true community sports center. The John Boyd post, VFW, gave and installed the dugouts, and the Southern Pines Town team gave the bleachers.

Powell Funeral

Home Will Open Aberdeen Branch

The Powell Funeral home, one of Southern Pines' oldest businesses, will open a branch in Aberdeen about October 1, it was learned this week from D. A. Blue, Jr., and Troy Geer, partners in ownership and operation.

They have purchased the E. L. McBride home, one block from Aberdeen's business district, and will prepare it as a fully equipped funeral home as soon as the present occupants move out.

The McBrides will move to their new home, now nearing completion, about September 15. Mr. Geer, who came to the Powell Funeral home from Ruthersford in January, 1947, will move to Aberdeen with his wife and small son, and will be in residence at the funeral home to supervise all activities. The new branch will have its own display room, funeral facilities and ambulance service.

Mr. Blue will remain with his family at the Southern Pines branch. The partners will continue to work together and the branches will be operated as one business.

Both are World War 2 army veterans. Mr. Blue, a native of Southern Pines, was manager of the Powell Funeral home here from 1935 until he entered army service. He was an X-ray technician at the 109th General hospital in England during the war. He returned to his former position, and in January, 1947, purchased the business with Mr. Geer as partner and assistant.

Walter G. Jones

Is New Officer With Local Police

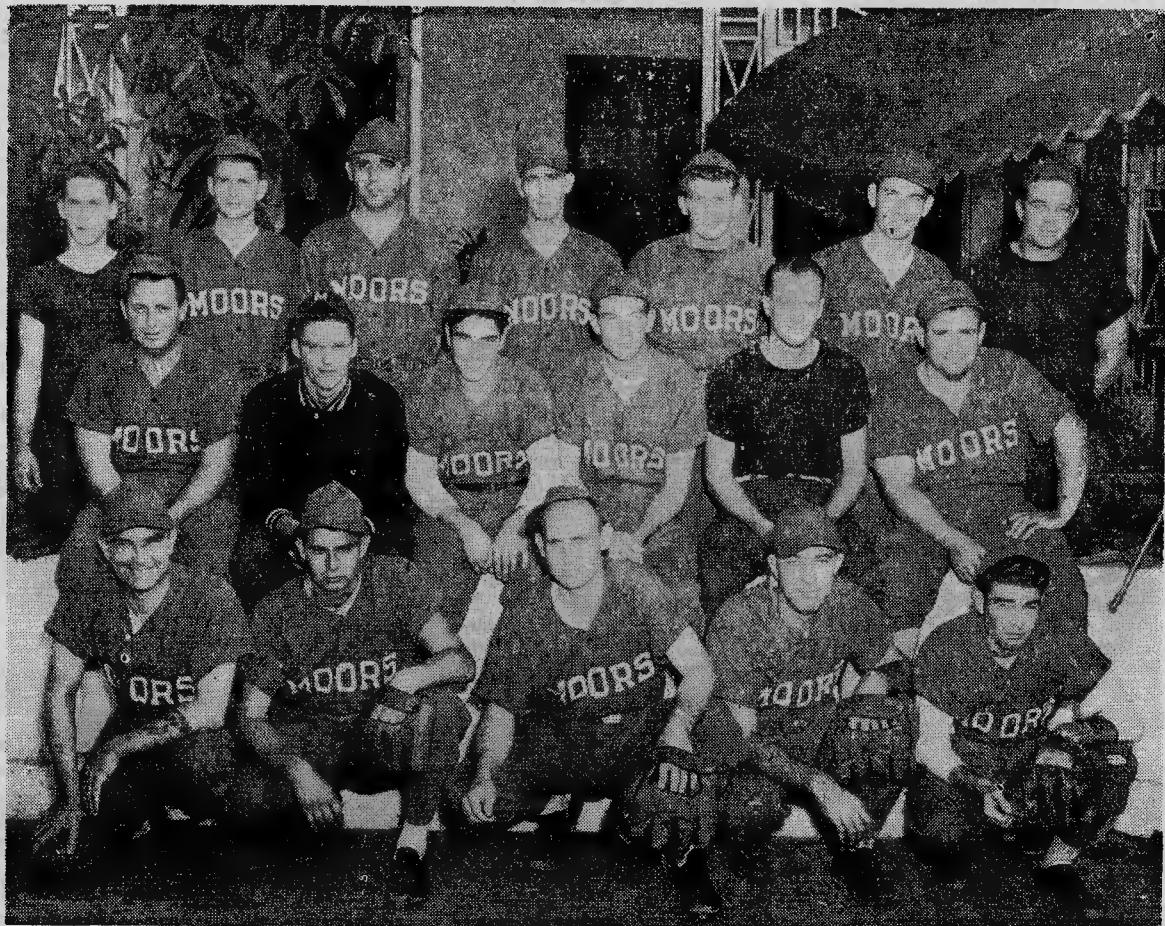
Walter G. Jones, son of the late ABC Officer A. D. Jones, has joined the staff of the Southern Pines police department, succeeding Night Officer Henry Bradford, now a driver with the Red Fox Taxi company.

Officer Jones has been a member of the state highway patrol for the past 20 months, serving for more than a year at Yanceyville and for the past few months at Burlington. He is a graduate of the Pinehurst High school, served three years in the U. S. Navy and was accepted for state highway patrol training soon after his discharge following the end of the war.

His father was well known as a law enforcement officer in this section, first as a constable in this township, then as chief of police at Gibson and from 1938 to 1942 as a member of the Pinehurst police department. In 1942 he became assistant ABC law enforcement officer in Moore county. He moved to Southern Pines in June, 1947.

Officer Walter Jones and his wife, the former Miss Ruby Lee Farmer of Yanceyville, are with his mother at the Jones home on East Vermont avenue.

Mooresville Moors Defend 1947 Title Here Today



Come on out to Memorial field this afternoon and watch the state champs play softball! Here they are—the Mooresville Moors: back row, Carrol Waldrop, Rut Edwards, Dude Williams, Marvin Daughtery, Bob Lee, Clayton Dyson, Johnny Miller; middle row, Clyde Smith, Ken Rudeen, Bob Dingler, Rit Dingler, Clyde Murray, Temp Deal; front row, Paul Brady, Herman Hedrick, Phil McLaughlin, Wade Robinson, Charlie Dingler.

N. C. Softball Tournament Opens With Five Games This Afternoon

Star Athletes Will Be Seen Here As Nine Teams Battle For Championship

By Tom Wicker
The rosters of most of the champion softball teams playing here beginning this weekend are studded with stars from top to bottom. All have survived nip-and-tuck elimination battles in their own districts and to be in this tournament at all, the players simply have to be the best in the state.

Electric Construction company of Chapel Hill boasts famed Art Weiner, giant end on the Carolina football team, at first base. Weiner, well-known for his football pass-snaring abilities, is also possessor of a well-earned reputation as a wise-cracking clown and is expected to add a lot of color to the tournament here.

Also on the roster of the Chapel Hill nine is Charlie Thorne, well-known member of the Carolina basketball team, and Fred Bauer, wingback on the football Tar Heels.

Burrus Stoker, pitching star of the Greensboro Bur-Mil outfit, set a new record of consecutive scoreless innings recently in a district tournament in Greensboro. Stoker fire-balled 32 consecutive scoreless innings in that tournament, winning one game by 1-0 in 10 innings, another by 2-0, and losing an 11-inning heartbreaker, 1-0. Another strong Greensboro pitcher, "Boss" Lumley, hurled four-hit ball for his team in their tourney-winning game.

Perhaps the most famed team in the tournament is the Romanos of Roanoke Rapids, state winners of the state championship, from 1939 through 1942 without a break. The only other previous champion entered is the Mooresville Moors, defending their title won at Greensboro last year.

The Moors are favored again this year, as their team is stronger, if anything, than it was last year. Roanoke Rapids and Spofford Mills of Wilmington, along with Bur-Mil of Greensboro are traditional strong finishers, and the Canton Champion Y team is regarded as a red-hot "dark horse." "The fact is," says Jim Day, executive secretary of the N. C. Amateur Softball association, "you can't really predict a winner. All the teams are good (Continued on Page 8)

VFW In Organizing Mood; Auxiliary, "Cooties," Model Plane Club Planned

The John Boyd post, VFW, is going into organization in a big way, with announcements this week of three important new projects promising plenty of activity ahead.

A ladies' auxiliary, a "pup tent" of "Cooties" (VFW fun organization) and sponsorship of a model aviation club for youths and adults of the Sandhills were all reported by Commander C. S. Patch, Jr. to be under way, with first steps taken at the post's Monday night meeting.

With only 15 names required for a charter, 32 have been secured by Trustee John H. Stephenson for the auxiliary of the John Boyd post, which has gone along for two and a half years as a bachelor unit. The post voted to get the ladies off to a good start by paying the \$25 charter fee. A meeting will be called in September, and the charter will be kept open for 45 days, for the addition of more names.

The post is working with Alonzo Thomas of Beaufort, "grand seam squirrel," on the

organization of its "Cooties," and their application is expected to be forwarded shortly to the national headquarters. Here again the post is coming to the fore with charter payment in hand.

"Cooties," who wear their own special caps and uniforms, win membership because of special qualifications and on invitation only. Nineteen charter invitations have been extended, and additional names are to be added, to bring the unit up to its permitted strength of 10 to 15 per cent of the post membership.

Model Aviation Club
The model aviation club is perhaps the most ambitious of any yet undertaken by the post. Funds have been appropriated to secure the requisite paraphernalia for its start. It is believed that in Southern Pines and surrounding towns enough enthusiasts are pursuing their hobby alone, or in small groups, to give the Sandhills one of the state's best.

Bill Benson, honorary member of the post and model plane fan of long standing, has been named (Continued on Page 8)

1947 Champs In Opener At 1 P. M. Memorial Field

With play opening today at 1 p. m. at the High School Memorial field, all is in readiness for the great 1948 state championship tournament of the N. C. Amateur Softball association, sponsored by the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce.

Five games are on tap today, and play will continue steadily through next Wednesday, when the finals will be run off. Monday alone is an open date for the nine competing teams.

The Mooresville Moors, 1947 champions, open the tournament in a game with Electric Construction company of Chapel Hill, a team which features many collegiate stars in its line-up. The Moors are expected to take this opener, but in fast softball such as this tournament will feature, anything can happen.

At 2 o'clock the Roanoke Rapids Romanos will take the field against the strong Mt. Airy Moose Lodge team. Early dope gives the nod to Roanoke Rapids on this one, which should be one of the best of the opening day games.

Three More Friday
At 3, it will be the Canton Y, a dark-horse favorite against Hinson's Economy Store of Concord, a team about which little is known. Four o'clock will find Greensboro Bur-Mil squaring off against Spofford Mills of Wilmington. Neither has ever taken the state crown, but both are perennial semi-finalists, and this game may have a strong bearing on the outcome of the tournament.

In the final game, at 5 o'clock, the winner of the earlier Mooresville-Chapel Hill game will take on the strong Seminoles, sponsored by Textiles, Inc. of Gastonia, rounding out the afternoon's schedule of five games.

Double Elimination
On Saturday, beginning again at 1 p. m., the winner's and loser's brackets will go into operation. This being a double elimination affair, it is necessary that a team be defeated twice before losing a chance for the title. Sunday will see three games, starting at 3 p. m. After Sunday, pairings are so arranged that only four teams will remain in the running. Monday is an open day, the two semi-final games are scheduled for Tuesday at 4 p. m., and the finals begin Wednesday at 4 p. m.

Trophies will be awarded the winning and runner-up teams. (Continued on page 4)

Countywide Vote Scheduled Tuesday For Bond Issue For Aberdeen Schools

NO POLIO

No polio this week! In fact, Moore county, which had 55 cases in May, June and July, has had only one so far in the month of August, reported Monday a week ago.

Dr. J. W. Willcox, county health officer, cautioned against relaxation of the quarantine, which remains in effect. "The danger may not yet be over," he said. "We have had too bad a time to take any risks."

He expressed appreciation for the cooperation and common sense shown by Moore County citizens so far in their quarantine observance.

The board of health will meet at his office Monday to reach a decision on the lifting of the quarantine, and the opening of schools.

Needs Of Congested District Emphasized

Supporters Face Problems

The \$375,000 bond issue for school buildings for the Aberdeen district comes up for countywide vote next Tuesday, with all regular polling places open from 6 a. m. to 6 p. m.

With indications that the bond issue will be fought in various quarters, supporters of the bond issue in Aberdeen and other places have been busy this week promoting their cause with all means at their command.

Opposition is expected in the Pinebluff area, where a group of citizens are banded to fight any move for schools in the Aberdeen district which does not include an elementary school for Pinebluff; by some Republicans whose county executive committee went on record as opposing the bond issue because it is for just one district instead of many; by others who also do not favor the priority given the crowded Aberdeen district, feel the amount is too high or that it might raise taxes.

The biggest enemy, however, the supporters feel, will be indifference on the part of voters who fail to see the issue as a countywide concern.

It was to the indifferent that the Aberdeen folk this week made their most urgent appeal. With a fight in view, it will take every possible affirmative vote to put the bond issue across, they said.

They pointed out that, once the Aberdeen schools are built—a conceded priority need—the countywide building program for all districts can get under way; that if the issue is lost, it may be (Continued on Page 5)

Rush, McDonald Named Members Of Draft Board

Third Will Be Chosen: Felton, Sabiston Advisors

Maxwell Rush, of Southern Pines, and Allen McDonald, of West End, both veterans of World War 2, will be two of the three members of the Moore County draft board, it seems at present virtually certain.

Their recommendation has been accepted by Governor Cherry, for recommendation to, and appointment by, the President.

The third man recommended, James Muse, of Carthage, was found unacceptable on account of technicalities concerning his military retirement status, and the nominations committee will meet next week to choose another name for presentation.

The committee's nomination of W. B. Sabiston, Jr., as legal advisor, and Dr. R. L. Felton as medical advisor were accepted. Both are from Carthage.

H. Lee Thomas, speaking for the nominations committee whose other members are John Willcox and S. C. Riddle (all of Carthage) said they felt eminently satisfied with the men accepted, believing them an exceptionally able lot.

He said they regretted extremely the fact that Mr. Muse cannot be called on to serve, as they felt he was well suited to the post.

Their task of selection, performed at the Governor's request, was not an easy one. Desiring to have at least part of the membership made up of veterans, they found themselves restricted in several ways. Members of organized reserves as well as those of certain other military (Continued on Page 5)

Dixiecrat Check Shows 338 Moore Signers Qualified

An even 100 out of 438 Dixiecrat petition-signers of Moore county were found not to be registered voters, and 338 were certified to the state board of elections this week by Sam C. Riddle, of Carthage, chairman of the county board of elections.

Mr. Riddle gathered up the primary books of practically every precinct early this week for a concentrated two days of checking, at the state board's request. He found it quite a job, he said. Many of the names were hastily scrawled and hard to read. Many also were not signed in the same way as on the registration books.

Acting on the state board's instructions, however, he said he gave "the benefit of the doubt" where there was any.

He was not asked, he said, to (Continued on Page 8)

Pilot Editor Visits Home for Refugee Children, Switzerland

Yesterday I went up to see the Kinderheim. This is the home for children that is on the hillside above the town of Ascona, near Brissago.

This part of Switzerland is right on the Italian border. In fact, in many ways it seems more Italian than Swiss.

The frontier on this side, the north side, of Lago Maggiore is on the edge of the town of Brissago. You enter it along the lakeside road, and between the two frontiers, of Italy and Switzerland, is a small, very old stone bridge. It is a lovely bridge, with a graceful curve to its single arch; but it is a sinister bridge; dreadful things happened on it.

During the war, it was across this bridge that people sometimes crept into neutral, safe Switzerland, and, after the war, it was there that occurred one of those senseless acts of cruelty that appeared so often in this past war.

It was right at the end. Italy had given up. Here, in Brissago, there were many refugees from Italy: families of women and

their children who had fled to safety and who had lived here, in Switzerland, only a few miles from their homes during the war years. When the news came that Italy had surrendered, there was rejoicing among these people.

The war had never been popular with the Italian peasants and to these refugees, living so near their homes, it had seemed particularly senseless. Now they could go home.

Without waiting to do more than gather up their few belongings, these women and children set out, hurrying down the road to Italy.

They came to the Swiss frontier. There was the line beyond. They hurried, the children running ahead out onto the old stone bridge.

But there were some German soldiers at the other side of the bridge, and to them the war was not over. They watched the children run out onto the bridge; they watched the mothers coming (Continued on Page 11)