

VOL 30—NO 41

14 PAGES THIS WEEK

Southern Pines, N. C. Friday, September 2, 1949.

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TEN CENTS

Coble Announces Bond Issue Roads For Moore County

"Back Road" To Bragg Reservation Will Be Paved

A list of 32 hardsurfacing projects for Moore county under the \$200,000,000 road building program, was announced Wednesday by District Commissioner George Coble.

It includes one of especial importance to Southern Pines—the 1.9-mile stretch of road from Connecticut Avenue extension to the Hoke County (Bragg reservation boundary) line.

Information from Mr. Coble to The Pilot was that he plans a conference with Army officials soon, with a view toward getting the entire length of the road hardsurfaced. The part within the reservation, something over 18 miles, is under Army jurisdiction, not that of the state.

Mr. Coble is the first of the 10 district commissioners to announce the list of secondary road improvement projects for his district, thus leading off the accelerated roadbuilding program sanctioned by the statewide June 4 election.

Connecting Link

While all the projects on the list are important to this county, the Fort Bragg road is of great interest here, as it forms the connecting link and short-cut for Fort Bragg and Pope field personnel living in Southern Pines. Its present condition makes their daily commuting a considerable hardship, and has prevented more of the Army people from moving to Southern Pines, as many have said they wish to do.

The day the roadbuilding announcement was made, the Highway Commission also reported on low bids for projects in 28 counties, to be built under the regular road program. These include three structures on the county road between Carthage and Glendon, in Moore, low bidder was (Continued on Page 8)

Ishmael Hill Is Drowned As Car Plunges Into Lake

Ishmael Hill, about 23 years old, a bookkeeper for the Mid-South Motors at Aberdeen, met a swift and tragic death shortly before 2 a. m. Thursday when his car plunged from the road near Aberdeen into a five-foot-deep lake.

Traveling south on US Highway 1, Hill apparently lost control of his car as he approached the ornamental lake of the Forest Hills development, on the east side of the highway.

An unidentified motorist, traveling behind him, saw the car plunge into the lake, drove quickly to a nearby service station and put in an ambulance call. The Powell Funeral home at Southern Pines responded, also the Southern Pines Fire department, bringing floodlights and the resuscitator.

The car, which was upside down in the water, was pulled out at once but Hill's body was not recovered until about 6:30 a. m. despite prolonged effort to find it. Thrown out of the car through the top as the car struck a drain-pipe and overturned, he was found some 12 feet away by Richard Kaylor. It was apparent that he was dead and the resuscitator was not used.

The aid of Kaylor, Scout leader, qualified lifesaver and lifeguard, had been enlisted by his father, Southern Pines Resident Fireman Frank Kaylor, about daybreak. Richard brought up Hill's body on the third dive.

Coroner Hugh P. Kelly rendered a verdict of death by accidental drowning.

Young Hill was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Avon Hill of Clayton, Rt. 1. He had been employed by the Aberdeen company since February, and had been rooming at the home of Mrs. Brickman.

The body was sent Thursday to Clayton. Funeral plans were not known here at that time but it was believed services would be held at Clayton today (Friday).



ALFRED CHISWELL

DR. J. W. WILLCOX

Mobile X-Ray Unit Will Be Here Next Week; All Citizens Asked To Pay Visit

The mobile X-ray unit shown above will be in Southern Pines and West Southern Pines all next week; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday on East Pennsylvania avenue at Broad street, and Friday and Saturday at West Southern Pines.

Staffed by technicians of the state department of health, the unit will offer free X-rays to all the citizens for detection of actual or incipient tuberculosis. The X-ray is quick and clothing need not be removed.

Object of the sponsoring agencies—the state and county health departments—is 100 per cent coverage of all residents of both rural and town communities, and everyone is asked to present himself for the X-ray. He will receive a written report within two or three weeks. The Moore County Tuberculosis association is paying for the survey out of funds

given by Moore citizens in Christmas Seal campaigns.

With the unit above are shown Alfred G. Chiswell, left of Southern Pines, a staff member of the state department of health, who has assisted in setting up the program here, and Dr. J. W. Willcox, health officer of the Moore-Hoke district.

Two units (with an auxiliary) have been supplied Moore county for the countywide survey, which will take until October (and one has also been supplied Hoke county, which is having a survey at the same time.

More than 200 persons were surveyed on the opening day, last Friday, by the units stationed at Gaines store and Harris Cross-roads, and 300 or more the next day. On Saturday, one unit was stationed at Jackson Springs, and the other at the highway prison camp, where all the prisoners were R-rayed.

Attention, Kids—Wednesday Will Be First Day Of School In Town, County

LABOR DAY

The Labor Day holiday will be observed by a general suspension of business Monday, with the closing of all stores. Stores will also observe the usual Wednesday closing next week, according to word from the Merchants association.

City and county offices will be closed. General delivery and stamp windows at the post office will be open only until 10 a. m., though incoming and outgoing mail will be worked as usual.

County commissioners will meet Tuesday instead of Monday, and recorders court will be held Tuesday also. The jury trial session, usually held the first Monday, will be on the second Monday, September 12, instead.

Sandhills Tennis Tournament Opens Here Next Week

The Sandhills Open Tennis tournament, sponsored by the newly formed Sandhills Tennis association, will start at 10 a. m. Saturday, September 10, on the local courts, with full daytime and evening schedules for both the first and second days.

The event will continue throughout the week, with finals Saturday, September 17. Trophies will be awarded in all events—men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles, mixed doubles, junior girls' singles and doubles and junior boys' singles and doubles. A minimum of six entries will be required for the holding of one event.

The complete schedule will be announced next week, according to Angelo Montesanti, Jr., of the tournament committee. Other members of the committee are Frank de Costa, Harry Lee Brown, Jr., and Francis Stubbs, of Southern Pines; Robert Page, Jr., of Aberdeen; Colin McKenzie, Pinehurst, and P. A. Wilson, Vass.

Entries will be welcomed from (Continued on page 8)

Summer's running out, kids—a few more days, a Labor Day weekend of holiday fun (and that last swim) then with Wednesday comes the opening of school in both the town and the county.

The Southern Pines school will open at 9 a. m. Wednesday, and also on Thursday, for shortened sessions lasting only until noon, according to Supt. P. J. Weaver. Friday will be the first full day of school, with the regular hours observed—8:15 a. m. to 2 p. m. with a 25-minute recess for lunch.

Classes should be in full swing by the following Monday, with no more holiday in prospect until Thanksgiving.

A full complement of teachers awaits the onrush of young people, from first graders embarking on a brand-new experience to the high school seniors tasting the joys of their superior estate for the first time.

Teachers' meetings will be held Tuesday in the elementary school library. Elementary teachers will meet at 3 p. m., and will be joined at 3:30 p. m. by the high school teachers for a joint session. The high school teachers' meeting will be held at 4 p. m.

CONTROLS OFF

Rent controls have been lifted in Moore county as of August 30, according to information received here Thursday by Harry Menzel, chairman of the local rent advisory board, from the area office in Fayetteville.

The removal of restrictions effective since early in the war was made by Housing Expeditor Tighe E. Woods. Machinery for the controls, though placed an inactive status, will remain in place for use again if needed.

Warning was issued that the controls can be returned at any time if too many rents go up too fast, creating undue hardships.

Some rents, however, will certainly go up, as many inequalities have been noted in this area. The removal is expected to correct these "without in reason," as the old law of supply and demand goes again into force.

Here's What You'll Vote On ENGINEERS' REPORT ON WATER PLANT

Mr. C. N. Page, Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Southern Pines
Gentlemen:

We wish to bring up to date and summarize our various recommendations which have been made from time to time, including observations from yesterday's meeting with your board, Mr. Butler and my associate, C. P. Mason, and myself. As a matter for the record, all of us present yesterday agreed that:

(1) That the Town should now construct approximately 18,500 feet of 12-inch, 10-inch and 8-inch water mains on Ridge street, Morganton road, Wisconsin avenue, Stevens street, Gaines street, Hardin street, New Hampshire avenue, Pee Dee road, Central drive, and from the plant to distribution system for the purpose of increasing pressure, and more particularly providing a separate line into the Town so that you would not be out of water in case of failure of the one line which is now the only feeder from the plant. A disaster of this kind was barely averted in recent years.

This phase of the project is considered vitally necessary, and is estimated to cost \$130,000.

(2) We also unanimously agreed that the Town should now renovate, repair and modernize the existing waterworks plant which was constructed 25 years ago, at which time the population was approximately 750. During this time there have been no material improvements. While this plant has served its purpose quite well we must remember that it can not last forever.

Some of the necessary improvements are:

- (a) New pumping system and new pumps which will reduce cost of pumping by \$800 annually and also provide an adequate amount of water for any foreseeable emergency.
- (b) Provide adequate storage space for chemicals, means of regulating the feeding of these chemicals, and at the same time reduce the amount of hand labor involved. At present these chemicals are fed in concentrated quantities, and this cannot be rectified without the installation of new equipment.
- (c) The present plant (designed 1924) did not provide for mechanical flocculation and mixing, which is a phase of treatment now demanded in all purification plants. This deficiency may be the cause of certain infrequent periods when the treated water tests indicate a high bacteria count.
- (d) The present manually controlled operating tables are most inconvenient and to some degree unsatisfactory. All modern plants now have hydraulically operated tables.
- (e) Due to inadequate storage space it is now necessary to have certain materials, working tools, and equipment kept out in the open. Thus additional storage space is needed.
- (f) The roof on the clear water reservoir will fail within a few years unless repairs are made. There is also needed a revamping of the piping system connecting with this reservoir.

(3) The capacity of the plant must be enlarged now or in the immediate future. In this connection it is well to remember that it will require approximately 12 months from the date of preparing to let the construction contract until the new plant could be put into operation. The rated capacity of the plant is one million gallons per day, but this can not be depended upon at 100 per cent every day in the year.

There have been several days in 1949 when the water consumption was 800,000 gallons per day. It is, therefore, very important that the Town should remember that:

- (a) When you consider 12 months for letting the contract for construction and
- (b) When consumption has doubled in the past 15 years, or 7 percent increase per year, and
- (c) When there should always be a factor of safety to provide for emergency, additional water users, small plants, or small industries, and
- (d) If there should be a long dry period, or extensive fires there would be an unusually heavy demand for water. Under these circumstances and contingencies you are faced with the fact that this plant needs to be both modernized and enlarged at this time, if you are to adequately provide health and safety measures for the Town.

In view of questions in your mind as to the necessity for immediate enlargement of the plant—separate from improvements thereto—and a similar suggestion by Mr. Butler whom you employed to check our work, we have tried seriously to devise some means by which we could submit a plan for making urgent improvements now and deferring the enlargement feature a few years hence.

In the first place, according to all records, this could not be deferred more than two years for letting the contract, or three years for operations of the new plant.

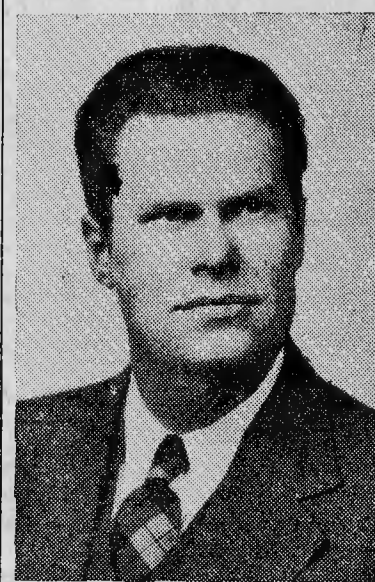
In the second place, as you will remember from our discussions yesterday, we and the others present were wholly unable to draw any definable line between the two phases of work. Even if we could do so, there most certainly would be an increase in cost of at least \$20,000 which would result from doing the work in two stages instead of one.

Moreover, we can find no way in which necessary alterations can be made in the present plant without first constructing the new features with which to treat the water during these alterations.

- (4) We are happy to report that your raw water supply is excellent and adequate; the line from the reservoir to the plant will suffice for many years; that the wash-water tank is adequate for the enlarged plant, and that the clear water reservoir is adequate for the proposed enlarged plant.
- (5) We have studied the possibility of the needs for another elevated steel tank. We have proposed the distribution lines so as to feed into a new tank for some future date. The elevated storage now is below normal requirements. But with the present clear water reservoir, additional proposed large water mains and the new pumping system, this new tank may be deferred for many years.
- (6) With estimates of \$130,000 for the distribution system; and \$15,000 for miscellaneous expenses and engineering, \$130,000 for alterations and enlargement of the plant; we believe that the entire cost of this project will be close to \$275,000.

Raleigh, N. C. August 23. L. E. WOOTEN AND COMPANY

Board Members Urge Voter's Approval In Water Bond Election



REV. R. L. HOUSE

Richmond Pastor Accepts Call, Will Come In November

The Rev. Robert Lee House, pastor of the First Congregational church of Richmond, Va., has accepted the call to the pastorate of the Church of Wide Fellowship and will assume his duties here November 1.

He is a native of Franklin county, North Carolina, a graduate of the Franklin High school and of Duke university, class of 1929. He received his B. D. degree at Duke in 1929. During his student days he preached at Hanks Chapel, near Pittsboro, and since that time his ministry has been in Virginia.

He served the First Congregational Christian church at Newport News, 1931-36, and during that time was for a term president of the Eastern Virginia conference of Congregational Christian churches. During that period he was married to Miss June Joy Hyatte.

Editor, Officer

He was pastor of the First Christian church in Portsmouth, Va., for three years, and in February, 1940, went to the Richmond church. In addition to his services there he has been editor of the Christian Sun, a weekly publication of his denomination; has served as treasurer of the Interdenominational Foundation for Religious Work in State Institutions. (Continued on page 8)

FRONT PAGE NEWS

The unusual volume of front-page copy in connection with the bond election, rather crowded some other fronting an outstanding position, page stories into The Pilot's inside pages.

This implies no lessening of their importance or value. It's just that what Bob Harlow called "some sort of bond election for some water pipes" here is the most vital matter to come before this community in a good many years. It's The Pilot's job to inform the voters fully, and we are trying to do just that.

Readers are asked to peruse all inside pages carefully, for news which otherwise have rated front page space.

Let's Clean Up Those Old Bills

As "Pay Your Bills" week opens here (September 1-10) it was revealed that a survey of 42 merchants queried at random last week reported that they were carrying a total of \$211,279.28 on their books.

Most of these represent past due accounts. The survey was made just as September bills were about to be sent out. Many accounts, in fact, are long, long past due.

The merchants queried represent less than half of those in town, including professional men and others who extend credit, and the total might reasonably be estimated at \$250,000 or more, according to Harry Fullenwider,

Tuesday Will Be Voting Day Here

Southern Pines voters will go to the polls at City Hall Tuesday between 6:30 a. m. and 6:30 p. m. to vote "yea" or "nay" on a question gravely affecting the future of the town.

The town board, after prolonged study of the water plant situation here, and the securing of engineers' recommendations and estimates, is asking voters to approve a bond issue of \$275,000 for modernization and expansion of the water facilities here.

Facts contained in the engineers report, shown in an adjacent column, indicate that the present plant and equipment have only a little while to go before drastic measures must be taken. As Mayor Page points out, a year and a half have been consumed in making the survey, another year will be required to construct the plant annex, install new machinery and build the needed water lines.

The engineers have given the present plant only three years of continued usefulness, based on water use increase averages over 15 years.

Consistent Increase

In these 15 years, they point out, Southern Pines' water consumption has doubled, at a consistent rate of about seven per cent a year. There is no reason to believe this graph line will level off in the foreseeable future.

Town board members are unanimous in their view that the improvement is of extreme urgency, not only for the present but for hoped-for development in the next 25 years or more.

From Gloucester, Mass., Town Board Commissioner telephoned this week to say, "Please urge the citizens of Southern Pines to give this bond issue their full approval. It is most important that they do so, not only for the progress of the town but for their own immediate health and safety."

"As a taxpayer of many years' standing, and a town commissioner almost that long, I feel this is the most vital issue which has been presented to the voters in many years and that they cannot fail to endorse it."

Said Mayor Page, "Aside from the vital need for expansion, Southern Pines cannot feel very proud or very safe as long as obsolete methods of water purification are being used. When the present plant was built 25 years ago, hand methods were the best we had for mixing chemicals and feeding them into the filter. These methods are now outdated. They are inefficient and obsolete. The bacteria count cannot thus be kept uniform or safe."

What Town Will Get
The bond issue will provide for 18,500 feet of new water lines, including a second line from the plant into town by way of West Southern Pines. This will serve the double purpose of opening up whole new areas for water service and provide an auxiliary line in case the other needs repairs.

It will provide new pumps and pumping machinery, automatic flocculation (mixing and filtering) equipment, and sufficient storage space for supplies and equipment (Continued on Page 8)

association manager of the Merchants association. That's a lot—too much!

The Association is sponsoring "Pay Your Bills" week hopefully—hoping that the load the merchants are carrying will be whittled down by at least 10 per cent. They are anxious for old accounts of several months' standing to be cleared off, so they can start the new season with confidence.

They owe money, too, they want to pay. They need new fall stocks. They want to keep their credit rating in order, and would like to see their customers keep good ratings too.

That's good business for everybody in town.