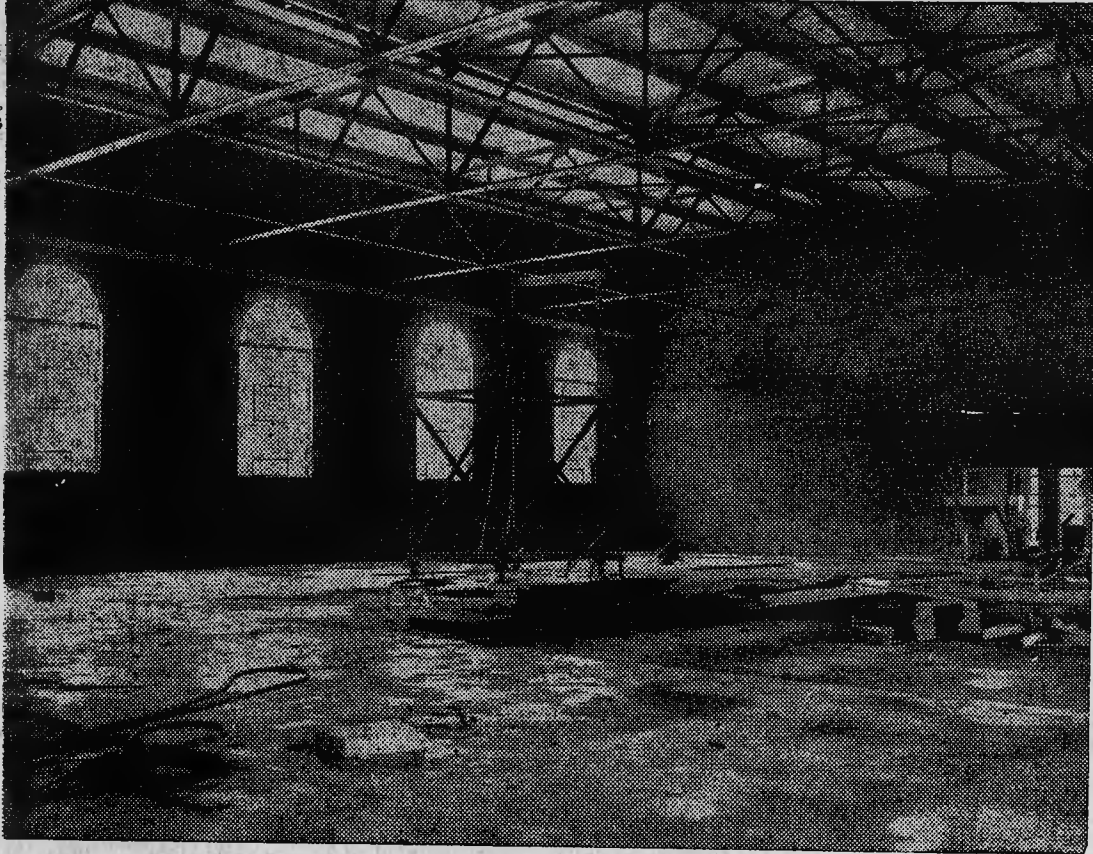
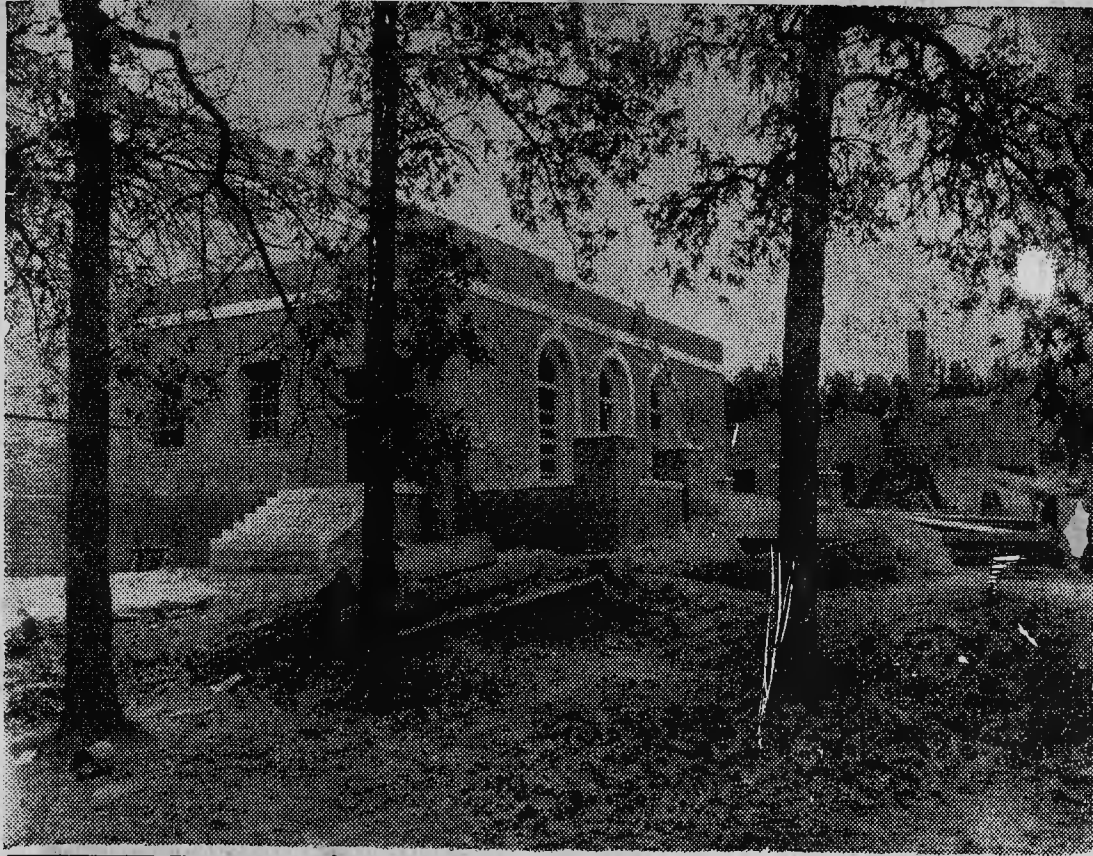


New School Gymnasium Will Open With Game Tonight



Exterior and interior views of the new Southern Pines school gymnasium, as it looked in process of construction about a month ago. It's nearer completion now—near enough to be used as the scene of the High School-Alumni game beginning at 7:30 to night (Friday). At this time the townspeople, school students and alumni will enjoy their new gym for the first time. It will go into active service very soon for basketball practice and games and will most likely be the scene of the Moore County basketball tournament, climaxing the season in a couple of months.

Beside the gym and also still under construction is the new auditorium-cafeteria, which present plans will see completed about April 1. The two will be among the most modern school buildings of the state, built at a total cost of \$285,000 (\$150,000 granted by the county, \$45,000 and \$90,000 in two local bond issues.)

(Photos by Jim Stephens, courtesy Raleigh News and Observer)

Rotary Group Has Christmas Party At Prison Camp

The real Christmas spirit imbued a party held last Friday afternoon—the annual Christmas party for men at the highway prison camp near Carthage.

The party was originated six years ago by the Rev. T. G. Humphries. Now that he has moved to another part of the state, it was carried on this year under auspices of the Southern Pines Rotary club, with Russell Lorensen as chairman.

About a dozen members and their guests went to the camp in four cars. They found 96 men at the camp, including many "old offenders" and some youths serving their first sentences.

Songs, a brief talk by the Rev. Charles V. Covell and the distribution of gifts featured the event. Mrs. L. D. McDonald, organist at the Church of Wide Fellowship, played accompaniments for the songs on the prison camp piano, as she has each year since the party's inception. Tom Cordon, a special guest, sang several Christmas selections, then the whole group joined in the singing of carols.

Mr. Covell in his talk emphasized the symbolism of love and hope seen in the traditional signs of Christmas—the bells, the Star and the gifts, reminders of the great Gift given the world in the birth of Christ. Hope and good cheer were keynotes of his talk.

The gifts consisted of fruit, candy, nuts, pipes, cigarettes and tobacco, and for each man a small testament.

Several of the men expressed their appreciation for the "party," the only attention paid them during the year by an outside organization. Some of those who went from here said it was the most deeply touching experience of the season for them, and they hope to see it continued from year to year.

Santa, Musicians Visit Patients At Moore Hospital

Patients and staff at the Moore County hospital were gladdened on Christmas morning by the traditional Santa Claus party of the Moore County Hospital auxiliary.

At 10:30 o'clock a plump jolly Santa made his way from room to room, accompanied by his band of musicians and Sam, the orderly wheeling a cart piled high with flowers and gifts. With the merry group was Mrs. Katherine McColl, representing the auxiliary, greeting each person and wishing them a happy Christmas, also Miss Ellen Bruton, superintendent of nurses, acting as a guide.

Santa spread his special brand of Christmas cheer and the musicians, Buster Doyle, Bob Miller and Todd Baxter, played all the favorite tunes of the day, obliging also each patient who had a request for a special selection. They serenaded the two nurses with Brahms Lullaby, softly played.

Orchids were given each private-room patient the contribution of Mrs. W. A. Way, of the Carolina Orchid Growers, continuing a tradition of long standing. Gifts for all other patients and also the "help" were given and wrapped by the Junior Red Cross, under Mrs. Hugh Carter. Doctors and nurses received red roses, personally pinned on by Santa.

For many years the party has been conducted for the auxiliary by Mrs. J. Talbot Johnson, with Mr. Johnson as Santa Claus. This year, in the absence of the Johnsons, who are on a vacation cruise, Mrs. McColl and Dr. Michael Pishko successfully took their places. The musicians were the same as performed this happy chore last year.

The inability of the domestic market to consume all our production is "again becoming the dominant and decisive factor in consumption, farm prices, and farm income," Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan declared in a recent talk.

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General Marshall Will Be Speaker at Pinehurst Forum

Gen. George C. Marshall will be the speaker at the Pinehurst Forum next Thursday evening, in a program whose audience will be limited to Forum subscribers and their especially invited guests.

Dr. DeWitt B. Nettleton, Forum president, in making the announcement said he regretted that the program cannot be thrown open to the public as is the custom with Forum events. However, he said, though the Pinehurst Country club, where the programs take place, is large, its seating capacity is of necessity limited, and it cannot possibly accommodate all who would want to hear General Marshall speak.

"We have had some splendid attractions in the past, but it is seldom indeed that any group has the opportunity to present a speaker of the calibre of General Marshall, whom everyone in the world would like to hear," he said. "In fairness to the Forum subscribers, who by their contributions make these entertainments possible, we must this time specify admission by card only." He said cards will be sent to all subscribers, and must be used to gain admission.

The privilege of hearing General Marshall, president of the American Red Cross, former U. S. Army Chief of Staff and Secretary of State, arises from the fact that he is a Pinehurst winter resident and recently arrived at his home here, Liscombe Lodge, to stay until the middle of January.

Chamber, Merchants Offices Are Separated

Remodeling of the Chamber of Commerce offices at the Belvedere hotel was completed last week to give separate space for the activities of the Chamber and its affiliate, the Merchants association.

The main room has been turned over to Col. Philip G. Shearman, manager of both organiza-

tions. It contains his desk, the files and materials of the Chamber, and sufficient space and seating for directors meetings and other conferences.

A smaller connecting room has been given its own entrance and turned over to the increasing activities of the Merchants association. Mrs. James Prim, secretary, has her desk, Credit Bureau files and telephone in this office, which has been brightened with new wallpaper in ivy design and a light green carpet. Her new phone has the number 7345 and Lloyd T. Clark, Merchants Association president, requests that those telephoning on business of the association use this number. Since much of the business is confidential, in relation to credit reports, a private line has been installed.



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