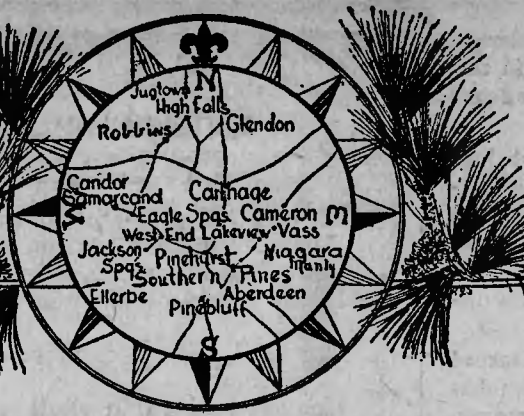




THE PILOT



Business Will Take General Holiday During Christmas

Stores Open Late This Week, Plan Two-Day Closing

Most retail establishments of the community, it is learned, including most food stores, will close on Tuesday, Christmas day, and the day after Christmas. A good many stores selling gift merchandise, are staying open late evenings just preceding Christmas. The Citizens Bank and Trust Company will close both Tuesday and Wednesday. Local automobile dealers will close Monday and Tuesday, reopen Wednesday. County offices at Carthage are closing Monday at noon, and will reopen until Thursday morning.

City offices will close on Tuesday. Garbage collection usually made Wednesday, when extra men will be on to cover both the regular Tuesday and Wednesday routes. Howard F. Burns, town clerk, and public schools, which closed Wednesday of this week, will not open until Wednesday, January 3.

Business offices in general will close either Monday or Wednesday, some of them both days, in addition to Tuesday, Christmas. The post office will be closed tight on Christmas day, though parcel post, perishable matter and "specials" will be delivered. No coming or outgoing mail will be worked. Before Christmas, the post office will remain open until 6 p. m. Saturday, from 2 to 6 p. m. Sunday and until 6 p. m. Monday. Workers staying on the job late Christmas Eve in the effort to get everything delivered in Santa Claus-time.

BUILDERS CUP

(See story on Page 12) Forrest Lockey of Aberdeen, winner of the Kiwanis Builders cup, highest service award of the county, is vice-president and assistant to the president of the Aberdeen & Rockfish railroad.

A native of Shelby, he spent his boyhood and early youth in Laurinburg, Wadesboro, Athens, Ga., and Raeford. It was while his family was living at Raeford, where his father was mill superintendent, that he secured a position as A & R agent at Aberdeen. After a year, he was made agent at Raeford, then in 1920 returned to Aberdeen as car accountant. Successive promotions have brought him to his present executive position.

He was elected to the Aberdeen town board in 1939, and mayor in 1941. He has been reelected for each successive term. He is married to the former Miss Carrie Hurley of Aberdeen, and they have one son, Forrest Lockey, Jr., of Columbia, S. C.

Chief among the civic enterprises in which Mr. Lockey has been interested was the bringing of the Robbins Mill plant and headquarters to Aberdeen two years ago.

"The Game"—Alumni vs. High School—Will Be Big Event of Holiday Week

One of the highlights of the Christmas holidays in Southern Pines is not, oddly enough, a glittering social festoon, but a basketball game—the annual High School vs Alumni game. Taking due note that the game scheduled this year for Friday night, December 28, your Pilot sports reporter has been digging for some history of the game. The oddity is, one of its attractions for the High School varsity teams—they had rather win the "Game," as it is called, than any other regular schedule. Equally seriously, the Alumni want also to win. No odds are asked, ex-

pected or given by either side. Bearing this out last year, the high school girls laid it heavy and hard on the Alumnae girls and fussed at their coach for frequent substitutions. On the other side, the Alumni boys unmercifully pummeled the high school boys, and darkly hinted that Philip J. Weaver, their coach for the night, was unnecessarily substituting to hold the score down. And so the "Game" goes. The spectators have an equally hard time, with their loyalties divided. Take His Honor Mayor Page and his wife Kay—for whom

Merry Christmas From The Sandhills

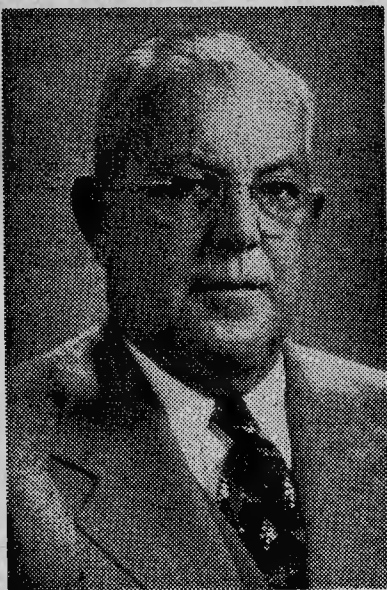


A big portion of the shipments pouring out of the Railway Express Agency office lately has consisted of evergreens gathered and packed in the Sandhills, carrying their message of Christmas cheer all over the United States.

Above are seen, from left, W. H. Marsh, deliveryman; M. F. Beasley, agent, and Emory Smith, Jr., clerk, just about snowed under with the cartons of evergreens moving out one day this week.

Included are also cartons of orchids from the Carolina Orchid Growers, another big Christmas item here. (Photo by Humphrey)

Native Greens Shipped Out By Train To Decorate Homes All Over Nation



N. L. HODGKINS

Hodgkins Elected President Moore Hospital Board

Norris L. Hodgkins was elected president of the Board of Directors of the Moore County hospital at the annual meeting held at the Nurses' Home Monday night.

Mr. Hodgkins, who is president of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Southern Pines, has been active in serving the Sandhills ever since he came here in 1933. He has been a leader in Boy Scout work and in his church; he is a member of the Southern Pines School Board, a member of the Sandhills Kiwanis club, and has been untiring in his support of all community enterprises.

Mr. Hodgkins in assuming the presidency of the hospital board, replaces Wilbur H. Currie, of Carthage, president for five years, during which time the new hospital was built. (Continued on page 5)

Pine Cones And "Light"ood Kindling" Are Favorite Gifts

Pine boughs, pine cones, holly, mistletoe and other evergreens of traditional Christmas cheer have been moving out steadily at the rate of several carloads a day, from the Sandhills, where they grow in profusion, to other parts of the country where their beauty is rarely seen.

About two-thirds of the evergreens, it is estimated by M. F. Beasley, Railway Express agent here, are sent by commercial shippers, who raise them for this purpose. Largest shippers are S. T. Dunn and Paul Staples of Southern Pines and I. L. Blackman of Pinehurst. Numerous smaller shippers are included and the rest, about one-third of the shipments, goes from residents or visitors who have culled and packed their own greens (with permission and with care, we hope) to send to friends or relatives far away.

Though such shipments go out every year, this year is the biggest, said Mr. Beasley. Trucks have been picking up 10 or 15 loads daily, which are then transferred to trains passing through for re-packing in carloads at transfer points. This does not include many shipments leaving also by rail from Pinehurst, by parcel post and by air express.

Many persons sending to far-off destinations are using air express, apparently perfectly willing to pay the additional tariff in order to get their evergreens where they are going in fine fresh condition in time for Christmas decoration.

Judging from the addresses on the packages, (Continued on page 5)

HOLLY SHOW

The Christmas week exhibition, in the Fine Arts Room of the Library, to open the series to be held throughout the year, will be especially appropriate to the season. It will consist of an exhibition of specimens of holly grown by the Hollytree Nursery.

Ernest Morell, who is arranging the exhibit, has more than a hundred types of holly growing out at his place. Not all will be shown, but specimens from many interesting varieties, unfamiliar to most of us, will be on display.

Adding to the beauty of the holly show will be Christmas decorations, the work of three garden clubs, that of Aberdeen and the Southern Pines and Civic Gardening Clubs, both of Southern Pines. All three clubs are planning to contribute one or more arrangements of Christmas greens.

The exhibit will open Saturday. (Continued on Page 8)

Contracts Let For Construction Of Platinum Plant

A wonderful Christmas present for Southern Pines is the announcement this week that contracts have been let for the new J. Bishop & Co. Platinum Works plant here, and the sight of bulldozers already grading the tract on the Carthage road.

J. N. Rennard, chief engineer of the company, who was here from Philadelphia this week attending to details of the beginning of construction, said the general contract has been let to the L. P. Cox company of Sanford, well known in this section. They were contractors for the new Southern Pines school buildings.

L. V. O'Callaghan, Southern Pines, was awarded the plumbing and heating contract, and Francis J. Kehoe, Westchester, Pa., the electrical.

Air conditioning will be by (Continued on Page 8)

Mrs. Alice Adams Passes Suddenly; Rites Thursday

Mrs. Alice Fifield Adams, 57, died suddenly at her home about 7 a. m. Wednesday following a heart attack.

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at the First Baptist church, conducted by the pastor, Dr. W. C. Holland. Burial was in the family plot in Mt. Hope cemetery.

Pallbearers were C. N. Page, L. V. O'Callaghan, Harold McNeill, W. E. Blue, Elmer Renegar and S. B. Richardson.

Mrs. Adams was born January 3, 1894, at Contocook, N. H. She had been a resident of Southern Pines for the past 30 years. Since 1936 she had owned and operated Magnolia Lodge, one of the community's best known guest homes.

She was active in affairs of her church, the First Baptist, and in civic matters always ready to give help where it was needed and to lend a hand in any cause for the community's good. Her friendly spirit and capable management kept many guests returning to Magnolia Lodge year after year.

While it was known she had a heart condition, she had not been ill and on the morning of her death was up early to give her son his breakfast and drive him to his work at the post office, where he was helping out during Christmas. Her death, occurring soon after her return home, came as a shock to the community.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Boyd Morris, of Greensboro, and Mrs. Luther Penninger, of Raleigh; and one son, Albert Louis Adams, Jr., a sophomore at State college, Raleigh.

Christmas Story Will Be Re-told In Local Churches

Special Services And Programs Will Mark Joyous Day

The story of Bethlehem will be re-told in song, sermon and solemn ritual in Southern Pines churches.

Midnight mass at St. Anthony's Catholic church will start at the midnight hour of Christmas morning. Music for the high mass will be by Mrs. L. D. McDonald, accompanying the choir in the ancient anthems.

Low masses will be held Christmas morning at 7, 9 and 11.

Additional masses are scheduled also for Sunday, at 8, 9, 10:30 and 11:30 a. m. Confessions in preparation for communion will be heard from 5 to 6, 7:30 to 8:30 p. m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Father Peter M. Denges, pastor, will be assisted during the Christmas season by Father Charles F. Trotter of the Holy Ghost Fathers at Sanford.

Emmanuel Episcopal

Midnight service at Emmanuel Episcopal church will be held at 11:30 p. m. Monday, Christmas Eve, with music by the choir under the direction of Mrs. P. T. Barnum. Preceding the midnight service, open house will be held at the rectory from 9 to 11 o'clock.

Christmas morning, Holy Communion will be celebrated at 11 a. m. by the Rev. C. V. Covell, rector.

Sunday morning at 9:45, children and young people of the Sunday school will give a Christmas program, to which all their parents are invited. At the 11 a. m. service Sunday, the sermon will be by Lewis Hodgkins, a theological student at St. Luke's seminary, Sewanee, Tenn., who is at his home here for the holiday.

There will be no services Christmas Eve or Christmas day at the Presbyterian, Congregational and Baptist churches, where special services will be held at the regular hours Sunday.

At Presbyterian Church

A Christmas song service, to which all in the community are cordially invited, will be held Sunday at 8 p. m. at Brownson Memorial Presbyterian church, said the Rev. C. K. Ligon, minister. Traditional Yule songs of olden days, including beloved favorites and other seldom heard, will be sung by the Madrigal Singers, a group of approximately 25 Sandhills men and women. This will be the first church program given by the group, and the first public program in Southern Pines.

A joy gift offering will be made. Music of the season will be offered by the choir at the 11 a. m. service Sunday, at which Mr. Ligon's sermon will be on "Christmas Blessings."

Church of Wide Fellowship

"Dare We Let the Christmas Child Grow Up?" will be the theme of Dr. R. L. House' sermon at the 11 a. m. service of the Church of Wide Fellowship. This will be held at Weaver auditorium, as the church is closed during its construction program. Music at the Sunday service will include a solo by Miss Merva Benjamin, and anthems by the senior, youth and junior choirs, directed by Mrs. L. D. McDonald.

First Baptist Church

The 11 a. m. service at the First Baptist church will feature a Christmas sermon by the pastor, Dr. W. C. Holland, and anthems by the choir, directed by Marvin Beasley and Mrs. C. R. Mills. Mrs. Bertha Harmon will sing a solo. The Sunday school will present a program at a "White Christmas" observance at the church at 7:30 p. m. The junior and adult choirs will sing, and there will be musical offerings by the various Sunday School groups.

A NATURAL CHRISTMAS TREE

A beautiful Christmas sight in Southern Pines is "the loveliest holly tree in the world," the tall graceful tree on the post office lawn, floodlighted from below these winter evenings.

Cpl. Henry Bradford Named As Prisoner On Communist List

ON PRISONER LIST



CPL. HENRY BRADFORD

Civic Clubs Will Sponsor Projects In Aid of Needy

Local civic clubs and other organizations are planning projects which will mean a brighter Christmas for many people, young and old.

The Rotary club will again carry gifts to men of the State Highway Prison camp at Carthage. More than 100 men are serving sentences there and, except for religious services held by Moore county ministers during the year, the "Christmas party" is the only attention these men get from the outside world.

Russell Lorensen heads the Rotary committee for the project, assisted by Ed Small, Harry Fullenwider and the Rev. C. V. Covell. Other Rotarians and some non-members will accompany them to the prison camp Sunday afternoon, where they will cooperate with the Rev. Mr. Nelson, Methodist minister of Robbins, in a Christmas service, and afterwards distribute gift parcels, books and magazines. The parcels, packed by the Rotarians, will contain pipes, smoking and chewing tobacco, stationery and other small personal items, also a New Testament for each man.

VFW Project

The John Boyd post, VFW, has undertaken the work of aiding the county welfare department in the Southern Pines-Niagara-Manly area. Toys, others gifts and cash are being collected by a committee of which Fred Hall is chairman, assisted by Francis Harris. Everyone is asked to contribute to this cause, by which it is planned to bring Christmas cheer to many families in conditions of desperate distress. Donations may be given to any member of the John Boyd post.

For more about the families who are to be helped, which include many young children, see story on Page 13.

Lions Aid Blind

The Southern Pines Lions club will distribute Christmas baskets to all blind persons in this area. This project is also being carried through in cooperation with the county welfare department. Dr. D. M. Whitehead, exalted ruler, is heading the Christmas project.

The Southern Pines Elks lodge, which started the Christmas season by entertaining several hundred children of the community at a Santa Claus party Wednesday afternoon, will as usual distribute baskets to needy families.

Various churches are carrying forward charitable Christmas projects, and several hundred cans and parcels of food given by the schoolchildren at their "White Christmas" Wednesday morning will be distributed by boys of the Hi-Y.

Town Rejoices With Family At Joyful Tidings

Suspense of many months was broken for Mrs. Henry Bradford with the news that the name of her husband, Corporal Bradford, long missing in Korea, was among the first on the list of prisoners of war released by the Communists this week.

Waiting, like many other families, in hope and in dread as the first names began to be released over radio and in the news, Mrs. Bradford had her first notification by a telephone call from the United Press, Tuesday night. "Oh, thank God," was her involuntary cry as the tears started rolling down her cheeks.

Her daughter Gail, aged 12, and her mother Mrs. Elmer Renegar, who were with her, were soon crying too. Telephone calls and visits from friends came thick and fast after that, as the news spread.

The next day Mrs. Bradford, still a little trembly with joy and relief, tried to get her emotions in check in case the word should be false. Repeated warnings by the authorities that the enemy list might not be dependable, however, could not keep her from feeling that life had changed for her and for their two little girls, Gail and Ida Lou—"Tinkie"— (Continued on Page 8)

General Menoher

Happy At Hearing Dean Is Alive

Brig. Gen. Pearson Menoher, who assisted his longtime friend Maj. Gen. William F. Dean in command of the 24th Division in Korea, this week expressed himself to The Pilot as "delighted beyond measure" at the communist revelation that General Dean is held prisoner, and is not dead.

He added, though—"if you can believe them. We all know what the Communists are." He admitted, however, that his hopes for General Dean's safety had been given a tremendous boost by the news.

General Menoher, now deputy commander at Fort Bragg and living in Southern Pines, was in charge of reserve troops in the same action in which General Dean, heading the front-line troops, disappeared during a communist attack in July 1950.

Taking command of the division after the loss of its chief, it was General Menoher who made the recommendation for the award of Congressional Medal of Honor. Data assembled by him in support of his recommendation was followed by the award medal to Mrs. Dean by President Truman last January.

General Dean was commander of the 44th Division during World War 2 when it joined XV Corps, of which General Menoher was chief of staff, for the campaign of Europe. They served together in these capacities almost entirely through the war in the ETO. The Menoher and Deans are also close personal friends of long standing, and of his friend General Menoher said, "He is a splendid officer and a great man, with a fine fighting heart. If anyone can come through what he has faced, he can."

Sometimes it seemed almost impossible to believe that he could, though—a fact which faced General Menoher probably first of anyone. It was his task in Korea, before his transfer "stateside" in September 1950, to direct the search with the help of General Intelligence. Many and many a rumor did they track down in vain.

In the past six months, however, there was an indication, which was made known to General Menoher, that his friend might be alive—though still he did not let himself hope too much.