

# ART EXHIBIT

An interesting exhibit of art, loaned to the gallery for this week only, now on view. The story on page 17.

# THE PILOT

# NEEDY FAMILIES

Several families, who were recommended by the Welfare Department, need your help. See page 8.



CHRISTMAS GREENERY is being shipped out of the Sandhills in larger and larger quantities each year. This picture, made at the Railway Express office Tuesday, shows a small number of boxes that people are shipping to friends, or to florists for resale. Many people have picked up handsome profits from the unique little business, though not as much this year as in the past because of a lack of pine cones. The post office reports a heavy mailing of packages containing greenery also. The boxes in the picture here, being handed to Emery Smith by Agent Frank P. Smith, were mostly destined for northern customers. (Pilot photo)

## JUST 11 DAYS LEFT!

### With Christmas Nearing, Tempo Of Business And Mail Increases

With just 11 days left before Christmas, Southern Pines citizens started into the hectic approach to the holiday season.

Merchants reported business was up; the post office reported that some 12,000 pieces of mail had been dispatched yesterday, with thousands on thousands of pieces expected before the lull on outgoing mail sets in a couple of days before Christmas Day.

And, even though a killing frost last year had about done away with pine cones, for this year at least, the shipping of other Christmas greenery got into full swing.

One statistic stood out: a Railway Express official here said that to date enough packages had been shipped to practically fill, considering the many more to come, at least two full box car loads.

And Jeanie Butler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Butler of Midland Road, got the thrill of her life when she received a personal order for 200 pine cones from the Governor of New Jersey. It was a difficult task to gather them, she reported, but a hasty recruiting job in her family and an even hastier search of the woods produced the needed number.

Merchants in Southern Pines will be open next Wednesday afternoon for the convenience of holiday shoppers, as they have for the past few weeks, but no other special openings are planned as of this writing.

Part of the schools will let out in the Southern Pines system next Thursday at noon. That's (Continued on page 8)

### Elon Choir Will Render 'Messiah' Here This Sunday

The famed Elon College Choir will sing "The Messiah" at the Church of Wide Fellowship Sunday at 8 p. m., a program to which the public is cordially invited.

The choir, composed of 60 voices, is appearing in Southern Pines as a part of its annual Christmas tour. Under the direction of Professor John Westmoreland, the choir is well-known through the state and has received many ovations for its Christmas programs.

The concert was arranged by Roger Gibbs, a graduate of Elon and former baritone soloist with the choir. He said the program would be an outstanding feature of the pre-Christmas season and urged a large attendance.

The concert will begin promptly at 8 p. m. in the church sanctuary.

### Destruction Of Christmas Trees Irks Merchants

Merchants in downtown Southern Pines were expressing much disgust this morning at the people who have been destroying lights on the Christmas trees in front of their establishments.

Some of them had almost decided not to decorate the trees at all; some took the remaining decorations down; and some shrugged their shoulders and asked: "What's the use?"

The merchants pointed to the fact that Southern Pines is one of the few towns in the country that has lighted trees on the streets, a fact that is much appreciated by most thinking people in town. They have also been responsible for decorating the giant magnolia at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Broad St.

Police have caught several young boys taking the lights and have given them stern lectures. Others have been taken into the station and appeared before a Justice of the Peace.

Police said this morning that anyone else caught might not get off with a lecture.

### Joint Glee Club Of Southern Pines, Carthage To Sing

The combined junior and senior high school glee clubs of Southern Pines and Carthage will present a concert of sacred Christmas music December 16 and 17, it was announced this morning by Roger Gibbs of Southern Pines, who directs the glee clubs.

This is the first time that such a concert has been arranged, Gibbs said, and would feature 160 voices.

The first concert will be presented in the Carthage high school this Sunday at 4 p. m. After that, the combined glee clubs will appear in Southern Pines Monday at 8 p. m. in Weaver Auditorium.

Mrs. Ina L. Bullock will be the accompanist for the concert here, which will feature solos by Jean Franklin, Grace DuPree, Delores Maready, Marcella Cook, Susan Ewing, Patsy McCree and David Riddle.

The public is invited to both concerts at neither of which a charge will be made.

### Council Drops Discussion On Parking Meters

#### Scheipers Gets Confirmation In Session Tuesday

Confirmation of Louis Scheipers, Jr., as City Manager of Southern Pines to succeed Tom Cunningham, who has resigned effective January 1, took less than five minutes at the regular Council meeting Tuesday night.

The appointment, which is effective January 1, received the unanimous vote of the Council. At the same time he was designated city accountant and registrar of vital statistics, also effective January 1, two positions that have been handled by Cunningham.

At the meeting, notable for its brevity, the Council also took up the question of whether or not parking meters might be the answer to the growing traffic problem here.

For lack of a motion, the discussion died with no positive action, although not before Cunningham had disclosed details of a study he had been requested to make by Council last month.

His study indicated, Cunningham said, that Southern Pines would be adaptable to about 200 meters which would, if statistics from other towns proved correct, produce about \$10,000 in revenue annually.

"While parking meters aren't the sole answer to the problem here," Cunningham said, "they probably would be of great benefit in helping to control the traffic problem that surely exists and which is getting worse by the day."

He said that a survey made in 1954 by an official in the Charlotte city government had showed that there were only seven towns in North Carolina with a population over 4,000 that did not have parking meters. (There were 64 towns in the survey).

He further pointed out the town of Belmont, which is comparable in size to Southern Pines, has 199 meters which produce about \$7,500 per year.

"The amount of income the meters produce are, of course, directly related to the intensity of the enforcement," he told the Council.

"Parking meters are not for the purpose of raising revenue. Rather, they are to control traffic," Cunningham said, and added that the fact that Southern Pines is a resort town had little bearing on the matter.

"Actually, a study would show that most resort towns in this (Continued on Page 8)

### Drive For Funds To Aid Hungary Refugees Slows

General Pearson Menoher, chairman of disaster preparedness and relief of Moore County Chapter, American Red Cross, said today that the American Red Cross has opened a special campaign to raise five million dollars for emergency relief for Hungarians.

The campaign was announced by American Red Cross Chairman E. Roland Harriman, as reports showed over 100,000 refugees have crossed Austrian borders thus far in an increasing stream. The International Red Cross announced a feeding program scheduled to reach 200,000 daily by the end of the year.

"With the tide of refugees mounting and with winter adding to other hardships of these helpless Hungarians, our Red Cross must continue to function in its traditional role as the disaster relief agency of this nation," Harriman said.

Moore County's quota of this five million dollars is \$829. The request is that these funds be sent to Red Cross headquarters in Southern Pines, marked "for Hungarian Relief." It is desired that this emergency be met within two weeks, according to Gen. Menoher.

"We, who are safe, sheltered and free, have not responded to this appeal as we should. To date only 17 persons have sent funds in the amount of \$398.18. Let us shake off this apathy and raise our small quota this week," he said.

### "O Christmas Tree"

Christmas? On a day like this, all hot sun and April balminess? Yes. Christmas is here. Or coming fast.

You can tell it by the air of gayety everywhere; you can tell it by people's faces, occupied, intent, smiling. Busy as bees or bird-dogs or mothers-and-fathers-Christmas-shopping. And smiling like mothers-and-fathers-Christmas-shopping.

So many days to go . . . so many hours when the children are in school. So many hours, in other words, to make hay and get the presents bought and safely stowed away out of sight. Just so much time left before they must be wrapped and the tree trimmed; the dinner cooked and the halls decked with holly and mistletoe.

And if anyone, after reading all this glorification, STILL doubts that Christmas is on its jolly, long-remembered, long-looked-for way, let the skeptic come down here on Pennsylvania Avenue and breathe the fragrance coming off those fir trees stacked in the sun in front of our neighbor, the A and P.

Everybody who comes into this office today is stopping and giving a long delirious sniff and gasping: "Oh, the smell of the Christmas trees!"

### Jaycees To Award Prizes In Outdoor Lighting Contest

The Southern Pines Jaycees will sponsor a residential Christmas Lighting Contest here this year, Alvin Adcox, chairman of the contest committee announced this week.

The contest, which will be judged between December 25 and 28, is being promoted to spread the spirit of Christmas by means of decoration with light, he said. Anyone with an outside Christmas decoration will be in the contest. Winners will receive one of two prizes to be given by the local Jaycee chapter.

Adcox, in announcing the contest, said, "It isn't how much money they spend on their displays that is important, but rather the originality and ingenuity with which they use their decorations."

Plans for two other Jaycee Christmas projects were completed earlier this week.

Jaycees, their wives and dates, will sing Christmas carols at Saint Joseph's Hospital and Moore County Hospital Friday night, December 21. Gifts from individual members of the Jaycees will be distributed to the children in the two hospitals.

Norris Hodgkins Jr., is chairman of arrangements for the carol sing.

Tentative plans were set this week for a New Year's Eve dance, sponsored by the local chapter, to be held at the Pine Needles Club. Tickets for the dance will go on sale the early part of next week.

### Elks Plan Annual Banquet For High School Grid Team

The 11th annual testimonial banquet for members of the Southern Pines high school football team will be held next Wednesday, December 19, at 7:30 p. m. at the Elks Club.

The banquet is being sponsored by the Elks Club and will feature Jim Duncan, ex-football star at Wake Forest and a former standout member of the professional New York Giants, as principal speaker.

Another feature of the banquet will be the annual presentation of the James S. Milliken Memorial Award, made available by the Veterans of Foreign Wars post here, to the outstanding member of the team. Last year the award was presented to Johnny Watkins.

A VFW panel of judges has been working on its selection for the honor.

Letters and stars will also be awarded some members of the team, together with gold footballs, and medallions will be awarded squad members.

The gold footballs are presented by the Elks Club.

In addition, a permanent captain for the 1956 squad will be elected. During the regular course of the season a game captain is selected for each individual game; the permanent captaincy is considered one of the top honors to be won at the school.

The Elks committee preparing the program is headed by C. N. Page. Tickets for the affair are available to the public.

### Taylor Re-elected To Hospital Presidency

#### State Historical Officials Visit Alston House

With the rebuilding of the Alston House completed, action started this week on the furnishing and refurbishing of the interior of the building, according to the schedule as set up by the State Department of History and Archives, under whose jurisdiction the old Moore County home now stands.

Led by Mrs. Ernest L. Ives, vice president of the county Historical Association, whose president is Sheriff Charles J. McDonald, a group met at the old place in the bend of Little River this morning to spend most of the day surveying the grounds, and working out plans for landscaping and furnishing of the house.

With Mrs. Ives was George Maurice of Eagle Springs, a vice president of the state Historical Association, and a prime mover in the local restoration project. Also present were Mrs. K. N. McColl, and members of the restoration committee of which Mrs. Charles T. Grier of Carthage is chairman.

From Raleigh and the state department of Archives History and Archives came William S. Tarleton, who is consultant from the department in charge of the Alston House project; also Miss Joy Joyce of the Hall of History (Continued on Page 8)

#### P. O. MAILING

With a volume of mail that already appears to be a record breaker, Postmaster Garland Pierce urged again this morning that patrons cooperate with the post office during the holiday season.

He has suggested that all patrons mail their Christmas cards by Sunday if at all possible and that cards for out of town addresses be separated from those that are to be distributed locally.

Last year the post office set a record in the number of pieces of mail handled. Wednesday approximately 12,000 pieces were cancelled, not including some 1,000 pieces of parcel post.

The windows at the post office will be open all day next Wednesday and Saturday, in addition to this Saturday.

#### Staff Also Is Re-Elected At Annual Meeting

Jack M. Taylor of Aberdeen was reelected president of the Board of Directors of Moore County Hospital, Inc., and George H. Maurice, of Eagle Springs, a charter director and former president, was elected honorary president at the annual meeting of the board held Wednesday night in the hospital Nurses' Home.

A nominating committee comprising Norris L. Hodgkins, Southern Pines; Paul Dana, Pinehurst, and J. D. Edwards, Aberdeen, recommended the reelection of all 1956 officers for another year, but Katherine N. McColl, of Southern Pines, announced that she would be unable to serve as 2nd vice president and a member of the board, and the name of Mrs. John E. Dixon, Pinehurst, was substituted for the vacant vice presidency. Richard S. Tutts, Pinehurst, was reelected 1st vice president, Paul Dana secretary and treasurer, and John F. Taylor, Pinehurst, assistant secretary-treasurer.

New Directors  
New members elected to the Board of Directors were Mrs. Samuel G. Allen, succeeding her late husband; Dennison K. Bullens, Southern Pines; George Thomas, Cameron; Joseph Reece Monroe, Eagle Springs, and Nelson C. Hyde, Pinehurst.

The board members heard annual reports from all committees, and a digest of the hospital's financial audit, recently completed. A resolution was adopted leaving to the discretion of the officers the effective date of the change of name from Moore County Hospital, to Moore Memorial Hospital.

A resolution expressing the hospital's great loss in the recent death of Miss Laura Kelsey, of Southern Pines, for many years president of the Auxiliary and a member of the board of directors, was adopted. Mrs. Alwin Folley, of Southern Pines, reported on the activities and plans of the Auxiliary.

Among subjects discussed at the board meeting was that of visitors to the hospital. Mr. Arnold Jackson, a recent patient at Moore County, described "a hospital Sun-day" as "bedlam, with five and six visitors to a patient, wards crowded with people, halls almost impossible to get through." He said "this is something that we did (Continued on Page 8)

### Carolina Orchids To Begin Unique Rental Service

Orchids, anyone?

A unique service, designed primarily for winter residents of the Sandhills though not limited exclusively to them, has been initiated by Carolina Orchids, Inc., that will make it possible for anyone with a few spare dollars to keep blooming plants in their homes at all times.

They're put there on a rental basis, which is determined by the number and type of plant specified.

There are many types of rental services; in New York it is possible to have a great work of art in your home for a prescribed period of time for a small price; in Connecticut, you may rent famous pieces of sculpture for your garden; and in California, there has even been a business started whereby you may rent, complete and authentic, sets that have been used in movies.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bridges, owners and operators of Carolina Orchids, had many requests for the rental services, mostly from winter visitors who wanted the plants while they were here but who didn't want to be bothered with taking them back to their summer homes.

The rental idea was a natural. Under the new service the company will provide one or more blooming plants which will be exchanged monthly or as often as is otherwise necessary. All they ask is that the patron take reasonable care of them (and it isn't a difficult thing to (Continued on page 8)

### Eugene Stevens Awarded Builder's Cup

Eugene C. Stevens of Southern Pines, longtime resident of the Sandhills and one of its most devoted civic workers, was awarded the Builder's Cup in annual presentation ceremonies Friday night at the Pinehurst Country Club.

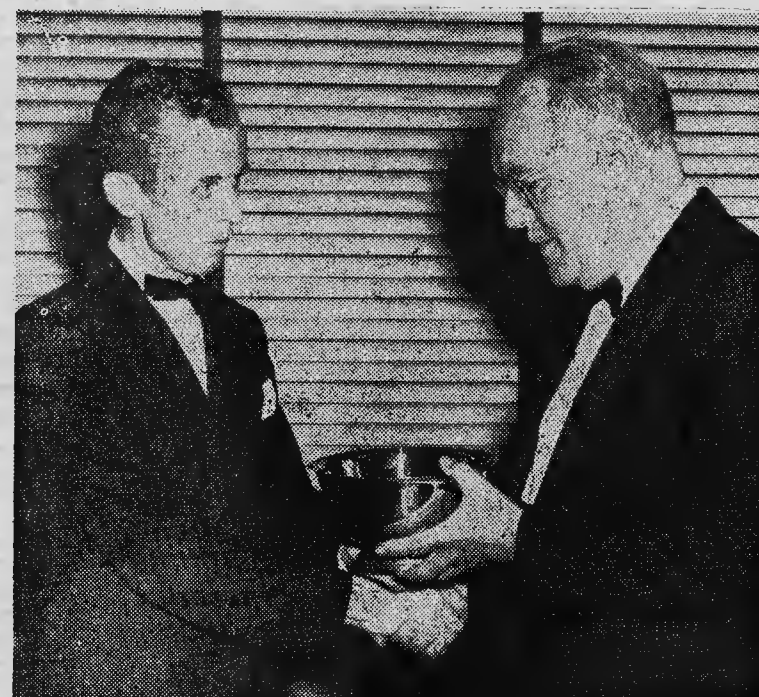
The affair, sponsored by the Sandhills Kiwanis Club, was a complete sellout as hundreds attended the Ladies Night program to pay respects to the winner.

Jimmy Hobbs, president-elect of the club, recalled many instances of Mr. Stevens' outstanding civic record, citing his work with the Boy Scouts, service on the Southern Pines Town Council (16 years), and his chairmanship since 1942 of the war Bond sales in Moore County.

"More important than all those, however," Hobbs said, "are the many personal services he has rendered through counselling of both young and old citizens of the county. And in none of his many actions in civic work has he sought personal gain or satisfaction. . . all were accomplished because he thought they should be. It was as simple as that."

In reviewing the work that Mr. Stevens has done, Hobbs also recalled his services as a member of the Board of Vestry at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, his sponsorship of the Men's Club in Southern Pines, and his efforts, along with four other public spirited citizens in making possible the construction of a larger stage at the high school.

Stevens was taken completely



EUGENE C. STEVENS, longtime resident of Southern Pines and one of its most devoted civic workers, was awarded the Builder's Cup, symbolic of public service, in annual ceremonies staged by the Sandhills Kiwanis Club last Friday night at the Pinehurst Country Club. Making the presentation is Jimmy Hobbs, president-elect of the club. (John Hemmer photo)

by surprise at the presentation and, indeed, had had to be coaxed into attending the affair.

He said he was extremely pleased with the honor but could think of many others who were far more deserving.

The program was, according to several of the old-time members of the club, the best-attended ever.

It turned out to be a real festive occasion, with wives, daughters and sweethearts turning out for the dinner-dance, complete with orchestra and floor show.

John Ponzer, president, presided, and introduced several visiting guests.

There were no formal speeches. (Continued on Page 8)