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Rain is expected to continue today with a 70 percent chance of showers today, 40 percent tomorrow. Daytime temperatures in the 70s, at night, 60s. Possible thundershowers.

Town Grows In Acreage, Population

Southern Pines woke up Tuesday morning about 29 percent larger than it had been the night before, and with about 16 percent more population. The overnight growth resulted from the annexation of four areas, which occurred officially at 12:01 a.m., adding 1,016 acres to the previous 3,354, and 1,026 estimated population to the previous estimate of 6,924. The result is a municipality of some 4,370 acres, with population of 7,950-or, since the population figures are over two years old, they could be rounded off at 8,000, considering development during those two years. Word received Monday from the attorney for a group of citizens who had staved off annexation, and town taxes, for nearly a year, was that his clients had decided to take no further action in the matter. They had carried their complaint of irregular procedure on the part of the Town into the superior court, then the N.C. Court of Appeals, both of which recognized certain irregularities existing in the annexation procedure, but decided that they were of no substantive effect. The May 24 date was set by the Court of Appeals as that on which the annexation-which had been

528 Slated For Elks Tourney

A total of 528 golfers are arriving here this week for the Elks National Invitational Amateur Golf Tournament, which begins tomorrow and continues through Saturday at the Southern Pines Elks Club. Tournament Director Pete Piestrak expects another successful tournament, largest of its kind in the country. It is being held for the 16th annual time. Piestrak has announced that the chief starter at the Hyland Hills course will be Jack Kendrick. Other Chief Starters are Whispering Pines, Dr. Gene Scott; Southern Pines Elks Club, Mrs. Charlie Ruptic. Other officials include Pairings Chairman, Bobby Brooks; Scoring Chairman, Wiley Barnett; Awards, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Brooks; Rules, Marty Foster and the resident pro at each golf course and Publicity, Carlos Frye. Armen Fletcher, winner for the past two years and six times



COURT FACILITY SITE — Work got under way this past week on clearing the site in preparation for the beginning of construction on the new Moore County court facility. The present courthouse is in the background. Completion date for the new court building is after 510 work days. — (Photo by Glenn M. Sides).

Water Curbs Are Lifted After Rains

Sandhills Delaying Payment

The Sandhills Community College Board of Trustees voted at a meeting Monday night to ask the state Attorney General to reconsider a ruling last week that it should repay \$9,000 to the state Board of Education and to withhold repayment until that and another issue is determined. The other issue refers to action by the state Board of Education last June in which the board chairman was empowered to appoint a special committee to look into the Sandhills matter and report back to the board. President Raymond Stone of the college said that as far as he knew the chairman never acted on the motion, made by then State Treasurer Edwin Gill. The Sandhills trustees felt that some determination of the motion should be made before repayment is made. In a recent ruling the Attorney

Town Manager Lew Brown today announced that the Town is lifting its ban on non-essential water use which was imposed last Tuesday. The response to the resolution adopted by the Town Council placing the restrictions has been excellent, according to Brown. Water consumption was significantly reduced beginning last Tuesday, and as a result the Town was able to maintain adequate supplies of treated water in its elevated storage tanks. Brown said that the rains experienced since last Thursday had eased the drought conditions, and the Town felt that water consumption would now return to more normal levels. For these reasons, Brown is lifting the restrictions in the resolution as he had been authorized by the Council to do when water consumption returned to more normal levels. Mayor E. J. Austin expressed the Town Council's appreciation to all of the citizens who had cooperated by refraining from watering their lawns, washing cars and other non-essential watering. "I feel the kind of cooperation we received from

Town Bonds Sold At Low Interest For New Fire Station, Work Center

The North Carolina Local Government Commission informed the Town of Southern Pines on Tuesday that the Town's \$750,000 general obligation bond issue had been sold to the low bidder, Wachovia Bank and J. Lee Peeler Company for a net interest cost of 5.0417 percent. The \$750,000 in bonds had been sold by the Town to finance a new Fire Station, a Public Works Center, and recreation facilities which had been approved by the voters on May 22, 1976.

Town Manager Lew Brown said that the Town is very pleased with the low interest rate bid by Wachovia. "When we initially presented the bond proposal to the voters, we were using an estimated

interested rate of 6.25 percent for the bonds. We had recently revised that estimated interest rate to 5.5 percent. The low bid represents almost a half of a percentage point less than our most recent estimates. The

result of this will be substantial interest savings to the Town over the life of the bonds. "For example, the difference in the bid and the 5.5 percent interest rate we had been estimating would save the Town approximately \$3,500 during the first year.

Didn't Want A Lawyer; Draws Long Prison Term

A brief jury trial Tuesday afternoon in Moore Superior Court ended in a prison sentence for an elderly, white-haired

defendant. Robert McIntosh, 72, who had said he would act as his own attorney, but who actually put up no defense, drew three to five years for assault with a firearm on a public officer.

State's Economy Bright Sales Figures Indicate

BY BILL NOBLITT If, as the salesman insists, nothing happens till somebody sells something...things are happening again in North Carolina. Comparison of sales figures across the state for the year ending in January, 1977, with the previous year paints a bright picture of the state's economy. For without sales, there'd be less need for manufacturing, transporting, displaying, ad-

vertising, and retailing. The past year boomed to 13.32 percent increase over the previous year, according to sales and use tax collections compiled by the State Department of Revenue. Total retail sales, wholesale licenses and use tax collections reached \$512.9 million; compared to \$452.6 million the previous year—a jump of \$60.3 million. Where does the big money come in state sales and use tax collections? You could guess by recalling the strenuous objections of governmental leaders to any fiddling with the sales tax on food. Food Tax That category produced \$142.3 million in 1976; compared to \$130.1 million the previous year—up 9.36 percent. Second to food and beverages

Memorial Day

Some offices will be closed on Memorial Day—Monday, May 30—while most will remain open. The Post Office and all banks will be closed for the national holiday. Southern Pines town government and Moore County government will stay open. All businesses and stores will remain open in the Sandhills area. Memorial Day services will be conducted Sunday, May 29, at 1 p.m. at the Mount Hope Cemetery. Services will be conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7318, and Auxiliary, and the American Legion with their Auxiliary on the Avenue of the Flags. Everyone is invited to attend the services.

College To Give Degrees At Friday's Exercises

A highlight of the commencement ceremony at Sandhills Community College at 8 on the evening of May 27 will be the presentation of honorary associate degrees to eight members of the Board of Trustees who have served since the Board was first organized, and Mrs. C. Louis Meyer of Pinehurst, donor of the land for

the college site and long supporter of the college. The presentation of honorary degrees recognizes their service to the development of Sandhills Community College. It is a fitting tribute, according to Dr. Raymond A. Stone, president of Sandhills. H. Clifton Blue, chairman of the Board of Trustees, will be the commencement speaker. Blue was Speaker of the House in the 1963 General Assembly which established the state-wide system of community colleges and technical institutes, and led the campaign for a community college in Moore County. He was appointed to the Board of Trustees by then-governor Terry

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Budget Meet

The Moore County commissioners are meeting in an all-day session today in an attempt to finish up work on the 1977-78 budget. Budget requests have been presented by all departments and agencies, and today's session is designed to trim the requests to meet anticipated revenue. No tax increase is planned, and Chairman W. S. Taylor said there were far more requests for funds than revenue estimates.

He came into court without counsel, and when Judge Thomas H. Lee of Durham, presiding, inquired about this, McIntosh responded tartly, "I don't want no damn lawyer." When the judge advised him of his rights to court-appointed counsel, he quickly waived them, stating belligerently that he would defend himself. He accepted the jurors that were in the box, then sat silent as the State put on its only witness, (Continued on Page 15A)

Sanford Here

President Terry Sanford of Duke University will deliver the commencement address at Pinecrest High School on June 10. This is the only high school finals appearance for the former Governor of North Carolina this spring.

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17 Deaths Predicted On Holiday

Seventeen persons could lose their lives in traffic accidents in North Carolina over the long Memorial Day Weekend, the N.C. State Motor Club has estimated. The state will count its toll over a 78-hour period from 6 p.m. Friday, May 27, until midnight Monday, May 30. Last year 19 persons were killed in mishaps on Tar Heel highways, while 13 died in 1975 and 1974, motor vehicle records indicate. "We want to remind all drivers that the speed limit is 55 miles per hour," Watkins said. Persons who exceed that limit are asking for trouble," Watkins pointed out that many accidents are caused by speeding, reckless driving and driving under the influence. "If a person realizes this, perhaps he will slow down and obey safe driving practices." "The purpose of predicting the number of fatalities that will occur is to make the traveling public more alert and more safety conscious," Watkins said. (Continued on Page 15A)



COMING HERE — Noted actor Dana Andrews will star in the Pinehurst Dinner Theater production, "The Marriage Go Round" July 1-12 at the Pinehurst Hotel. (See story entertainment page).

Open House

An Open House will be held Friday, May 27, between 4 and 6 p.m. at the Sandhills Mental Health Center as part of the observance of Mental Health Month. V. Paul McDonald, director of the Moore-Hoke-Montgomery unit, said visitors will have the opportunity to meet the staff, to learn about the program and tour the facility at Moore Memorial Hospital. Light refreshments will be served.

THE PILOT LIGHT

LEGISLATURE—June 17 is the target date set by the 1977 General Assembly for adjournment. Legislative leaders have not publicized the date and they are not sure they can make it but that's when they would like to see all votes taken on the appropriations bills and other measures still pending. It was obvious this week that the Legislature was moving toward adjournment as the meetings of appropriations committees became more frequent and longer. Within the coming week the legislators will get a new revenue estimate for the coming biennium, and in all likelihood it will be some larger than earlier

forecasts. TRUCKERS—The powerful truckers lobby has been at work for months to line up support for their revival of the twin trailers bill which was recently introduced, and several legislators say they may have such strong backing that it cannot be defeated this time. While only Secretary Tom Bradshaw of the Department of Transportation has given tentative endorsement to the twin trailers proposal, the report in Raleigh is that it also has the support of Governor Jim Hunt, Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green and Speaker of the House Carl J. Stewart Jr. (Continued on Page 15A)

Julia Metcalfe Awarded Title Of Moore County Junior Miss

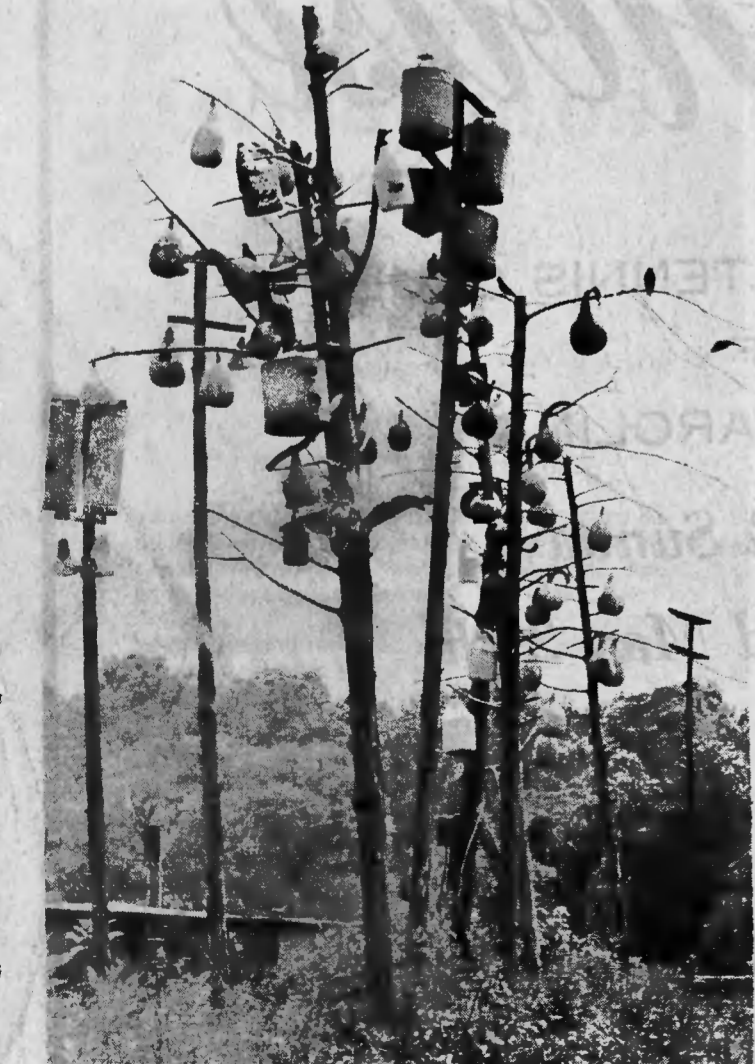
BY VALERIE NICHOLSON Julia Metcalfe, pert and pretty, a tiny dynamo of personality and talent, "washed that man" out of her short brown curls Saturday night, and came up with the title and crown of Moore County's second "Junior Miss."

Mrs. Thomas J. Metcalfe of Southern Pines, well known for her excellent performances in several recent local plays, played Nellie Forbush in "South Pacific" with verve and sparkle as she sang Nellie's song, "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair," in the talent part of the program.

Wearing a brief white playsuit, she acted as well as sang the part in a gay spontaneous manner. The pageant, sponsored by the Pinehurst Lions Club, was brimming over with talent, exemplified in all 13 young candidates, but talent actually counted only 20 percent in the (Continued on Page 16A)



JUNIOR MISS — Julia Metcalfe, (seated) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Metcalfe of Southern Pines, is crowned Moore County's Junior Miss at Pinehurst Saturday night. From left to right are Tami Hussey, selected "Miss Congeniality;" Evelyn Bruton, first runner-up; Miss Metcalfe, Joy Johnson, the outgoing title-holder; and Laurie Heath, second runner-up. —(Photo by Emerson Humphrey).



BIRD CITY — There are more than 50 bird houses, most of them gourd, in this bird city on a farm near Jugtown in northern Moore County. There are few vacancies. —(Photo by Glenn M. Sides).