

THE PILOT

Southern Pines

North Carolina

"In taking over The Pilot no changes are contemplated. We will try to keep this a good paper. We will try to make a little money for all concerned. Where there seems to be an occasion to use our influence for the public good we will try to do it. And we will treat everybody alike."—James Boyd, May 23, 1941.

Keep The Nations Talking

It would be easy for skeptics to look at the present state of the world and sneer at the words: United Nations. Skeptics must have sneered in the same way a good many times during our history at the words: United States. Perhaps the experience of the states will be repeated by the nations and we shall have to suffer tragedy unspeakable before true unity will be obtained, but we can never give up the hope that this will not be necessary. For the issues that face us, as other issues faced the states, do not need a war, any more than those did, for their solution and while that war brought untold tragedy upon the nation, war today might well be its complete destruction and the world's around it.

We look back upon that American tragedy and we know that if hot-heads could have been controlled, if the leaders could have kept on talking, kept on working on the problem, there would have been no war: it is the opinion of every student of the times. So today, our hope lies in keeping the leaders talking.

Actually, though the United Nations is by no means an American invention... the idea stems from the greatest thinkers of the ages... it is a wonderfully American concept. Perhaps more than any other nation ours grew out of the gathering together of people to talk things over. There were leaders from the first, but they were chosen from the group after long and earnest debate; the town meeting spirit possessed them. The deliberations and decisions of the Founding Fathers were made with the

consciousness that The People were looking over their shoulders. The nation developed under the aegis of consultation and cooperation. The great Trek across the plains and on across the towering Rockies was faced with the feel of stalwart shoulders pressing close on either side and the concerted judgment of the group backing the march forward. They went ahead each day and at night they talked around the fire and decided tomorrow's path.

We must keep the nations talking. But we cannot expect them all to talk alike, not for a long time. We Americans can take a share of blame for expecting too much unanimity and therefore of being too discouraged. Between the democratic ideal of our own land and the totalitarian stand of Soviet Russia lies an infinite variety of political concepts: from the democratic-socialism of Norway and Sweden, brilliantly successful as it seems to be, through the enlightened controlled capitalism of Switzerland, to the benevolent dictatorship of Turkey, the corrupt dictatorship of Spain, the communist dictatorship of Yugoslavia, the rampant republic of Israel, on to the ancient feudalism still existing in the Arab states. Some are completely satisfied with their status, some deeply discontent but all are different and always will be. We must not hope or try to make them over according to our views.

But all have one thing in common: the desire for a decent happy life, and the first step to it is peace. The way to peace is the way of the United Nations around the council table. The way to keep from fighting is to keep on talking.

The Troublesome Parking Problem

We nominate for best speech at the Council Meeting last week Chief Newton's offering. To the invitation of the mayor: "Chief, give us your opinion on how to solve this parking problem." Southern Pines' police chief answered, "I say: Let's have parking meters."

We believe the chief's ideas would have been worthy of development, but they were given little consideration. Instead, the discussion centered around how to keep the townfolks from monopolizing the space and how to avoid offending visitors. Both these angles are important, but we have grave doubts about the manner of handling them decided upon by the board. Our guess is that the chief's suggestion will, sooner or later, have to be taken seriously.

It was, as a matter of fact, backed up in a sense by the town manager. Mr. Cunningham's remarks on the desirability of removing law enforcement from the realm of a police-officer's "discretion" showed the trend of his thoughts. As he put it, any ordinance that leaves it up to the individual officer to decide whether or not the offender shall be penalized places a great strain on him. It lays him open to accusations of favoritism, stupidity, "politicking"; he is at the mercy of any hotel-keeper whose guest he may offend or any would-be local politician. He will be called on to exercise a high degree of tact, not necessarily a qualification for mem-

bership in the town police force; he will have to make quick judgments in cases where full information is not available; he will have to do a lot of guesswork, and that is very hard on a conscientious officer. Furthermore, and perhaps more to be considered, he will have to spend a great deal of time on the parking situation.

It is far from an easy matter to supervise parking justly and strictly. To keep tabs on the time element alone is very time consuming. The new ordinance, allowing for courtesy cards to out-of-towners, means that these must be identified by their license plates. It sounds easy and in many cases it will be, but it will take a lot of an officer's time. Is our force able to spend the time and thought needed without slighting more important duties?

That, we believe, is the crux of the matter. With juvenile delinquency and reckless speeding both growing, and when an occasional ugly crime still appears on the police blotter, the time of the force is valuable and should not be cluttered up with minor law enforcement any more than is absolutely necessary.

We can try out this business of running the horsefolks off the streets and sashaying politely to the visitors, but there is little doubt that parking meters at the most congested spots, and the parking lots that must come with them, would be the fairest, most easily administered system.

"That Smart God"

People are driving up into the mountains these soft October days to see the fall coloring. It must be spectacular. But you don't have to go that far for spectacles that lift the heart with their beauty. Go out anywhere in the country hereabouts and you can see autumn at its loveliest, while everywhere in town there is such a burgeoning of richness from the dogwoods, myrtles and golden sycamores that each street is turned into a harvest festival.

Never has it been more beautiful. The dogwoods are heavily-laden with berries this year. They gleam like points of fire against the tapestry of wine-dark leaves. Their heavy fruiting means, they say, a harsh winter ahead, with Nature giving the squirrels, fieldmice, and their kind a headstart on storing their cellars for the long days to come. But if Nature's forehandedness means bleak times ahead, it brings added beauty now.

Over the dogwoods shine the sycamores. Their gleaming ivory trunks, mottled with shadow patches, reach up through the burnished crown, each tree like the shower of gold in

which the Greek Zeus came down to visit earth. Surely their glory is enough to silence forever the folks who grumble that they are messy trees, shedding dry twigs and little flossy balls for folks to stumble over and tidy up. Look up into their towering light, each gold leaf clear-cut against an azure sky, and who cares what goes on underneath!

Out through the country, gums and maples are a gypsy border along the swamps and yellow broomstraw fields and the pines raise their emerald heads in pillared majesty above a canopy of little oaks and sassafras, whose leaves gleam like Chinese lacquer.

A wise and lovely lady once took her little niece out for a walk to see the autumn coloring. As they strolled through the woods, hand in hand, she told the child how God brought beauty to the earth, painting the leaves with his frosty night air, cherishing each red berry for the small animals and birds to harvest. The little girl listened attentively and, when she paused, tugged at her hand. "Auntie," she said, "Tell me some more about that smart God."

A Good Man Lost And Won

The news that C. S. Patch Jr. is considering running as representative for the Eighth District on the Republican ticket comes as no surprise. A member of the town board for some time, Patch came to the forefront in the larger political scene when he chairmanned the "Citizens For Eisenhower" movement last year.

Speculation was rife at that time as to what line such so-called Democrats would take in the future. While many recalled that similar movements, when North Carolina helped to elect Herbert Hoover, had quickly faded out, this time, it was felt, the cleavage was more definite and might be lasting. Those who at-

tended meetings of the pro-Eisenhower forces believed the Republican sentiments expressed there by the "Democrats" were more than skin deep.

Times have changed and it is time that politics recognized the fact and changed accordingly. The one-party system is not a healthy state of affairs, while the more recently widespread confusion, where a man registers Democratic and votes Republican, is an open encouragement to shiftiness and political irresponsibility.

The South will be better off under a two-party system, and the Democratic Party will be better off with its ranks cleared of those who are not Democrats.



PROCLAMATION

"WHEREAS the United Nations provides the peoples of the world with an organization through which international differences in the economic and political fields can be peacefully resolved; and

"WHEREAS the need for the United Nations is greater than ever before, and its success depends on the extent to which its members give it support; and

"WHEREAS the expression of our faith in and support of the United Nations will encourage and bring hope to the peoples of other nations who are also working toward a true peace with freedom and justice for all; and

"WHEREAS the General Assembly of the United Nations had declared that October 24, the anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations Charter, should be dedicated each year to the dissemination of information concerning the aims and accomplishments of the United Nations;

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, do hereby urge the citizens of this Nation to observe Saturday, October 24, 1953, as United Nations Day by sending messages to friends, relatives, and associates in other member countries of the United Nations, by learning more about the United Nations and its members, and by expressing their confidence in the United Nations, their friendship for other peoples, and their faith in the ultimate triumph of peace and justice through the efforts of men of good will.

"I call upon the officials of the Federal, State, and local Governments, the United States Committee for United Nations Day, representatives of civic, educational, and religious organizations, agencies of the press, radio, television, motion pictures, and other communications media, and all citizens to cooperate in appropriate observance of this day throughout our country."

The Public Speaking

About Appointments

To The Editor:

At the last meeting of the town council, the council appointed members on three commissions or boards, namely Zoning, Zoning Adjustment and Recreation, for terms from one to three years. (See The Pilot, October 16, page 8, section 1.)

We, the citizens of Southern Pines, consider the decisions of these commissions and boards important to us. We feel that it is our privilege to voice our approval or rejection of the persons the council has named for these groups.

Is it not also our privilege to submit names of persons to serve on these commissions or boards and certainly to be informed by the press of the names selected, prior to their appointments?

Are not commissions and boards appointed to serve for an extended time contrary to the practice and purpose of our recently installed Plan D form of government?—"That the citizen can both understand how it works and make it work."

INTERESTED WOMEN

Southern Pines
October 19, 1953

No Vacation for Hunger

To The Editor:

One thing is certain that hunger, wherever found, never takes a vacation. Nor does the need for food in many lands today. It can drastically upset the rhythm of life any time, anywhere. That is just what old man hunger has done throughout the centuries. During recent years recurrent wars and increasing populations have brought hunger into sharp focus as the number one problem of the world.

Earthquake, famine, flood, drought, war and pestilence have accentuated the problem of hunger the world over in the last six years. As a backwash from recent wars the world numbers a solid body of refugees at 38,000,000. They command our pity, our com-

passion, our concern. To this serious and ever growing problem the denominations and relief agencies, church and secular, have addressed themselves like the Good Samaritan with active good-will. As all know we have only just begun to fight relentless hunger and its causes. The Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP) has engaged in this fight for the past six years.

This is the task of us all—the scientist, doctor, missionary, evangelist, agriculturist, architect, contractor and preacher. All of us must engage the enemy, HUNGER, now and fight to the finish. The goal is "the more abundant life" for all. Our material gifts for emergency relief, our aid on self help programs and technical assistance projects of all kinds, through the Church agencies, United Nations, and Point IV are steps in the right direction. We cannot grow weary in well doing now.

The Moore County CROP collection will be made the week of November 8.

CARL H. KEY
State CROP Director
Durham, N. C.

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By MARQUIS CHILDS

Washington Calling...

WASHINGTON.—As the prices of things the farmer has to sell continue to go down while the prices of many of the things he buys go up, the political pressure to "solve" the farm problem increases. It is perhaps the biggest domestic worry of an Administration that professes to believe in free enterprise without resort to Government props to hold up prosperity.

With farming in America becoming more and more mechanized, what the farmer must pay for his tractor, his gasoline, his electric power has more and more to do with whether his books show a profit or loss at the end of the year. This is one reason why the controversy over the Hells Canyon Dam site in Idaho cuts much deeper than is generally understood.

The dispute was touched off when Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay withdrew the department's objection to granting the Idaho Power Company the right to develop a part of the site. Those who have been protesting most loudly before the Federal Power Commission are spokesmen for public power in the Northwest favoring the big hydro electric-irrigation project proposed by the Truman Administration. In hearings now temporarily suspended, they argued that only through full scale Government development could low cost power be obtained for the region.

They insisted that a Federal dam was an essential part of the great Columbia River system which has meant rapid expansion of the Northwest. On the other side spokesmen for the private company argued that the job could be done just as well by them with a great saving to the taxpayer.

But the interest in a volume of low cost power from Hells Canyon extends far beyond those who would benefit directly. It is tied to the development of low cost fertilizer with farmers in 17 West and Midwest states having a stake in cooperative projects of their own.

Idaho is estimated to have up to 60 percent of the nation's phosphate deposits from which phosphatic fertilizers can be produced. Two large deposits are owned by two groups of farm co-ops—the Western Fertilizer Cooperative and the Central Farmers Fertilizer Company. The latter is directed by a board elected by 11 regional co-ops, including some affiliated with the conservative American Farm Bureau Federation, in Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Oklahoma,

Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Nebraska.

An electric oven process for producing this fertilizer calls for large amounts of low cost power. Spokesmen for the farm groups have made generous claims of the savings that can be achieved if they could hook up their proposed phosphate plants to Federal power lines with rates comparable to those from Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams.

The savings to farm users would be \$3,400,000 a year on one plant proposed by the Central Farmers Company, according to C. W. Bunting, company manager. He said that at least nine additional plants would be necessary to meet the requirements of the Midwest.

Similar claims are made by Charles Baker, manager of the Pacific Supply Cooperative made up of co-ops in four states of the Northwest. He says that savings to farmers tilling more than 300,000,000 of the 530,000,000 acres of plowland in the country would average from 25 to 35 percent.

The glitter of this promise appeals to farmers who have seen farm prices drop for the past year and a half. With intensive cultivation, spurred by the demands of World War II, minerals are mined out of the soil and the fertilizer bill becomes an increasingly important item in the farmer's cost of production. It is essential to repair the damage of erosion and the constant loss of top soil.

James Patton, president of the National Farmers Union testifying for the Government development, argued that phosphate reserves in Florida and Tennessee would soon be exhausted under present demand and then western phosphates would have to be shipped east. Farm Bureau spokesmen in their testimony spoke of the need for low cost power for fertilizer development but they did not oppose the application of the private company to develop three smaller dams at the Hells Canyon site.

In high prosperity such as farmers enjoyed during and immediately after the war and with the skyrocketing of prices after the Korean conflict began, this might be dismissed as a political factor. But today it is one of the pieces in the farm puzzle and it cannot be ignored. If the price drop continues, as it seems likely to do, there will be an ever-growing awareness in the farm states of the squeeze in which the farmer is caught.

The timing here is interesting. The Power Commission is not likely to rule on the Hells Canyon case much before the first of next year. That will throw the decision, which seems certain to favor the private company, right into next year's election campaign. (Copyright, 1953, by UFS, Inc.)

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