

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.

The Air-Ground School and Southern Pines

The Pilot joins with other business interests in Southern Pines in recognizing the economic importance of the USAF Air-Ground School to this community. The sudden departure of the school without at least a partially compensating substitute, from the payroll angle, would be a serious loss to local business.

Last week's announcement, that USAFAGOS would leave this area in a few months, or as soon as facilities being readied for it at Keesler Air Force Base are completed, comes as a very real blow and puts the town in a difficult situation. It has, it might be argued, come at the same angle of the situation in which the South was put by the anti-segregation decision: informed observers felt it was coming sooner or later; it doesn't meet with local approval, but, as part of a much larger picture, it makes sense. And, mercifully, there is to be a waiting period in which the apparently catastrophic situation can be studied so that perhaps something can be worked out to ease the crisis.

The Air Force must be given due credit, we submit, for announcing the decision to move early, thus clearing the air of doubt and uncertainty and giving the community time to make whatever readjustment it can. In making their announcement several months in advance of the anticipated move, the Air Force showed real consideration and the understanding of the community's side of the problem which has marked the continued attitude of the staff here.

As business people in Southern Pines, we want the Air-Ground School to stay. As taxpayers of the U. S. A., we must admit that it is common sense to move a unit of the armed forces out of a leased hotel if quarters can be provided for it on a military base.

It is our understanding that in the Air Force itself there is a line of thought that looks on the relative position of Southern Pines as favorable for the school, in that both permanent personnel and its 100 weekly students are removed from the general hurly-burly and distracting social life of a large military post. This, too, makes sense, but evidently this viewpoint

was overbalanced by the "economy and efficiency" angle that was advanced officially as the basic reason behind the decision. This would fit in with the idea, often expressed by those in charge, that the school would never remain long in a location so far removed from an Air Force base. The constant trips to Pope Field, which wasted so much time as well as money, were apparently considered an obstacle to permanent quarters here.

These are the official and, certainly, the basic reasons for the move of USAFAGOS away from Southern Pines. As citizens of the town, however, we might well, we think, ask ourselves if there were others our visitors are too polite to mention. It is clear that USAFAGOS has done a lot for our town: how much, on the other hand, has the town done for USAFAGOS? What about the exploiting of its personnel, especially in the matter of high rents? What about that time last winter when an attempt was made to stage an "Appreciation Day" and show USAFAGOS just how much they meant to us? Those very few citizens who turned out on that occasion, that was meant to be the town's tribute to the school, will not soon forget their humiliation at finding themselves greatly outnumbered by the school's personnel and their families. The visitors arrived in full force while the people of the town, who are now bemoaning the loss of the school, were shamefully conspicuous by their absence. A small thing, perhaps, but significant.

The foregoing does not in any way dampen our enthusiastic support of all efforts to delay the school's departure. A decision on the part of the Air Force to allow it to remain for the full period of the lease, through June 30, 1955, would seem to be a reasonable compromise of the situation, if compromise there can be.

Such a plan would vacate the hotel in the summer, allowing the owners time to ready it for fall resort trade. If it is true that the school is not likely to leave until early next year, we do not see that the few remaining months of the lease would throw an intolerable burden on the Air Force budget and such an arrangement would be a mighty blessing to this town.

The Chinese Situation

What is the United States going to do about China?

We find ourselves reluctant to employ the usual qualifying adjective: "Red". That it is "Red" China is a fact without a shadow of a doubt, but it seems to us equally certain that this vast land of more than 300 million people is, first and foremost, China.

China has accepted as its government the Mao Communist regime. This is something that has happened, a fait accompli, as old-time diplomacy used to put it. How long is this country going to pretend otherwise? How long is the United States going to keep up the pretense that Chiang still rules China or can ever do so again?

There come many times in the course of human events when radical changes occur, necessitating radical adjustments. It looks as if that were the case now. Why it happened is a question too complicated, as well as too useless, to spend time trying to decide. Russia was, of course, deeply involved; in this country, the part played by Senators Styles Bridges and William Knowland and the so-called China Lobby, which they either head or obey, was a powerful factor in preventing any realistic approach to the problem. And, sadly, it is still the case that any move towards possible solution is greeted and generally stopped, by cries of "Commie". It is nearly true that, as was said, the Truman Administration was hamstrung by Republican attacks so that the Secretary of State was a prisoner in dealing with this critical Asian question.

This nation does not "recognize" the Chinese government, but continues its support of Chiang; continues to act as if he were still the

white hope of China. Meantime, Russia needles Mao into more and more aggressive acts, more and more demands; building up, as is obviously her game, anti-American feeling throughout Asia. And meantime Chiang, having been "unleashed" and supplied with the screen of the Seventh Fleet and its planes, holds in his dubious power the ability to throw this nation into war.

The truth is: the U. S. has a bear by the tail, a bear that must be loosed and Secretary Dulles, no more than Secretary Acheson, has discovered any way to let go.

Why not go ahead and make the move? "Recognition" does not mean "approval." If it did this nation would have some trouble justifying a good many recognitions, from Russia to Spain to South America. Recognition means recognizing the facts and adjusting policy to fit them. It means, too, establishing some mode of communication with the possibility of easing the crisis. Furthermore, such a move on the part of the U. S. would cut the ground right out from under Russia's hope of fanning Asian hatred of the US and reserving every bit of Chinese trade and power for Russia's use. In the rest of the world we believe such a change of front would win instant acclaim. Our stock would go up as the move was recognized as a subtle and courageous seizing of the initiative.

As for Chiang, we would be in a position to exert strong bargaining powers. It should be possible to trade recognition and trade advantages for a reasonable settlement for Chiang and his forces. Over against concern for Chiang, however, should be weighed today, concern for this nation and the peace of the world so long as U. S. policy is tied to the tail of the nationalist China bear.

Troublesome Dogs

Given the erratic, thoughtless and often cruel behavior of many human beings towards animals, we think that, on the whole, dogs make a pretty good showing of their attempt to live in man's world.

It is rare that a dog attacks either another dog or a human being with such wanton savagery as did the animal that police were forced to shoot last week. There seemed no other solution to that problem.

Yet dogs—wandering, sniffing, barking, running, playing and doing what comes naturally to them—are often a nuisance to people. Some people are bothered more than others by the behavior of dogs. But sometimes, even those who truly love dogs find them troublesome.

One Southern Pines lady tells The Pilot that there are so many animals in her garden she is unable to go out and enjoy it or work in it. She says she enjoys, or used to enjoy, walking, but she is followed by so many dogs, some of which appear hostile, that she is afraid to practice this favorite pastime. She says she knows

five elderly people who visited Southern Pines, but said they would never come back because of the dog nuisance here.

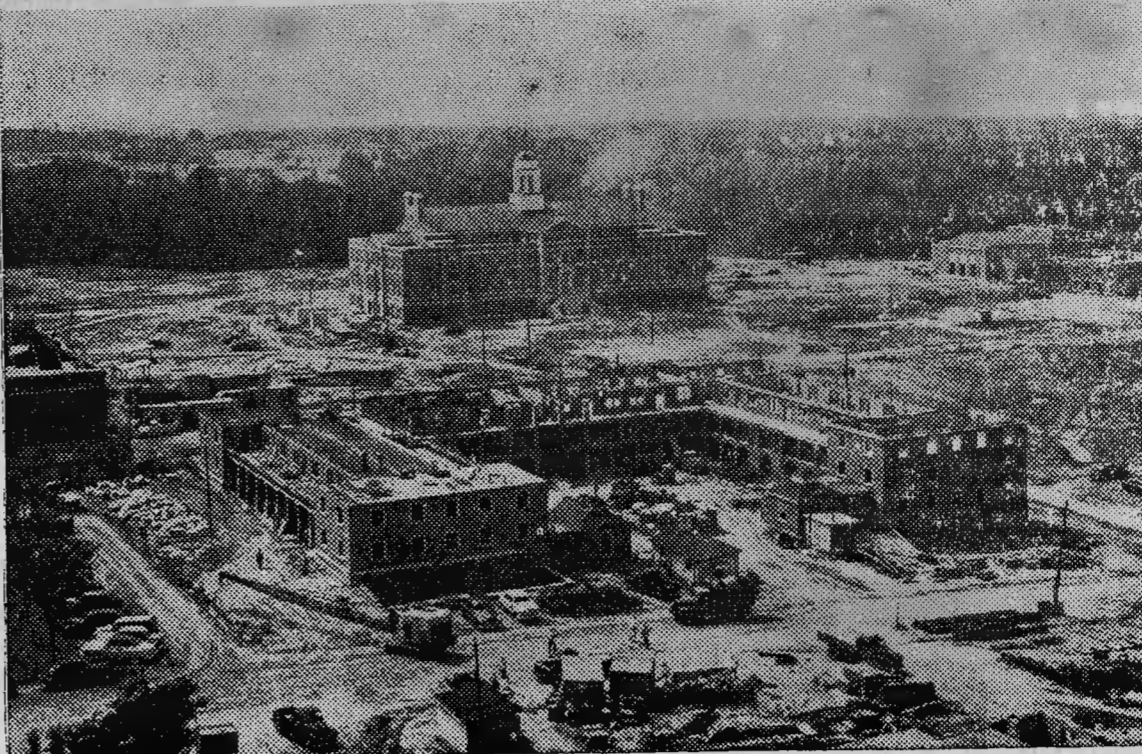
Most dog troubles come from dogs who have not been properly trained or who do not have good homes. These troubles, of course, can be laid at man's doorstep, not the dogs'.

An entirely different rule obtains for arrests without a warrant when the alleged crime involved amounts to a "felony", or more serious crime for which an offender could be sentenced to the State Prison.

By statute, this rule is that peace officers have the right to make arrests without process (warrant) when the officer has "reasonable ground to believe":

- (1) A felony has been committed, or, a dangerous wound inflicted;
- (2) hat a particular person is guilty and may escape if not immediately arrested.

In order to justify the arrest, we suggest that people who are bothered by dogs put pressure on the county commissioners for a county-wide dog pound and control system that the county could, we venture, pay for out of dog tax money alone.



CAMPUS IN THE MAKING—This photograph, taken from the tower of Wait Chapel on the new Wake Forest College campus at Winston-Salem, shows several buildings on which construction has proceeded rapidly during the summer months. In the foreground is one of the boys' dormitories. In the center background is the Z. Smith Reynolds Library while the science building is at the far right.

This Is The Law

Charles W. Daniel, writing for the North Carolina Bar Association, in the first of a series of articles provided by the Association to non-daily newspapers as a public service, explains the law of arrest which has attracted much attention throughout the state recently.

From time to time, as space permits, The Pilot will bring readers other articles on legal matters—all provided by courtesy of the State Bar Association.

The hub-bub which followed a North Carolina Supreme Court decision last month, dealing with the law of arrest without a warrant, may have left some confusion in the minds of newspaper readers. This is offered as an attempt to clarify the basic rules in the law of arrest.

One rule, applying to crimes which are misdemeanors, says generally that an officer may not make an arrest without a warrant unless the alleged crime amounts to, or threatens, a breach of the peace. But this rule applies only to misdemeanors committed in a community where there is no local law regulating arrest in such cases. The case which brought on the much debated Supreme Court decision on this question last month arose in Dallas, a town in upper Gaston County. Police there arrested without a warrant a man accused of public drunkenness. There was no evidence that the man did or was about to breach the peace. There was no local statute or authority for arrest in such a case without a warrant. So, the rule cited above had to be applied and the arrest was illegal. Under such circumstances, the accused man had a right to resist the arrest.

When Arrest Is Legal
This general rule of no arrest without a warrant in misdemeanor cases except for breach of the peace came down to us as inhabitants of the original 13 colonies in this country as a part of the English Common Law. It was written into our General Statutes in 1869. No change has been made in it since that date, although a number of specific, statewide exceptions have been written into the books. These exceptions include practically all automobile law violations, game law violations, forestry violations, certain liquor law violations and a number of others.

Also, by special acts of the legislature, the charters of numerous cities and towns (Durham, just for example) permit arrest without a warrant for drunkenness and other types of lesser crime—whether or not the conduct of the accused breaches or threatens the public peace.

One point should be noted: If a person is arrested without a warrant under authority of a local law permitting such arrest, he should be tried under that law and NOT under the general state statute. Thus, such arrest would be entirely legal and a subsequent conviction would not be upset on the ground that the arrest had been illegal.

Felony Arrest Rule
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It is not essential that any such serious offense be shown to have been ACTUALLY committed. It is only necessary that the officer have reasonable ground to believe that such offense has been committed.

Did Not Change Law
The Supreme Court, in its opinion on the law of arrest last month, did not change the law as it has existed for years. The opinion pointed out clearly the need for a general statewide statute empowering all peace officers to arrest persons charged with public drunkenness without a warrant. To illustrate the severity of this need: last year 418 pedestrians were killed by automobiles in North Carolina. Of these, one out of 5 had been drinking, according to a report by Major Charles A. Speed of the Highway Safety Division. Major Speed says that drunks walking along the State's highways constitute one of the Highway Patrol's most serious safety problems. Officers need clear authority to arrest such persons (as well as others who are publicly drunk) to protect them and the public. A bill creating such authority is being prepared by the North Carolina Judicial Council for presentation to the 1955 General Assembly.

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Grains of Sand

Parking Fines

We've heard it said that the town cleans up a lot of money on parking fines and arrest fees.

An item in the recent audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30 shows this is not the case. Income from these sources is listed in the audit as \$1,584.71—less than half of one policeman's salary.

Dove Season

A number of local sportsmen are taking advantage of the first half of the split season on doves to open the fall hunting season. Dove shooting began legally September 10 and runs through September 29. Second half of the split season opens December 10 to run through December 29.

Puzzler

A recent Pilot headline read: "Outsize Zoning To Be Discussed." Outsize? Should have been "Outside." Zoning is puzzling enough without such strange designations. Funny thing was, nobody mentioned the error. Maybe readers thought it was just some new kind of zoning — such as when a town gets too big for itself. Then it might be subject to outsize zoning.

Potatoes or Tomatoes?

"Are they potatoes or Tomatoes?" Tomato-like fruit appearing on potato plants cause a lot of wonderment each year. E. H. Garrison, Jr., Moore County farmer agent, says the oddity is not so odd at all. What the farmer thinks is a cross between tomatoes and potatoes is really the true seed ball of the potato plant.

Several of such oddities were reported to The Pilot during the past summer. Hardly news any more. Mr. Garrison says he has seen such seed balls many times, has even had them in his own garden.

'Too Old'

Mrs. Ruth Barkmer has had many chuckles over a conversation she had with her little neighbor, Sally Scheipers, who has just turned six and who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Scheipers, Jr.

The child, elated over her little brother's birthday, inquired of Mrs. Barkmer when her birthday came. When told that it would be the last of the month, the tot replied, in a sympathizing tone: "That's too bad." Not understanding her reaction, Mrs. Barkmer asked "Why?" "Because you're so old, you may not live until then . . . but I wouldn't worry," she added, consolingly.

Sharp-Eyed Colonel

Speaking of Pilot errors, which is something we don't like to speak of, we heard from only one reader, Col. C. H. Burkhead, after it was printed in this Grains column recently that Judge Alfred

The Public Speaking

(The following letter from a former resident, now living in Dorchester, Mass., contained a clipping on the recent death of Struthers Burt, also one from the Sandhill Citizen of April 27, 1931. The Citizen was then published in Southern Pines, while The Pilot was published at Aberdeen. The Citizen story contained a letter from Mrs. Tobin asking Mr. Burt to give advice on beautifying Mt. Hope cemetery, where Mr. Tobin is buried.)
To the Pilot:

Enclosed is a clipping I cut out of the Boston Globe.

I thought you might be interested also in my own little clipping, which was in the Sandhill Citizen April 27, 1931.

I visited in Southern Pines a few months ago and, of course, went up to the beautiful cemetery, which I will always feel proud of, with a feeling of great satisfaction.

It was my aim, and Mr. Burt's, to beautify and develop the cemetery that now is considered one of Southern Pines' beauty spots. I hope to be up on that beautiful hill some day.

Out-of-state folks used to be shipped home for burial, when I first lived in Southern Pines.

I'll never forget the shock it gave me, on my first visit up there, to see the bad condition it was in. I resolved right then to call the town's attention to it. It certainly has paid off.

I still regard Southern Pines as my home town, and hope to be back there some day.

Respectfully,
MARGARET TOBIN
52 Stanley street
Dorchester 25, Mass.

In Sandhill Citizen April 27, 1931:

A Matter for Public Attention
The following letter has been handed to the editor of the Citizen by Struthers Burt as a matter that should receive public attention:

Dear Mr. Burt:
I want to ask your opinion about your suggestion to the Town or to the Chamber of Commerce, about beautifying the cemetery, as I know you are interested in all that work.

I was up there Sunday and it made me feel very bad to think a good man like dear Mr. Tobin was, should lay in such a place. It is terrible I think, some stones almost falling over reminds me of a town that is deserted after a fire. I never saw such a cemetery before. It does not correspond with the beautiful town. I thought dogwoods planted up there would be so pretty I shall fix up the lot we have there in the fall and I thought a little write up telling folks to do a little to help improve it would be a good idea.

Thanking you, I remain,
Yours very truly,
Mrs. Tobin

Letter To Mayor Clark

To the Pilot:
The following is an open letter, the seventh of a series, to the Honorable Lloyd T. Clark, Mayor of Southern Pines.

Mr. Mayor:
I believe that facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored, and I note with interest your apparent "Policy of Silence" to the town voters, especially on matters that should be explained by you frankly and fully. Note the following:

A. When our Citizens Advisory Committee was formed, why did you not permit the committee to designate its own Chairman, as is done by our Council when electing a Mayor?

B. Why have you remained silent about the unwarranted action, on Nov. 11th, 1953, of your own designated Chairman, Mr. John Ruggles, in reference to his (Continued on Page 3)

The PILOT

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