

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.

Thanksgiving — A Great Heritage

The Fourth of July may be the most patriotic holiday observed in this nation, but Thanksgiving is the most typically American.

Does any other nation of the world have an annual national observance in which simple thankfulness is the main purpose? We don't recall hearing of such a holiday.

America's Thanksgiving Day should be potent propaganda material for this nation. What a spectacle Thanksgiving is in the United States—seen from the outside!

Here is the richest, strongest and most favored nation on earth—loaded and running over with material prosperity, allowing its citizens to live with a greater share of freedom, health and happiness than almost any other people—yet this lucky, carefree giant of a nation humbly bends its knees in gratitude yearly for the blessings Providence has bestowed upon it.

That picture is idealized, exaggerated, we know. Full freedom, full justice, full prosperity, full health and full happiness are denied many persons in this nation in greater or less degree.

But the picture is true in essence—even the fact that we are thankful.

Yes, we believe that Thanksgiving does have a meaning in millions of American homes. In spite of all our waste, extravagance and superficiality, we believe that in the vast majority of Americans there is a deep instinct of gratitude and humility—an instinct that harks back to our common origin in people who sought the shores of America in hope and faith and reached them in thankfulness for a new chance, a new home, no matter how hard, crude or inhospitable the new home might be.

Whether this happened to our forebears fifty, one hundred or one hundred and fifty years ago, a pattern was set which has never lost its significance.

It behooves us not to let this sense of gratitude, this dependence on Divine guidance, grow weak. It is one of the great glories of our heritage. We want the world to know we are strong. We should also let the world know we are thankful.

Worthy Holiday Season Projects

Two annual activities associated with the Christmas holidays are now making their appeals—one county-wide, the other largely in Southern Pines.

The 48th annual Christmas Seal Sale of the National Tuberculosis Association is starting this week throughout the nation, with the Moore County Association setting a goal of \$6,040 for the county and \$1,400 in Southern Pines.

On the local scene, the Veterans of Foreign Wars are asking for repairable toys, to be left on the porch of the post home, which members of the post will fix and paint and include in Christmas baskets going to needy families.

Moore County's response in the seal sale has

always been good. Especially noteworthy in the past several years, has been the response of the Negro division of the sale—a recognition that ill Negroes have consistently obtained needed care and assistance in this county through the Moore County Tuberculosis Association.

The VFW Christmas Cheer program will include later donations of food items of all kinds, as well as cash contributions needed to purchase a variety of articles and foodstuffs for the Christmas baskets.

We urge generous support of these two campaigns—the seal sale that, year by year, brings closer the conquest of tuberculosis, and the program of local giving that will brighten the Christmas of several dozen families.

Irrigation Takes The Spotlight

Interested Moore County farmers will meet at the courtroom in Carthage Tuesday afternoon of next week to hear a discussion of farm ponds, irrigation for crops and irrigation equipment.

Several times in the past year, we have noted rising interest in irrigation in Moore County farming, as well as increasing attention throughout the state on water problems—municipal, industrial and agricultural.

Our guess is that next week's meeting will be among the best attended of any farm subject discussion that has come along in some time.

County Agent E. H. Garrison says that the time may not be too far distant when irrigation materials will be standard equipment on farms of the county—yet he warns that farmers should not rush headlong into irrigation, that

proper surveys of their needs should be made and that they should purchase equipment suited to those needs.

It is interesting that, while we suspect most farmers are thinking of irrigation in terms of increasing the yields of their chief money crop—tobacco—the farm agent also sees irrigation as offering great promise in the continuing effort to have more diversification in the county's agriculture. It might make possible, for instance, truck farming that has hitherto been too uncertain a gamble in this area because of erratic rainfall.

The irrigation meeting at Carthage next week will help to set the stage for important developments in Moore County farming. It may some day be referred to as an historic occasion.

Congratulations, Blue Knights

The Pilot congratulates the Blue Knights of Southern Pines High school and their coaches, Irie Leonard and W. A. Leonard, on winning the Eastern Six-man football championship. At the same time, we proffer our best wishes in their try for the State championship in a game being played this week.

A relatively young and inexperienced Southern Pines team has stood up to the toughest opposition that Eastern North Carolina has to offer and has proved its worth. Looking ahead to 1955, the outlook is even brighter: most of the members of this year's squad will be returning, some for one more season with the

Blue Knights, some with two or more years in prospect. While it doesn't mean that anybody can take it easy, this is a pleasant prospect for coaches and fans alike.

The 1954 season has been remarkable not only for the stalwart performances of the players, but for the installation of lights at Memorial Field after a fund-raising campaign that was among the most successful and heart-warming community efforts made here on any project in many years.

Looking back on the 1954 season, friends of the Blue Knights have much to be thankful for. Looking forward, they can be equally enthusiastic.

N. C. Ranks 38th In Voting

The Greensboro Daily News takes note of another Tar Heel low ranking. We're 38th in voting. Only 52 per cent of North Carolina's eligible voters went to the polls in 1952 when Ike and Adlai were contesting for the Presidency.

The national average was 63 per cent. Southern states had the poorest voting records. Below North Carolina were Florida, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi. Lack of a real two-party system in most Southern areas may help explain the great lack of voting interest in the South, but it doesn't excuse the South's voting deficiency.

The usual reaction to low voting percentage is simply to deplore or ignore. Or, if there is any positive reaction, it usually takes the form of a "get out the vote" scheme thought up by a promotion-minded civic club.

Apparently the Greensboro Daily News doesn't go for schemes or slogans or fanfare to overcome our voting deficiency.

"What can we do about it?" asks the News. "Exactly what we are doing about our other deficiencies—work to gain more education, knowledge and understanding which will in turn give us a larger share of the national wealth which will in turn (we hope) make us take our civic responsibility more seriously."

This appears to be a sound approach. It also

ties in with our own pet opinion about voting. We have never thought as highly of "getting out the vote" as we have of increasing the knowledge and understanding of those eligible to vote. More intelligent voting is a more pressing need than simply more voting.

When North Carolina and the rest of the South succeed in increasing the "education, knowledge and understanding" of the people, not only will our voting percentages rise sharply, as the Greensboro Daily News hopes, but the intelligence of the decisions at the polls will likely be higher too. And when we reach a high level of intelligence in voting, we'll likely have something to crow about. A high voting percentage alone doesn't reflect strength of democracy. —THE SMITHFIELD HERALD

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."—Bill of Rights, Article One.

"The freedom of the press and an able press are so ingrained as a part of American civilization that any enumeration of its value seems unnecessary."—Herbert Hoover.



SEAL SALE BEGINS—Gov. Luther Hodges (center above) and Dr. J. W. R. Norton, State Health Officer (right) buy the first Christmas Seal of the 1954 Christmas Seal Campaign from Carl O. Jeffress, State Christmas Seal Chairman (left).

THE FIGHT IS NOT YET WON

Tuberculosis Remains Problem

Carl O. Jeffress, 1954 Christmas Seal Chairman, today released the following statement on the 1954 Christmas Seal Sale which opened Monday and runs through the month of December.

"Every citizen of North Carolina should join hands with the little children on the 1954 Christmas Seals in the struggle against the chain of tuberculosis infection.

"Tuberculosis is still a major problem and will continue to be if complacency blinds us to the fact that tuberculosis—one of our oldest killers—is still at work every day in North Carolina.

"Drugs, improved surgery, and better treatment have helped, but they have not won the fight.

"Consider these facts: In North Carolina last year, a new case developed every four hours for a total of 2,001 new cases.

There was a death from tuberculosis for every day of the year. In fact, there were 11 deaths every 10 days, or a total of 402 deaths in North Carolina.

There were 1,715 new patients admitted to the North Carolina Sanatoria last year. They stayed in the Sanatoria for an average of 156 days each.

A single case of tuberculosis costs about \$15,000.00 and this does not include the loss of future income or the expense of re-training.

"Today in the United States approximately 400,000 people have active tuberculosis. It is estimated that 150,000 have the disease and do not know it. These unreported people are actively and unwittingly spreading tuberculosis. Our immediate task is to find those with tuberculosis in order to break the chain of infection. This task requires early case finding, intensive work, money and team work.

"Through the purchase of Christmas Seals, you can join hands with others in the fight against tuberculosis. I urge you to buy and use Christmas Seals to protect yourself and your family."

Valuable Project for Nation

The Agriculture Census

The Census of Agriculture is taken at five-year intervals to provide reliable and up-to-date statistical information about the more than 5 million farms on which a nation of more than 163 million people depend for food and raw materials for the manufacture of goods. In large part, the efficiency of American agriculture depends on this information.

The Census of Agriculture data provide the foundation for the entire structure of the Nation's agricultural statistics.

The Federal government, Congress and the executive agencies use the information to develop and administer farm programs.

Crop and livestock reporting services and other statistical activities of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which provide estimates on farm industry trends that guide farmers, the government and others in their decisions, depend on benchmark data provided by the census.

State and local agencies, farm organizations and others serving the farmer use the census data in their analyses of the farm situation in their areas.

Manufacturers and marketers use the statistics to measure resources for agricultural raw materials and, conversely to determine the farmers' needs for machinery, supplies and services which farmers buy for efficient farm operations.

Newspaper promotion departments, advertising agencies and advertisers of products and services used by farmers and farm families study agricultural statistics for counties and other areas in laying out campaigns designed to reach potential customers.

Bankers and other financial services employ agricultural census statistics in evaluating conditions and factors which govern their decisions on farm credit for the areas they serve.

Farmers themselves apply census data to their problems, although these data usually come to them indirectly through many different channels of information. Statistics published in farm periodicals, in reports of marketing services in radio farm information programs, and in other media that influence the farmer in making important decisions are taken either direct from census reports or are based on them.

The information supplied by each farmer is treated as confi-

denial by the Census Bureau and assurance is given that the information will be published only in statistical totals for each county so that operations of an individual farm are not revealed. The Census law requires the farmers to supply the information officially requested by the Census Bureau, but also provides that this information cannot be used for taxation, regulation or investigation. The Census enumerators, in taking their oaths of office are sworn not to reveal the information obtained from the farmers and the law provides severe penalties including fines and imprisonment if the confidential restrictions are violated.

The Census questionnaire is designed to collect information

Grains of Sand

Ham and Chicken

City Manager Tom E. Cunningham recently set some kind of record when he spoke to two local civic clubs on the same day, addressing the Rotary Club at noon and the Lions Club at its supper meeting—both in the Southern Pines Country Club.

With the clubs meeting at the same place on the same day, Tom admits he had some misgivings about having to eat the same menu twice. But the plans of Morris Johnson, manager of the kitchens there, were different. Tom enjoyed ham at one meeting and chicken at the other.

Mother of Author

In The Pilot's "Some Looks at Brooks" column, "The Tastemakers" by Russell Lynes was reviewed recently, but it was not noted there that the author is the son of Mrs. J. R. Lynes who has been social director at the Carolina Hotel in Pinchurst for the past 14 seasons.

Mr. Lynes, author of "The Big Chance," "The Last Resorts," and other books, is manager editor of Harper's Magazine. His mother says he has never been to the Sandhills, but that she sees him and his family regularly when she spends summers in the North.

Welcome Signs

Boys of Moore County 4-H Clubs which are organized in rural schools are planning to put up signs four by five feet in size at highway entrances to the county reading, "Moore County 4-H Clubs Welcome You." First two of the signs are due to go up soon at the north and south entrances on No. 1 highway. Funds to build the signs were donated by several business firms. Other signs will be put up later.

Sheriff and Opponents

Sheriff C. J. McDonald received a telephone call early one recent morning to notify him that some one had, during the previous night, knocked down a number of rural mail boxes along several miles of road between Glendon and Highfalls. The caller was Wendell Kelly who ran against the sheriff in last May's Democratic primary.

Not long afterwards, the telephone rang again—another man had noticed the destruction of mailboxes. And who was calling? R. G. Fry, Jr., the third candidate for sheriff in the primary.

Later several more calls came in, but the first and second calls, came from the two men who ran against Sheriff McDonald in the primary, both of whom happened

about the number and size of farms, tenure, acreage of land in various uses, crops harvested, livestock inventory and production, expenditures for selected items (labor hire, machine hire, feed, fertilizers and lime, gasoline and other petroleum fuels and oil), inventory of selected facilities and equipment (television sets, food freezer, piped running water, tractor, harvesting machines, automobile, truck, etc.) irrigation, conservation practices, farm value, mortgage debt, and cash rent.

On an average, each farmer will be asked about 100 questions.

Thanksgiving, 1954

Early in our history the Pilgrim fathers inaugurated the custom of dedicating one day at harvest time to rendering thanks to Almighty God for the bounties of the soil and for His mercies throughout the year. At this autumnal season, tradition suggests and our hearts require that we follow that hallowed custom and bow in reverent thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us individually and as a Nation.

We are grateful that our beloved country, settled by those forebears in their quest for religious freedom, remains free and strong, and that each of us can worship God in his own way, according to the dictates of his conscience.

We are grateful for the innumerable daily manifestations of Divine goodness in affairs both public and private, for equal opportunities for all to labor and to serve, and for the continuance of those homely joys and satisfactions which enrich our lives.

With gratitude in our hearts for all our blessings, may we be ever mindful of the obligations inherent in our strength, and may we rededicate ourselves to unselfish striving for the common betterment of mankind.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, in consonance with the joint resolution of Congress approved December 26, 1941, designating the fourth Thursday of November of each year as Thanksgiving Day, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 25, 1954, as a day of national thanksgiving, and I call upon all our citizens to observe the day with prayer. Let us demonstrate in our lives our humble thanks to God for His beneficence in the year which is past, and let us ask His guidance in the year to come.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this sixth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-ninth.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

to be out very early that morning.

Trash Box Target

The off-the-ground trash boxes in the business section, which are fastened to power and telephone poles, figured in this column some time ago when we quoted the remark of a passing pedestrian to the effect that nobody could be expected to reach up and put trash in such a thing when it was so much easier to throw it down in the street.

The boxes are appreciated, however, by some Southern Pines residents—notably boys who possess a certain type of toy pistol that shoots a dart with a rubber suction disk on the end. For them, we decided after watching a youngster at target practice on the corner of New Hampshire Ave and Broad St., the trash boxes are perfect—just the right height (eliminating stooping to retrieve the dart) and having a smooth metal surface to which the suction disk will cling. Finding a smooth surface to shoot at is one of the basic problems of owners of such pistols, we're told.

So far as we could see, the dart did not injure the surface of the container, so we do not think we're encouraging vandalism by writing this item.

Power of The Press

As we hang away at the typewriter on news items, we, like all reporters, occasionally wonder if anybody is going to read the story, and, if they do, whether they'll be interested. Such morose thoughts, apparently, are an occupational hazard of all writers. You wonder sometimes if anybody else will notice or care.

One of the quickest reactions from a news item ever to be reported to us—we are only assuming the news item had something to do with it, of course—was that a few hours after The Pilot noted last Thursday that the official weather bureau observation station had been set up back of town hall, somebody stole the station's two thermometers out of the unlocked shelter in which they were located.

City Manager Cunningham, who was appointed weather observer following the resignation of Mrs. Tom Kelley, was taking Police Chief Ed Newton to the observation station Friday morning, to show him how to make reports, as police will handle this duty on Saturday and Sunday. When they looked in the shelter, the thermometers were gone.

One of them records maximum temperature only and the other minimum temperature only, during the preceding 24-hour period.

Of course, the Pilot story may not have had anything to do with the theft. We hope it didn't. The thermometers will be replaced by the Weather Bureau—and the shelter will henceforth have a lock on it.

Here Six Years Ago

Something about last week's visit of Adlai E. Stevenson here seemed familiar—as though it had happened before. We started checking through the files and found that he was a visitor in the Sandhills almost exactly six years ago—in 1948, just after he had been elected governor of Illinois, the first Democratic governor the state had had in 40 years.

It happened, too, that November 19 fell on Friday that year, as well as this year. The Pilot reporting the 1948 visit was dated the same as last week's paper, Friday, November 19. The difference is that the name Adlai Stevenson means much more to many more people now than it did then.

North Carolinians were not particularly interested in who was elected governor of Illinois six years ago—but they were mightily interested in who was elected President of the United States two years ago and gave Mr. Stevenson more electoral votes than any other state in the nation.

Now Tar Heels know him better than in 1948.

The PILOT

Published Every Friday by THE PILOT, Incorporated Southern Pines, North Carolina

1941—JAMES BOYD—1944

Katharine Boyd Editor
C. Benedict News Editor
Dan S. Ray Gen. Mgr.
C. G. Council Advertising
Mary Scott Newton Business
Bessie Cameron Smith Society

Composing Room
Lochamy McLean, Dixie B. Ray,
Michael Valen, Jasper Swearingen

Subscription Rates:
One Year \$4. 6 mos. \$2. 3 mos. \$1

Entered at the Postoffice at Southern Pines, N. C., as second class mail matter

Member National Editorial Assn. and N. C. Press Assn.