

# 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.

## Gratitude Felt For Hospital Gifts

The gratitude of this area goes out to Mrs. C. Louis Meyer whose generous gift of \$55,000, in memory of her distinguished husband, will provide a complete modern children's department in Moore County Hospital.

Mrs. Meyer's gift and \$50,000 given by Mr. and Mrs. H. Arnold Jackson for a new emergency suite at the hospital form the backbone of a local contribution that amounts to about one-third of a State-Federal-local fund that now has reached \$450,000.

In addition to the large Meyer and Jackson gifts, many other persons have contributed generously and recognition is given by hospital authorities to all gifts, however small, made since

the Jackson donation launched a campaign for much needed hospital improvements.

The emergency and children's departments are the two most pressing needs and it is gratifying to know that each will now be met. Construction of a separate boiler room and other consolidations and extensions under the proposed program will give the hospital facilities that will enable it to serve the people of this area much more effectively.

Moore County and the entire section served by the hospital is wonderfully fortunate to be the beneficiary of the extraordinary generosity shown by Mrs. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and other donors whose names have not been made known.

## New Names Enter Election Picture

It's a fine thing to see new names coming into the election picture here. If there is anything that makes for a healthy community it is this: that its citizens are keenly interested in its politics and willing and even eager to assume the responsibilities of government.

To hail the entrance of new candidates into the field of town councilmen is not necessarily to cast doubt on those already holding these positions. Rather, the fact that others aspire to membership on the council may be taken as a subtle compliment. It indicates, at any rate, that the present group has been able to awaken a spirit of citizenship in the people of the town and that is no mean achievement.

For, we would point out, the present town council is the first of its kind. The five men who compose it had to start from scratch with the new system, and learn as they went along. They have probably made mistakes but, on the whole, their record has been extremely good; they have put town finances on a more business-like basis that is bound to reap increasing benefits in tax-saving; but perhaps even more im-

portant: they have brought the town government closer to the people.

The last point might be disputed by some who would claim that the old system was a far more personalized affair, casual, informal, man to man. However, while some of that kind of thing undoubtedly makes for good feeling, it does not, we believe, lead to true citizen participation in town affairs. It leads, rather, to favoritism and wire-pulling and politicking. That sort of thing is apt to scare off desirable candidates of high calibre from running for office and can never create the confidence and understanding essential to good government and a happy community. No, it is not such personalized government but rather the open meetings, the full discussion with the public encouraged to be present and observe how each councilman votes; the wide use of publicity the easily understood accounting: it is these factors, as put in practice by the present council, that have helped to awaken the citizen interest that is being shown in the coming election.

## SNAFU In Washington

The term SNAFU was invented by the army. "Situation normal; all fouled up" was, according to the GIs, the occupational disease of the Big Brass.

It looks as if the present snafu in Washington was equally occupational to these times and was being accepted with somewhat the same G. I. equanimity by the American people. Or is this calm resignation more apparent than real? Does the apparent passivity of the public in face of the present confusion in high places reflect not so much indifference as somewhat stunned bewilderment?

It seems likely. For there are a good many indications, aside from the furore of editorial comment, that the public attitude is not that of indifference to what is going on, but rather of uncertainty and even a certain amount of fear, brought on by lack of confidence in Administration leadership. Americans have gone through two world wars and a near third in Korea, they have seen the failure of one international body formed to build a peaceful world and they are now, it would seem, extremely apprehensive that the blunders and vacillations of the Administration, giving offense to allies and ammunition to potential enemies, indicate a fundamental incapacity to cope with the present world situation. It looks as if this country were in the hands of a weak president who is delegating all decisions to a staff made up of men extremely able but unfamiliar with the job and unable to work together or with others, and that these men and the president himself are pretty much under the control of small-minded politicians.

How else view the release of the Yalta papers? It is widely felt that this is one of the most senseless and irresponsible blunders yet perpetrated. It has done no one any good, not even the politicians who inspired it, for the facts of the so-called "give-away" to Russia were already known. What has come out, actually, has boomeranged against the Republicans, pulverizing some of the charges made during the campaign and, incidentally, showing the President himself in a most unfortunate light. The "Yalta give-away" figured prominently in a good many campaign speeches; it is therefore distressing, to say the least, to find him admitting, now, that he has never read the Yalta agreement.

But it is not this sort of thing that is so serious; it is the fact that release of these papers shows so clearly the weakness and lack of conviction of those in charge of this nation's affairs. The papers, we are told, were leaked to two newspapers and then released to the press in general at the insistence of Senators Knowland and Bridges, an amazing enough proceeding to begin with. These two men have worked relentlessly to hamstring this nation's, and now this administration's conduct of foreign affairs, yet the Secretary of State gave in to them, as he has often done before, and the whole thing was done without consultation with the President. The latter's subsequent platitudinous moralities to the press have only emphasized the weakness of the Administration's position.

But the harm to the nation, in the confusion

of the public and the lessening of confidence in the government, is as nothing to the harm done in the field of foreign relations. The United States has gratuitously insulted Winston Churchill, its best friend and one of the great men of this or any other century; it has alienated allies and it has encouraged opponents by supplying valid grounds for their hopes that the Western Alliance will break up. Great issues are simmering on the fire: the future of Germany, the complex and critical question of which way Asia will go, the immediate crisis over Formosa. If ever there were a time when it is vital not to rock the boat it would seem to be now.

But there is more still. A year ago Churchill suggested that it was high time to try for a meeting of the Western and Soviet leaders, and hardly a day goes by that his plea is not echoed by scientists of statesmen, stressing the fearful urgency of the times, as the world cowers under the shadow of the hydrogen bomb. But release of the Yalta papers, with its publication of all the chat that went on, surely makes such a high level meeting impossible. The knowledge that whatever is said will be publicized will prevent all free discussion. Without this any such meeting is virtually useless.

Secretary Dulles makes excuses, President Eisenhower makes excuses, but excuses do not repair the inestimable damage done to the United States and the cause of peace by their release of the Yalta papers. It does not restore confidence in the Administration, either in the mind of the Western powers or in that of the American people.

## Farmers Take A Beating

As this is written, it is known that the Sandhills peach crop, as well as that of the entire Southeastern United States, has been wiped out by last week-end's freezing weather. Local damage to other crops has not at this writing been estimated but it appears tobacco plants may also have suffered.

All the great scientific advances in agriculture—such as improvement of varieties, better fertilization and more effective insect and disease control—are powerless before the vagaries of Nature, the one great constant force in agriculture throughout mankind's history.

All man's skill, all man's labor add up to nothing when Nature steps in with cold, heat, drought, wind or other inexorable influences. We in this area received a hint of this majestic and threatening power when we were lashed by Hurricane Hazel last fall. Man and his efforts seem puny and unavailing when Nature turns loose its forces.

To the peach growers of the Sandhills and to other farmers who have felt the effects of the recent freeze, we extend our sympathy. Everywhere, Sunday and Monday, the talk was of their great loss. They were not forgotten by their neighbors—we to whom a cold night at this time of year is little more than an inconvenience, offering no more personal challenge than that of trying to make a dwindling winter's fuel supply stretch until the normal warmth of Spring returns.

## HE DID NOT SEEK PRAISE

### Tribute To C. Louis Meyer

Announcement of a \$55,000 gift to finance construction of a children's department at Moore County Hospital, by Mrs. C. Louis Meyer of near Pinehurst, in memory of her husband, recalls the following tribute that was paid to Mr. Meyer in October, 1953, following his death, by Ned A. Ochiltree, president of the Ceco Steel Products Company which was founded by Mr. Meyer who was chairman of the board at the time of his death. The tribute appeared in "Ceco Family News," a company publication.

"On October 5th, the founder of this company, our great and good friend, was taken from us. During his lifetime he did not seek praise; he would not want it now.

"Aside from his love of home and family, this business and the people who work at Ceco were his chief interest. It is fitting that I speak to you as fellow employees about his leadership and the many truths we learned from him.

"He taught us to be honest and fair; to be thrifty, yet generous; to have courage; to earnestly seek wisdom; to strive for vision; to look forward and plan; to put everything one had into the job at hand, and to love doing it.

"His teachings included an unusual insistence on always getting the other fellow's viewpoint, qualifying this by urging that we act according to our own views when we felt that we were right.

"He believed in honest remuneration for honest work, and taught us to give and expect honesty. He had confidence in young men, insisting that they be given every opportunity, and taught us to build an organization from within.

"He had a real affection for those who worked for and with him, and an abounding faith in their loyalty to this company; a faith all of us share.

"He knew, and taught us to know, that people are the key to growth and success in business; that bricks and mortar and tools and money are necessary things, which can be used successfully only by the right people, in the right places, under the right conditions.

"C. Louis Meyer was a great and a good man. He taught us all of these things and more. I feel that I am expressing the conviction of many others in this Company, when I say the least we can do is to try to live and work according to the high example he set for us in building this Company."

## Gov. Hodges Concerned

### Water Poses Problems

In his recent press conference for non-daily and small daily newspapers, Gov. Luther H. Hodges stressed the importance of water to the State, outlined water problems and noted legislation before the General Assembly dealing with this matter. Rep. H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen is a co-sponsor of one of these bills. The Governor's statement follows:

The uses of water are increasing ever more rapidly in all categories. More and more shortages of water will occur unless its misuses are checked and sound principles of conservation and proper use are adopted. The saving of water, the proper channeling of it, and the prevention of huge losses have become a major problem of public interest and concern. The use of water in North Carolina for irrigation is greatly increasing. Uncertainty with regard to water rights has arisen in connection with action on applications for permits to use water for irrigation, and an increase of conflicts in water rights is inevitable.

Uses of water for domestic, municipal and industrial purposes are also greatly increasing. Plans for future development of municipal and industrial water supplies should be based on accurate knowledge of water rights.

When water was plentiful for all, the riparian doctrine was adequate. In the complex economy of today, when uses materially reduce the total supply, riparian law has been found to be inadequate. It appears highly probable that within the near future, the State must substitute the principle of allocation of water for the riparian doctrine.

Bills are now before the General Assembly which attempt to deal with the problems of the use and conservation of water. One of these which was introduced by Senator Medford and Representatives Blue and Etheridge will establish a Board of Water Commissioners to exercise continuing control and regulation over the surface waters of the State. Its powers would be based largely on allocation principles.

Another Bill, introduced by Senator Bunn, would also establish a Board of Water Commissioners. Under this Bill, the Board would be principally concerned with disseminating educational knowledge on the use and conservation of water. It would, however, also exercise regulatory powers in cases of emergencies in particular localities.

## PROUD OF HER SON IN SERVICE

### A Soldier's Mother Writes

Because of the proximity of Fort Bragg and the fact that a number of members of the 82nd Airborne Division live in the Sandhills, the following letter will be of interest. It was written to the Office of the Commanding General by Mrs. Charles Porter Atherton of Exeter, N. H., after she visited her son who is a member of the 82nd at Fort Bragg.)

"I have just returned home from a three-day visit to Fort Bragg and it occurs to me that we mothers who have sons in the Army, and certainly we who have sons at Fort Bragg, should express our appreciation for many things. Most of us can not say these things because we are afraid to be impertinent in both our busy people who are doing a necessary job; or we are afraid that if we speak what is on our minds, we might be accused of apple-polishing in behalf of our personal soldiers. But I know that so many mothers feel as I do, and I am simply an anonymous mother—my son and I do not even have the same name!

"Fort Bragg is an experience I wish more civilians might have. It has taught me a great deal that I did not know. It is a beautiful place and I had every courtesy any woman could possibly ask for. Every soldier or MP was courteous and helpful and cheerful; my room at Guest House Number Two was immaculate and more comfortable than I had any right to expect and the hostesses were delightful, helpful and cordial—I wondered if it was a stroke of genius or an accident that one was southern and one northern? Anyhow, it was ideal.

"I saw fledgling jumpers make their first terrifying jumps and met some of them afterwards and saw and heard their glorious pride that they had earned; I do not, because he wants to be

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## Grains of Sand

### Our Easter Faith

The Rev. G. Rexford Raymond, D. D., who became pastor emeritus of the Church of Wide Fellowship in 1937 and who now lives at Route 1, Thurmont, Md., sends a sonnet for the Easter season, titled, "Our Easter Faith."

"I wrote the sonnet hoping it might bring some comfort to those who may have lost friends recently," the former local resident notes.

The poem follows:  
Beneath the sun that lights our path by day,  
We toil unconscious of the star-crammed skies;  
But when the sunshine fades, the Milky Way  
And stars by millions more delight our eyes.  
Just so sometimes we may seem unaware  
That life means something more than earth reveals.  
The heavens show that what men deeply care  
To be, the pageant of the day conceals.

We are not creatures of the dust to fade  
When twilight ends our day and darkness falls.  
We were not made of clay to be afraid  
When life on Earth is done and Heaven calls:  
With Easter Faith, we see a shining star  
That calls us to eternal life afar.  
Welsh Television Story

From Johnstown, Pa., comes a postcard from George Gore, NBC cameraman who took background moving picture scenes for The Big Story program based on Valerie Nicholson's Pilot stories about a typhoid carrier. He says that the story he filmed here about the Walsh family at Stonebrook Stables had not been used up to the time he was writing (Saturday) but "will be used at the most opportune time."

The Walsh films were made for the Dave Garroway "Today" program which runs daily 7 a. m. to 9 a. m. on NBC television. "Big Story" Winners Meet  
At Candor on Monday, two Big Story winners met for the first time since a Pilot-based story was

televised. So far as we know, Valerie Nicholson of Southern Pines and Charlie Manning of Troy are the only two North Carolina winners of the award that goes with the Big Story radio show. Mrs. Nicholson's radio presentation of the same story which was on television took place last September. A couple of years ago Mr. Manning's story about a rebellious boy who responded to kind treatment was used by the radio program. The Troy man is now working full time for The Montgomery Herald, weekly newspaper in that community.

The two reporters met at the meeting held in Candor Monday by Sandhills peach growers in the face of the disastrous freeze that wiped out their whole crop last weekend. Mr. Manning had a chance to tell Mrs. Nicholson how much he enjoyed the television show.

Only Peaches Left  
The peach growers were a sad group of men as they gathered to make plans to help themselves and see what could be done in the way of government emergency aid for those who could not obtain assistance from other sources. But there were a few laughs as spontaneous remarks were made that brightened the atmosphere of gloom.

When it was asked whether any of the growers present had any peaches at all left after the freeze, one man in the crowd spoke up: "Yes, I've got a jar of peaches canned by my wife last summer." There was general agreement that such peaches were about all any of them had.

Make Your Own Kite  
Sure, it's cheaper to buy a kite—but not nearly so impressive to your youngster as making one. For those who would like to try it, here are exact instructions from the editors of Changing Times, the Kiplinger Magazine, on how to make a kite that will fly.

Light wood, one-quarter by three-eighths inch, will do. Make the vertical rib 35 inches long, and the cross stick 30 inches. Bind the center of the cross stick to the vertical stick about eight inches from the top. Notch the four stick ends, and outline the kite frame with string, making sure the two sticks are at right angles.

A good grade of light paper is the best covering. Cut it to shape, allowing a two-inch overlap. Use one inch of the overlap for pasting over the string frame. The other inch is for looseness; the kite will fly better if the paper is not too tight.

Bow the cross stick four to six inches in the middle, and tie a string across to hold the bow. Then place the kite face down, with the bow string beneath and the kite humped up. Tie a bridle string on to the bottom of the vertical rib, and make it 49 1/2 inches long. Punch holes in the paper on each side of the vertical rib, five inches from its top end, and tie the other end of the bridle string about 16 1/2 inches from the end that is fastened to the upper part of the vertical rib. For the tail, use four or five feet of narrow, lightweight rag strips tied together. Fasten the tail to the bottom of the vertical rib.

If the flying string is attached too high on the bridle, or the tail is too short, or the kite is lopsided, it may dive to the ground when once up. You'll have to experiment and repair.

No doubt, junior will consider you a hero when that kite is up and flying—and you'll be kind of proud of it yourself.

"Not Southern Pines"  
Writing to renew her Pilot subscription, Mrs. Sam F. Carter reports from Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina: "Have a grand set-up here, but it is not Southern Pines, so needless to say I have many times of being homesick." Lt. Col. and Mrs. (Jane) Carter and family, formerly living at 460 Morganton Road, moved to South Carolina a few months ago when Colonel Carter was transferred there from Pope AFB.

The Public Speaking  
Drug Regulation Bill  
To The Editor:  
Re: House Bill 132, "A bill to be entitled an act to regulate the handling, sale and distribution of barbiturate drugs."

I call your attention to the above entitled and numbered bill which has been introduced in the House of Representatives of this General Assembly. It is an act to regulate the sale and distribution of barbiturates in the State of North Carolina.

You will agree with me that we need more rigid control and supervision of this drug. This bill is a good bill and will provide necessary control which will stop some of the trafficking in goof balls and yellow jacks.

House Bill 205, known as "the codeine bill," was passed by the Senate and enacted into the law last week.

In my opinion it was a step in the wrong direction. It was a bill to facilitate the dispensing of medicine containing codeine by druggists. We are more familiar with the use and abuse of drugs than the ordinary citizen. We realize more than the average citizen that people become addicted to stronger drugs through the continued use of them.

To further our efforts to safeguard the public, I suggest that you contact your legislators, and especially the members of the Senate Health Committee, personally and by letter and express your support of House Bill 132 which is badly needed.

The Senate Insurance Committee has worked with me and I introduced today a package bill including all or part of all health insurance bills I have introduced. This will be of great benefit to the people of North Carolina.

W. D. JAMES, M. D.

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"I wish deeply that all civilians could see what I have seen; we'd be more useful if we could know better what our men are doing for us all. At any rate, I do hope you will take kindly my difficult effort to say thank you for myself and for so many other mothers like me.

"And in all our hearts is the perpetual wish and prayer, every day and every night, for all the men of the 82nd—that all their landings be successful wherever they make them. They've earned the right to it."

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