

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.

Eventually—Why Not Now?

Toll-free or "extended area" telephone service between Southern Pines, Pinehurst and Aberdeen would be, as we see it, a major step forward in the development of the Sandhills.

The towns are literally growing together and a good many telephone subscribers are now or soon will be faced with the necessity to pay a toll fee to call their neighbors, because they live on the borderline of zones served by different phone companies or in different toll zones of the same company.

Residents of one town or nearby area are working more and more in another town. This state of affairs has been greatly stepped up by the expansion of Amerotron Corporation at Aberdeen, whose executives, office personnel and plant workers have homes throughout the Sandhills. Residents of all the towns patronize business establishments in all three of the towns. And there are other important links in the business and social interests of all three communities.

Toll-free service, of course, would have to be made possible by an increase in rates to make up the loss in revenue, but many more calls—all for the business and social benefit of the area—would probably be made if toll-free service were set up.

United Telephone Company is ready and willing to go ahead and put in its application with the State Utilities Commission to operate

toll-free service, if they are given a general idea that the area is for it.

While rates for the new service would be set by the Utilities Commission, these rates would be on the basis of figures submitted by the company and the company has already deduced tentatively from their figures that the Southern Pines-Pinehurst extended area service could be provided for a \$2 per month rate increase on one-party business phones, at \$1 increase on one-party residence phones—lower on party phones in each category.

It is common sense that a toll-free telephone service between the three towns of this area is bound to come some time in the future. The United Telephone Company is preparing to put in inter-city dialing and its officials say it will be a great help to them in planning this work if they can know soon whether toll-free service equipment must also be installed. For technical reasons, this is important.

We urge the people of the Sandhills to support this toll-free service proposal and to speed it along by letting the United Telephone Co. know how they feel about it now.

Whether or not it becomes a reality—and how soon—is almost entirely a matter of public opinion. We trust that this opinion will be favorable and do not see how it can be otherwise if vision and foresight are brought to bear upon the proposal.

Looking Toward Airport Improvement

A broad hint that Moore County had better begin to give thought to installing paved runways at the county-owned Knollwood airport was given by the president of Piedmont Airlines in his talk to three civic clubs here last week.

Thomas H. Davis told how Piedmont is going to get new and better airplanes of a different type than it is now using. Then, in most diplomatic language, he added:

"Paved runways will be much more of a requirement with the new planes we plan to get."

We know that this hint was not lost on the county and town officials present and we trust that they will investigate what improvements at

the airport will be needed and how and when they can best be carried out.

Mr. Davis revealed that Southern Pines is one of the two or three smallest communities in the nation to have scheduled service. As such, we probably do not need to feel woefully behind the times that the airport is no better than it is.

Against the background of Piedmont's assurance that it will do all that it can to improve local air service—the two main goals being north-south connections and year-round flights—it is doubly important that the airport commission and the county commissioners give thought to what may have to be done to retain the airport as a scheduled stop.

Homecomings Hold Their Popularity

It seems to be an accepted fact that people generally are abandoning "old simple pleasures" in favor of a faster-paced, more complicated, more intense mode of living, yet it strikes us that this is not the case in at least one kind of old-fashioned activity—church homecomings or ingatherings.

This is the season for these meetings, the best known of which in this area was held at Old Bethesda Church near Aberdeen recently, and it appears to us that they are becoming more, not less, popular and that more and more churches are having them each year.

Except that folks attending arrive in automobiles, a church homecoming is probably the least changed social function that we know. Once the autos are parked underneath the trees,

they might just as well be teams and wagons. The morning and afternoon services, separated by "picnic dinner on the grounds," are almost unchanged from similar occasions held years ago. It may even be that progress has helped these events in that the automobile enables more persons to attend and to come from greater distances.

We are constantly told with such assurance how much the world has changed, maybe we are blinded to some of the ways in which it has not changed. There is nothing new, but of a certainty there is something very wonderful, about these church homecomings. It is good to see that they are gaining, not losing, the interest and participation of people in these modern times.

Provocative Quaker Viewpoint

The Society of Friends, with its absolute rejection of violence and absolute commitment to love as the guiding force in human affairs, is making its voice increasingly heard. And it seems to us, this voice is making more and more sense.

The threat of nuclear weapons offers an ultimate in violence that must, it appears, be met by something more powerful than violence. It does not take the Quakers to tell us now that the ultimate in violence means universal annihilation.

We are going to have to do some more thinking before we can go along with the Quakers on complete abandonment of militarism. If all the world were composed of such highly sensitive, uncompromisingly committed and unwaveringly courageous persons as the Friends, perhaps we could throw away our guns. But that is not the way it is.

Meantime, however, the Quakers are giving us the benefit of some of the most provocative thinking being done in the nation today—thinking that is salutary regardless of one's conviction on the central question of the total rejection of violence.

"Speak Truth To Power," latest in a series of booklets that present the Quaker view of the world today, points out how steadily our moral standards have been debased in the past 20 years by our acceptance of militarism:

"In 1936 the Italians bombed the Abyssinians, and a sense of shock swept over an America outraged by such barbarism. In 1940 came the Nazi bombardment of Rotterdam and again we cried out against wanton destruction and the needless loss of Dutch lives. But this was war in which our own interests and later our own men were involved, and somewhere in between the attack on Rotterdam and the utterly unjustifiable destruction of Dresden four years later, we experienced the ultimate horror that there

was no horror. Dresden perished almost unnoticed, and we were ready for Hiroshima."

The booklet reveals what a hold militarism is getting on this nation. "Film series... are designed to prepare young people for conscription and establish military points of view in the minds of thirteen-year-olds. Shall we discover, as Hitler did, that thirteen is also too late, and that we must begin our drilling and shaping with five-year-olds?"

The booklet quotes an Asian visitor to the effect that the most important feeling in the United States is hatred of the Russian totalitarian system, but the most powerful process in the United States is imitation of that system.

So the Friends say: "We believe therefore that the commitment to violence inherent in our containment policy can only be carried out at the expense of the very democracy we seek to protect."

The Quakers are sensible enough to see that the best they can hope for now is a growing minority of persons who reject violence and live by love at all levels of experience—personal, community, national and international.

We do not pretend to present the full solution as they see it. It is enough here to note that their point of view, apparently remote and idealistic, appears more and more realistic to anyone with an open mind.

Regardless of how we feel about complete rejection of violence as international policy of the United States, the point that has an immediate and pressing significance for us all is that acceptance of violence can mean, and has already meant, increasing loss of freedom and debasement of morality.

That is a process we can oppose all along the line. For if we lose our freedom and our conviction of the dignity and value of human life, we have lost the battle before we use our weapons.

This Is National Newspaper Week

Newspapers Wage Battle For 'The Right To Know'

This is National Newspaper Week. The Pilot joins other newspapers in North Carolina and across the nation in drawing the public's attention to the theme of this year's observance: "Your Newspaper Fights For Your Right To Know." In the article below, written especially for National Newspaper Week, Dr. Harold Cross, author of the book, "The People's Right To Know," summarizes the meaning of this theme for the American people today.

"Let the voice of the people be the law." So, in Latin and wisely, says an inscription on Missouri's Capitol. If the voice is to speak with the authority of knowledge, the people themselves must speak out more vigorously for their right to know and the "law" must listen more intently to its master's voice.

The right to know by means of access to public records and proceedings is an attribute of the liberty guaranteed against wrongful deprivation by the Fifth Amendment. It is fundamental to

intelligent exercise of the freedoms of speech and of the press guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment.

It is natural, then, that the theme of this liberty always arises in discussion of newspaper functions and responsibilities. The freedom the newspaperman wishes and needs is not one restricted to his own profession. What he demands is the right of all men to obtain information and share opinion.

So it is that the theme "Your Newspaper Fights for Your Right

To Know" headlines the ever-old, ever-new story of journalism's struggle in the cause and of legislative, judicial and official responses. The story for this National Newspaper Week is one of intensified efforts by all newspapermen and organizations and of mixed good fortune and misfortune for the people.

Anti-secrecy statutes with forceful impact on "closed meetings" and "executive sessions" have been passed in California, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, South Dakota, Utah, Ohio and Washington. Newspaper advocacy was less fortunate in such states as Kansas, Illinois and Massachusetts. While the cause thus gained on balance in the states, it was losing ground at the national level. Congressional committees, in 1954, closed 41 per cent of their proceedings as against 34 per cent in 1953.

Newspapers saw the need to combat a disquieting trend toward enforced secrecy in judicial proceedings, especially in the controversial phase of news coverage and photography. The most important single event of the year was the adverse ruling in New York in the Jelke litigation that the right of public trial is personal to the accused and can not be invoked by members of the public, including the press.

The impact of this was softened by recognition of the need for press attendance to constitute a "public trial" in the same court's simultaneous ruling that Jelke's right there was violated by exclusion of the press during presentation of the prosecution's case. It was still more by an Ohio court decision that the right is not personal to the accused and that the people have the right to force court proceedings out into the open.

The Ohio courts in another case supported in a measure the view of many members of Bench and Bar that courtroom photography ipso facto interferes with the administration of justice. They ruled that a court order barring photography was a proper exercise of judicial discretion and did not abridge press freedom, that its violation constituted contempt of court. Fortunately an increasing number of judges, apparently dubious of the poll-parroted opinions adverse to photography and seeking to ascertain the facts of the matter, allowed photographs to be taken and found that decorum was not disturbed.

The campaign for freedom of information, led by the organized newspaper press of the nation, faces the conflicting facts that while the need for secrecy in military affairs is greater than ever before, the dangers of secrecy and the need for knowledge have also become greater than ever before.

In opposing extreme secrecy proposals under the Department of Defense directive of March 29, 1955 and the Office of Strategic Information, set up in the Department of Commerce, J. R. Wiggins, The Washington Post and Times Herald, chairman of the Freedom of Information Committee of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, said:

"The newspapers of this country have cheerfully consented to an orderly, carefully defined, voluntary censorship in two wars. I am sure they will continue to cooperate voluntarily in safeguarding classified information involving the country's military security. I am equally certain that they will not join in a conspiracy, with this or any other administration, to withhold from the American people non-classified information which citizens need in order to make sound judgments on national policy."

He ended by quoting Thomas Jefferson: "Your fellow citizens think they have a right to full information, in a case of such great concernment to them. It is their sweat which is to earn all the expenses of the war, and their blood which is to flow in expiation of the causes of it."

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"Dear Dorothy Dix..."

'SOUTHERN PINES—PLANS FOR ACTION' ... (I)

Land Use Plan Determines Function Areas

(This is the first of several reports on the recently issued booklet, "Southern Pines—Plans For Action.")

During the spring of 1951 a special Mayor's Planning Committee made a study of the town of Southern Pines with the aid of two graduate students from the Department of City and Regional Planning of the University of North Carolina. This study examined the possibilities of a comprehensive planning program for Southern Pines. The resulting report outlined a planning program and offered some generalized ideas for the future development of the town.

In 1955 a second study was made, again with the help of graduate students from the University of North Carolina, to investigate conditions as they have changed since 1951, and to formulate a tentative land use plan in more detail than that offered in the first report.

The object of the report is to present the results of the studies made in 1955 and to outline the tentative land use plan based on these results. It is hoped that the approach will serve as a guide toward the formulation of a long range plan for Southern Pines.

The land use plan determines the areas where the various functions of the city can most effectively be carried out. It sets forth where shopping districts, industrial areas, residential areas, recreation areas, and the like should be located, and approximately how much land would be needed for each. The plan is based on what is termed the "planning period," usually about twenty years, and recommends the most desirable pattern of land development during this period. An important adjunct to the land use plan is the thoroughfare plan, which recommends locations for major and minor thoroughfares

for the future.

The land use plan is based on the results of a wide range of studies of conditions and trends in the town. The most important of these are the economic base,

Some Thoughts For Newspaper Week

"A sign of a free government, a free press is a primary source of that government's strength."—Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right. Were it left to me to decide whether we would have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."—Thomas Jefferson.

"The country editor is more than a journalist... he is an educator."—Roy E. Larson, president of Time, Inc.

"Newspapers should keep in mind constantly that no people have lost their liberties so long as their press remained free."—General George C. Marshall.

"It is probably inevitable that errors should occasionally appear in the papers. When the volume of news covered every day is considered, it is rather astonishing that so little misinformation appears."—Allen B. Kline, American Farm Bureau Federation.

"A newspaper is freedom in print."—Samuel Adams.

"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.

population, and land use studies. Studies of the urban economy provide a basis for estimating growth in trade, services, and industry. Studies of the size and composition of the population by the end of the planning period provide the basis for the amount of space required for residential use and community facilities.

Thus space needs are based upon present and future business activity and population size and the extent to which existing development should be expanded or modified to accommodate estimated growth and change. Future locations for commercial, industrial, residential, and recreation areas take into account the present locations of these uses, the harmonious relationships of each land use to the others and the topographic qualities of land required.

This study of Southern Pines has not been limited to the area within the corporate limits. All of the surrounding area which is considered to be dependent on the town, and into which the corporate limits may be extended in the future has been included in the planning area, and all studies and estimates have been based on this area.

It is hoped that the results of this study will provide a basis for local discussion and further development. The land use proposals need to be firmed up, and modified on the basis of local review and more detailed studies. In the same way the major street proposals need to be further refined on the basis of detailed traffic surveys and analyses.

Periodic re-examination of economic, population, and land development trends will need to be made. Adjustments indicated by these periodic checks will serve to keep the plan as it is finally developed up to date so that changing conditions will continuously be reflected in the plan.