

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.

More To Be Done

Those who fought so hard to preserve the trees that had been scheduled for destruction on the Colonial Stores lot must look with sympathy at the battle now going on in New York over the conversion of a playground and landscaped area in Central Park into a parking lot. So violent has been the protest that the city has stopped all work and ordered a re-examination of the project.

It is an interesting business: this passionate determination to preserve parks that seems to be cropping up all over. Actually, we believe the feeling is far from new. Testifying to its enduring strength is the implacable tenacity with which most big cities have clung to their parks and trees in the face of the fantastic value of the real estate involved. When it is considered what the land contained in New York's Central Park, Philadelphia's Fairmont Park, San Francisco's Golden Gate Park would bring if put up for sale, it seems truly amazing that these cities have withstood the temptation and pressure of such financial gain.

Southern Pines was given two parks, memorials to good citizens. One was lost through official neglect; the other first suffered encroachment when the tennis courts were built; its final demise is, in our opinion, only a matter of time when plans for the construction of the consolidated town hall materialize. It should continue to be an attractive block but Southern Pines' Central Park will be gone.

This is a trend that bears watching. Carried out in the name of the same economy that curtailed reseeding the town parkways this year,

it seems out of line with professed policy of trying to maintain both the business and the tourist-and-home-owner attractions of the town. We believe the town is being extremely well run from an efficiency standpoint; we question however, economies that sacrifice its attractive aspects. This is where private citizens and such organizations as the local garden clubs may well be on the alert.

The garden clubs made a splendid public contribution in their action in the matter of the privately-owned trees, the next step is to turn their eyes on those in the public domain. We think, for instance, of the crisscross of wires that damage so many trees. If these were on private property, we doubt very much if the owners would allow such drastic cutting. True, much of the worst damage was done long ago, but constant surveillance is clearly indicated.

There is another, more immediate matter: the changes that may be involved in the widening of various streets, and, in particular, Pennsylvania Avenue.

This avenue will be the main entrance into town from the new bypass. It is certainly important that whatever attractions it has shall be preserved, as far as possible, when the road is widened. This will present a problem, for there are fine trees growing on both sides of the street. However careful planning and care, when the work is done, should make it possible to save most of both rows. Here is a problem made to order for the conservationists. There could hardly be a more important spot in town about which to start thinking.

Dogs Are People

That's what a good many people think. And certainly it is what most dogs think.

Among the few people who disagree will be some who have been frightened as little children by being knocked over or roared at by inconsiderate or over-exuberant dogs. A minute number might even have been bitten by frightened dogs or dogs doing guard duty, generally a self-appointed task which is being taken entirely too seriously. Like the conscientious little dogs in Mr. Areson's letter published in these columns last week.

But here it occurs to us that even people who have been frightened into incompatibility with dogs may not entirely disagree with our opening statement. Depending always a bit on what their opinion is of people.

But we admit that dogs have some qualities that show a misunderstanding of the duties and privileges of the good citizen. It is, for instance, not the duty of the citizen to stand guard all night and to break into loud shouts at the slightest noise. Or even because the moon is shining brightly; sound as may seem this cause for jubilation. In a well-ordered town, such as this one, this guard duty is the job of the police, also extremely alert and conscientious individuals, well-trained in their profession, but who do not shout unless there is something really important to shout about. And the police do not go on and on and on in a hypnotic trance of ullulation. An advantage not to be denied, on a quiet night.

Another thing: it is not the duty of the citizen to test the pace of passing cars or to try to frighten off these evil-smelling monsters.

And last: most good citizens, at least, do not

make a practice of being lavishly affectionate in greeting passing ladies, especially if they are all dressed up. Of course, there are exceptions to this statement, as to every rule.

Rules are often unnecessary: explanations will do just as well, as a rule, but in case some people claim that in this matter rules are needed, and as some dogs doubtless prefer to have things all spelled out, we would say:

There is an ordinance controlling town nuisances that, we are told, can apply to the night barking of over-conscientious or romantic four-footed citizens. But there's no denying that its enforcement means no end of fuss, and possible danger to innocent parties. Could there not be an ordinance passed specifying that dogs must go to bed, in their homes, at reasonable hours? Could there not also be a rule that dogs who are possessed of a fiendish desire for running and roaring, and those enormous breeds whose advances, affectionate or otherwise, are so hard to ward off, should be put under wraps, so to speak, and reside in jump-proof yards unless accompanied by their owners?

But there is one difficult problem. The present practice of shooting strays which, for want of any better scheme, the police are forced to carry on, is inhuman and hateful and a very real terror to people whose dogs get lost. It is, we feel sure, equally hated by the police themselves. A way to collect and keep such animals until they can be taken to the county pound is a prime necessity.

Just another little thing for the town council . . . held, we feel sure, in the highest esteem, by their dog constituents as well as by their more articulate supporters. . . to tackle.

The Picquet Cup Choral Contests

When Charles W. Picquet established the Picquet Cup competitions among high school glee clubs a good many years ago, and when the Sandhills Kiwanis Club took over from the founder the project of keeping the cup contests going, it was a happy day for Moore County.

A concern with music is one of the prime indications of a civilized community. Music in the schools has always been, to our mind, one of the best of the non-academic activities and one that fosters in young people interest and abilities that will give them and others lifelong pleasure.

Our congratulations go to the Aberdeen school glee club and its director, E. H. Poole,

for their achievement in winning the Picquet cup for the second successive year, the third year in all, giving the Aberdeen school permanent possession of the award.

These high school glee club contests, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, and open to the public free of charge, always are conducted in a fine spirit, with more evidence of relaxed pleasure than grim competition. Always the glee clubs join informally in singing, with the audience, too, often taking part, and always there is a personal greeting from the founder and beloved Sandhills figure, Mr. Picquet.

May the contests long continue, with more and more young singers taking part and more and more persons enjoying the singing!

Registration Time

While this may not be the most interesting year for persons who contemplate going to the polls in the Democratic primary on May 26—in view of the complete lack of county races and no very exciting contests at the State and Congressional levels where the incumbents are pursued by a scattering of Johnny-come-late-lies, except for the bewildering troop of candidates for lieutenant governor—we still think all eligible persons ought to register and vote.

The outlook is not very inspiring for first voters—those young people who have crossed the magic line of "21" and are now prepared to

take their part in influencing the course of government. Facing their ballots (there will be no county ballot at all, we understand) on May 26, they might well mutter to themselves that this is not at all what they were led to expect from their civics courses.

But no matter. Election years come and go, but the people remain—the people who do or do not infuse life and meaning into democracy by voting. And registration comes first—from now through May 19. Registrars will be at polling places for the next two Saturdays and at their homes or places of business on other days.

The Public Speaking

Ike on the Defensive

To The Editor:

A well known columnist boldly asserts that the Democrats now have the Eisenhower administration on the defensive—which is a very embarrassing position for the war hero whom we elected President three years ago.

We are inclined to agree since we heard Senator Barkley's answer to the Republican "Peace and Prosperity" campaign speeches. At a Woodrow Wilson memorial dinner in Washington, the former "Veep," with vigor and humor, showed conclusively that for 40 years, beginning with Wilson's effort to establish a League of Nations and bring the United States in as a member of that organization for World Peace, the Democrats have fought for, and the Republicans have opposed, every such movement.

Since the President has decided to conduct his campaign for re-election by radio and television, we shall no longer expect to see a world war hero riding through crowded streets waving his arms to frenzied crowds. But we shall expect to listen in the quiet of our homes to leaders of both parties discuss the real issues of national and world welfare. We shall have opportunities for calm judgments and cool decisions. Now, at the end of the first period of this sort of campaign, it seems that the Democrats have made the best score.

In his second major campaign address, the President lauded his own foreign policy as a great accomplishment. But when Adlai Stevenson had sifted the chaff from the wheat (in a speech before the same group of editors that Ike had addressed), the Administration's accomplishments appeared so feeble and futile that the President asked for more time for a supplementary talk in his own defense and to explain why this country has lost its world leadership attained under Wilson, Roosevelt and Truman.

Finally, in a third address, the President tried to explain his veto of the farm bill which was brought to him by our Democratic Congress with the approval of a bi-partisan committee and many Republicans. The bill was written after much thought to

give relief to recognized needs of our farmers all over the nation.

The writer listened carefully to the veto speech and thought Ike did "protest too much" that he is an honest man and sincere and for that reason the people should have confidence in his opinions.

Two days after the veto speech, when Lyndon Johnson finished a 30-minute comment on what Eisenhower and Ezra Benson had done and not done, we wondered

Little Threat In Textile Imports

To The Editor:

This letter is very late, I hope not too late. My apology is that editorials are designed to make people think—or aren't they? It takes time to think, and I've been thinking—about your excellent editorial on U. S. Trade Policies.

You speak of the Trade Bill bogging down. I've been wondering why anyone at home should bring pressure to bear on Congressmen, and according to your editorial they have been doing just that, to keep the U. S. out of O.T.C. (Organization for Trade Cooperation) which is the proposed set-up for our foreign trade policy. Why should anyone object to a forum of 34 nations for discussion concerning tariffs, quotas and subsidies? This organization has authority only to consider trade problems, recommend courses of action, determine whether individual countries have been hurt by the action of others in trade matters. Why are some of us afraid of such a frank and open discussion? Are we that glib?

You state that opposition to the bill comes from both Republicans and Democrats. Things are getting a little hay-wire politically, aren't they? A liberal tariff bill is introduced by a Republican administration but Republicans traditionally have stood for high tariffs and Democrats for low tariffs.

Here is the answer: "Bird-Cage Vote," it would seem that the strongest lobbying is being done, North and South, by members of both parties who are concerned with the textile industry. And that is a hang-over from a propaganda campaign last spring conducted against the Reciprocal Trade Act—a deliberate campaign which instilled into more than a million textile workers the fear of losing their jobs. The campaign was characterized by "complete thoroughness, misrepresentations, and half-truths." (Quote from the "Reporter"—Douglas Cater.)

Just a few statements of truth to dispel some of these fears—most of these seem centered around the Japanese bogey-man. In 1955, Japan alone bought 635,000 bales of U. S. cotton. During the same year cotton imports totaled 130,000 bales—all cotton imports. In 1954 Japanese cotton-cloth imports amounted to less than one-half of one per cent

of American production. That same year the American Textile Industry controlled more than 99 per cent of the home market, and sold abroad more than six per cent of its produce. We exported eight times as much cotton cloth as we imported.

The cotton textile industry has been doing better than most—it hasn't gone out of business, nor have the million workers been thrown out of employment in spite of the Reciprocal Trade Act. To be sure some firms have had hard sledding, not due to tariffs, but to regional shifts and public preference for other fabrics. Ask the ladies. Now that no-iron cotton is on the market, there will be a speedy pick-up.

TRADE—NOT AID.

Don't Put Dogs On Leash!

To The Editor:

Your editorial about dogs in a recent issue of The Pilot hit the nail right on the head. One phase of what The Pilot so aptly calls "doggyishness" is often annoying when dogs are young, especially if they are big young dogs. I wonder if exuberance of spirit in a young police dog, husky, or boxer (certainly the appearance of the last is against them, but they are as gentle as a lamb) isn't mistaken for viciousness.

I have lived in Southern Pines a good many years and I have never seen a vicious dog; in fact, I



Frisky or Vicious?

think they are the most friendly, best-behaved dogs of any community I have ever lived in. I account for it by the fact that they are allowed to run free.

An over-friendly spirit can result in a suit being sent to the cleaner, but there are worse things than that to overlook in human friends. A young dog can be trained with patience to show his friendliness in a less energetic way.

Please, don't put dogs on leash!

IN BEHALF OF DOGS.

Larger Problems Revealed By Libel Trial

Following last week's conviction of Vincent J. Daly, who practiced here about three years as a psychologist, on a charge of criminal libel, The Sanford Herald printed a series of two editorials that probed deeply and tellingly into larger problems that, by reason of Daly's trial, were revealed in the background. Through the interest of a Southern Pines resident who saw the editorials, reprints were distributed to physicians of the North Carolina Medical Society, meeting at Pinehurst this week, and hundreds of other copies are being sent to persons and organizations who might be interested. The two editorials follow:

Psychiatry Badly Needs Public Relations Man

The unhappy affair of Mrs. Valerie Nicholson, the excellent Southern Pines reporter who writes for The Herald and other North Carolina newspapers, and a person who practices as a "psychologist" in Southern Pines has come to a proper halting place. It began on March 8 when the person wrote to four editors that Mrs. Nicholson had threatened to embarrass him in articles to be submitted to their papers if he did not give her \$15,000. Mrs. Nicholson had her accuser indicted for criminal libel, a charge on which he this week was convicted, fined \$500 and placed under a suspended road term, in Moore County Recorders Court. The justice of the court's decision has not been challenged. The Herald is delighted with Mrs. Nicholson's vindication; it never believed for a moment, though, that the outcome would be different.

Common Fault

We will not explore the proven deviousness of this case. A sentence in the letter which the person sent to the editors, however, seems to us to reflect a common fault in public attitude which needs correcting. It is this: "Mrs. Nicholson has had contact with the Psychiatric Section of a large hospital in a nearby state, a few years ago."

Evidence presented by the prosecution was that Mrs. Nicholson indeed had "had contact" with the psychiatric section of a hospital, but in behalf of another person, not herself. Because of the way things had been twisted, that had a bearing on the case.

But the matter which seems important to us, the case aside, is that the author of the letter took it for granted that to suggest one had sought psychiatric advice would be to place that one under suspicion. Unfortunately, he had good basis for his assumption.

Why Disesteem?

Perhaps the conflicts and tensions of our era are mirrored in many minds. No matter what the

cause, the fact is that the disturbances, minor and complex, are real. And just as real is the fact that relief for most of them is available in specialized medicine. Psychiatrists can ease troubles by defining them; they can dissipate ills by identifying fancies. Why should one be liable to disesteem for seeking from them a happier and more orderly life?

The field of psychiatry is badly in need of a public relations campaign. It will become continual more so as long as any practicing it, or camping in its shadows, furthers the attitude that none of its patients is to be trusted. Also, it will lack trust itself until standards are established to eliminate unqualified persons from selling advice on mental health.

Laws Needed To Regulate Activity of Psychologists

Psychiatry is the study and treatment of mental diseases. Persons voluntarily seeking psychiatric help often do so with some misgivings. To receive relief, normally it is necessary for them to disclose to the psychologist matters extremely personal. The very fact of their treatment, unfortunately, brings their competency into suspicion among lay persons aware of it.

Psychology is the science of the mind. It tries to explain why people act, think and feel as they do. The diseased, or disturbed, mind is beyond its range. Its practitioners normally are not medical men. They are to be found in teaching positions and as consultants at schools, in personnel offices, in penal, parole and welfare work, and occasionally in hospitals. In recent years, psychologists have begun to open offices and clinics for the private "treatment" of patients. A favorite location is California, a state peculiarly attractive to cultists

Some Things You Should Know

"Mental illness . . . is a name covering several sicknesses of the mind which affect the way a person thinks, feels and behaves. The medical terms for serious mental illness is "psychosis." The legal term is "insanity."

"People suffering from psychosis live in imaginary worlds of their own, which have little relation to the real world. But they are not entirely unaware of what is going on around them or what is happening to them."

"People with either mental or emotional illnesses need help from a medical specialist, just the same as people with pneumonia, or ptomaine."

—National Association for Mental Health, Inc.

ness might affect minds already unbalanced, mildly or radically, also deserves the reflections of society.

An Example

In Moore County this week, we had an example of what it is possible for a psychologist in North Carolina to do. There a person with a "doctorate" obtained by mail from a European establishment was convicted of criminal libel by a woman newspaper reporter. The background of the case is fantastic and sobering. The trial record could leave one only with the impression that the psychologist set about, at once shrewdly and crudely, to destroy his victim.

There is no licensing authority to review activities of this person. There is no professional association with power to determine whether he should be disqualified. Who is responsible for the void?

Leadership Needed

The public. But the public needs the leadership of the medical profession, and particularly the psychiatric branch of it, in repairing the fault. The woman reporter suffered enough from the Moore County incident. The cause of treating mental disorders will suffer considerably more if the guardians of health do not campaign to the end that unfit persons will not be allowed to trade on medical skills they do not possess.

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Katharine Boyd Editor
C. Benedict News Editor
Vance Derby Asst. News Editor
Dan S. Ray Gen. Mgr.
C. G. Council Advertising
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