

# 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.

## Can Proposed Amendments Meet Court Test?

Last week The Pilot expressed misgivings about the proposed state constitutional amendments that would permit public funds to be used to pay tuition at private schools for children who otherwise might have to attend integrated schools, and would permit local school units to close schools by a majority vote of local citizens when conditions became "intolerable."

Our main expressed objections were: That there is so little questioning of this evasive program; members of the General Assembly are reported almost unanimously in favor of it.

That the amendments offer inflamed local feelings an easy chance to take control and wreck the public schools.

Not mentioned last week was the point that the whole procedure of setting up private schools—so charming to those who are unwilling to face the Supreme Court's school ruling head-on—seems unlikely in the end to stand the court tests to which it would probably be submitted. Thus, the vast effort of the whole contemplated North Carolina program may prove to be lost motion in the long run.

In 1954, the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill put before Governor Hodges its report on the Supreme Court's first decision of that year, prepared by James C. N. Paul, an attorney and assistant director of the Institute, as well as a former legal assistant to Supreme Court Justice Fred M. Vinson.

Mr. Paul came to the conclusion in his report that various proposals to evade the segregation decision would not be legally feasible—among them the tactic of setting up private schools supported by public funds.

He cited several decisions in similar cases, including the one in which Judge John J. Parker ruled in the circuit court of appeals against South Carolina's attempt to make the Democratic "white primary" a private affair.

Mr. Paul wrote: "Generalizations are dangerous in any field of law and often meaningless in constitutional law. But the gist of these and a good many other related decisions is that a state cannot give legal implementation, let alone financial assistance, to effect a discrimination by private persons and corporations, and the principle is of especial force when the discrimination affects, adversely, important interests of a large class of citizens.

"Thus proponents of plans for 'free' but private schools face a dilemma. The more a state refuses to participate, by economic support and legal control, in the education

of its youth, the more the community may suffer for a want of adequate school facilities and teaching for the guidance of its prospective citizenry.

"Yet the more a state does participate in securing and maintaining good schools for all its children, the greater the likelihood that those schools will be bound by the Court's determination that segregation can 'play no part' in the classification and treatment of pupils."

And, in another portion of his report, Mr. Paul said:

"... Whether or not any 'private' school supported by state money would be free to segregate Negro students would depend on one basic legal issue. The Court would have to say whether the operation and maintenance of the school involved 'state action.' If the answer should be yes, then the 'free private' school system would fare no better under the 14th amendment than have the presently existing public school systems.

"The issue turns on a finding of 'state action,' and it seems quite plain from other decisions in this field of constitutional law that the Court will countenance no legal sophistry just to sustain the legality of that which laymen would view as an obvious subterfuge. The realities, not the pretenses, of a state's exertion of its political authority will govern..."

Certainly, it would seem, the state would not undertake the revolutionary program embodied in the proposed amendments unless there were some expectation that it could meet a test in court.

Yes, reading Mr. Paul's analysis, an observer is forced to be pessimistic about the eventual legal success of the program into which North Carolina seems, with strangely blithe confidence, to be heading.

Will that confidence in the end cost the state protracted litigation, so that, years from now, we find ourselves back where we have been for the past three years, and with little or no progress made along the only road that will lead to final success: the road of inter-racial communication and understanding?

Steps along this road not only have not been taken but apparently have been actively discouraged at all levels: witness the fact that no Negroes were appointed to the Pearsall study committee and that local communities have almost entirely ignored Negro participation in their preliminary planning on how to meet the problems posed by the Supreme Court decision.

## Returning To Sanity In Security Matters

Another indication that the nation is returning to sanity on "security" matters is the Supreme Court ruling that the government may not summarily dismiss on security grounds workers whose jobs are not directly concerned with national security.

The administration moved promptly to restore 17 former employees to their jobs—persons who had been suspended pending civilian employee security proceedings.

After the court's ruling, grumblings in the background were heard from Messrs. Mundt, Eastland, McCarthy and other self-appointed guardians of the nation's welfare. Legislation has been prepared that would restore similar controls. But there appears to be no widespread, vigorous support for it.

Somehow we can't bring ourselves to feel that the security of the nation is endangered by the restoration of the 17 employees to their "non-sensitive" positions, or by the retention of other such employees in their jobs.

## 'American Banker' Boosts Local Advertising

Because Southern Pines is a resort town, because personnel at the USAF Air-Ground Operations School changes regularly, because this is a growing town and for other reasons, almost any week of the year finds a number of strangers in Southern Pines.

Some come to stay permanently, some are here for a few months or years, some are seasonal visitors, some are staying with friends for days, weeks or longer. At any rate Southern Pines is a town where a stranger's face on the street is not unusual and exacts no special attention.

Often, in writing news, we put in more explanatory details than would be necessary for old readers, because we know we have an increasing number of new readers who may not have the background information that others have about certain places or subjects in the news. We have always thought of this explanatory method in relation to our news columns, but "American Banker" magazine, in very strong language, points out that businesses owe it to themselves and the town to keep their names before the public in their home town papers:

"A stranger picking up a newspaper should be able to tell what business is represented in a town... it's the best possible town advertiser.

Most assuredly, the dignity and majesty of the United States is enhanced by a ruling that removes the government from the business of hounding workers out of their jobs.

The climate is changing in Washington, as throughout the nation, on this matter of security. People are realizing that a few politicians have been making personal hay out of the atmosphere of fear and mistrust that reached its peak with the rise of Senator McCarthy. Mercifully, these manipulators are making less and less headway as time goes on.

It is very well to maintain proper security in secret matters or dangerous situations of military or diplomatic importance. But, the nation is realizing, indiscriminate accusations and firings are unworthy of "the land of the free" and in the end do little but advance the personal fortunes of a relatively small group of men in Washington who like to stir up fear and mistrust and then take credit for keeping a largely imaginary situation under control.

The man or woman who does not advertise does an injustice to himself or herself and definitely to the town... No business man or woman should allow a newspaper to go to press without his or her name being mentioned somewhere in its columns... if you do not use more than a two-line space...

These comments on the value of local newspaper advertising to business are sweet music to publishers. The tune is familiar; it's what we've been saying all along, but it's good to hear it from a source outside newspapering—especially from a publication representing the traditionally hard-headed banking profession.

### JEOPARDIZING CHILDREN

A striking report by the Fund for the Advancement of Education notes that the deterioration of the position of the teaching profession in America has been under way for the last 50 years. Teachers today are relatively worse off than they were in 1900.

To allow this deterioration to continue unchecked is to jeopardize the welfare and well-being of the nation's most sacred resource—its children. North Carolina has been a leader in education in the past; now she must step forward again. —The Greensboro Daily News



Shopping Bag

## The Public Speaking

### Falsely Accused Man Due Full Reparation

To The Editor: On the front page of your issue of June 7th there appeared an article entitled "Case Dismissed" regarding a painter who was falsely accused of theft and deprived of his liberty for over two weeks.

The emphasis of this article seemed to be upon the loss of the money and the somewhat unusual circumstance connected with the recovery of the sum involved. I would be interested to know what steps, if any, were taken to make reparation financially to the accused with respect to his loss of a livelihood during his detention, and particularly what was done to restore to him the great quality of trust and reputation upon which such a shadow was cast. It would seem, especially at this time, that such human values should be guarded in every way and justice should be done to the fullest extent possible in repairing so grievous an error.

(MRS. J. R.)  
JEAN S. BUCHANAN  
Pinehurst

(Editor's Note: The Pilot is not in a position to know whether any steps have been taken to compensate the defendant in this case financially. Our front-page featured item, of course, prominently and publicly displayed his acquittal and so bolstered his reputation. Unfortunately, this same defendant, in another case tried the next week in Recorder's Court, was convicted of trespass, malicious destruction of property and attempted assault and was sentenced to three months on the roads. Maintaining his innocence of these charges, also, he appealed his conviction to Superior Court. It remains to be seen what will be the outcome of the case when it is heard with a jury trial. In view of these circumstances, an observer is inclined to withhold judgment about his general reputation until after the Superior Court case is tried. His acquittal on the first charge is a matter of record and he received an apology in court from the prosecuting witness.)

### Chairman Expresses Thanks

To The Editor: In this year's annual campaign for Red Cross memberships—of which county-wide results were reported in last week's Pilot—the colored people of West Southern Pines were assigned a quota of \$180 for this great cause. The campaign was conducted in the month of March.

This writer was appointed general chairman in West Southern Pines and he in turn secured agreements from some of our loyal and civic-minded citizens that they would serve as local chair-

men. They went to work immediately and the following report shows how well they worked and how cheerfully and enthusiastically our colored citizens supported their efforts.

The grand total raised in West Southern Pines was \$272.45. Following are the local chairmen, who worked through churches or other groups, and the amounts that they collected:

Albert Lutz, \$25; Mrs. Lillie Mae Williams, \$15; Mrs. T. L. Parsons, \$5; Mrs. Alberta Ballard, \$31; Trinity A.M.E. Zion Church, \$49.50 collected by Mrs. Rosa Luterlough, Miss Bessie Hasty, Mrs. O. J. Saunders and Miss Cora Steele.

Church of God in Christ, \$31, collected by Mrs. Lula B. Turner, Mrs. Daisy Ingram and Mrs. Mary Hallman.

First Baptist Church, \$30.15, collected by Mrs. Lottie Hainesworth, Arnix France, Holly Faison, and Miss Bessie Stivers.

Harrington Chapel, \$38.50, collected by Mrs. Dorothy Medlin, Mrs. Hattie Durham and Mrs. Beatrice Matthews.

Other individuals helping with the campaign, and the amounts they collected, were: Miss Clarie Wells, \$12.30; G. C. Murphy, \$7; and Mrs. Georgia Ray, \$8. All worked through churches.

Our hearty and sincere thanks to all who contributed in any way to the great success of our 1956 campaign.

REV. J. R. FUNDERBURK  
Resort Boosting Doesn't Provide Jobs In Future

To The Editor: Sacreligious as it may seem, we are somewhat disgusted at all the furor of late to boost up Southern Pines as a resort town, excluding, it seems, all else. We think it's about time we stopped and asked ourselves just what a "pure" resort town means to us and, more important, what it means to our children.

Having some nice hotels and

golf courses for tourists is fine, but where does that leave our posterity? If our children are to grow up in Southern Pines and remain here, must they see stretching before them a future as hotel waitresses, bell hops, or, if lucky, night clerks? And this for only four or five months a year.

We are not condemning these occupations, but everyone doesn't want to be a waitress or work in a local hotel or retail establishment. And what other opportunities are there in this locality, what chance for advancement for the hundreds of graduates Moore County has each year? This, we believe, needs a good sound answer.

According to the Employment Security Commission, Moore County employment has been falling for the past several years. Advertising our resort facilities will not bring it back up.

It seems as though our community could take a lesson from successful business. Today's key to good business operations is diversification. Why can't we of Southern Pines follow this proven example, instead of putting all our eggs—and our children—in one basket?

Why don't we encourage small industry, instead of turning a cold shoulder to progress? Why not put forth an effort for an institution of higher learning—not necessarily the biggest one we can find?

If the owners of the few hotels in town want to advertise, that's fine, but let's put the Town money on something to help the people of Southern Pines and their children, who might some day be the citizens of the town, if we can provide a way for them to earn a livelihood here.

MR. AND MRS. LELAND M. DANIELS, JR.  
660 N. Ridge St.  
Southern Pines.

### FROM THE SANFORD HERALD

## End Of Dixie Accent?

A friend of ours has a four-year-old son whose vocabulary is extensive. The other day, for instance, he remarked of the "ambition" of two little girls who invited him, perhaps somewhat less than coyly, to come over to their house and play. The barking of a neighbor's dog he described as "annoying." He has an easy grasp of such terms as "functional design," "superior product," "peace and prosperity" and "old chap." Although his parents are natives of this soil, he speaks with a decided Yankee clip.

This child is, of course, a TV fan—or, as he might describe it, a television devotee. His speech is influenced less by the drab clichés with which mothers and fathers usually address small fry than by the glibness of announce-

mentators and Sergeant Joe Friday. He even says his prayers at night with a sort of breathless urgency.

In these speech habits of our friend's offspring we think there may be significance. We see here a possibility that the influence upon Southerners of the old English drawl and the African's musical tones will give way to the unbraked yackety-yack of video's audio. Indeed, we can contemplate the end of all sectional tongues and the emergence of a truly national manner of oral communication—perhaps a blend of John Daly, Hal March and that baldish fellow who does the Friday night fights.

If you ask us, there are a lot of good things you can say about kids' comic books.

## Grains of Sand

### Who Wrote It?

We are holding an unsigned letter, postmarked from West End, and entitled "An Open Letter to the People of North Carolina." We'd like to print it but can't unless we know who wrote it. We will withhold the writer's name, if requested to do so, but we must know who the writer is before we can put it in the paper.

The letter begins, "I am a soldier in the United States Army..."

If the writer sees this, please let us know who you are. We want to print that letter.

### Keep It Lovely

Word of this town's victory in the Battle of The Three Trees has spread.

The Garden Editor of the Washington Post, author of a recent article reprinted by The Pilot, read of the town's success in persuading Colonial Stores to save the two magnolias and the pink dogwood on the grounds of their new store and sent congratulations.

Said the editor, Katherine Barrett Pozer: "Do keep lovely Southern Pines lovely. I drive through there each winter and always stop to admire."

And she adds a hint that merchants up there in Virginia "need much education"... a bouquet for the folks in the Carolinas?

### Where's The Paper?

We suspect that some readers who disagree with The Pilot on editorial outlook, handling of the news and other counts are actually among our best readers—in the sense that, whether agreeing or not, they read the paper thoroughly, if only to see what fault can be found with it.

This is fine with us. We're not trying to please everybody. But what we are trying to do is produce a newspaper that people will read, for one reason or another. Any editor would rather have a disagreeing reader than an agreeing non-reader.

"When The Paper Doesn't Come" is a bit of verification on this subject that has been widely reprinted lately in non-dailies of the state. The original source of the item is unknown or lost in the reprinting process.

Anyway, here it is and we'll bet we have some readers who fit this description:

My father says the paper he reads ain't put up right; He finds a lot of fault too, he does, perusin' it all night; He says there ain't a single thing in it worth to read, And that it doesn't print the kind of stuff the people need; He tosses it aside and says it's strictly on the bum, But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.

He reads about the weddings and he snorts like all get out; He reads the social doin's with a most derisive shout, He says they make the papers for the women folks alone; He'll read about the parties and he'll fume and fret and groan. He says of information it doesn't have a crumb— But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.

He is always first to grab it and he reads it plum clean through. He doesn't miss an item, or a want ad—that is true. He says they don't know what we want, the darn newspaper, guys; "I'm going to take a day some time and go and put 'em wise; Sometimes it seems as though they must be deaf and blind and dumb." But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.

## The PILOT

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C. Benedict ..... Associate Editor  
Vance Derby ..... News Editor  
Dan S. Ray ..... Gen. Mgr.  
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Bessie Cameron Smith ..... Society

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