

# 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. Wherever 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.

## Adlai Stevenson: Man of Integrity

The Pilot welcomes Adlai Stevenson back to the Sandhills after an absence of several years—years of crucial import to the nation and the world.

It is gratifying that these years, though Mr. Stevenson was denied the Presidency, have brought him new stature in the leadership of his party and in guiding and inspiring the political and moral thinking of great numbers of people in and out of politics.

It would be sentimental to say that Mr. Stevenson has served his party better as guide and prophet than he might have as office holder. We supported him for President in 1952 and with added enthusiasm in 1956. Again this year, he was our candidate for the nomination at Los Angeles where the ovation given him in the convention spoke the esteem of millions of Americans who warmed to that dramatic moment in the proceedings.

Yet, though he lost two Presidential elections and this year's nomination, there is about Mr. Stevenson no sense of having been beaten. This is true because he is a man of integrity, a person very much himself, loser or winner, not swayed by winds of acceptance or rejection, because he knows who he is and what he believes. He is the same man on the rostrum as a Presidential candidate or in the gymnasium of Southern Pines High School, where he will speak Saturday. He is untouched by the capriciousness of "popularity." He is impelled to speak the truth as he sees it, not for any esteem or gain it may bring him, but because he believes the nation and the world are in peril.

It is interesting to measure the opponents in the current Presidential race against the Stevenson position.

Mr. Kennedy, of course, is the "heir and executor of the Stevenson revolution," as pointed out in a quotation from Dr. Schlesinger in a separate item on this page—the "revolution" being the definition

and passionate concern that Mr. Stevenson has given to domestic and foreign issues during the past eight years.

The clarity and conviction with which these issues have been articulated are not the utterances of a beaten man; they are above and beyond the man and, as presented by Senator Kennedy in his vigorous campaign, are kindling new fires in the hearts and minds of the American people.

Moreover, we feel with Kennedy, as with Stevenson, that win or lose, the convictions will remain, the concern will not fade away and that he will continue, no matter what the outcome of the election, as a spokesman for people and challenge, as against property and complacency.

It is difficult, on the other hand, to imagine Vice President Nixon as his party's prophet and guide over a considerable period of years. Picture him, for instance, as twice defeated for the presidency and then defeated for the nomination on a third try. Is it conceivable that he would emerge from this ordeal, this shattering blow to ambition and self-confidence, more dedicated, more enthusiastic, more cheerful than he had ever been—as has been the experience with Stevenson and would, we also feel confident, be the trend of Kennedy's career should he undergo the same series of rejections?

No, Mr. Nixon the opportunist, the seeker of approval, the reverser of convictions, would not appear to be capable of lasting such a course. One would more likely expect to find him salving his wounds in a chairman of the board's swivel chair.

It is our profound hope that if Senator Kennedy wins, Mr. Stevenson will be accorded due recognition by appointment to such a post as Secretary of State or ambassador to the United Nations. But whatever the outcome, we can be confident Mr. Stevenson will remain most wonderfully himself and that, as such, his place in the annals of honor is secure.

## Two Chinese Firecrackers

With the third of the great debates, the campaign started to boil. The agent of this sudden heat? Mostly, it seems, the appearance of those two small islands, Quemoy and Matsu, "on the horizon," Mr. Nixon might say, while Mr. Kennedy would counter: "you mean just across the harbor."

These Chinese firecrackers have sputtered often, generally whenever the Sino-Soviet bloc felt like distracting, confusing, and in any way upsetting the equilibrium of the United States. For them they are of prime nuisance-value. Not so long ago, it will be recalled, they featured in black headlines in conjunction with a speedy sailing of the 7th Fleet in their direction.

This time the fuse was set off by a reporter's question to Senator Kennedy and it looks as if their nuisance value would have wider coverage. To the point perhaps of seriously influencing this critical election.

At the mention of the islands—to defend or not to defend—both candidates headed out on slender limbs. The vice president went out much farther than his opponent before he scrambled back lacking a few buttons and suffering a few scratches. Nixon ducked for shelter under the Administration's coattails; Kennedy claimed he'd been there all the time. At that moment it seemed to viewers perhaps lucky that the Senator does not know how to laugh, also that the contestants were 3,000 miles apart. There was "blood in the eye" of both.

Finished debater that he is, Nixon was quick to fall back on tried and true—to him—tactics. Promising in ringing tones not to surrender "an inch of free territory," he threw the works at Kennedy implying that the former PT boat captain was soft on communism. Kennedy continued to state that he was sticking by the Administration in not extending the West's commitments to Chiang.

It is a measure of the equivocal stand taken by the Administration that either of the candidates' positions seems applicable to it. Washington states that it must be free to defend the islands "if the attack on them precludes an attack on Formosa." (To which the bewildered citizen can only ask: "how would they ever know?")

As for the candidates, the fact remains that Kennedy is far disengagement, if possible, from these two islands which have been adjudged by every expert, including the President, to be indefensible; Nixon by his ringing words about the "area of freedom" appears committed to their defense, no matter what.

That's the way things stand, but it's doubtful if they'll stand so long. That is, unless the rules of the debate are changed and hot questions, like these firecrackers, are ruled out. It would seem that this is a possibility. These two young men ob-

viously craved to fight out this matter of the islands but, as obviously, they can't. They are under wraps, quite unable to develop the lines of thought, the plans each may have for handling this critical problem. Furthermore it is a critical problem and these are critical times.

Nothing could be accomplished by further debate. Except one thing: and that has its great importance, too. Bringing the campaign to this high boil has already revealed more than either of the other debates showed of the personalities of the two candidates. Sharpened conflict lights up their qualities, both good and bad, brings out more clearly their ideas. It has already wiped some of the TV make-up off Nixon and shown up the falsity in his sappy appeals to sentiment. It has submitted to more rigorous tests the facts and the views that Kennedy pronounces with such aggressive intensity.

It will make it easier for the voter to choose his man if the debate proceeds under the present system with the questions coming, high, wide and not so handsome. But is it such a good idea?

## A Scot 'Retires'

In key with his life and personality, Edwin T. McKeithen's retirement from his long years of service at Moore Memorial Hospital was accomplished with little fanfare. That has been the way with everything this quiet, studious, modest Scotsman does. And the emotion with which his friends and colleagues saw him leave was deep and sincere, but, as he would wish, kept firmly in hand as they presented him Saturday with their token of "appreciation of dedicated service."

Moore Memorial Hospital was "Moore County Hospital" during most of the twenty-nine years he served it, and remains thus in most people's minds. Edwin McKeithen saw it grow from a small building with a minimum of personnel to its present 135 bed capacity. During much of that time, he was the guiding hand and when the years brought heavier duties and edged in on the energy to cope with them, he did what less modest men might have shied away from: he stepped a few rungs down the ladder to carry on for his beloved "Moore County" in a position less taxing though still of much responsibility.

His hospital will miss him, miss him sorely. He served it with complete devotion and in so doing he served Moore County well. That Edwin McKeithen will keep right on serving his county is as certain as the Scottish heritage that makes him the way he is. Already folks are beginning to say: "Maybe now he'll have time to go on with that History of Moore County." Maybe? That's not a word this Scot is familiar with.

## "Anyone Can See Communist Prestige Is Scraping The Bottom!"



## Stevenson Points the Way

"To a considerable degree the transformation of the Democratic Party (since the Truman administration) was the work of a single man—Adlai Stevenson.

"In his eight years as titular leader, Stevenson renewed the Democratic Party. His conviction that affluence was not enough for the good life, his contempt for complacency, his impatience with clichés of the past, his demand for new ideas, his respect for the people who have them, his sense of the complexity of history and the desperate need for leadership set the tone for a new era in Democratic politics.

"Historians may well regard Stevenson as the

true victor at the Democratic convention. He had remade the Democratic Party and largely in his own image, even if he was not himself to be the beneficiary. More perhaps than either of them fully realizes, Kennedy today is the heir and executor of the Stevenson revolution."

—So writes Dr. Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Harvard professor and historian. To illustrate the leadership and guidance Mr. Stevenson has been giving the party, several quotations appear below from speeches made no longer ago than 1959 and collected in his recently published book, "Putting First Things First, A Democratic View." (Titles over the quotations are The Pilot's).



ADLAI E. STEVENSON

From: "Putting First Things First"

**NEW PURPOSE, NEW POLICY**  
I believe the United States is ready for a new awakening and the achievement of greater goals. Within it are the moral and material elements of new purpose and new policy. It is the task of leadership to marshal our will and point the way. We had better start soon for time is wasting.

From: "Businessmen Who Think Greatly"

**BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT**  
In America, more is spent per head on advertising than on education. A starlet can earn in a month five years' salary of a schoolteacher. Shining new cars stand beside gutters often choked with the refuse of a careless, wasteful people. Multiply your own instances. In fact, as Professor Galbraith has reminded us, the private sector is so well stocked that we have had to go to unparalleled lengths of persuasion to keep goods moving and persuade the public to develop wants they never knew they had.

It seems a little ludicrous to hand over such vital human needs as security, education and a wide range of welfare services to the public purse because they are so vital, and then proceed to starve them simply because they are public. I am not saying, of course, that all government spending is good. What I am saying is that most of it is good, and that you will not find all the extravagance on the public side by any means.

Another ideological blinder which limits our vision and sharply reduces our ability to make sound, objective decisions is the old, familiar refrain that any government supervision spells "socialism" and the ruin of free enterprise.

Socialism is the public ownership of the means of production, and no one is proposing that. But as we use the word, it seems to be no government authority we do not like. Of course, things we like—tariffs, subsidies, mail concessions, support prices, tax write-offs, depletion allowances and government aids to particular groups—are rarely denounced as "socialism" except perhaps by the group's competitors.

A farsighted government policy, designed to strengthen our country, improve our education, rebuild our cities, extend our services and ensure a steady growth in our productive capacity, far from being the enemy of private

enterprise, is the precondition of capitalism's successful competition with communism. It is the ally of free enterprise because it creates and maintains the climate within which individual initiative can flourish. . . . Government is the indispensable ally of individual enterprise.

From: "Our Broken Mainspring" **THE MORAL CHALLENGE**  
I doubt if any society in history has faced so great a moral challenge as ours, or needed more desperately to draw on the deep-seated sources of courage and responsibility. Ours is the first human community in which resources are so abundant that almost no policies lie beyond our capacity for purely physical reasons. What we decide to do, we can do. The inhibitions of poverty—lack of resources, lack of capital, lack of power—do not hold us back. We can accomplish what we aim at. Thus, perhaps for the first time in the world, choice, not means, ends or instruments, are decisive.

From: "Putting First Things First" **BEGINNING OF WISDOM**

To me the two most dangerous realities we now face are the multiplication of nuclear weapons and the disparity in living standards between the rich nations and the poor. I suggest that we must meet these crises of our time in four major areas: First, we must end the growing gap between wealth and poverty. In doing so, we must, in the next place, create new supra-national patterns and institutions of cooperation. Thirdly, as long as nuclear weapons exist, the danger of their use exists. We must work for a disarmed world under law and organized police power—the only final answer to the threat of annihilating war. And lastly we must extend as far as lies in our power the concept of an open world. For it is in our acceptance of variety and differences, harmonized but not suppressed, that we in our turn work not only with the trend of history but in accord with the ingrained diversity of mankind. Our faith is that in the long contest the totalitarians will gradually be converted to our way of thinking rather than we to theirs. Our goal is not just to win a cold war but to persuade a cold world. . . . The beginning of wisdom in the West, I think, is to have our own policy—not just a negative policy to stop the Communists, but a creative one that reflects our own vision of a viable world society and our own understanding of the revolutions through which we live. . . .

Once we know what we want, what our aims are, then we shall have to pursue them by every means with the same resolution and sacrifice that the Communists pursue theirs. . . . Too many selfish, thoughtless people prefer the easy option and too many ambitious politicians prefer office to duty. But we cannot live by tail fins, TV and a "sound dollar" alone. Somehow we must lift our sights to the level of the tasks.

## Grains of Sand

**Hurray!**  
In Friday's headlines: no more Mr. K. Instead: Harry Truman and the Pirates!  
Even the Repubs cheered!

**Next?**  
And this week it'll be: Adlai's Coming!  
Hurray and double hurray!

**How Come, Jumbo?**  
Remember when the Republicans carried on so about the fact that FDR and Truman had been unable to get Chiang to do anything and thus had "lost" China? Wonder just how they themselves would have "saved" it. They've been trying for five years to get Chiang to move his troops out of two little islands and they are still right there.

**High Road vs. Low Road**  
You're trying to telephone a certain person, who happens to be of the opposing political party—though this has nothing to do with the call. His own telephone doesn't answer, so you decide to try him at his political headquarters. No listing in the book, so you call INFORMATION.

"Not listed," she comes back. "That I know. That's why I called you. Can you give me the number?"

Wait. Wait. Wait.  
"I'm trying to find the number."

Wait. Wait. Wait.  
"I don't seem to be able to find your number. If I knew what it was listed under. . ."

Wait. Wait. Wait.  
"I'm sorry. If I just knew what the listing would be. . ."

**ETHICAL PUZZLE:** Do you aid and abet the 'phone company in this splendid effort to conceal the whereabouts of the opposing headquarters and keep you from reaching it or do you—in the interest of efficiency, the need to get at your friend, and just plain exasperation—tell INFORMATION how to find the number?

**Come On, Girls!**  
Democratic County Committee Chairman Lamont Brown, always good for a lively tale, opened his informal talk to the assembled county Democratic women at Carthage Monday with an appropriate bit.

To illustrate his faith in the indomitable powers of Moore County women, when it comes to politics or most anything else, Lamont recounted this story: "I went to see an old gentleman once," he said, "looking for a copy of a man's will that had been left in his charge. He started hunting through his papers and finally I asked him where he'd seen it last."

"Let's see," he said, scratching his head. "Come to think of it: my wife had it last."

"I knew his wife had died a couple of months before and ventured to say, as a sort of joke: 'You don't suppose maybe she could have taken it with her, do you?'"

"He gave a kind of sigh: 'Well,' he said: 'she would have if she'd a mind to.'"

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

**Republicans Maintain Fiction They're Democrats**

To the Editor:  
Ever since I have been old enough to concern myself with such matters, I have complained about the fact that most of the Republicans in these parts refuse to admit they are Republicans and prefer to maintain the fiction that they are Democrats, while consistently voting for every candidate the Republicans offer. But perhaps I shouldn't be too hard on these people—after all, if I were a Republican I'd be ashamed of it too!

The only misgiving I have about voting for Jack Kennedy is this—I remember my father voting in 1928 for Al Smith—like Kennedy a Democrat and a Catholic—and I'll never forget the mess that got us into!

RUSSELL E. POWELL  
Southern Pines

## The PILOT

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