

# 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.

## Helping to Save the Blood Program

It is good news that the Jaycees have taken over sponsorship of the periodic blood collections made here by the American Red Cross unit from Charlotte. With the energies of this young men's group behind the program, it should be more successful than it has sometimes been in the past.

Personal solicitation of blood donors and personal checking to remind donors to honor their pledges seem to be roads to success in the blood program. This has been brought out at district meetings here of Red Cross blood program chairman from other communities. It is not so much that people are unwilling to give blood, but that they often appear to need a little nudging. No amount of newspaper publicity, editorials or other exhortations will replace the personal touch.

For months, the Moore County blood program has been in a condition of crisis, in danger of collapse, as donors over the county have failed to give as much blood as the amount provided to the two hospitals of the county by the blood center at Charlotte. Moore County obviously cannot forever go on depending on the people of other counties to make up this deficit.

There have been occasional successful collections by the bloodmobile—in each case the result of an all-out effort in that particular community to make the visit a success.

Without the Red Cross program, the hospitals of Moore County would have to go back to the hit-or-miss, slow and often exasperatingly difficult method of tracking down blood donors as emergencies arise, a method that throws the responsibility of saving lives all too often on a small group of known, willing donors who are utterly incapable of carrying the load by themselves.

It is against this background that the local Jaycees are setting out to improve the record of Southern Pines in blood giving, so that this community can swing its share, and perhaps more, in the crucial effort to save the blood program for Moore County.

The Jaycees are working now to sign up donors for a collection to be held here Monday, as told in a front-page news story. We urge that they be given widespread and enthusiastic cooperation throughout the community by persons they ask to help and by others who, we hope, will come forward, without being asked.

## Strength Through Public Understanding

Public understanding, writes James Reston in his New York Times column Sunday, is the key to a "process of adjustment" that the United States must undertake to maintain its own security and the security of the free world.

He proposes a nation-wide adult education movement to broaden and deepen the understanding by millions of Americans, of "our present economic, social and political assumptions in relation to the convulsive, changing facts of the age." Study groups, he thinks, should be organized by churches, schools, PTA's and service clubs.

Mr. Reston leads into his challenging suggestion by pointing out that the society that has "the greatest capacity to adjust to the scientific, social and political revolutions of the age" is more likely to win the cold war than the society with the biggest weapons. And such an adjustment, he maintains, is not possible without public understanding.

Citizen interest in the affairs of government at home and abroad, can actually have, Mr. Reston believes, a profound influence on the strength of the nation. This is not a revolutionary thesis, but, in a time when people are so overwhelmed by the confusions of existence that they tend to shun, rather than welcome discussion, it is heartening to hear this basic tenet of democracy proclaimed so strongly by so shrewd an observer as Mr. Reston.

Obviously, guidance would be needed for such community study groups. He suggests that "factual study guides" be prepared, perhaps financed by some foundation, and distributed nation-wide.

Whatever the method, increased public understanding of the economic, social and political scene is vital to the United States. Its importance now reaches beyond personal information and satisfaction into the realm of patriotic duty.

## Migrant Labor: A National Concern

Failure of states to enact adequate legislation to prevent the exploitation and to insure the health, safety and welfare of migrant farm workers no doubt has been in large part responsible for proposed federal legislation in this field.

North Carolina can be numbered among the states neglecting the problem. A bill that would have assured at least a start in bettering conditions at migrant labor camps was passed by the House in the 1961 General Assembly and, mysteriously, was killed by the Senate—a turn of events that was deplored by this newspaper at the time.

The State Board of Health and a Committee on Migrants appointed by Governor Sanford kept on plugging during the summer and fall. A survey of Eastern Carolina camps found violations of the sewage code, inadequate water supplies and no garbage cans or disposal methods, in many of the facilities. Housing was found to be inadequate in numerous camps.

In a report made in October, the State Board of Health recommended more regular visits and inspections and more contact with crew leaders, growers and property owners by health department sanitarians.

The Governor then said he would ask the Commission on Reorganization of State Government to draft remedial legislation for the 1963 General Assembly. But will the Assembly act? Is there any more encouraging prospect of action in 1963 than in 1961?

While the states are dilly-dallying, this is what has happened in Washington: The Senate last year passed five bills that would: require the national registration of farm labor contractors and crew leaders; outlaw child labor in agriculture; open broader health and education facilities to migrant farm workers and their families; and create a national advisory council to press for improved protection of this neglected section of the labor force.

Now, President Kennedy and his Cabinet Committee on Migratory Labor are urging the House also to pass the five bills.

While eager to see North Carolina enact its own safeguards, we believe that federal legislation in this field is the practical, sensible method of solving a problem that involves many states and a group of people constantly moving from

one state to another.

There is little migrant labor used in this area. The problem is not one of pressing local concern. Few people anywhere, even in areas where the migrants work, see labor camps or know the conditions therein. Here, these workers—men, women and children—are even more "out of sight, out of mind."

Yet the matter is of concern to Americans everywhere—Americans who again and again have backed legislation to control exploitation of human beings in many occupations. The migrants—unorganized, rootless, non-voting—have little power of persuasion in themselves. That is why others, no matter where we live, must speak up for them and back efforts to make possible a better and safer life not only for the workers themselves but for the areas in which they operate.

## Compassion Is the Key

The article in adjoining columns, which traces the origin of public welfare to the churches' Christian concern for the suffering and the unfortunate, could serve as a sort of primer or introduction to a subject that has attracted increasing nation-wide attention in the past year or so.

The basic assumption in welfare work is that the community has a responsibility for helpless and deprived persons: compassion is the key emotion involved. And that emotion must guide all efforts to manage welfare programs, whether in expanding or contracting them. We are dealing with human beings, not things or property.

The failure, in human terms, of the much-touted revised public welfare program at Newburgh, N. Y., was strikingly portrayed Sunday night on a television broadcast that examined the situation there in depth.

Why the failure? It was a slide-rule operation, not motivated by compassion, symbolized in a shocking slip of the tongue when Joseph Mitchell, the city manager who instigated the program, speaking off the cuff, said that a certain group of the welfare clients were "vegetables."

Quickly he added, "so to speak," or "you might say." But the word showed how his mind worked. You don't talk about human beings, anybody, that way.

## "Now—Where Can We Find Additional Postal Revenue?"



GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS

## NOT THE CREATION OF LEFT-WING SPENDTHRIFTS

### Welfare Work Linked to Churches

By HOWARD W. HOPKIRK  
 In "Christian Century"

A sizeable number of public welfare employees are members of churches and see themselves as having the same vocation as the men and women engaged in church-sponsored welfare services. These government workers have the same compassion toward those they serve as do the employees of agencies operating under religious auspices. Furthermore, any student of social welfare services can point to the religious origins of much of the work that later came under the sponsorship of local, state or federal governments. Hence in taking a stand against social welfare measures, Senator Barry Goldwater and his ilk are unwittingly condemning efforts of saintly people who fought for establishment of the Social Security act and laid the basis under religious auspices for Aid to Dependent Children.

#### Two Saints

Two such saints were the Rev. A. T. Jamison, longtime executive of Connie Maxwell Orphanage, Greenwood, S. C., and the Rev. Martin Luther Kessler, who had a similar post at Thomasville Baptist Orphanage, Thomasville, N. C. Both institutions, now under different names, continue to improve their services by means of institutional cottages, foster homes and mothers' aid programs. The successors to these two pioneers in modern child-welfare work have been clergymen, and like Jamison and Kessler they have considered themselves, particularly in their supplementing inadequate A. D. C. grants, to be working in a kind of partnership with the welfare departments of their states.

We need to remember that A. D. C. was not the creation of left-wing spendthrifts but rather the result of the work of hardheaded yet devout individuals who believed that the welfare clause of the U. S. Constitution means what it says. Would Senator Goldwater like us to return to the indenture of children, as practiced in the last century in the U. S. as well as in England? Such a practice would spare the reluctant taxpayer from sharing in the support of state-federal Social Security insofar as it benefits children. Exploiters of the indentured could provide the youths with a free-enterprise opportunity—to work their way out of slavery.

#### Practical, Too

It was before 1930 that I heard Dr. Kessler make an impassioned appeal to the clergy and laity of the North Carolina Baptist Convention, asking them to add \$25,000 to the orphanage budget so that children might live at home with their widowed or deserted mothers rather than at the cr-

phanage. He appealed to their Christian charity but also to their practicality. He made quite clear the fact that the amount of money required for the care of two children at the institution would be enough to support six children in their own home. So these Baptist cotton farmers, mill workers and businessmen joined their ministerial associates to raise the sum needed to establish a mothers' aid program—one of the earliest in the U. S. Despite the A. D. C.'s limitations, were it not for that program the country would need two or three times as many foster homes as now—a big bill to be paid.

#### Shocking Shame

A comparison of government welfare employees with workers in church-operated agencies and institutions seems needed in order to discourage those inclined to depict social workers as impractical

men and women either too soft-hearted or too hard-boiled. Aicert B. Southwick in his article "The Real Welfare Scandal" (see Christian Century for Oct. 11, 1961) pointed to personnel problems out of keeping with space-age efficiency. He said: "It is a shocking shame that the great bulk of public welfare work done in this country is done by underpaid, ill trained, grossly overloaded 'case-workers' who can make only a pretense of analyzing the complicated problems that beset their clients." This situation would be much worse were it not for those who constitute the backbone of our local welfare agencies. These are the compassionate, intelligent, hard-working men and women who, like teachers and nurses, choose a vocation in which salaries are low but in which they can administer welfare services desperately needed.

## A Statement of Principle

In 1955, the North Carolina Press Association adopted "A Statement of Principle" that received the enthusiastic endorsement of the daily and weekly newspapers of the state. Printed by The Pilot at the time of its adoption and since reprinted a couple of times, the statement is given here again, near the beginning of a new year, to inform readers of the standards of journalism by which we try to be guided in our week-to-week operations. The Statement follows:

The newspapers of North Carolina, conscious of their obligations, and mindful of their own human imperfections, rededicate themselves to these principles which guide a responsible press in a free society.

#### I

Freedom of the press exists in a democracy, not for the power or profit or pleasure of any individual, but for the common good. The right of the people to know cannot be denied or diminished without endangering democracy itself. It is the obligation of the press to provide accurate, timely and complete information about all developments which affect the people's political, economic or social well-being. Given the facts, the people usually will reach wise decisions.

#### II

The trusteeship of a free press is the final responsibility of the publisher. He may share it, but he cannot escape it. The good publisher provides the necessary money and space for adequate coverage of the essential news and employs personnel of integrity, ability and sound judgment. He exalts accuracy above other

considerations, and insists upon prompt, full and even generous corrections when errors occur.

#### III

Every citizen deserves the stimulus of a strong editorial page, on which the editor voices his own well-informed opinion clearly and forcefully yet willingly provides space for contrary opinion. The good editor often takes sides, but without arrogance or intolerance. He champions boldly the rights of the people, sometimes, against government itself. He provides leadership, particularly in his own community. He has a special responsibility to defend the weak, to prod the public conscience, and to speak out against the injustices of which a majority can sometimes be guilty.

#### IV

The primary function of a newspaper is to report the news. The good reporter strives constantly to find and write the truth. This task, no matter how difficult, is his unescapable responsibility.

To be true, a story, together with its headlines, must be honest. To be honest, it must be fair. To be fair, it must be accurate and complete.

Honesty demands objectivity, the submergence of prejudice and personal conviction. Accuracy demands courage, painstaking care, and perspective to assure a total picture as true as its individual facts.

#### V

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest? Is it fair? Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

## Grains of Sand

### Rain Come Friday?

What? Pray for rain when we're still slopping around from the last drizzle?

Hold on, now! There are times to pray for rain and times not to; and one of the times TO is on February 2.

It's Groundhog Day, that's why. On that day, as the first whisp of morning breeze stirs the branches and the gleam of dawn creeps over the sky, the Groundhog opens one eye from his winter's sleep. Something in the turn of the year, a high call, too high for human ears, too strange for human understanding, has penetrated his slow mind sunk in deep sleep. He yawns, he twitches, he scratches at last year's itching by last year's flea; with exhaustive effort he stretches. Then in his narrow burrow he manages a shake or two and creeps up to the door.

What lies outside? He could go for a wander; on the other hand, why not, instead creep back to his cozy nest? With a sigh he considers his yearly task. It's a shuddery experience to open that door and go out. It's the beginning of all sorts of tiresome things: grubbing around for food, eating bugs, nasty things, till the succulents start coming up; then there's that exhausting Spring ahead when he has to start careering round after some saucy, irritating woman - be-possessive girl friend, and the fighting with other equally exasperated males. Life calling him to work again.

But wait: there's still a chance to go back for that second lazy snooze. He stands rigid by the door, listening. Is that the patter of rain drops? Or only some tiresome squirrel scattering his messy acorn-cups about. But, could it be rain? Could this be his lucky day? If he opens that door will it be to feel the cool refreshment of trickling raindrops on his questing nose? Or, instead, will the dawnlight tempt him to step out, to take just one little wander? He knows what will happen if he does: he'll scuttle out to the old flat watching place; his eyes, still fuzzy with sleep, will blink in the blaze of sunlight and then, horribly black, there in front of him will squat that figure, that shadow. He'll jump and it will jump, too, and then he'll turn and make it for his burrow. With his heart pattering wildly he'll dive down his tunnel, and then—here he is safely home in his warm, stuffy, furry bed. Home with honor, too, duty carried out to the full.

"Ho-hum!" he'll say, "Now I'm going to sleep for forty days. Goodnight, Everybody!"

As he stands at the door wondering which it will be, does it ever cross his mind to wonder why on earth he should have been selected for this extraordinary, exacting job?

You hate to think it, but it is because he's the only creature 'dim-witted enough to be scared of his own shadow'.

A gloomy writer, Thomas Carlyle, didn't allow the Groundhog such dubious prominence. He thought there were a good many folks in the same box, though without the Groundhog's barometric eminence. Said Carlyle: "Always there is a black spot in our sunshine; it is the shadow of ourselves."

### Taps or Twists

Here's a date to waken the memories of the "aging" (as if we aren't all "aging!") On February 4 an endurance contest, for enduring the dance called the Charleston, was won by some gent who Charlestoned for 22 hours and 30 minutes. That was in 1926. Wonder how many twists he could have twisted in that time?

## The PILOT

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