

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.

Needed: A Public That Cares

Only if the citizenry is informed and wide-awake, ready to take an active interest in their government, can a democracy function in line with its highest purposes and commitments. How to awaken such interest is and always has been one of the greatest problems facing this nation.

If you look at it from a local angle the picture is especially clear. The subject of government or politics meets with a sort of bored apathy on the part of the average citizen. There is not only a lack of ordinary curiosity about the way town and county governments are run and the whys and wherefores behind the things that happen or don't happen, but there is also, as a rule, a very definite shying away from the whole thing. With many, "Politics," clearly, is still a mean word. Added to this is the quite evident and prevalent fear of taking a stand that could be unpopular. This attitude of aloofness and timidity on the part of the voting public joins with a similar attitude of the politicians to form a vicious combination. Those holding office, or aspiring thereto, are only too pleased to go their own sweet way in peace and privacy. The less people know about what they do or think the better.

So things drift along until election time when few voters know enough about the candidates or their duties to make a wise choice and, as a result, the Machine, which has the organization and generally the money, too, has a clear field and an easy victory.

This means, as a rule, that the incumbents remain in their accustomed governmental posts. They may be good men but who doubts that it takes a bit of competition to keep the average man on his toes. It also takes the knowledge, on the part of the office holder, that a lot of people who care are watching him.

Why do we get sloppy, inefficient government? Simply because the voters don't care enough about good government. Their interests are focussed on their businesses, their homes, their organizations, their pleasures. They have no time or inclination for the governments, local or national, under which they live. And so those in government have little feeling of responsibility towards the public as they would have, with correspondingly good results, if they knew that those who elected them were watching and expecting them to do a good job. The power of this sort of absentee-public government can be great; in national affairs it can constitute a massive danger. On the local level the danger is not great but there can be muddles of sometimes vast proportions.

Other Side of the Coin

Again and again, in Congress, we have seen representatives and senators take the short view, the expedient view and, they no doubt feel, the "popular" view on complicated matters in which an entirely different kind of approach is needed, if the long-range interests of the nation and the world community are to be served.

Illustrating the point are amendments to the Export Control Act, sponsored by Rep. A. Paul Kitchin of this Congressional District. Designed presumably as a method of further containing and controlling the power and spread of Communism, by cutting off the sending of anything of economic value to Red-dominated nations, the amendments—combined with proposed tariff changes and drastic limitations on foreign aid funds—may have exactly the opposite effect with at least two of the nations affected, Poland and Yugoslavia.

Fortunate Disposition

News that the Watson and other property, totalling over 1,000 acres, is being purchased by a group of North Carolina business and professional men, for a private country club and residential development, is welcome in the Sandhills. The fate of the Watson lands of nearly 900 acres, containing a large lake and some of the finest timber stands in this area, had been a matter of concern to many Sandhills residents since it was known that the property had been put on the market, following the death of its longtime owner, John Warren Watson, several months ago.

While members of the purchasing group have not been announced, it is understood to include prominent and responsible men in business and government—men who are said to be determined to preserve the natural beauties and resources of the Watson tract and other lands bought, consistent with their plans for club and residential development.

This section is fortunate that such a promising disposition is being made of this large and beautiful area that is within almost a stone's throw of both Southern Pines and Pinehurst.

Two such muddles in county government come to mind. The most recent is the hospital muddle when the cause of building up the efficiency of an organization that serves and has the devoted backing of a large majority of Moore County people—as evidenced by the success of the recent fund drive and the ever-crowded conditions at the institution—became somewhat jeopardized.

The other county muddle occurred at the time that county officials turned down the state offer to build a health center in Carthage. Only quick action on the part of citizens, rallied by the Moore County Maternal Welfare Committee, who went over the heads of the local board to state authorities and, with this as a lever, persuaded the county board to reverse its ruling, secured the present fine building.

These two examples of muddled handling of county affairs illustrate clearly the need for more citizen information and active interest in this entire field, starting right at home. To help this cause, this newspaper will attempt to print in advance the agenda of town meetings, held on the second Tuesday nights, and other happenings in the field of government whenever possible. Unfortunately, there is no formal agenda for the meetings of the county commissioners, except for the fact that all county officials report at the meetings, held all day in the courthouse the first Mondays. But it must be noted that, all too frequently, important decisions are taken at special meetings held without notice and sometimes without a formal recording of the proceedings.

Congratulations, Cliff

The Pilot's congratulations go to H. Clifton Blue of Aberdeen on what seems to be his certain election as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the 1963 General Assembly at Raleigh.

With the third longest period of service of any member of the House (eight two-year terms) and with a background of steadily increasing accomplishment and prestige as a member of that body, Mr. Blue well deserves the honor that will be accorded him.

His opponent in the Speakership race, Rep. Tom Woodard of Wilson, conceded defeat last week and pledged his support to the Moore County man, drawing from Mr. Blue a gracious statement of appreciation, that was directed both to Mr. Woodard and to the winner's supporters.

It is good to see Moore County continuing to provide its share, and more, of outstanding men in State government.

Officials of the State and Executive departments in Washington fear that the changes would drive these countries which are not now wholly dominated by the Soviet Union into a closer and more binding relationship with Russia, thereby increasing rather than diminishing Communist influence.

As the Export Control Act stands, nothing that would add to military potential may be sent to Poland, Yugoslavia or other Communist bloc countries. Under Mr. Kitchin's proposed changes, the sending of anything of economic value would be prohibited, so that economic as well as military expansion would be curbed.

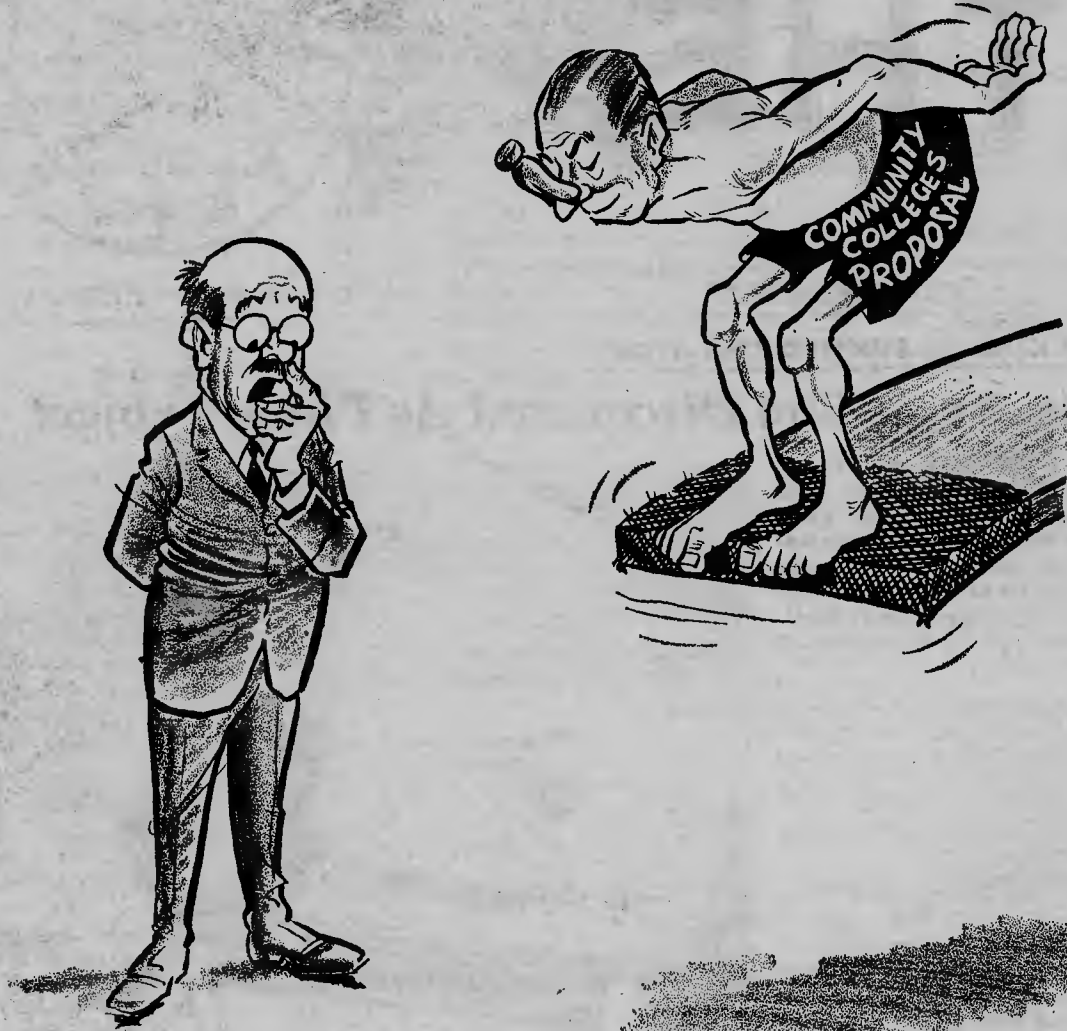
Other effects of the proposed export controls; of the ending of favored treatment under the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act; and of the limiting of foreign aid to surplus farm shipments would very likely be, points out the New York Times:

1. Abrogation of an agreement whereby Poland promised last year to pay \$2 million a year for 20 years in compensation for nationalized property of American citizens.
2. End of negotiations for a \$40 million settlement with American holders of defaulted pre-war Polish Government bonds.
3. The freezing of some \$350 million in Polish currency, in Poland, representing payment for American surplus farm products—money destined, before the aid ban, to be spent for Polish internal development projects.

There is no question that U. S. aid, along with preferential tariff treatment (a policy followed by this nation continuously since the Truman administration) and non-military exports have done much to permit, in the words of an Administration spokesman, "some freedom of maneuver against the Kremlin" by Poland and Yugoslavia.

It is too bad that Rep. Kitchin has chosen to play a major role in trying to scuttle measures that both the State Department and the President believe to be in the best long-range interests of the United States and the world.

"It'll Be A Great Trick...If You Can Do It!"



STATES FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Gardner GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS

NO WELLBEING WITHOUT EFFORT

An American Awakening

(From The Christian Science Monitor)

Far too much attention is being devoted to the emotional disturbance caused by the steel crisis and the stock market setback; far too little to what needs to be done.

Both incidents are symptoms, nothing more.

The substance behind them is the awakening of the United States from a comfortable delusion, into a hard resolve to face actuality and to do what needs to be done.

The delusion is that prosperity feeds itself by spreading comfort, ease, and always higher wages, profits and prices.

The actuality is that hard work, self-discipline and honest competition are necessary to keep the American people—all of them—from going soft; that the object of healthy business and labor is to lower costs and prices for the competitive position of the United States in an international world that means business.

What needs to be done begins with a change of attitude—with the awakening. Prosperity is not indolence and will vanish like sand through the fingers unless the American people—again, all of them, not just business or just labor or just government or even just the consumer—are willing to work and think hard.

For government it means quick release of incentive to modernize. Example: those larger depreciation allowances in which fast moving Western governments are far ahead of the United States. This means renouncing a political hostility which is the easy way for a leftist government to bid

for votes: cut incentive for the businessmen and then blame him for not showing enterprise.

For labor, it means attention to what labor is. It means the motive, the muscle, the devotion of the craftsman to a job well done. This involves disenchantment with the merely political way to get more pie: show your power and take it from the man who has plenty.

For business, it means—to quote the scorned platitude of Calvin Coolidge—business. Large segments of American managers will have to show the courage and the quality of decision to lead in change rather than comfortably falling behind it. This involves an end to the luxury of blaming everyone else for failure to get out of old, routine ruts and into the adventurous struggle for

modernizing.

For the consumer—why should she escape a scolding?—it probably means a less placid acceptance of whatever is dished out. Less of buying just anything, so long as the decor is as fresh as a new dress and the cellophane glitters. Why should business concentrate on value if packaging and chichi can be sold more effortlessly?

This is a national awakening. Americans have had it too good, most of them. They are beginning to realize it. A certain lack of confidence which shows itself in questioning from all segments of the economy as well as from the stock market, could be a good thing if what is shattered is confidence in an illusion of well being without effort. The sooner we get rid of that the better.

The Decisive Ground Is Here

(From an address by James Reston, head of the Washington bureau of the New York Times.)

I feel that our reporting, like our economy, has developed a kind of a limp, coming down too heavily on the violent happenings abroad and too lightly on the developments and achievements within our own country and the rest of the free world.

One important effect of this, I believe, is that it has encouraged a feeling in the country that events are too far away, and too complex, and too dangerous to be understood or even followed. When the news deals with Laos and the balance of payments, and a baffling jungle of scientific and

military jargon, it is no wonder that the spirit of the day is, "Leave it to the President."

Now, I have spent a quarter of a century reporting on and arguing for collective security overseas and I am not suggesting that we do not continue to lead in the development of a concert of free nations. But I think the time has come to re-examine our news values, and to pay more attention to what is going on in the peaceful transformation of our own society.

We have heard a lot about what Lenin thought about where the fate of the world was going to be settled and a lot more about the importance of Germany, Britain, France, Algeria, the Congo, and all the rest.

But the decisive element in the Western struggle lies here in America in what we do to create a modern competitive, industrial plant, full employment, good, effective, modern instruction in our schools, a high rate of growth, decent conditions between the races and tolerable living conditions in what will soon be, not Mr. Jefferson's agrarian society, but a vast teeming urban society.

If we argue in good faith and with a sense of history about our social and economic problems at home, I don't particularly care how lively the argument is, but the decisive ground I suggest to you is here in America and not in Vietnam or the Congo or even in Europe.

This Union has lasted a long time and will be around a long time after we are gone. The war we are going to have is not an atomic war, I feel sure, but the war we have right now.

It can be simply stated: It is a war to see which of the two systems, the free or the communist, can adjust to the new scientific, social, political, and economic revolutions of our time, and if we can discuss these things with fair and open minds, I have no doubt about the results.

Grains of Sand

That Friendly Service
"Hey, Pat!" the filling station attendant called to the owner, "your doctor is in here with a flat tire."
"Good!" was the reply. "Diagnose the trouble as puncture wounds resulting in a prolapsed perimeter. Prescribe plastic surgery followed by complete treatment with inflatus windus. Then charge him accordingly!"

Help? Well... yes and no.
We hear a lot these days about the great assistance parents can render teachers in helping the children with their home-work. For instance; as illustrating parental help and the influence of the home:

A mother was surprised, to say the least, to hear her six-year-old son, busy with his arithmetic lesson, mutter to himself: "Two and two, the sonofabitch is four."
She came closer to where he was bent over his book and waited to hear the next sum. "Three and three," he son went on, "the sonofabitch is six."

The mother could stand this no longer. "Son!" she broke in, "where on earth did you get such ideas?"

The boy looked up, "In school," he said happily. "That's what our teacher says."

The mother gasped and promptly called the teacher up. She was bewildered for a moment and then light dawned.

"I can't imagine where he got that language," the teacher said, "but what he's trying to say is: 'Two and two, the sum of which is four.'"

"I can't imagine where he got that language either," said the mother.

"Of course not," said the teacher sweetly.

Only In England!

"Glyndebourne" is the name of the great estate in the south of England where the yearly music festival featuring the compositions of Mozart is given. In a recent letter Nancy Boyd Sokoloff, who with her husband, Noel, and two little daughters, is spending the summer in London, writes ecstatically describing going to a concert there.

"The Glyndebourne performance of 'Figaro' was the best production of ANYTHING I've ever seen. Unbelievably, the sun was shining, casting long evening shadows; all the May was in bloom. It was lovely to see the ladies in their evening dresses sweeping through the formal gardens. Six feet from the ladies, over the box hedges, cows and sheep were munching contentedly. Only in England!"

Ah Wilderness!

Not long ago J. Donald Adams, who writes the "Speaking of Books" page in the book section of the New York Times every Sunday, entered the current battle for the conservation of the few remaining wilderness areas of the nation. At the close of his eloquent plea he added a bitterly meaningful paragraph:

"Several years ago, shortly before dusk on a calm and lovely evening, I stood on the porch of a small lodge on Two Medicine Lake in Glacier Park. A man came up to me, looked about and said: 'What a dump!' I asked him: 'How far did you drive today?' 'Better than 500 miles,' he said."
And Mr. Adams added: "He could enjoy nothing and drove on, God knows where, early the next morning."

Those Gals Again

For future reference by hurricane buffs here are the Weather Bureau names for storms of the 1962 season which has now officially begun: Alma, Becky, Celia, Daisy, Ella, Flossie, Greta, Hallie, Inez, Judith, Kendra, Lois, Marsha, Noreen, Orpha, Patty, Rena, Sherry, Thora, Vicky and Wilna.

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Published Every Thursday by THE PILOT, Incorporated Southern Pines, North Carolina

1941—JAMES BOYD—1944

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Subscription Rates

Moore County
One Year \$4.00
Outside Moore County
One Year \$5.00

Second-class Postage paid at Southern Pines, N. C.

Member National Editorial Assn. and N. C. Press Assn.