

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.

Basic Step: A Bi-Racial Committee

If an amendment to the "impacted areas" federal school funds bill is approved as voted recently by a House Education subcommittee in Washington, the Southern Pines school district would have to carry out, within the next year, a plan of racial integration of the district's schools, or lose \$12,000 to \$15,000 of federal funds now paid to the district to help educate children of armed forces personnel living here.

That's the gist of recent news from Washington—although the legislation in question apparently has not yet been approved and it is not clear exactly what it would mean here were it made an integral part of the impacted areas program.

However, this is only one of the many straws in the wind these days, indicating that many communities are facing show-downs on school integration. The Supreme Court made it clear this week that further delay in implementing its 1955 decree (that integration be carried out "with all deliberate speed") would not be tolerated unless it "imperatively

and compellingly appeared unavoidable." The marches and demonstrations by Negroes on behalf of theatre and restaurant integration, ending of employment discrimination and other civil rights show which way the wind is blowing. No community can long expect to be exempt from these evidences, in one form or another, of Negro unrest.

Governor Sanford's suggestion early this year, that North Carolina communities set up "Good Neighbor Councils" with white and Negro members, to investigate ways in which Negroes can get or train for better jobs, anticipated the present state of crisis. Yet no such council, to our knowledge, has been formed or even discussed here. And the same situation must prevail in many North Carolina communities.

This community must be prepared to meet what is sure to come. And the establishment of a bi-racial group, dedicated to full and frank communication, is an essential basic step in preparations the community must make.

One Outstretched Hand...

There could be no disagreement with what the clerk of court told the judge in a recent session of Moore County Recorder's Court, about a 15-year-old boy who was charged with cashing bad checks in Carthage: "Your honor, he's never had a chance..."

Child of a broken home, son of parents who were each murdered, in separate cases, within a year, apparently rejected by relatives, unaccepted by any home in which the Welfare Department tried to place him, veteran of incarcerations and escapes from juvenile training institutions, this boy had been living in the woods, sleeping there or in cars or trucks: a nightmare world, a tale from the depths, something that might have happened in the slums of a bombed-out city, not here, an existence bearing no relation to life as we know it in Moore County.

And then this, to touch, if ever it were touched, the conscience of us all: this waif, it was testified, had been attending school regularly and appeared in court, according to an eye-witness, "neatly

dressed, his fair hair combed smooth..."

What can be done with this child? He is charged with a felony—forging checks to get money to buy food—and he has to be tried in Superior Court. And he had to go to jail, meanwhile, though this decision was made unwillingly by the judge and the boy was placed in the vacant women's cell, rather than with the other offenders.

Public welfare services exist because private generosity and kindness can never catch up and keep up with all the need and misery in this world. Yet, pondering this boy at Carthage, we wonder if we are not becoming too dependent on public aid. We say: why can't they do something about this boy? Maybe the only answer will be for somebody to ask: why can't I do something?

Maybe this is a case that all the tax-supported institutions and agencies in the world can't solve but that a single love-supported heart could.

One hand stretched out in affection and welcome, from all the 36,000 persons in Moore County: that, it seems to us, is what is needed now.

Expert, Impartial Opinion Needed

Many thoughtful citizens of Southern Pines appear to be more and more concerned about the problem of high school consolidation—whether the effectiveness of this community's high schools will be best served by remaining small schools or whether their lot should be cast with other small schools of this end of the county to provide facilities that could provide a broader curriculum, including non-academic trade and vocational courses.

Petitions asking for a public meeting to hear a discussion of consolidation proposals by educators began to circulate in Southern Pines this week, reportedly arousing an eager response, as told in

Let's Be Civilized

According to the Travel Information Division of the Department of Conservation and Development, there is a bill in preparation—if not already by now introduced in the General Assembly—to regulate possession of game birds and animals in captivity for commercial purposes.

While admittedly of far less importance than the big problems facing the legislature, this issue is one in which we take a particular interest, having long ago in these columns entered our protest on the display of caged wild animals under inhumane and unsanitary conditions.

A display of bears in the North Carolina mountains brought national unfavorable publicity to the state. The North Carolina Travel Council, with cooperation of C. and D., wisely responded with the proposed legislation.

Regardless of legislation, the traveling public can be influential in controlling unfortunate displays of wild animals by refusing to patronize places featuring such displays and by directly letting proprietors of such places know the disapproval that they merit.

Our opinion is that wild animals should be displayed in captivity only in publicly operated zoos and parks where the animals are assured of expert care. And we note again that the treatment of animals—wild and domestic—is a measure of civilization. Let's be civilized.

today's news columns.

Members of the board of education of the Southern Pines administrative district have repeatedly told the county commissioners and many individuals that they are convinced the sentiment for continuing as a small independent unit is held by a large majority of the citizens of the Southern Pines community. Yet one frequently meets persons who say they wish they knew more about what consolidation would mean, who say they know others who are for consolidation or who are unhappy about letting the status quo prevail unquestioned.

Our guess is that people are not so much uninterested as they are perplexed. They wonder if they are qualified to judge what should be done. They wish that somehow an expert opinion—an unbiased expert opinion—could be obtained.

Consolidation of the Southern Pines high school with those of Aberdeen and Pinehurst was long ago recommended by two survey teams of experts who made a county-wide study for the county board of education. Yet the "experts," skilled and honest thought they might have been, were from groups—the State Board of Education and a University education department—known to be promoting school consolidation.

Would it not be possible to obtain a committee of education experts totally unrelated to the controversial background of Moore County school proposals, to make a survey or study of the Southern Pines district schools and how the educational needs of this community can best be met? It is a suggestion that we hear more and more advanced by local people.

The petitions for a public meeting to discuss consolidation are a good start. But, whatever is done must be done quickly. A large bond issue for consolidated schools and a community college is in the offing and its details must be settled soon, if it is to be presented to the voters of the county this fall.

This community may not, in the end, choose the path of consolidation. But we are convinced that there will be regrets and recriminations for years to come if the choice that must be made soon is not made on the basis of full information and full participation by all the thinking people of the district.

His Master's Voice



Gardner

QUESTIONS ABOUT TAX PROGRAM ANSWERED

Cuts To Aid Business, Industry

(Editor's Note: This is the second of two articles by U. S. Sen. Dale McGee of Wyoming on proposed federal tax cuts. In the articles, the senator—who is a member of the Committee on Appropriations and Commerce—answers some of the questions most frequently asked him about the proposals. He is considered an authority on the federal government tax structure.)

BY SEN. DALE MCGEE

Responding to critics of the deficits and tax cuts, Secretary of the Treasury Dillon said "there can be no question that if our economy were at reasonably full capacity, our tax system would today be producing more than enough revenue to finance our current national needs with a balanced budget."

"The deficit we now face is the result of an economy which produces too little—rather than of a Government which spends too much. This provides even more reason for reducing taxes."

To put the problem in economic terms, there is not enough purchasing power in the economy to buy the goods and services our labor forces and industry can produce at the prices charged.

A Federal tax cut would release new economic forces that would bring new energy and confidence to the whole economy.

A large portion of the tax cut will be for business and industry. A reduction in personal and corporate taxes raises profit margins

for businessmen and enlarges the supply of "internal" business funds available for investment. There is an increased supply of money for plant expansion, research and product development and modernization. Couple the direct benefits to industry with the increased purchasing power of the consumer and there is the impetus for full scale economic growth.

Question—"Why don't we cut out all those unessential civilian programs?"

Answer—"Unfortunately, there just isn't enough money in those civilian programs to cut. After eliminating the cost of defense, debt interest, space programs and costs of past wars, there is only \$20 billion left in the budget. To make it balance this year would require a cut of about half of the funds for all civilian programs. It should be obvious the result would be chaos. We in the Congress will indeed cut the budget, but we will use a surgeon's scalpel rather than a meat axe."

And it should be noted that while the Federal government receives nearly 21 per cent of our total national income, it pays out 9 per cent in loans, grants, benefits to needy persons, corporations, local government, etc., and actually uses less than 12 per cent to purchase its own goods and services, of which nearly 10 per cent goes for defense.

Question—"If you could get those millions of government workers on the job for a change

we wouldn't have any financial problems."

Answer—"Government employees are by now quite used to being the butt of many a joke, however unearned this reputation is. I would like to point out that the federal government employed 1.6 per cent of the population. In 1958 the percentage was 1.4 and now it is about 1.3. And of the total Federal civilian employment 72 per cent work in defense, Post Office and Veterans Administration."

In relation to the total population the civilian employees of the Federal government have been reduced by 3 per cent in the last ten years. In contrast, the employees of state and local governments have increased by 63 per cent.

In the economic race we are running with the Soviet Union, the victory will go to the swift and daring. To those who fear to borrow against the future of this democracy I would say that to build a solid structure it is necessary to first dig for a firm foundation.

NO MAN SHOULD DENY THE FUTURE

Before the General Assembly killed recently proposed bills penalizing illegitimacy by withdrawal of welfare funds or by making it a criminal offense, Harry Golden of Charlotte was one of the most vociferous opponents of the proposals. The quotation below—which makes a point that is valid and pertinent at any time—is from a letter he sent to newspapers of the state.

"... The teacher of Cicero was Molon and in one of his letters from exile on Rhodes in 55 B. C. Cicero revealed that Molon had been an illegitimate child, and the cold, unsmiling Cicero unbent long enough to bless the mother of Molon.

"If North Carolina, and all the other states, including the Federal government, abolished all welfare, illegitimacy would not abate one whit. In fact before the first public charity was introduced in ancient Chaldea, there were "illegitimate" children. The birth of illegitimate children has nothing to do with welfare funds—it has everything to do with self-esteem and proof of individual worth. There are many reasons for children being born out of wedlock, one of the reasons being a sense of hopelessness such as, 'All they will ever let me become is a domestic or a janitor, so what's the use.'

"If there is one thing we get out of the philosophy of Cicero, it is that no man ought to try to deny the future..."

Grains of Sand

Sillybilly

If Castro expects to get somewhere in a big way in the dictator line, he ought to work up a more alarming appearance. With that curly beard, busy figure and humorless, complacent smile, he just looks plain silly.

Even Mussolini at his most pompous never looked really silly.

The Side Of Life

In his weekly article, "Speaking About Books," in the Times Book Review section, J. Donald Adams mourns the passing of so many of this nation's outstanding writers during the past year.

In a paragraph especially devoted to the writer and critic, Van Wyck Brooks, he says that it was Brooks's conviction (voiced also by William Faulkner in his Nobel Prize acceptance speech and by Adams himself) that "the great writers have always been on the side of life and that they have always been able to pass on to others their zest in living, even with the knowledge every great writer must have—that human life is essentially tragic."

Watch Out!

Read the other day of a new gimmick to bring more people to this state.

The idea—believe it or not—is to invite 25 New York city taxicab drivers to come to North Carolina and see the sights: all free, of course. Then they're supposed to go back to taxidrivng and spread the news among their fares. Our newest beauty queen is supposed to be up there, ride around in taxis and hand out the invitations. All the while bedazzling the drivers so they'll want to come.

Our experience with these characters convinces us that it won't work. They are the most unpredictable, ornery, wise guys on the face of the earth. Oh, they may take the trip, but will they follow through? No. The whole thing will boomerang. They'll come back to the big city all bet up with the new top. And what do you bet they sit behind their wheels and carry on a monologue on the general lousiness of states, all states, N. C., of course, the louisiest.

Don't say we didn't warn you. It'll backfire, sure as shooting.

Storm Brewing

See where two great power plants, Con. Edison and General Hudson Gas and Electric are all set to ruin the most scenic part of the Hudson River valley. They have chosen sites on either side of the river at the Storm King Mountain gorge. The plants will face each other across the water.

The great stony mountain, with adjacent Bear Mountain Park, and West Point just around the bend, is the mecca of tourists as well as thousands of city folks and there is general agreement that this stretch of the Hudson Highlands rivals in beauty anything comparable in this country or Europe. The site also has great historic interest. It was here that the British officer, Major Andre, was captured when he was on his spying mission to persuade the traitor, Benedict Arnold, to defect.

Conservationists everywhere are rising to the defense of the famous Highlands and army engineers question the dangers to navigation and further stream pollution. More power to them all!

Talk Is Out

"Conversation in this country has fallen upon evil days... It is drowned out in singing commercials by the world's most productive economy, that has so little to say for itself that it has to hum it. It is hushed and shushed in dimly lighted parlors by television audiences who used to read, argue and even play bridge, an old-fashioned card game requiring speech."

—Whitney Griswold

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