

# 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.

## Humphrey: The Right Choice

One consideration overshadowed all others, we feel certain, as President Johnson undertook to choose a running-mate in the November election: which of the available men had in him, more than any other, the making of a President.

In Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, he chose that man. Humphrey has a long, solid, productive background as a legislator—an architect of government. He is a man who has grown and mellowed, who can give and take but who has not abandoned his basic ideals, his humanitarianism, his sense of justice.

He is vigorous; he is articulate; he has assurance but is not domineering; one feels he knows where he is going.

And, blessedly, he has a sense of humor—that balance-wheel virtue which helps so many persons—big and little—to face the ups and downs that plague human beings.

The South need not fear Senator Humphrey. When needled by a reporter at the convention, who asked him if he'd campaign in Mississippi and Alabama, he loosed no diatribe. He quickly, calmly, easily replied, in effect, that there are good people everywhere and usually a

meeting of minds, some sort of understanding, can be worked out. His particular interest in agriculture, his work with Southern legislators on farm programs that have vastly benefited the South, are well known.

An article on this page tells how businessmen, who think in a practical way, like President Johnson because his program works: the economy is on the move. Business, to a degree not generally known, also respects Senator Humphrey. The Republican editor of "Forbes" magazine, a conservative business journal, recently, before the convention, had glowing words for the Democratic Vice Presidential candidate.

The growing importance of the Vice President is inevitable: not only as a potential replacement for the President but in his own right, dealing with various Presidential problems, foreign and domestic, to lighten the tremendous burden on the Chief Executive. It is unfair to the nation to nominate a second-string man for the office. That is a gamble the nation can't afford to take.

The Johnson-Humphrey ticket is a good one, a combination with wide appeal. We expect them to win in November.

## Moore Must Work For Unity

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan K. Moore owes it to his party to work hard for unity, between now and November, and there are signs that he is moving in that direction.

Though he won in his bitterly contested second primary fight with Richardson Preyer, after receiving the backing of Dr. I. Beverly Lake who ran third in the first primary, Moore should not forget that Preyer was top man in the first primary, that he had the backing of the Sanford administration and that—once the primary fight was over, the Preyer forces deserve substantial consideration.

In short, that "little shadow" of today's cartoon—the Lake influence—must be cut down by Moore to a reasonable size; and the Preyer forces, whose loyalty to the Democratic party is unquestioned,

should also be recognized.

By refraining from voting against Moore's appointment of William Webb—who had signed a Wallace-for-President petition—as North Carolina national committeeman, the Sanford-Preyer forces in Atlantic City, averted an outright Democratic break-up. Corresponding moves toward unity are now most certainly due from the Moore camp. The Webb appointment, obviously engineered by the big shadow in the cartoon, was a very peculiar and unwise move.

This is not to say that Moore does not owe the Lake forces ample and generous consideration. It is simply to say that such consideration must not be so full-some and over-blown as to create a lop-sided party that topples from the broad base on which the Democrats have traditionally stood.

## Guidepost To Public Thinking

The United Nations on numerous occasions has proved to be a valuable forum at times of international tension ("At least, they're talking, not fighting...")

This aspect of the UN has usually been seen by the public as a practical matter—a technique, a method to help avert, limit or end armed conflict. But what we often overlook is that the UN, in or out of crisis, is an information center, an instrument from which readings on the international climate can be taken.

It depends, of course, on who is taking the readings. So it is always interesting to hear from persons who are close to the UN, who are presumably in a better position than an outsider to make an analysis.

Following, for instance, is an excerpt from a recent informal report by James Boyd, Jr., Southern Pines native who is consultant on disarmament to several senators and UN officials, including Senator Humphrey, Ambassador Stevenson and others:

"The UN Security Council survived the recent eruption of violence in North Viet Nam and Cyprus with what can only be called 'flying colors.' 'One thing does seem to be clear:

neither the Soviet Union nor the United States wants war. Recently, we both backed off and we both acted with extraordinary restraint, so that today things are definitely calmer. (It is both unfortunate and irresponsible that the press tends to print screaming headlines to suggest that things are much worse than they are.)

"The Red Chinese are a problem, a problem somewhat of our own making, but it is obviously of little use to worry about our past mistakes. What has to happen now is for the United States to realize that Red China exists and that it has to be dealt with. There are some indications that the U.S. is beginning to realize this fact and is taking tentative steps towards some kind of international conference towards bringing peace to Southeast Asia."

The guarded optimism expressed in this report is an attitude that is becoming more widely understood. Surely this attitude, expressed by those close to the UN as well as those close to the Administration in Washington, is an important guidepost to public thinking.

## Channing Nelson Page

The deepest sympathy of Southern Pines and this area goes out to the family of C. N. Page, longtime resident and former mayor of this community, in his tragic death when a water heater exploded in a beach motel last Saturday morning.

Everyone who knew this kind, good man—a man who was hard-working, unpretentious and loyal to his convictions—has in the past few days been brought face to face with one of the great mysteries of the ages: why disaster sometimes strikes those most undeserving of such a fate.

Mr. Page left service in an elected office more than 10 years ago when the mayor-commissioner form of government in which he had been active was changed to the council-manager form—nor did he seek public office again. Then, though he had formerly owned businesses of his own and was at an age when many men begin to slow down, if not retire, he made an entirely new career for himself in the U. S. postal service in which he worked vigorously and competently, winning great goodwill and admiration, until the

ghastly accident that snuffed out his life. It is our understanding that the water heater that exploded was one of a defective type that has taken other lives as well—an almost incredible engineering failure in this mid-20th century, after the hazards of steam have been known and successfully dealt with for over 100 years.

The public has every right to be angry at this outrageous situation which has now been brought heart-rendingly close to us, in personal terms, here in the Sandhills.

The Governor and others have issued warnings about the defective heaters. Some companies that have marketed them have called in each unit sold. Anyone in doubt should have gas or electric water heaters checked by a competent serviceman, as many people have already done.

Let us hope that all this will prevent additional accidents. But it is a bitter thought that Chan Page and others had to die before the public's protection could be assured.

## "I Have A Little Shadow That Goes In And Out With Me..."



### IN NO MOOD FOR SHARP REVERSALS

## Why Business Likes The President

The following article is reprinted, in part, from "Fortune" magazine, a publication read primarily by U. S. businessmen and industrialists.

Lyndon Johnson as President has achieved a breadth of public acceptance and approval that few observers would have believed possible when he took office.

The usual explanation of Johnson's success points out that he is a highly skilled politician. But this is only the beginning of an answer. Political skill has never been in short supply in this nation, and Lyndon Johnson's rather old-fashioned brand has seemed out of national favor in recent years.

How does it happen that—suddenly—Johnson's mixture of folk-siness, sweet reasonableness, intense personal activity, concern for the poor, and pro-business preaching seems to be exactly what the doctor—meaning the U. S. electorate—ordered? In particular, what accounts for his success with the business community?

The present wave of business approval of Johnson is particularly galling to Goldwater people who suspect business of both timidity and stupidity in being taken in by a liberal, a big-government man.

This diagnosis ignores the fact that the business habit of mind is

more practical than doctrinal. Business is a living, working part of U. S. life, and as such it is basically sensitive to the existing beliefs of the society as a whole and to the practical range of political possibilities. That is why many of those business men who believe there is too much reliance on federal action in this society were repelled by the sheer political impracticality of Goldwater's opposition to certain well-established federal programs.

When Goldwater during the New Hampshire primary campaign lost votes by seeming to threaten the social security system, some businessmen were bound to wonder if he was practical enough to run the executive branch of the U. S. Government. Business men sense that the prospering U. S. electorate is in no mood for sharp reversals of policy, that the growth of federal power can be checked only gradually and not by a root-and-branch effort to eradicate the last 30 years of political experience.

Business men could hardly fail to applaud Johnson's association of budget restraint and a tax cut.

Indeed he has gone further than any recent President—including Eisenhower—in praising the contribution of business men to the general well-being of this society. The millions who heard his March 15 television interview are not likely to forget a moving

passage, spoken in tones of deep conviction:

"I am so proud of our system of government, of our free enterprise system, where our incentive system and our men who head our big industries are willing to get up at daylight and get to bed at midnight to offer employment and create new jobs for people..."

How long has it been since any U. S. President said that?

American business would have to be a lot more narrow-minded than it is to withhold applause from a President who not only praises the enterprise system but who frequently acts as if he meant what he says about it.

Less Divided

The "secret" of Johnson's success with business men and with most other segments of the nation is derived from one of the most open and obvious facts about American life today. This country, feeling the challenge of thousands upon thousands of new problems and new decisions ahead, is no longer as sharply divided as it was on the class and doctrinal disputes that arose in the '30's.

The broad principles involved in those disputes will never be irrelevant to a healthy U. S. society. But a politician who can apply principle in the form of a tax cut or a railroad labor mediation is going to have an increasing advantage over one who can more brilliantly expound "liberal" theory or "conservative" theory.

## The Public Speaking

### Loyal Democrat Says He Disagrees With Letter

To the Editor: Writing letters of this nature is not something I do very often. Nonetheless, it would seem that the time has come when I can hold back no longer.

I merely want to say that I thoroughly disagree with the contents of a letter to the editor published in last week's Pilot from my son Thomas, now a resident of Florida.

I might add that I am proud of the fact that I am an active, loyal, lifetime Democrat and proud of the record of my party.

JOHN S. RUGGLES  
Southern Pines

### Goldwater Supporter Replies To Editorial

To the Editor: Re your editorial of August 27, "Goldwater and the South," are you really so naive as to think that all people who support Senator Goldwater are doing so only because he voted against the Civil Rights bill? If so, you had better do as you bid others—review your facts.

Senator Goldwater gave good, sound reasons for his "nay" vote even though "liberal" and "radical" columnists refuse to take cognizance of those reasons. I feel that even though the Civil Rights

law contains some good sections, there is much that could have been left out or improved upon. This does not by any means make me avidly anti-civil rights. Many of my good customers and friends are Negroes, but this does not mean that I have to support all parts of the Civil Rights law.

All through your editorial, your choice of words is a disgusting display of your antipathy to any "conservative" who holds views other than those you hold: Goldwater's "sly eagerness to stir and foment the divisive, explosive race issue"—"Goldwater... has pitched an appeal to reactionary, irrational elements in the Southern mentality..." and your reference to white-collared Southerners who "quote Barry devoutly over their martinis."

I do not consider myself in the reactionary, irrational class and

### THANKFUL

We can be thankful to a friend for a few acres or a little money; and yet for the freedom and command of the whole earth, and for the great benefits of our being, our life, health, and reason, we look upon ourselves as under no obligation.

—SENECA

## Grains of Sand

TV Close-up Too Close  
The Times man who covered Attorney General Kennedy's touching introduction to the film about his brother must have gotten a very queer view of him from the Convention press section. He termed his delivery "impassive."

The clear eye of television showed distinctly that throughout his short address, Bobby Kennedy was close to tears. In fact, the TV watcher felt to the full the delicacy, the intrusion, of the close-up view of a man near the breaking-point.

Comforting  
A kind Briton, David Marquand, reviewing the book, "The Republican Party—1854-1964," for the Manchester Guardian, has these reassuring words:

"To understand why Goldwater won (in San Francisco) it is not necessary to postulate a vast groundswell of lunacy at the grass roots of America. It is merely necessary to remember the obvious, if uncomfortable truth that an almost uninterrupted taste of defeat is likely to set a party's teeth on edge."

Sing A Song of You-Know-Who  
Trust Senator Hubert Humphrey to put a little life and fun into the oh-so-serious Democratic convention.

As he sang the changes on the refrain: "... but NOT Senator Goldwater!" he drove the point home with such infectious gaiety that the whole convention joined in the jingle. That, at least, was a point that must have gotten home, even to the object of it.

Boy or Girl?  
At the risk of disrupting the local market in needles, thread and pencils with erasers, we pass on the following fascinating item from Pete Ivey's "Town and Gown" column in the Chapel Hill Weekly:

"A test to determine whether it's going to be a girl or a boy is showing spectacular results in Chapel Hill. Mothers who have several children as well as women pregnant for the first time are excited about an informal sign-and-ports pendulum of home-made manufacture."

"Even a few nurses and technicians in Memorial Hospital are taking a close look at the needle-and-thread, pencil and arm-and-wrist test."

"Here's the way it works: Thread a needle. Then stick the needle into the top side of an eraser on a pencil. Put the other end of the thread around your index finger of the right hand so that the pencil dangles vertically, with the point of the pencil towards the ground—just like a sword of Damocles. Hold the pencil that way above a woman's left wrist. She should be holding her arm so that the palm is up. If the pencil, after circling slowly, begins to sway back and forth along the length of the woman's forearm to her finger tips, the first baby was or will be a boy. If the pencil swings across her wrist, the first baby was or will be a girl. A woman can give herself the test."

"The second amazing thing about the test is that women with two or three children already can prove the method. For it's retroactive. It will tell a woman how many children she's already had, and their sexes, as well as for the children she's going to have in the future."

"One Chapel Hill woman who lives in Colony Woods has three children. The first-born is a boy, the second a girl and the third a girl. Sure enough, the pencil swung the length of her wrist at first for a boy. Then, without stopping, it began to swing across her wrist for a double period, indicating two girls. Then it stopped swinging altogether. The husband, who was aiding with the prophecy, said this was a sign they would be having no more children at all."

## THE PILOT

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