

# 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.

## They Had Other Things To Do

"The meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association which took place Monday night was attended by a majority of the members of this civic group, indicative of the keen interest felt by this association in the subject under discussion: Juvenile Delinquency. Chief Earl Seawell, of the Southern Pines Police Department, addressed the group, winning applause for his splendid presentation of the important subject."

Please note, kind reader, the quotation marks around the above paragraph. This, in other words, is what had been blocked out in the editorial mind as the probable opening of the press story to be written following attendance at the meeting in question. The trouble is, if printed at all, it can only appear with quotes around it. While some of the "facts" hopefully listed are entirely true, the most important one has to be ruled out. Chief Seawell did make a fine presentation of his subject, one about which he knows a great deal and feels very deeply; but the "majority" membership—especially as regards parents—was not there. The few parents who were there were, obviously, greatly interested as shown by the many good questions asked and views expressed at the close of the chief's talk, but most of the members had other things to do.

As the chief's talk touched on various phases of the subject, always coming back to The Home, Parental Discipline and the Thoughtful Affection that must accompany it, it became more and more obvious that, sadly enough, Exhibit I could well be this very meeting. The row upon row of empty seats was the clearest sort of evidence of the basic

trouble at the heart of the problem of juvenile delinquency.

There are other things, of course. As one member present suggested, the atmosphere of violence and decadence abroad in the land and propagated by so much of the mass communications media must bear a share of the responsibility, but mothers and fathers could do something about that after all, couldn't they? If they really cared enough?

The tensions and pressures of today's living, moving from home to home, from school to school, with its disrupting conditions, loss of friends, general turmoil may make some children adaptable and that is a good quality, even a necessity these days; but the lack of roots, of background, must take its toll, especially of the shy or the immature. The unattractive striving at all costs for status, "keeping up with the Joneses", the sheep-like gang, where each member must do just what the others are doing . . . "And how can a mother say, 'No,' when her child comes back with, 'But Mary's mother lets her, why can't I?'"

It's an old familiar question but, again, parents are the only ones who can answer it. Do they gang up sometimes with other parents and decide together what their children should do and should not do? It seems, to judge by the attitude toward this meeting, unlikely.

Chief Seawell couldn't tell his small but earnest audience in detail what they could do, but he tried to tell them in general what they should do, and without softening his words. It's a pity more parents weren't there to hear and, hopefully, learn from one who knows what he is talking about.

## Medicare and Social Security

It now seems likely that the current Congress will enact a program of hospital, nursing home and visiting nurse medical care for the elderly, to be administered under the Social Security system, although the American Medical Association, according to the Drew Pearson column, is budgeting several millions of dollars to make a last-ditch fight against the proposal.

Opposed to the doctors' (that is, the AMA policy-makers who by no means reflect the conviction of all physicians) contention that Medicare will wreck the Social Security system, if it is organized within the framework of that agency, there is a report from the Advisory Council on Social Security composed of distinguished persons drawn from industry, labor, the medical profession, education and public affairs, on a non-partisan basis. This report, according to the New York Times, says that "Health costs represent the greatest remaining threat to the economic security of the aged and severely disabled citizens" and the Times notes that "the council puts itself firmly behind the proposition that Medicare belongs in the framework of the Social Security system."

It is common sense that a program requiring as vast an administrative apparatus as Medicare be handled through channels already established to run the huge existing Social Security program which, incidentally, was itself condemned, 30 years ago, as a Socialistic menace to the American way of life. Yet who, now, except a crackpot, would raise a voice against it?

The Advisory Council makes the reasonable suggestion that a distinct tax and trust fund be established for Medi-

care, so that costs can be clearly established, but sees no reason why this can't be done within the Social Security system, rather than setting up an entirely new bureaucracy.

We remain mystified why doctors are so upset about Medicare. The proposal before Congress does not propose to take care of doctors' bills, thus not involving them in a personal hassle with the government over fees and red tape. On the contrary, it would appear that if the government pays hospital and nursing home costs for the elderly, doctors would be much more likely to collect their own fees, especially from that lower-middle income group which is not destitute but which cannot afford, under the existing system, the costs of long or catastrophic illness—and which is not covered by Kerr-Mills care for the semi-destitute only.

There has not been a word of complaint from doctors about the millions, no doubt billions, of dollars that have in large part, through the Hill-Burton Act, built or made possible the modern hospitals in which they practice, all across the nation. Moreover, the money for Hill-Burton projects comes out of the taxpayers' pockets, not paid in through earnings deductions as the Social Security funds that will support Medicare would be.

The philosophy of government that prevails and "works," in all the free nations of the Western world, is that when private enterprise is incapable or unwilling to meet unquestioned needs of the people, government must step in and shoulder the task. This is exactly what has happened in federal aid to hospital construction and exactly what is proposed in Medicare.

## New Attack On Arthritis

As the national fund campaigns of the big charitable and medical research and treatment organizations annually roll around, we do not always, on this page, endorse their efforts, though to all of them, at one time or another, we have given words of support and praise. Generally, their work is well known, their aims high and their accomplishments great.

Now, however, we take note of a relatively new group for which mail appeals have been reaching residents of Moore County and to which other persons not thus reached may want to give.

This is the North Carolina Chapter of the nation-wide Arthritis Foundation, with headquarters at Chapel Hill and with an area (Moore and Montgomery Counties) chairman, Mrs. K. A. McLeod of Candor, to whom contributions from Moore County may be sent. Local chairmen have been named also in most of the communities of the county, as noted in a news story today.

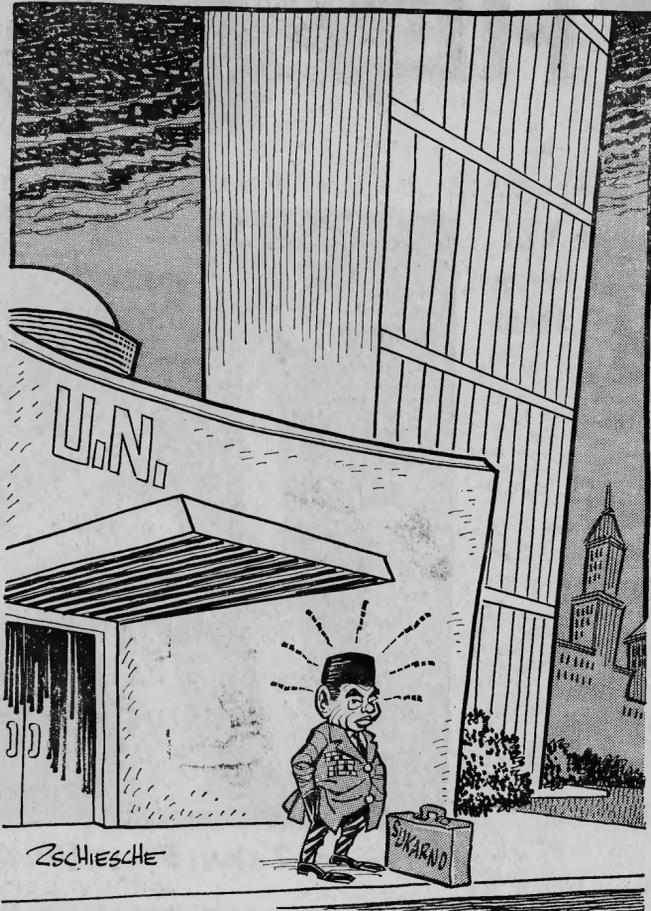
We welcome this year's appeal of the Arthritis Foundation especially because it no longer duplicates or conflicts with the work of the National Foundation -

March of Dimes, having added the National Foundation's arthritis programs to its own, thus bringing into focus a nationwide effort to conquer crippling arthritis.

The National Foundation's new major project—working on the cause, alleviation and treatment of birth defects, as described in an article on this page—is thus left to concentrate on its own worthy goals, along with the important assistance rendered by National Foundation chapters to former polio victims and such localized, valuable projects as the Moore County Chapter's physical therapy training scholarship and the forthcoming "camperships" for former polio victims at Camp Easter in the Pines, the "Easter Seals camp" for crippled children near Southern Pines.

We are told that arthritis, "the nation's greatest crippler," affects 290,000 persons in North Carolina and 12 million over the nation. It is good to know that an all-out, concentrated effort against this scourge is being undertaken, financed by contributions through the Arthritis Foundation.

"Where Did You Go?" "Out."  
"What Did You Do?" "Nothing."



UNITED NATIONS REPORT

## Indonesia-China Tie Poses Threat

(Editor's Note: The following article, because of its timeliness, replaces one on UN peacekeeping operations—the second in a two-part series—which was scheduled for this week's editorial page. The second UN peacekeeping article will appear at a later date.)

Ever since the Federation of Malaysia came into being in August, 1963, President Sukarno of Indonesia has vowed to "crush the country."

Sukarno refused to recognize the impartial observation made by the Secretary General of the United Nations: that the principle of self-determination by the people of North Borneo and Singapore (which along with Malaya make up the new Federation) had been justly followed. Instead, Indonesia began a series of guerrilla attacks on Malaysia. This aggressive action brought about a Security Council meeting of the UN to view the situation, last September.

**Resolution Vetoed**  
At this meeting, Indonesia admitted the attacks and stated that they would continue until a political settlement had been reached between the two countries.

### NATIONAL FOUNDATION TAKES LEAD

## What Can Be Done About Birth Defects?

The nation-wide March of Dimes of the National Foundation, now going on during January, is collecting funds that will be used, in large part, in a vast effort to learn more about the cause of birth defects, so that they may be prevented—and to finance treatment and rehabilitative care for children and adults who are the victims of such defects.

More than a quarter of a million babies are born each year in the United States with serious birth defects, according to the National Foundation which now, having almost won the "battle against polio," is turning its primary attention to the birth defects field of medical research and aid.

In order that information about birth defects can reach as many persons as possible—and to show that everybody can help the National Foundation's great effort in various ways—the March of Dimes organization is distributing a leaflet titled, "Things to Do IF . . ."

**IF You Are About To Be Married—**  
Select a family physician. Each partner should have a complete medical examination, providing the doctor with complete medical histories.  
Learn your blood groups and Rh factors (plus or minus).  
Consult your physician together

reached between the two countries. The resolution submitted by Norway to bring about a cease-fire and negotiations to find a peaceful settlement was vetoed by the Soviet Union in support of Indonesia.

When the 19th General Assembly voted to seat Malaysia as one of the new non-permanent members of the Security Council, Indonesia not only protested this move, but threatened to leave the organization. After the vote was taken and Malaysia was indeed elected, the threat was carried out, making Indonesia the first nation formally to resign from the United Nations. This step was taken in spite of appeals from the Secretary-General, from the President of the General Assembly, speaking for Afro-Asian unity and peace, and from the Soviet Union.

Since this action was taken, there has been considerable speculation as to the reasons behind it and also as to its effect on the future of the world organization.

All recognize the increasing pressure and prestige of Red China. And now that President Sukarno has blatantly told all UN agencies "to go to hell!"—

agencies which were contributing in the neighborhood of \$50 million in aid to the new Federation—together with the fact that Indonesia is in dire economic straits, it is assumed that she will turn to Red China for this assistance.

### Red China's Position

This development is bound to create new tensions in Southeast Asia. A look at the map instantly reveals the potential danger to any American so-called "containment" policy in this area if Red China were to obtain a foothold in Indonesia. For one thing it would outflank South Vietnam and this whole vital peninsula.

However, more important is the possible threat Indonesia's action will have on the United Nations as the present single world organization of nations. There has been considerable complaint by the Afro-Asians over the fact that the 19th General Assembly, to date, has been denied any meaningful action, due to the arrears fight between the United States and the Soviet Union. Further, the Afro-Asian block maintains that the real reason why this conflict has not been resolved is because both the

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## Grains of Sand

### Completely Satisfactory

It isn't often that we get a warm, truly satisfying sensation about a bit of news on the international scene these days, but something happened a few weeks ago so altogether delightful that GRAINS hastens to pass it along to any who may have missed it. You remember Peron? That blankety-blankety-guy who almost got the whole of southern South America into such a mess? He and the Signora? Well, in case you missed it, he tried to come back and start in again a few weeks ago. He took a plane from Spain, where he'd been living, and all of a sudden here he came, stepping off the plane back in Argentina again. And what happened? Peron was met by the Law. He was kept in the airport guardhouse while his plane was refueling, then was led back aboard the same plane that brought him and bid a not-so-fond farewell.

Whoops! We toss our sombrero in air!

### Critical Question

Ran into a flashy colonel strutting down the street the other day and something about the way his silver eagles were shined up brought back that old song. Remember? Would you rather be a colonel with an eagle on your shoulder Or a private with a chicken on your knee?

Was that one of those grand George M. Cohan war songs?

### Drives Coming

The time has come when the Drives are due to start. Soon you can't progress down Broad Street without meeting a lady with a placating smile and a pad, pencil and jar in her hand. She jingles the jar at you and you start to feel for the pocketbook. All this can be a rather uncomfortable business, but it perks up mightily if conflicts in dates occur.

Is there anything more annoying than to parade down Broad Street with your jingling jar trying to raise money for the fund drive of the Umpty-dumps and run smack into somebody with a jar soliciting for the Thumpty-thumps?

This meeting may quench all ardor for the cause, but more often it has the reverse effect; jaws may be set, eyes take on the light of battle, jars rattle a war cry as the two pass haughtily by each other—and then converge in a wild charge on the next unfortunate passer-by.

### Fun and Nonsense

It's a welcome thought, in these days of drooling sentiment and fake religious (so-called) songs, to find that among the mass of folk tunes, legitimate or (mostly) otherwise, the nonsense song is still the most popular. Here's a grand one to cut your teeth on:

As I went down to the mowin' field,  
Hu-rye, tu-rye, fod-a-link-a-dye-do,  
As I went down to the mowin' field,  
Fod!  
As I went down to the mowin' field,  
A big black snake got me by the heel.  
Tu rolly day,  
Well, I fell down upon the ground,  
I shut both eyes and looked all around.  
I set upon a stump to take my rest;  
It looked like a woodchuck on his nest.  
The woodchuck grinned a banjo song,  
And up stepped a skunk with his britches on.  
The woodchuck and skunk got into a fight;  
The fume was so strong it put out the light.  
They danced and they played till the chimney starts to rust;  
It was hard to tell which smelt the worst.

## THE PILOT

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