

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.

The Immortality of Character

The "fall'n tower of strength" in today's cartoon lies in state, as this is written, in London's Westminster Hall—yet, as after the death of all great men, in whatever field of action and thought they had excelled, Sir Winston S. Churchill seems more alive, more immediately significant than he did in those recent twilight years of his grand long life's ebbing.

The illusion of film and sound, of course, reinforces this phenomenon which has always been true but, in times long past, required more imagination and devotion to make it evident.

The airways have been flooded with sights and sounds from Churchill's past, especially the incredible ordeal of Great Britain in World War II, out of which that brooding, dogged, rasping, eloquent voice went round the world to rally the hearts and minds of all who had ever known, understood and valued the meaning of freedom.

To have heard that voice again, to have witnessed on film some of the events that inspired Sir Winston's leadership of those years, to have been taken back to those stirring times in most of our own lives, has been a rare and moving experience,

these past few days.

The long span of Churchill's life, the scenes that its summarized recollection have evoked (back to a London full of horse-drawn vehicles, men in bowlers and women whose skirts swept the sidewalks) have sent us all to musing on the amazing changes of the past century—the better, we would hope, to understand what has made our present world and how we must face it today.

Prior to World War II (this is reinforced by the old films and the retelling of Churchill's career), it appeared that Sir Winston had almost outlived his usefulness—that such talents as gallantry and persistence were outmoded. Then came the Nazi holocaust and we learned that his whole life, as though by miraculous design, had forged the one leader that we needed most desperately.

We pray that the world will not again need such a leader, in such a context, yet now, when rock-ribbed character seems on the decline in public and private life, we must not forget that the qualities of Sir Winston Churchill are those that the world has always needed in time of crisis—and may still need again.

New Chance To Help The Library

The Southern Pines Library, now owned by the Town, was begun and nurtured by a voluntary association and has continued to be in many ways a living memorial to the people who gave time, books and effort to the cultural life of the community.

Examples of this are the newly constructed patio dedicated to Alfred Yeomans and the James Boyd Room which dates from a number of years ago.

Collections of the work of writers who have lived in Southern Pines are carefully kept. Many fine books have been contributed to the Library by individuals who wished to honor some friend with a book he would have approved, and special book plates are provided for these.

Now another opportunity is provided in the new rooms of the library to leave memorials to those whose lives have enriched our own. Chairs are needed to furnish the rooms. These will have a

metal plate honoring the person named by the donor, and several chairs have already been given, as reported elsewhere in today's Pilot.

This new library project is in a category of endeavor that always pleases us: improving public facilities with the contributions of private effort. All citizens of Southern Pines, whose tax funds go to operate the library and to pay off a voter-approved bond issue that has greatly increased the library's accommodations and effectiveness, can take pride in this institution which is indeed "theirs." Yet persons who can and will contribute more than their share of taxes, by making donations such as those now asked for chairs, have a fine opportunity for community service of an especially personal sort.

Anyone interested in participating in the project should consult the librarian.

Trustees Should Govern University

Friends of the University of North Carolina can well feel a touch of ominous foreboding, following Governor Moore's first pronouncements about three controversial questions—the Dixie Classic (which the Governor would like to see resumed), the State College name change (about which he said he would "negotiate" with the University trustees) and the "Speaker Ban" or "Gag" law (which the Governor has said all along that he favors).

The Chapel Hill Weekly has a pertinent comment, with which we agree:

"The fundamental question which Governor Moore raised is not whether the Dixie Classic will be resumed, whether the Gag Law will be amended, or whether State College's name will be changed. The fundamental question is who is going to run the University... whether it (the Board of Trustees) will be permitted truly to govern or be reduced to a meaningless symbol of authority..."

The Weekly introduces a significant comment from Dr. Gordon Blackwell,

president of Florida State University and former chancellor of Woman's College at Greensboro:

"It can be documented that we have no truly distinguished state universities in this country which have not had an independent governing board. I feel that a state university should be free from the fluctuating winds of politics, free from the pressures of the moment. This is aided when you have a truly independent governing board..."

Certainly, Governor Moore should use his powerful position on the side of restraint and guidance when the General Assembly begins to juggle these three hot potatoes, as they are bound to do, both in the Capitol and behind the scenes.

If the trio of issues is to be successfully resolved, the weight of what the University trustees think must be allowed to tip the scales as it will, lest the heavy thumb of the General Assembly exert, as it sometimes has in the past, a contradictory, undue pressure.

Grim Outlook For Young People?

There is a certain grimness in the life of today's young people—an element often overlooked in the prevalence of a popular image of them as non-involved sensation-seekers.

Example: "Summer vacations are becoming a thing of the past for the good average college student," pronounces a college president, going on to say that, by studying for 12 months per year, instead of nine, a good student can earn a master's degree in four years—thus getting (the president didn't say this) a kind of jump on the world, as though all time not spent in study were lost.

There is so much emphasis on money: the same college head, presumably speaking from the fund of wisdom college presidents are said to have, states, almost slyly: "The idea of summer employment for students to help defray college expenses is no longer valid in the great majority of cases. Instead, students can borrow the necessary funds at low interest rates, begin college immediately after high school graduation and finish college in three years. After college graduation, their earning power is so much greater that loans can be paid off in a few years and these students will actually come out ahead financially..."

It all depends what you mean, we reckon, by "coming out ahead."

Suppose there's a chance for a summer trip to Europe? Suppose a student wants a few weeks to write a play, paint some pictures, enlarge a collection of butterflies or just go to the beach and soak up sun and brood on being young? Suppose you get fed to the teeth with college and realize your destiny lies elsewhere? Suppose—forgive us this heresy—you just want to have some fun once in a while? And couldn't it even be that a summer job might in the end contribute more to your "education" than classrooms and books, around the clock, every week, every month, all through the year?

Fortunately, year-around study is not yet standard procedure. Nor do we believe the good sense and ranging interests of young people will ever allow it to be.

COMPLICATED

If the pursuit of peace is both old and new, it is also both complicated and simple. It is complicated, because it has to do with people, and nothing in this universe baffles man as much as himself.

—ADLAI E. STEVENSON

O Fall'n At Length That Tower Of Strength Which Stood Four-Square To All The Winds That Blew . . .

— Tennyson



PREVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

Revisions Needed In Traffic Laws

"Missing Links in Laws for Problem Drivers" is the title of a publication issued by the North Carolina Traffic Safety Council, dealing with legislative requests to be presented to the 1965 General Assembly which will convene next week in Raleigh. Here is a preview, from the new pamphlet, of what those requests are likely to involve:

Nobody wants to share the road with unsafe drivers. North Carolina safety officials have the job of identifying drivers who cause accidents and of taking the steps necessary to improve their driving performance.

The procedure is simple. Problem drivers are pinpointed by their accident and violation records. The process is often called the "law enforcement chain." The first link is detection, the second is conviction of the guilty, the third is rehabilitation or license suspension.

Several links are missing in North Carolina's efforts to detect and rehabilitate dangerous drivers who now share the road with you.

Traffic Courts

North Carolina voters approved in 1962 a constitutional amendment to provide for a uniform court system throughout the state. Implementation of this amendment remains the number one traffic safety priority for safer highways. While a statewide system of courts to deal exclusively with traffic accidents is not practicable at this time,

UNITED NATIONS REPORT

Cyprus: UN Trying To Keep Peace There

BY JAMES BOYD
United Nations Correspondent

This is the second of two articles on successful or potentially successful United Nations peacekeeping operations, pointing up the positive and effective aspects of the UN's role in world affairs. The Israel-Syrian dispute was discussed previously.

Last March the highly explosive and emotional issue of Cyprus was dumped into the lap of the United Nations. The three parties directly concerned, namely the governments of Cyprus, Turkey and Greece, spent many hours in the Security Council bitterly denouncing and blaming each other for the virtual civil war that existed on the island.

Background

The background was the fact that the majority on Cyprus were of Greek origin, with a minority of Turks. There was a constitution protecting this minority which Archbishop Makarios, president of Cyprus, had unilaterally disregarded in the Spring of 1964. This brought on the crisis. The situation was further exacerbated by the Soviet Union's unequivocal support of the government of Cyprus and denunciation of Turkey and its so-called "colonial supporters," meaning the NATO Powers, in-

cluding the United States. There was thus the potential of a direct East-West cold war clash in this small island, strategically located in the southeastern part of the Mediterranean.

Also, a uniform court system would establish systematic ways of dealing with traffic violators and would facilitate special training for judges who hear traffic cases. Specific recommendations will come from the North Carolina Courts Commission and action must come from the General Assembly.

Law Enforcement

The most important element in traffic law enforcement is "coverage." Without enough troopers to cover the state's 72,700 miles of highways, violators cannot be detected.

The size of the Highway Patrol should be based on the rural fatality accident experience and the rural highway mileage. Based on a highway system of over 70,000 miles, the North Carolina Highway Patrol should number 941 men. Related to rural fatality accident experience, its personnel should be 995. Averaging the two factors, the Patrol should number 968. The actual strength of the Patrol is 635 enforcement officers.

The need for 333 additional patrolmen is not an idealistic, "pie in the sky" figure. One third of the states already have a highway patrol force meeting the manpower requirement called for by this formula. North Carolina has the largest rural mileage of any of the states. More men are required to provide adequate minimum coverage.

Dangerous Loopholes

Two loopholes in North Caro-

lina's motor vehicle laws allow drivers who are found guilty of traffic violations to escape the recording of "points" on their violation records.

The effect of "prayer for judgment continued" is that the judge finds the defendant guilty but no judgment is entered. Technically, the case is not closed and therefore no points can be assigned to the individual's driving record.

The plea of "nolo contendere" amounts to an admission of guilt for the proceeding at hand and cannot be admitted into subsequent litigation. Technically, the Department of Motor Vehicles cannot consider such a plea when it has the discretionary authority of assigning points.

Both of the above conditions are defined as final convictions under North Carolina's Financial Responsibility Law, but are not so considered under the Uniform Driver's License Act.

Thus, the purpose of the point system is defeated. The Driver's License Act should be brought into conformity with the Financial Responsibility Law.

Summing Up

When North Carolina obtains a uniform court system, closes the loopholes which tend to defeat the point system, and increases significantly the manpower of the State Highway Patrol, our highways will be safer.

Without these improvements, North Carolina will continue to suffer more than 1,300 deaths and 42,000 injuries and will lose more than 210 million dollars every year in highway accidents.

Grains of Sand

Bow-wow, Comrades!

Fidovitch was a Russian wolfhound. One day he decided he would go over to visit his cousins, English foxhounds, in Britain.

When he got there of course he started to brag about the Soviet Union.

"This little island is all very well for you, Comrades," he said, "but we Russians have bigger ideas. Our country is the leader of the world..." And he went into the usual Pravda line of talk.

The English hounds listened quietly, but when he paused, the oldest hound asked a question: "If Russia is so fine and all that," he said, "why did you come over here?"

"Well," said the Russian hound, "Of course, it is very good to be a Russian, but... well, I wanted a chance to bark."

Why?

Jimmy's old Dad had come in from the country to the big city and Jimmy was showing him the sights. He decided he ought to take in some modern art, along with the rest, and took him to see the Picasso exhibit.

The old fellow went around the gallery, staring at each painting. He stopped before one of a woman's head: elongated nose, one eye blue and the other eye black, mouth slipping off to one side.

"Tell me, son," he said, "Why is it painted that way?"

"Why, Dad," said Jimmy, "That's the way the artist sees it."

"Hum," said Dad and moved on to the next canvas. This was of a torso in shades of green, without arms or legs; a daffodil was perched precariously in a critical location. The farmer gazed, then shook his head. "I don't get it," he said. "This Picasso, why does he paint that way?"

"Dad, I tell you," said Jimmy, "That's the way he sees it."

Dad thought a long time then heaved a sigh. "Seems queer to me," he said. "If that's the way he sees it, why does he try to be a painter?"

"Blow Your Nose, Dear"

Suzie had a real stuffy head cold. She went around all day sniffing and snuffling, and all day her parents were after her: "Suzie, go blow your nose, dear... here's the Kleenex; now blow!" And Suzie blew, and went on sniffing and snuffling.

By evening she was all tired out; life was hard; folks were hard; oh dearie me!

The crisis came at supper when Suzie reached for her milk and spilled it in every direction. Her father growled and her mother squealed. This was too much. Suzie started to cry.

Her father took one look at her, but Suzie spoke first: "Wait, Dad," she said, "please wait. I have to blow my nose. Then I'll stop."

No Muffled Drums

So the Great Man with the roar of a lion, the lion-hearted British Naval Person, is gone.

The world is different for his going as it became different because of his being, because of the splendour of his leadership, of him, himself.

Some years ago probably in those days when Death hovered so close, Churchill was talking about funerals, national funerals, and he said: "I want lots of music at mine."

So that's what he will have on Saturday. There will be ten bands to escort him to St. Paul's. The pipers will be there, from the Highlands, and the small wild pipes of Wales, the British Brass will be there, the shrill fierce fife and drum corps of the Line.

They will play their hearts out and there will be lots of music for him, but it would take all the bands in all the world—and out of it—to do fitting honour for Winston Churchill.

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