

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.

A Matter for Community Pride

Southern Pines can be proud of its generosity in giving blood at Tuesday's visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile to this community.

The 152 donors who each gave a pint of blood exceeded the quota for the visit (though "quotas" don't have too much significance when a blood program is lagging as it has been in Moore County) and the number of pints given far exceeded the number that has been customary at visits here.

Red Cross and other blood program officials have expressed their appreciation to the many volunteers who helped round up the donors and perform other chores, including members of the Junior Woman's Club and the Does. The work of Col. John Dibb, the new chairman of the Mayor's Committee to promote blood

collections here, was apparent in the successful collection which was boosted by a Psychological Warfare "sound truck" from Fort Bragg, obtained through the efforts of Colonel Dibb and manned by military personnel and a local volunteer, Harry Chatfield.

We hope that a large portion of the donors were those persons who had pledged to give, after a friend or relative had received free Red Cross blood at one of the county's two hospitals. There has been a general, county-wide and shocking failure of these persons to make good on their pledges, for the past several years. If the tide has turned and there is wider assumption of responsibility by members of this group, the community has reason to be thankful.

The Town And 'Outside' Zoning

Southern Pines will do well, as proposed at the town council meeting last week, to ask the General Assembly for a special act that would give the town zoning powers outside its city limits—zoning that could be extended further out from the limits than the one mile authorized by the existing state-wide enabling act.

Moore County is now exempt from this act, as it is from the county zoning act, and the ending of these exemptions should be also sought, for benefit of other towns in the county, and of its rural areas, but we think the special powers that would permit Southern Pines to zone out further than one mile should also be obtained. Under discussion is an area that might run out from the town as much as three miles in some directions.

The interest of Pinehurst in such zoning and its willingness to join with Southern Pines in protecting the area between the two towns, as well as all the area around Pinehurst, became apparent when the matter came up in last week's town council meeting here. Such cooperation with Pinehurst would be most advisable, it seems to us.

The county commissioners have recognized the importance of zoning to protect the area of Sandhills Community College and, several months ago, indicated their intention to seek authority to accomplish this and other county zoning goals. The proposal discussed by the town

council last week also would seek power to zone out far enough to include the college area and the airport, and to take in the territory as far as the Fort Bragg reservation line on the east side of town.

While we think the county should seek the zoning power it does not now have, we like the plan for Southern Pines, as a town, to be able to control development of all the area between the town and the college, as there is certain to be extensive development in this area. The new plan whereby the college will run a sewer line through this area, to link up with the town's system and disposal plant, would be another reason why the town would do well to have zoning power in the section between the town and the college.

The understanding of property owners, in the wide area that would be affected around Southern Pines, is essential. Such property owners would have representation in establishing zoning regulations which, everywhere, require public hearings and otherwise provide for democratic procedures.

The fact that the town council well understands the special needs and interests of the Southern Pines area reinforces the plan to put the zoning power in the hands of the town, rather than the county. The same thought would apply, of course, to whatever part Pinehurst might have in the new zoning proposal.

Bad Housing: Whose Responsibility?

A proposal that Southern Pines make application for federally backed low-rent housing has stimulated thought on housing problems here, including speculation on what the town can do to help itself, with or without a federal project.

As stated previously, The Pilot would like to see more private builders become interested in construction of low-cost housing for rent or sale, believing that this field has been too hastily rejected by builders and that it offers more promise of success than might appear.

Various actions and attitudes in other communities are noted. At Fayetteville, the Jaycees according to their news bulletin "are concerned with the large number of long-vacant, deteriorating houses." A realtor gave them a house, "now beyond repair," to tear down for publicity purposes in dramatizing their contention.

At Hamlet, recently, the town board authorized the fire chief to ask the state fire marshal's office to send an inspector to check the "shacks" in a slum area. "It just scares me to death to see those flimsy buildings," said one of the town commissioners.

The Hamlet board discussed condemning the houses and then questioned where the people living in them would go. The only answer reported is a news story about the meeting was the suggestion that "some one interested in a long-term investment could build low-rent housing to help solve this problem."

What the Hamlet board will probably discover, as it has been learned in many other communities, is that the federal government is likely to be the only "some one" to step forward.

Yet, in boring into this problem on their own initiative, the Hamlet commissioners are on the right track, just as the Jaycees at Fayetteville, where there is extensive public housing, are right in wanting to rid the community of hopelessly dilapidated buildings, simply as a matter of pride.

Sub-standard dwellings, in any community, belong to somebody. And the question that arises in the observer's mind—especially after learning that two men recently froze to death in houses in this immediate area—is how far town and county government should go in regulating the condition of structures in which human beings attempt to live.

Our feeling is that regulation should be much more extensive than it is.

Far too much of the sub-standard housing is owned by landlords who perform only a minimum of maintenance—and sometimes not even that. As to persons who own their own homes and make no attempt to keep them livable—to the hazard of their family's health and so, the health of others—we see no reason why they cannot be forced to maintain certain standards, if they can be forced to pay taxes, and otherwise meet their obligations to society.

If low-rent public housing were built in Southern Pines, or elsewhere, it would presumably draw off from these sub-standard dwellings a certain number of residents. And then the Jaycees could tear the houses down.

But our point is this: that eventuality is not the only answer. Town boards and the county commissioners would do well to examine their responsibilities in this matter, whether or not government public housing enters the picture.

Senate Changes Tune

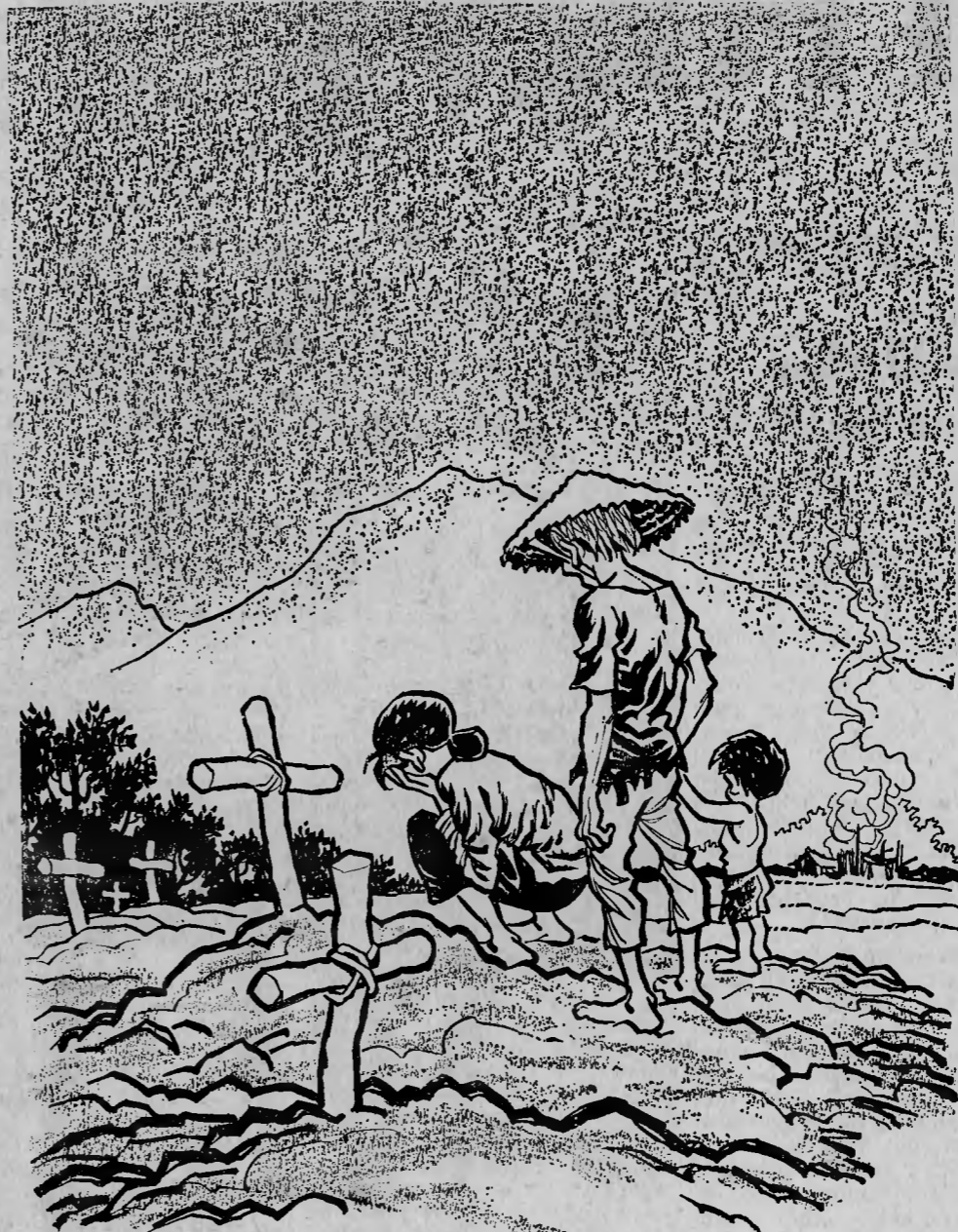
It is most gratifying to the press of North Carolina—and is or should be gratifying to all citizens of the state—that the Senate in Raleigh made one of its first actions, after convening, the amending of a 1963 rule that barred its floor to the press and other news media.

We have a notion that the level head and open mind of Lt. Gov. and Senate President Bob Scott was not unimportant in the Senate's taking this action. This bodes well for the coming session which appears likely to be free of the high-handed, slam-bang leadership of the 1963 Senate President Clarence Stone.

After the 1963 session, it became apparent that there was a relationship of spirit between the public-be-damned attitude reflected in the press ban and in such a legislative debacle as the so-called Speaker Ban Law which was bulldozed through in the final hours of the General Assembly without proper debate and with no opportunity offered for the public (not even for University officials) to make their opinions known.

Admitting the press to the floor of the Senate points the way, we hope, to a more liberal, rational attitude on the part of the Senate, generally, in 1965.

The Common Enemy In Viet-Nam



ZSCHIESCHE

WHAT KIND OF WORLD ARE WE BUILDING?

Natural Resources Must Be Guarded

Interest in conservation of natural resources and the preservation of areas of natural beauty is rising over North Carolina and over the nation. An eloquent expression of this concern is the following article, taken in part from the "Manual of Outdoor Conservation Education," a publication of the National Audubon Society. The author is Dr. J. J. Shomon, director of the Society's Nature Centers Division.

In our swift exploitation of nature's resources, including now the atom, thoughtful Americans might well pause for a moment and ponder the all-important question: What kind of a world of the future are we building? There is some feeling today that those in the scientific, educational and professional resource fields have a very special responsibility here—a responsibility that involves something more than technical competence.

In America we are enjoying the highest living standard of any nation on earth. No country rivals us in creature comforts and conveniences. We have more homes, radios, television sets, cars, highways, supermarkets and gadgets than any other people. As a result of all this affluence, there has been a tendency to believe that we are the best in everything. But times have changed. Now many perceptive people are beginning to question our superiority and supremacy in many fields.

How well have we as a nation, for instance, adjusted our way of life to the living things of the earth that feed and clothe us? To what extent have we safeguarded our fundamental natural resource base, the source of our economic strength and spiritual vigor? A very brief look at the record will tell us.

Neglect of Soil
First of all, the total soil resource picture in this country remains disconcerting, in spite of much soil conservation progress and what seems to be a temporary problem of over-production. Because of neglect we are losing each year to erosion by water and wind many million tons of nutrient-bearing topsoil, and much subsoil. In addition, we are muddying our nation's streams and rivers, and silting our reservoirs, riverbeds, deltas, bays.

On our water front we are making notable progress, yet we face serious water shortages in many areas of the country.

Our water problems are vast, and revolve around those of quantity, quality, distribution and proper water use responsibility. Each day in this country we make use of more than 200 billion gallons of fresh water. This is roughly some 1,200 gallons per person per day. This is equal to about one-eighth of the total yield of our nation's rivers and underground water sources. By the year 2000 our water needs are expected to rise three-fold. Mean-

while, each hour we continue to pour raw sewage and industrial wastes into our nation's watercourses, endangering human health, weakening or killing plant and animal life. So serious is the problem that many of our once most notable rivers are now nothing more than open sewers. The forest supply of the nation, while more adequate than the supply of some of the other natural resources, is far from what it should be. After more than 50 years of scientific forest management, we continue a heavy drain on our better saw-timber. What's more, we burn too many forest acres, each year, continue to mismanage forests, particularly small private woodlands, and lose vast forest acreages to insects and disease.

Dwindling Wildlife
The situation concerning our wildlife resources is not encouraging from several standpoints, except for a number of species such as deer and antelope. During the past two centuries America has lost to extinction 20 species of wild mammals and birds. Another 57 species of wild birds and mammals have been dangerously depleted; so have 15 species of important fishes. Over-exploitation of animal numbers and destruction of food and cover are the main reasons for the dwindling wildlife supply.

As far as our mineral resources are concerned, these, too, are rapidly being depleted, endangering our very survival. According to the President's Materials Policy Commission report, which many regard as a sound mid-century appraisal of resources, our nation's reserves in fossil fuels and in iron and other metals have reached a dangerously low level.

Today it is becoming increasingly clear that as a people we need spiritual vigor as well as physical vitality. We are beginning to see that man cannot live by bread and gadgets alone. His body may yearn for satisfaction of certain biological needs and comforts, but when these are satisfied, momentarily, and the mind is free for the reasoning and creative process, there remains something else. There is still the eternal search for spiritual achievement, peace of soul.

Man needs the esthetic in life to feed his being or he is soon dead. He needs the beauty of lands and waters, to have his heart stirred by wild creatures and wild places. He needs the exhilaration of fresh air in his nostrils, the clear vision of unspoiled wilderness lands before him. Man's need for a sense of balance and order and for things in their proper places in the environment constitutes one of the strongest reasons for conservation.

More Brains, Less Brawn
Within a few short generations we in America have changed our way of life appreciably. Our forebears largely used their hands and muscles to make a living. Today most earn their liveli-

hood with their brains aided by push buttons and computers directed from swivel chairs, only to come home to a night of passive entertainment and physical inactivity. No wonder the American people are consuming, according to a Congressional subcommittee report, some \$280 million worth of tranquilizers each year.

Juvenile delinquency is an increasingly serious problem. The nation's crime rate is up four times that of the rate of population growth.

One of the more difficult problems we face today is the resolution of conflicting uses of natural resources. Can necessary exploitation of resources co-exist with preservation of some natural areas? Must all areas yield to mass commercialism? Just as there are essential values in having steel and paper mills, are there not also essential values in having natural lands or semi-wild areas?

Conflict of Interests
The present fight over billboard advertisement on the interstate highways system is one example of this conflict of interests. Another example is the struggle for open space and wilderness preservation. Another is the current fight to preserve the remaining redwood stands in California. Still another is the intense competition that is developing over the uses of water and water areas.

The conservation problem that we face is largely one of human resources, or social resources, and not so much one of natural resources management. It is a problem of human resolution rather than one of mere economics or manpower. Somehow we must want to do more as a people than we are doing now. The science and technology to raise our nation to a high and sustained natural resources level are available to us. So are the means. Lacking seems to be the motivation. Here is where the emergence of a pervasive ecological conscience within the American people can provide the motivating force that is needed to get the conservation job done.

Nobler Purpose
To talk of an outdoor philosophy may appear to some as useless sentimentality. But the question arises, is sentiment as powerless as it may seem to guide a nation toward a nobler purpose?

Modern conservation, to many, demands something more than money and men. It demands an appreciation for intangibles. It demands a special feeling for the earth, for beauty and order and for all things that share life with us. The late Aldo Leopold had this in mind when he talked about a land ethic. Dr. Albert Schweitzer, in his philosophy, speaks of reverence for life and compassion for all living things. Joseph Wood Krutch also makes the observation that without sentimentality conservation alone is hardly enough.

Grains of Sand

Inside General Assembly
State Senator Voit Gilmore of Southern Pines has seat No. 27 in the Senate Chamber at Raleigh.

Moore County Rep. T. Clyde Auman of West End has seat No. 90 in the House Chamber.

Seats in the Senate are placed in three concentric semi-circles—somewhat longer than semi-circles, really, extending about two thirds of the way toward what would be a full circle, with the Senate President's rostrum facing the open end of the circle. There are 50 senators (49 Democrats and one Republican) and 52 seats, leaving two seats vacant at the left, forward, corner of the chamber.

In the House, on the other hand, seats are placed on the square in a rectangular arrangement—six rows of 10 double desks, a total of 120 seats. They are arranged in three rows on each side of a wide center aisle. There are 120 members of the House (106 Democrats and 14 Republicans), but seat No. 120, in the extreme back right corner of the chamber, is empty. Why? Because Rep. H. P. Taylor, Jr., of Anson County is Speaker of the House and sits up front, facing the others, where Moore County's H. Clifton Blue was stationed two years ago.

Persons visiting the House and Senate can spot the two Moore County legislators, as follows:

Senator Gilmore's seat No. 27, is third from the front in the farthest outside ring of desks, at the extreme right, as you stand in the back of the chamber, looking toward the front, that is, toward Lt. Gov. Robert Scott, the president of the Senate and presiding officer.

Rep. Auman's desk No. 90 directly adjoins the wide center aisle, on the left, in the third row of desks from the back of the chamber.

The 18th District's (Moore, Lee, Harnett, Hoke and Randolph Counties) other senator, Robert Morgan of Lillington in Harnett County, is president pro tem of the Senate and has seat No. 2, which is the second from the front, in the inner circle, on the right, viewed from the back of the chamber.

The foregoing information is not gleaned from an on-the-spot study of the matter, we are forced in all honesty to confess, but from a brochure compiled and issued by the amazing Mr. Thad Eure, Secretary of State, who likes nothing better than to marshal a lot of complicated information into an orderly, useful presentation.

Along with the brochure, Mr. Eure compiled a fact sheet that gives something of the history of the General Assembly (this is the 126th to be convened) the oldest member (75), youngest member (29), duplication of names (two in the Senate are duplicated and 11 in the House) and other information, such as the fact that there are six women in the 1965 General Assembly—five in the House and one in the Senate. This, Mr. Eure notes, is a record.

Gilmore Column
This week marks publication in The Pilot of the second "Raleigh Report" column written for us (and for other newspapers of the 18th District) by Senator Gilmore.

A feature we like about the column is that the senator, in commenting on some of the issues coming up in the 1965 General Assembly, invites readers to submit their opinions on proposed legislation or on other matters pertinent to the 1965 session.

Too often, citizens sit back and complain about "politicians" without lifting a finger to make their opinions known to legislators and thereby help guide the lawmakers' thinking. The Senator is giving everybody a chance to speak up.

THE PILOT

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.