

THE PILOT

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NELSON C. HYDE, Editor
JAMES BOYD STRUTHERS BURT
WALTER LIPPMANN
Contributing Editors
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THE COMING SEASON

Despite the abnormal lack of rain through July, and far into August the shrubbery presents its usual pleasing aspect, and our parkways are bright with vivid greens. Here and there, in noticeable numbers, house owners are taking advantage of the dry spell to paint and decorate their homes in anticipation of the coming Fall season, with its southward hejira, not so far off now.

In just two weeks school opens for the term of 1935-1936, and in one week the town will be host to the Seaboard Golfers and their guests, coming several hundred strong for their ninth annual tournament over the links of the Southern Pines Country Club—an invasion of courteous sportsmen most cordially and heartily welcomed to Southern Pines every Labor Day. And with that day, marking the end of summer vacations, and bringing an early return from the mountains and the shore of cottagers with children of school age, we awake from the short siesta of the past month, ready for a season which numerous inquiries for houses, and apartments promises to be unusually early, and exceptionally favorable. —C. M.

APPRECIATION OF CHARLIE PICQUET

Occasionally a bouquet drifts back to Charlie Picquet in the way of general appreciation. It is worth any slight effort, as he is constantly putting forth a much greater effort to entertain the community at large. He is just as considerate of summer residents as winter guests and untiring in his endeavors.

The new pictures reach us quickly. We have realized that for a long time. Any trip away from home will emphasize that fact. Very often such cities as Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia will flash headlines on billboards that have already become an old story with us. Recently in a little industrial city of about twenty thousands people in an adjoining state their attractions were new to us six months ago. But it isn't always the old timer or the newest production that is always the outstanding feature. A great deal is to be said about the manner in which they are handled. Mr. Picquet is sharply discriminating in regard to harmony, both from the stage and his audience. From the stage it is all that a good machine can produce in skillful hands. From his audience he has in some tactful and diplomatic manner implanted a regard for quiet and order. You hear no undercurrent of restless movement that is disturbing to those who appreciate silence in a theater.

Then Mr. Picquet proved something last week. We aren't anywhere near as bad as we like to think we are. We aren't interested in the sensational and emotional world of crime and g-men and all the other unwholesome irregularities of life, as first thought. A small six year old girl with a smile and a curly head drew a full house through four successive performances. Theatre goers were not tricked into going. They knew beforehand what type of a picture it would be. A youngster without any wiles or cunningly misled motives. A simple little girl.

We can't be so far wrong, when we are still attracted by the same old story, "A little child shall lead them." —H. K. B.

THE TIME TO PLANT

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven;—a time to plant, and a time to pluck that which is planted." A wise old preacher figured that out

Grains of Sand

Signs of Fall—yards being spaded up preparatory for green lawns. With summer rain going at greatly reduced prices. Merchants drifting towards New York. Hints of winter clothes. The return of migrant birds, the first increment of tourist life.

"Haven't seen hardly any snakes this summer," an old timer remarked. Not that it came altogether as a complaint, but merely wondering if the snakes weren't hanging on as well as they might, along with the rest of the struggling world.

"Perhaps reptilian life will pick up a little after the new liquor store gets into action," he concluded the discourse.

The tragic end of Will Rogers is felt universally. He came into the Sandhills through the newspapers, the screen and on several occasions was here in person. While talking to an audience in the Pinehurst theatre one evening, he was interrupted by a late comer. "Now don't all crane your necks to see who that is. Just some one from the country whose collar button rolled under the bed and kept him late." The tardy one was Jim Boyd, and many a smile rippled through the building.

When the Hilton-McKenzie pair left Pinehurst for England they had stowed away in their heads a lot of information about English rulers, they had been imbibing prior to their jaunt, so were prepared to talk about the Norman Conquest with any survivors, should they meet any or of any other affairs through those eleven hundred years. When the S. A. L. official meets them on their return at Norfolk, as was intimated, hope he hands them J. McN. Johnson's "A Thousand Years With Royalty," so there will be no confusion in their minds as to whom the present king of England is. They could get this straightened out between Norfolk and Manley.

for us long before we had need for such advice.

A great many amateur gardeners get discouraged over their results when they turn out in exact opposition to their hopes. We absorb the flower catalogs and information on the seed packets and plant with cheerful expectancy. Usually they are for northern climates where entirely different circumstances enter into the growing and development of many things. Our mild winter is not to be compared with the severe freezing of the north, nor are our warm and usually dry summer conditions to be reckoned with, in the cool moist months that a great many plants need, in order to thrive. Flowers are happy under natural conditions and the bulk of them seem to need cooler localities. We can overcome that by reversing the season of planting, and harkening back to the man of wisdom who established his argument ages ago. "To everything there is a season."

Complaints are heard occasionally that so few flowers are grown in local gardens before our winter residents leave. This could be accomplished and bring just as satisfactory effects as our fall preparation of winter lawns, which has meant acres of green yards scattered over the villages and country homes of the entire resort community. Grass seed will soon be offered for sale in huge quantities and grounds will be turned into activity by plough or shovel. The results will be of our most attractive features. Pansies and English daisies are plentiful in cool climates, and survive for several years. They can be treated as annuals if planted here now in flats or small boxes where they can be carefully taken care of and watered, and transplanted to the garden before frosts. They will establish their root growth before winter and with slight protection make steady progress and be among the first blooming flowers of the early spring months. Many of the seeds marked hardy annuals can be planted here in the fall after our first frosts. A number of them require a long period of germination such as poppies, corn flowers and petunias, but will sprout in the late winter months and have roots that can withstand warm weather, with more fortitude.

We have a great field for a land of flowers and greenswards if planted at the right time with a little care and intelligence. —H. K. B.

The Burden of The Complaint

(By WALTER LIPPMANN)

To many who have tried to hold up the President's hands certain of his recent action have been very disturbing. It should not be counted unfriendly in them to say frankly what it is that so deeply disturbs them.

They have been made to feel that the extraordinary powers entrusted to the President for meeting an emergency are being abused. This feeling, which might otherwise be dismissed as vague and insubstantial, has been crystallized by the story of the tax bill. In presenting his budget last January the President had said that no new taxes were called for this year. In June he sent a message to Congress outlining the general principles of new taxes. But this message contained no specific recommendations for legislation, and it was soon made clear that the Treasury had not prepared a new tax program. Then suddenly, under political pressure, the decision was taken to pass the new laws in six days, and when this coup was frustrated by the public outcry the decision was taken to railroad a bill through the weary Congress, without serious hearings, with no more than perfunctory debate.

Now a tax bill which deals drastically with very large incomes and very large inheritances is an important measure. It will have great consequences over a long period of time. By no stretch of the imagination can it be described as having any direct and immediate relation to the economic crisis of 1932-33. That it has nothing to do with the present financial needs of the government is demonstrable from the fact that it is not related to the budget and that the immediate yield of these

taxes is negligible in relation to the deficit.

By every conceivable test this tax measure is not an emergency measure. Yet it is being driven through Congress as if it were an emergency measure. This is a grave abuse of the extraordinary powers with which the country entrusted the President in order to meet the crisis of 1933. He is using his command of a great majority to prevent the adequate investigation of and a sufficient debate on a major measure of far-reaching importance.

The issue which this raises is much greater than the tax bill itself. It is whether all the other major reforms which Mr. Roosevelt may have in mind are to be announced as suddenly and are to be railroaded as summarily, or whether he is going to be able and willing to return to the orderly procedure of democratic debate. Under the normal procedure reforms are announced, are considered over a long period, and are passed or rejected when the people have had time to understand the question and to decide it. Public opinion has its day in court. During wars and in great emergencies, even in free countries, this slow procedure has to be cut short or even suspended. But it is the very essence of a free government that the Executive shall not legislate for normal times until the people have had an opportunity to hear the argument and give their consent.

I do not mean to imply that I think Mr. Roosevelt has the ambitions of a dictator, or that he is not a loyal defender of free institutions. But I do think that he has let zeal, political calculation, the intoxication of power, heat and fatigue, confuse

his grasp of a very simple but very fundamental political principle. This country will have to undertake many far-reaching reforms. But in undertaking them there is such a thing as due process, not merely in law, but in morals and in democratic methods. The manner in which this tax legislation has been handled violates the very spirit of due process.

It is possible, I think, to put one finger on the reason why Mr. Roosevelt has departed from this principle. The traditional practice of American Presidents is to lay their whole program before Congress at the opening of each session. This enables the country to consider the program as a whole. It puts everyone on notice. It means ample time for investigation and debate. Except in unforeseen emergencies, it means that men can look ahead for at least a year knowing all that is in the mind of the President.

In the 1933 crisis, it was impracticable to announce a complete program at the outset. Mr. Roosevelt had to act, as he himself described it, like a quarterback in a football game. Instead on one comprehensive message at the outset, he therefore sent in a series of terse recommendations without previous notice. This was the sound method for dealing with a crisis. The trouble is that Mr. Roosevelt, having found that it worked well in the crisis, continued to use it when the crisis had passed. It does not work well for ordinary legislation and especially for longtime reforms. It creates precisely that atmosphere of uncertainty and unpredictable excitement, of improvisation and haphazardness, which are fatal to confidence and orderly government.

Months ago, many of us urged him to return to the traditional practice of the President, to outline his whole program in one message and to give up the sudden announcing of great

new projects. It was supposed that he had done that in his radio address last April. But apparently, upset by the Supreme Court action in the NRA case he reverted to his emergency methods, revised his "must" program from day to day without notice, and then, to cap the climax, thrust the whole tax business suddenly on a weary congress and an unprepared people.

This procedure will ruin him if he continues to follow it. The country will become increasingly uneasy as it is taught to believe that something wholly unexpected may be proposed at any moment from the White House. It will be impossible for any but blind partisans to support the President if he refuses them the right to know in advance and as a whole what they are asked to support. The government becomes personal, arbitrary, and capricious when at any moment and without notice major reforms are announced, and without due democratic process are railroaded on to the statute books.

The President is to make some speeches when Congress adjourns. Let him tell the country what to expect. Let him see what remains to be done in the near future. This is no unreasonable demand. It is a demand that the President of the United States take the people of the United States into his confidence. It is their right.

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