

THE PILOT

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EASTER 1947

Once again, as the earth turns, the Easter season comes again--the annual time of renewal of hope after the long hard winter.

Long before Easter became the time of the celebration of Christ's resurrection, it was a pagan period of rejoicing, and of prayer for the fertility of the seeds.

And it is safe to suppose that, far back in the dim eras before the years of which we have knowledge, the spring brought a lift to the heart of prehistoric man.

He learned to make use of this time of goodness, sowing the seeds which under the sun's beneficent warmth grew and ripened into the food which would serve him against another winter.

And he grew in spiritual stature it meant also to him the survival of his tribe, his race, his kind.

Then after uncounted eons came the miracle of Jesus Christ, and the Resurrection which became the single great tenet of the religion of hope--Christianity.

Politics, like adversity, sometimes makes strange bedfellows. Most recent example of this truism is the surprising agreement on the future of Germany of such ill-assorted companions as the U.S.S.R. and former president Herbert Hoover.

Recorded history goes back only a few years, in actual point of time. Learning what has gone before, imagining what went on before that, we know that mankind has passed through many winters threatening his very survival.

It is hard even for the most faithful now to see the green shoots of the promise of peace and a better life for nations on earth.

Icy winds of alien ideologies, sweeping across the wreckage of war's havoc in one country after another, appear to have frozen out the God-promise of redemption on renewal, though with all our faith we are striving to bring about their fruition.

The winter blight has invalidated the old systems, and it seems that what worked before may not work this time.

He uses implements that the experience of years has put under his hand; and where they also fail, he divides new ones. He cannot fight the wind and cold.

Then once again comes the springtime--as he knew it would. This Easter let us pledge again our faith--and put our hand to the plow.

A. C. DAWSON
Congratulations to A. C. Dawson, principal of the Southern Pines High school, on his election to the vice presidency of the NCEA.

Mr. Dawson's election puts this village on the map in a brand new way, with state educators and with those working toward a better way of life for those who teach and guide our schools.

For Mr. Dawson, as personable and likeable as he may be, as efficient a schoolman and capable an administrator as we know him to be, in this election became a symbol along with R. L. Fritz, Jr., the new NCEA president.

Together they stood for a strong forward step toward a good living for teachers--not only for the benefit of the teachers on the current payroll, but as an inducement to capable men and women to enter this vital field.

For too long the teachers waited patiently while other bodies, equipped with lobbyists, political supporters and entrenched adherents, got what they needed from the public till by all expedient means.

Then came the South Piedmont plan, which the aroused teachers accepted as expressive of their needs. With their own leaders in NCEA turning their backs on the plan, they found leaders elsewhere--one of them A. C. Dawson.

Little known outside of Southern Pines, filling his first school job after graduation from college and never before an NCEA officeholder, Dawson had no personal axes to grind.

Having received the overwhelming approval of classroom teachers all over the state, the real job now begins for Dawson and Fritz. NCEA's new leaders must take their fight straight against the enemy--legislative indifference.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

The reasons announced by each for holding these similar views are different. Russia wants German industry rebuilt so she can start collecting reparations.

Without special legislation, which would involve only the Townships of Mineral and McNeils, those pushing the matter of a referendum will risk throwing open the whole county to the ABC stores--something nobody wants.

The only thing everybody seems to agree on is the right of the people to have a referendum, on this and any other vital issue, if they ask for it with sufficient voice.

We're certainly not quarreling with the idea of a referendum. We're all for it. Let's quit pushing our legislators around, showing them into untenable positions as they undertake the impossible task of trying to please everybody.

And so there may develop just what the prophets of doom forecast and certain ghosts will stalk long and loud as the struggle over Germany commences.

CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE

On Saturday the rescue squad of miners, trying to reach their entombed comrades after the explosion in the Centralia coal mine stopped work and refused to proceed because they did not trust the judgment and ability of the men in charge of the rescue.

Miners are more courageous than most people; they are used to taking big risks, often for faint hopes. Even though they knew there was little chance of saving the entrapped men, the knowledge of what they were suffering, the sight of their grief stricken families clustered about the shaft would have acted as a

powerful stimulus to action. The fact that they refused to proceed with the rescue is significant of the deep-seated trouble that exists in the coal business.

This whole tragic story of the disaster in the Centralia mine seems to reinforce the judgment of those who maintain that the cause of the labor troubles in the coal business should be largely attributed to indifference and inefficiency on the part of management.

These are strong words, and in view of Lewis' "agin-the-government" attitude, they must be taken with several grains of salt. But if this mine was operating under conditions which violated government safety ordinances, there can be little doubt that the department is severely to blame.

The point will doubtless be cleared up by the senate investigation to be made, but whatever the facts, uncovered, the deep-seated reason will remain: management indifference.

It is sad that this should exist, but it does. It is a fact that only very recently has management become aware of the need for bettering the lot of its employees.

This negligence which fails to provide safe working conditions is seldom downright deliberate. Rather it is a question of lack of funds, of carelessness and inefficiency, and ordinary muddling. And that is where the officials must come in.

This is the lesson which this disaster teaches. It has been taught before, over and over, in the deaths of brave men and the heartbreaks of their wives and children; in the devastating strikes which have swept the country. How much longer will it be before the lesson is learned?

REFERENDUM

It looks as though we're to have a liquor referendum in Moore county, though under which of two proposed forms of special legislation, or under regular procedure as set up by state law, was not known at this writing.

With neither of the proposed bills finding favor with all concerned, it looks as though the matter might go to state law by default--and not on account of not having enough time before the closing of the General Assembly.

With all the time in the world, there isn't a chance of drawing up any form of legislation which would be perfectly satisfactory to all sides. Too many other issues have become involved, and far too much is at stake.

Without special legislation, which would involve only the Townships of Mineral and McNeils, those pushing the matter of a referendum will risk throwing open the whole county to the ABC stores--something nobody wants.

The only thing everybody seems to agree on is the right of the people to have a referendum, on this and any other vital issue, if they ask for it with sufficient voice.

We're certainly not quarreling with the idea of a referendum. We're all for it. Let's quit pushing our legislators around, showing them into untenable positions as they undertake the impossible task of trying to please everybody.

The main mistake the referendum proponents have made is in tagging the opposing factions "wets" and "drys" and glossing the issue with a phony title of "The People" vs. the "ABC interests"--whatever they are.

They have proceeded arbitrarily to label one side--their side--"good," the other side "bad," so that it would appear that anybody who advocates liquor control is in league with the devil.

As a matter of fact, there are plenty of people on the "wet" side who are personally "dry"; and plenty on the "dry" side who will buy and take a drink, but

who consider it politic and churchly to deny this.

The two factions are in actuality composed of those who believe controlled sale is the best way of handling the problem; and those who would remove these controls without any regard to the well documented history of prohibition in nation, state and country.

With due respect to the sincerity of those leading the so-called "dry" forces, they are attempting to foist upon our county the most grievous, costly and corruption-producing form of legal constraint on present-day records. Prohibition has never worked in the history of man.

There is something about the liquor question which breeds a curious form of fanaticism, blinding the intelligence, abrogating the plain facts, and supported by Biblical quotations lifted from their context without regard to other Scriptural passages just as authoritative which say the opposite thing.

The sale or use of liquor is not a moral question. Its evils arise from the abuse of liquor, and every thinking person is for control, both by law and by personal discipline, in this as in other phases of social existence.

But--wherever there are people who want liquor and who can pay for it, there will be those who will sell it to them.

What is needed is a practical form of handling the matter, and we believe that in Moore county we have found it.

The results are seen in that Moore county is one of the cleanest, most crime-free in the state, with a law enforcement body it can pay for and which can cope with what goes on here, including violations of statutes dealing with liquor's abuse.

Another result is that, through wise provision of the law makers, revenue is provided which helps keep our taxes down and benefits our schools, which sadly need every benefit they can get.

In the event of prohibition here, taxes must not only go up in proportion to the loss of revenue, but also to pay for the enforcement problems which prohibition always produces. And even then, only an attempt can be made at enforcement, for this is a law destined to be broken.

It won't be broken because people have to have a drink, and will go to any lengths to get it. It will be broken because there is big money in the illicit liquor business, and this business is waiting to move right in if a dry vote prevails.

It will make drinkers out of many minors who cannot buy liquor at all at ABC stores. It will sell to known inebriates, which ABC stores do not. It will mean that those who want to buy liquor will not have to go to Southern Pines and Pinehurst, they will be able to get it at a dozen or a hundred places in the county, or it will be delivered to their door. Cheaper, too.

You can't have a referendum about bootleg liquor, nor the crime and corruption which it breeds, once you let them in with a dry vote.

Just take a look at dry counties of North Carolina, with their court dockets drowded with liquor cases, day after day, week after week. And these aren't a circumstance to the ones which are never brought to court.

These are the facts. Yet the ironic truth is that, if and when the referendum is held, many of those who will vote against ABC stores will be those who would also have voted against the school bond issue, and who will holler the loudest if taxes have to be raised to take care not only of present needs, but also of the costly problems of prohibition enforcement and the crimes and delinquencies that bootleg liquor brings.

ARMY DAY

April 7, 1947--America is at peace.

The war years are behind us now, but we have not forgotten. Our was a hard won victory, bought at an awful price.

We can never erase our debt to the men and women who made victory possible. But we can take steps to safeguard the future, by creating the structure for a lasting peace.

Army Day is the day you can turn your attention to those patriotic citizens who have signified their intention of taking an active part in preserving the peace and protecting America by proudly donning one of Uncle Sam's military uniforms.

To make this possible, the Regular Army, the National Guard of the United States, the Organized Reserve Corps, and the ROTC have planned special exercises and exhibits, not only on Army Day, but also through the week.

You can back them up and show them that they have your support. One Moore County deputy sheriff has already said that if control is voted out he will resign, as his job will grow too hard and hazardous.

interest and support by visiting their displays and witnessing the events they have planned for you.

The Public Speaking

Editor of the Pilot, Southern Pines, N. C. Dear Madam:

For some years I have called to the attention of the Chief of Police in Southern Pines that the school buses were using the unprotected crossings over the railroad in town He in turn referred me to the Chairman of the School Board who in turn asked me to speak to the Superintendent of Schools.

The use of these crossings still goes on despite the fact that we have two well protected crossings in town neither of which would cause any great inconvenience or delay if they were used. I believe the extra protection to our school children is worth the trouble.

Yours very truly, CHARLES S. PATCH

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

NOTICE

NORTH CAROLINA MOORE COUNTY

Willarstein Hill Thomas, plaintiff vs. Charlie Thomas, defendant

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Moore County, North Carolina, to secure an absolute divorce; that the defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court of said County in his office in the Court House in the Town of Carthage, North Carolina, within twenty days from the 10 day of April 1947, and answer the plaintiff's complaint in said action or plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Complaint.

Dated this 10 day of March 1947. JOHN WILLCOX Clerk of the Superior Court. M14-A4

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Certificate of Filing of Consent By Stockholders to Dissolution TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME--Greeting:

WHEREAS, it appears to my satisfaction, by duly authenticated record of the proceedings for the voluntary dissolution thereof deposited in my office, that the HIGHLAND PARK HOTEL COMPANY

a corporation of this State, whose principal office is situated at No. ---, in the Town of Southern Pines, County of Moore, State of North Carolina (Garland A. Pierce being the agent therein and in charge thereof, upon whom process may be served), has complied with the requirements of Chapter 55 of the General Statutes, preliminary to the issuing of this Certificate that such consent has been filed:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THAD EURE, Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the said corporation did, on the 21st day of March, 1947, file in my office a duly executed and attested consent in writing to the dissolution of said corporation, executed by at least two-thirds in interest of the stockholders thereof, which said certificate and the record of the proceedings aforesaid are now on file in my said office as provided by law.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and affixed my official seal, at Raleigh, this 21st day of March, A. D., 1947.

(SEAL) THAD EURE Secretary of State M28-A18

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