

THE PILOT

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FIRE PROTECTION

Congratulations to the town board for their decision on extending fire protection in town. This has become a burning question and no pun needed. The board, which has been studying it while all of us have been talking about it, has come to the right answer. Fire protection must be given to all our people as soon as in any way practicable.

The question of practicability was, of course, the thing that held our town officials up. Not a doubt but what they clearly understood the need and wanted to do this long ago. But, in a business or town, or just in life, wanting and being able to do are different things.

To lay new water mains and install the hydrants costs money. The town has only so much to spend and there are one thousand and one things that need to be done, as well as one thousand and one people wanting their things done first. The business of the board is to weigh one against the other and decide which should have priority.

Their decision, this time, has been wise, as well as humane. Our town is one entity. Bad conditions in one part affect every other part, if not always visibly. We may feel that the big houses in the "residential district" have nothing in common with the slums that still exist around the edges of town, but they certainly do. We are all the same town, use the same streets, the same stores. If disease strikes in one place it will spread, like as not, to another, and the wind that fans the fires on one hill is quite capable of carrying the sparks to the other. Our fire department which serves every part of the community, can't serve equally when only certain parts have the necessary water and hydrants.

The new hydrants are a step in the right direction. They will help the people living in those sections through reduced insurance rates, but, most of all, through peace of mind in the knowledge that fires such as the recent ones when two houses were burned for lack of water will no longer be a danger. To those living farther out, this decision of the board will be a sign that their case, too, will eventually receive notice.

We congratulate the town board on this just and wise action.

TRIUMPH OF RENUNCIATION

The prophets of doom have had to retire in at least one instance: Britain has granted freedom to India and nothing terrible is occurring.

Everybody, almost, said it would never be done, and then, that if it was, the worst was sure to happen. As one read of all the things each side swore they would never agree to, it did look as if a peaceful settlement of the Indian question could not possibly be achieved. It is, of course, too soon to say that it has been achieved, but at least it has been begun. Many of the things the two sides said they would never agree to, they have agreed to, and there seem to be no hard feelings.

Indian leaders have agreed that the defense of India shall remain under the British Governor's control, while Britain has promised that Pakistan shall be respected, under its new governor, Mohamed Ali Jinnah. The British army is to be out of India by the end of the year, leaving only a force of officers for the training of the new Indian army. Also, Indian leaders have agreed to guarantee the present status of all European civil servants in India.

Every one has agreed that the two new governors shall be granted unprecedentedly wide powers in order to allow them every chance to get their new governments functioning efficiently as quickly as possible, while all have agreed to abide by arbitration of any disputes arising out of necessary division of public assets.

With the British Parliament

cutting down discussion on this momentous question to a minimum and the Conservative party waiving all opposition, the whole thing takes on a rosy hue that is almost unbelievable.

Something which has started so well surely has a better than even chance of succeeding. It is one of the most hopeful things that has happened in our world for a long time.

Perhaps one reason it seems so is because it is a striking illustration of the Christian principle of renunciation. Britain's great act of voluntary withdrawal has gained her more good will, more actual influence than all the government edicts, suppressions, imprisonments and so forth of these last sad years. Only a few months ago, India was on the verge of civil war, with Britain hated more than ever before. Now that she has voluntarily given India her freedom, we find both Moslems and Hindus drawn toward Britain in friendship and loyalty, with every likelihood of both the new countries entering into Dominion status.

What a relief and joy it is, for once, to find that the prophets of doom were wrong.

THE NEXT STEP

Before Congress adjourns it is to be given a chance to vote on strengthening the U. N., in fact, on transforming it into a limited world government.

Those who favor such action point to the recent Greek-Turkish question, where U. N. had no power to act, to its inability to settle many other vital issues, to the failure of the Paris conference. They say it is not equipped to do what must be done if war is to be averted.

Recent statements of the Committee of Atomic Scientists, that "time is running out" and the atomic armaments race fast approaching, emphasize the issue.

When the United Nations question was in the offing four statesmen formed the B2H2 combination to help put it across. This plan is to be followed again and Congress is beginning to line up its forces.

North Carolinians should take special interest in the debate because our state was the first one to pass a resolution urging amendment of the U. N. Charter to make the U. N. a limited world federal government with powers adequate to prevent war.

Whether this is the right time to bring up this controversial issue is a question in many minds. It isn't as if there were not already a good many controversies on the carpet needing Congressional and world attention.

On the other hand, the fact that our country is considering seriously a question which involves some relinquishment of national sovereignty might well be an indication to doubters abroad that we were to be trusted.

There is real fear that America will withdraw and go isolationist again. Nothing could be firmer evidence of the sincerity of our support of internationalism than an attempt to increase the power of the United Nations.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Very good news indeed is the word that next year may see vocational training being taught in Southern Pines.

Proud as we have been of our school, the lack of home economics for the girls and of shop work for the boys has been keenly felt by most people here. Our youngsters have been handicapped thus since the school was built and grew so quickly way beyond the capacity of the building.

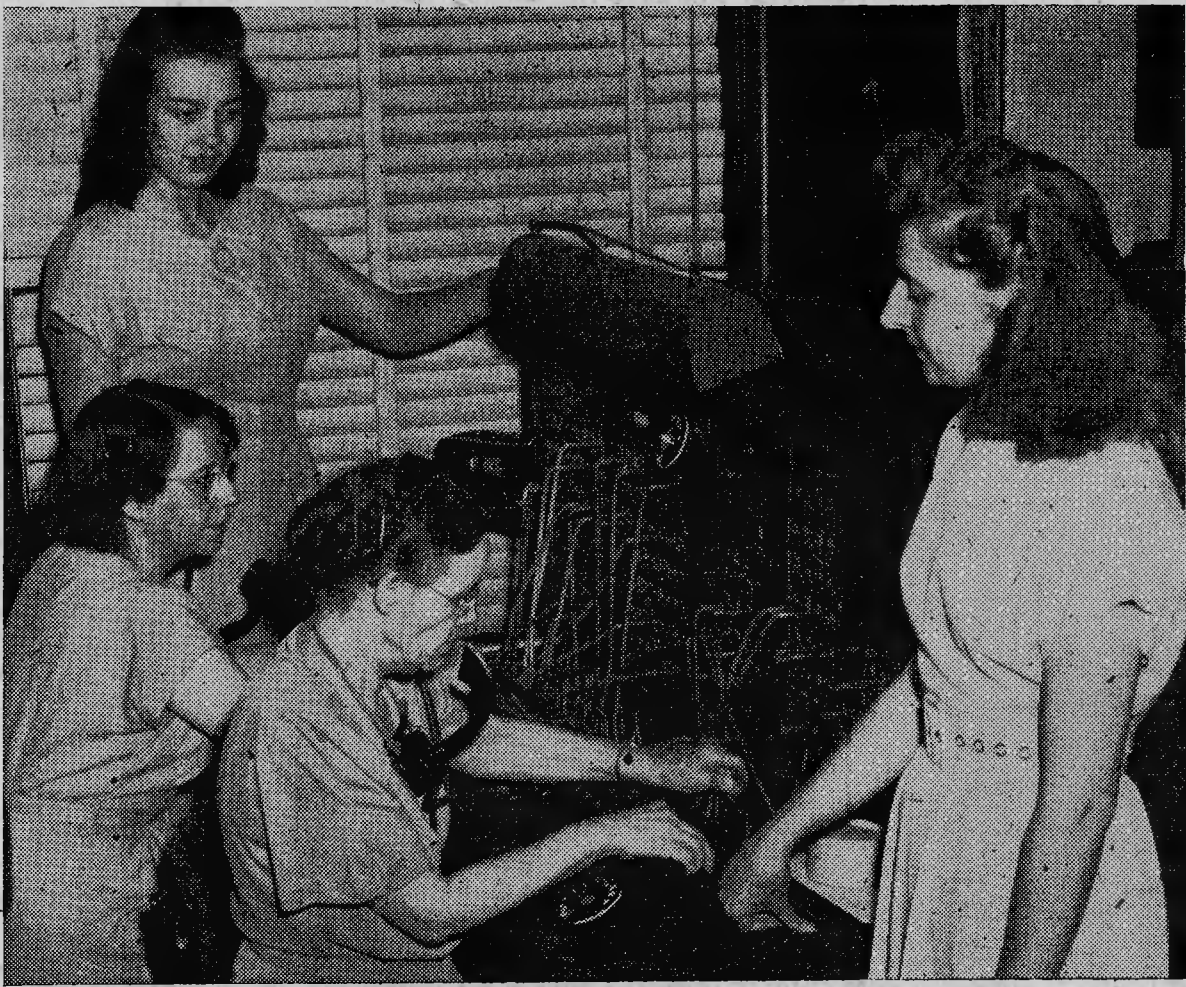
We have seen the schools around us get their buildings and their teachers, and get, also, the cafeteria we need so badly. It has been a puzzle to understand why we were held back. Now, gratefully, we look forward to this coming change which will mean so much to our students, and hope that before too long a time the cafeteria will also take its place in our school set-up.

The hope is, also, that the present auditorium will be rebuilt more adequately to fulfill this function, and that a new gym will be constructed. But that may be still a way ahead. Meantime, we can congratulate ourselves that we are on the road to having a well-equipped school.

And while we are talking of school matters, perhaps it would be in order to offer a quiet word of thanks to that kind Providence who watched over our children and our people and held that auditorium ceiling up until a time when there was no one in the room. Anyone who saw the debris from the fallen ceiling last week must have shuddered to think of the result had it come down when the room was full.

In the midst of the plentiful troubles that are on our minds, these days, that is something to think about with heartfelt gratitude.

Ladies of the Carthage Switchboard



Here you see Miss Clara Whitlock, night operator, and Miss Bess McLeod, chief operator, plugging away at their work at Carthage telephone office, while standing are the two day operators, Miss Clarine Glisson, left, and Miss Mary Ellen Frye, right. (Photo by Robert Caviness)

The Public Speaking

I LIKE THE MOORE COUNTY HOSPITAL

An Open Letter to The Pilot, by Rev. Thompson E. Davis, Th. D. I have long been aware that some sort of battle is being waged among the physicians of Moore County. I do not know anything of the merits of this case; no physician or nurse has ever discussed it with me. I suppose that they would consider it unethical to do so. I am personally acquainted with the staff of the hospital, with several other physicians who use the hospital, and with some of those physicians who are said to oppose the hospital in some way. Without exception, I like them all. This article is not in any sense a criticism of ANYBODY.

This article is written in a spirit of unreserved praise for the Hospital. During my forty-four months that I have been living in Southern Pines, I have come to have a personal knowledge of a number of laymen connected with the Hospital in official capacity, such as Mrs. James Boyd, Mr. W. D. Sabiston, and others. They seem to me to be doing an excellent job for the hospital, and for the community at large.

I have also been acquainted with the "hospital doctors," and a nicer medical group I have never known. In a conversation with Dr. Wilson, Chief of Surgeons of the Toronto General Hospital, this important member of the staff of a world-renowned City-and - University hospital spoke of Drs. Monroe and Hollister in the highest terms I have ever heard one professional man use of other men of his profession. I have never heard any minor or major criticisms of any other in higher terms than Dr. Wilson used regarding these, our own doctors. I have personally witnessed, many times over, the unremitting and unceasing labors of Drs. Monroe and Pishko during the trying days of the recent War, and I know that there were times when these faithful men worked twenty-four hours at a stretch, relieving the sufferings of humanity—our own Moore County humanity. In the contacts which I have had with them, these men and their colleague, Dr. Lide, have made an impression of gentleness on me which has seldom been equalled and never exceeded.

During my forty-four months here, I have visited throughout the hospital on an average of two or three times a week. I think I have known personally more than a hundred nurses—registered, student, black and white. Only one of them ever incurred my displeasure, through the discourtesy which she habitually showed me. Other nurses told me she was an excellent nurse, but she did not stay at Moore County long. Every other nurse I have known there has shown me every courtesy in the exercise of my ministerial work among the patients desiring religious consolation, by cooperating most fully with me. I have nothing but praise for the nurses I have known at our hospital.

Particularly do I admire the esprit de corps maintained by Miss Ellen Bruton, hospital su-

Miss Bess And Her Girls Are Nicest Part Of Carthage Telephone System

By Valerie Nicholson If the people of Carthage get their wish, recently expressed through their town board to the Central Carolina Telephone company, for a new and modern telephone service, they'll kick like anything if there isn't at least one carryover from the old service to the new.

It isn't the old switchboards with their antiquated metal "drops" instead of lights, making it hard for an operator to know when a call is coming through, or when it's ended; it isn't the peculiar connections which bring the sparks of electric storms right into the listener's ear; it isn't the old "twist-tail" telephone, of which there are still too many, though recent installations have been of a newer type.

These are the things they're protesting against, among others. But there's one thing they'd like to keep, and that's Miss Bess McLeod, chief operator, whose sweet friendly voice, obliging ways and quiet efficiency despite handicaps have been familiar to Carthaginians for something like 30 years.

Knows Their Voices During this time Miss Bess has come to know almost every telephone user's voice. She knows when they're apt to be calling, and she knows where they're likely to be at a given time of day. This gives practically every call the character of a "person-to-person" call over long distance, for Miss Bess will get your party for you if he's in town. And so, from a wife, comes—

perintendent of nurses. I have never known anyone capable of inspiring a higher type of the spirit of service among a group of people than Miss Bruton has inspired and maintained among the nursing staff of Moore County Hospital. I have often wondered what her system of selection must be, that she uniformly has such a high type of personnel serving there. The colored ward which is her special creation and constant care, does honor to our entire community.

I have also known the office force there, the laboratory staff, even the colored maids and orderlies—all to my permanent pleasure. Never have I dealt with a more pleasant, considerate, helpful group, permeated throughout with the spirit of efficient service.

How many hundreds of patients I have seen and talked with, I have no way of knowing. Less than a dozen have ever criticized the Hospital in any way to me. Most of these few complaints seemed to be merely the querulous discomfort of sick people, unfamiliar with hospital routine, longing to be back home among familiar surroundings. But many, many of the sick people I have seen there have praised our Hospital in glowing terms.

I have visited in other hospitals, some smaller, some larger. But of them all, Moore County Hospital is my favorite. If I were in need of the type of hospitalization which this institution supplies, I would rather go there than to any other place that I know of— I LIKE THE MOORE COUNTY HOSPITAL.

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In Carthage It's The New... Remodeled Puritan Cafe Our New Clean Kitchen Is In Full View For Your Inspection Treat Yourself To Our Meals Open Sundays For Dinner PURITAN CAFE CARTHAGE, N. C.

THE JEFFERSON INN West New Hampshire Avenue OPEN ALL SUMMER Thirty two rooms, all with running water. Twenty with bath. W. W. SHERMAN, Owner J. B. GIFFORD, Manager (Continued from Page 2)