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SCHOOL PROGRAM

With every hope and expectation that the Aberdeen school bond issue will pass, whether it does or not we believe that the next step in Moore county's school building program should be the securing of expert advice on long-range planning.

Since opposition to the raising of taxes is strong and unified and it seems no more money will be forthcoming for the schools than has been in the past, the county's best efforts should go toward seeing that this money is well and wisely spent.

This should be done with the good of the county as a whole in mind, without pressures from any district nor any priorities other than those indicated in the long-range plan.

In the past 10 years more than \$1,000,000 has been spent on school buildings and improvements in Moore county, yet at present we are in such an educational jam that it is hard to see how we can ever work ourselves out. New schools have been built where they were not needed, other schools have been allowed to deteriorate far beyond the line of safety; some are half empty, others overcrowded.

One school board member said not long ago, "If we could apporportion the children to the schools without regard to district lines, we would have plenty of room for every schoolchild in the county."

This haphazard procedure has resulted in much waste, and we believe this is the basis of much of the opposition which has developed to the currently proposed bond issue: a lack of confidence that the money will be well spent, for the greatest good to the greatest number, or that proper maintenance will follow the building of the new schools.

However, it is conceded by most thinking people that something must be done, and done fast, about Aberdeen. Let's go to the polls Tuesday and rid our county of that problem—give Aberdeen her schools; then let us lend our full weight to the setting up of a program for all districts, transcending district lines if necessary to serve the children and teachers where they need most to be served. Let us bring Moore up to par, and beyond.

Then let us beg our commissioners to do what seems not to have been done in the past: to budget annually the amount of money asked by the board of education for adequate upkeep of all school buildings.

"RED" HERRING?

The coincidence of the congressional investigation of communists in high government places, with the scandal of the Russian schoolteacher who sought freedom from the Red consulate by a desperate leap through a third-floor window, is a striking one.

Even as it is revealed how communism is inching its evil way into our national fabric, an example of communist terror methods is presented to us in all its brazenness.

Truman's cry of "Red herring!" and accusation of political maneuvering in connection with the congressional investigation cannot apply to a woman's broken body lying on the pavement in the consulate back yard, nor her desperate plea for protection against the jailers who would wrest her even from a hospital bed.

We cannot believe that political maneuvering is involved in this. As clumsy and selfish as our politicians occasionally show themselves to be, this is far too serious a matter for them to fool around with and we think they know it.

It is grimmer than any plot-master of real life or make-believe could have thought up, and all of us must now recognize the deadly threat and be deceived no more.

BUDGET FOR PARKS

While congratulating the town board on making no increase in our tax rate this year, we are sorry to see that in the allotment for parks, the need of doing something about Millen park has not been considered.

It has, at least, not been considered to the extent of apportioning money for it.

While appreciating the many demands on the town board, and the needs represented in the estimated budget as it was presented last week, we feel that if ever the will of the people was made known on any issue, it was in connection with the condition of Millen park.

The last we heard (almost three months ago now) Engineer Van Camp was making a survey of the park to see what could be done about it; yet no results have been announced by the board. We feel this should be made public, and if the cost of a thorough restoration is too high, some alternatives should be considered. A simple clean-up job would help a lot, and civic organizations are standing by to do some work on their own if the way is thus opened up to them, and a workable plan made.

If for other reasons the restoration should be considered impractical, we think it would be good to know them. Without any further information, we question the right of the town to allow property of the citizens to deteriorate to an unuseable condition, or to allow it to revert to the former owner, as it must if it is not kept up.

It isn't as if giving it back would remove the problem of an unsightly, unsanitary wasteland in the heart of the town. It will stay right there, destroying property values in its neighborhood, harmful to the health and peace of mind of those who live nearby.

NEW DRAFT BOARDS

The suggestion by the American Legion that World War 2 veterans be represented on the draft boards at present being appointed meets with our full approval.

From conversation with those entrusted with the job of making recommendations in this county, we find that that idea is also held here and will probably be followed. However, it seems that in many places the old draft boards are being recommended for summoning back to service intact.

The former draft boards in most places did their work splendidly and we could wish for no better luck than to have them, back in action at the same old stand. Their experience through the war years would make them twice as valuable, even, as before, and there is a certain element of chance in venturing on the new and untried while the old and tried is at hand.

However, they had a terrific job, which spun out over the years with no lessening of its difficulties and demands, and it hardly seems fair to ask them to undertake it all over again while other capable men are available.

With all honor, the former boards should be considered retired from active service, except for advising concerning procedures and situations where the knowledge of precedent can save time and trouble.

There is justice in bringing to the fore, in the position of draft board members, the men who served in the last war and know the difficulties and problems from that end.

It will be hard to find good men who are World War 2 veterans who will not themselves be subject to call by an organized reserve, or who will not wish to return to active duty if the situation becomes tense. But there are some; and we feel they will be glad to serve in this important home front job—and also that the job, in a measure, belongs to them.

In Bygone Days

From the Pilot files:

TEN YEARS AGO

McLean Furniture company moves from Arcade building to the Burgess building, next to the Modern Market.

Supt. Frank W. Webster announces opening date for local schools, September 7.

John A. Lang of Carthage named state head of NYA.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Lively argument on prohibition goes on in Pilot columns between R. E. Wicker (against) and L. B. McBrayer (pro).

Dr. Mudgett buys 97th lot sold in 10 months at Knollwood, with prospect that first year of development will see well over 100 lots sold.

Vass water plant nears completion.

Halifax Declares Europe's Need Of Spiritual As Well As Material Aid

(From The London Times)
By the Earl of Halifax

There are welcome signs that Christians begin to realize the meaning of the present crisis. Today's meeting in the Albert Hall, at which Christians will be called to action in support of the union of western Europe and of its direction along Christian lines, is intended to inaugurate a campaign that may make Christian action effective in national and international affairs, by spreading the conviction that only by such means can national and international life be rescued from insecurity and disorder.

The present crisis is fundamentally spiritual. This is not to deny that economic and political problems must be tackled with practical knowledge of course and care; nor is it suggested that a recognition of the true nature of the crisis will allow us to avoid facing the material necessities of the situation. Pie in the sky will not feed the hungry, nor will the robes of heaven give warmth to the naked. But man does not live by bread alone. Progressive democracy will not be able, against the force of dialectical materialism, to sustain an ordered and free civilization on the basis of materialist opportunism or the threat of violence. Behind and within it there is required a vital force of spiritual and moral impulse.

A Fight of Faiths

The dangers of totalitarian and other materialist forms of government do not consist so much in their effect upon particular issues, whether social or political, as in their common threat to liberal and Christian values, without which democracy as we have known it could not survive. The battle must be fought on the level of ideas. And it is not so much a fight between two political philosophies as between two religious faiths. The one, in whose defense Christians must act, proclaims that man, made in the image of God, and endowed with the power and privilege of a free personality, is a child of two environments, the material and the spiritual; the brotherhood of man flowing from and bound up with the Fatherhood of God. To the other, man is a mechanical instrument of society, which decides for him his part in the inevitable movement of history toward its material end.

The conflict in which we find ourselves is, then, at heart a strife between opposing faiths about the nature of man. Marxism, the most logical expression of materialist thought, is as much as Christianity a religion; it has its church, its priesthood, its creed, and its eschatology. Its adherents preach and practice their faith with an intensity that will well cause shame to many Christians. And such a faith will be countered, not by sentimentality nor by competitive alternatives in the material field, but only by a dynamic expression of the Christian faith. But for one reason or another the churches have largely failed to make their message audible to the great masses of men and women. And today, thousands of Christians still persist in saying that the church should have nothing to do with politics or economics. Christians indeed must bear a heavy individual and collective responsibility for the present world picture by reason of their past and present failures to translate principles into action.

Christians Called On

What, then, is demanded of Christians now? Surely that they should openly and valiantly proclaim by word and deed the significance for men of the Cross of Christ and His Resurrection; and boldly reaffirm their faith in the reality of God's providence in human history. They must show publicly that God's justice and His love can assuredly be made the spring of new strength and health to wasted bodies and despairing souls; they must do everything in their power by Christian action to influence in accordance with Christian standards all decisions of national or international importance.

At this moment, the brightest ray of hope in men's hearts is kindled by the attempts now being made to form a union of the western European nations. Here, then, is the point at which immediate action can be taken. For if the "Western Union" were mainly an expedient, desired either for economic or political ends, it would fail; if it were to be used as a military threat, it might well lead the world to irreparable disaster. But, if it is to be a step toward world peace, it must demand, and receive, from those who participate in it a real measure of self-sacrifice. To some extent, at least, the nations concerned will have to make surrender of the old conception

of national sovereignty. And the Christian gospel, with its call for individual and corporate self-sacrifice in the cause of human happiness, can give to this union just that spirit of selflessness which may make it a solid bastion for peace and a spiritual weapon of the finest quality against the evils which now beset us.

Crisis At Hand

It is in truth only the power of Christianity that can bring salvation to mankind and arrest the forces that from extreme Left or Right are concerned to raise new and false temples upon the ruins of man's former freedoms. And only if all professing Christians undertake to the limit of their power to join in a campaign for positive Christian action can Christianity play its rightful part in this struggle, which will be decisive for the future peace and happiness of the world.

—The Sunday Times (London)

Grains of Sand

Young Daniel D. Cameron, Jr., one of our war slain boys of illustrious memory, whose funeral service was held Sunday afternoon at the Brownson Memorial Presbyterian church, was born on Armistice Day. . . The year was 1924, just six years after the armistice of the "war to end wars". . . His death on Luzon occurred on April 12, 1945. . . The day President Roosevelt died.

To what slim comfort parents may gain from their slain sons' being brought home, our community adds one of which we may all be proud. . . One of the most beautiful resting places in the country. . . There is comfort for all of us in traversing the peaceful green aisles of our beautiful cemetery. . . And in hearing its symbolic name. . . Mount Hope.

Our friend Bill Sharpe writes that a Sandhills advertising campaign is now in preparation. . . To break in the magazines and newspapers in September and October. . . The State News Bureau, of which he is director, will place ads in the metropolitan edition of the New Yorker (Didn't know there was a "metropolitan edition"?). Are we missing something? and also in selected newspapers in Washington, Philadelphia, New York City, Boston, Pittsburgh, Richmond, Chicago, Cleveland and perhaps one or two others.

Still on the upcoming list is the Harold H. Martin article on Vernon Cardy, scheduled for fall publication in the Saturday Evening Post. . . With illustrations by that ace photographer Bill Shroot. . . The two were here, if you remember, at the time of the hunter trials. . . Both were fascinated by what they saw. . . And Shroot, who has taken pictures for, first, Life, then the Saturday Evening Post for a good many years, said that never before had he made so many on any story. . . We'll see a selected few in the Post. . . Surely wish we could see them all!

And in the Post's series on "Cities of America". . . In the article on Savannah, Ga., week before last. . . There was a gorgeous half-page color picture of interest to people here. . . It showed Tall Pines, the beautiful columned home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Jones. . . Mrs. Jones is the niece of Lila (Mrs. Virgil P.) Clark of Southern Pines. . . And the charming little blackhaired southern belle holding court in the foreground of the picture is her 15-year-old greatniece Henrietta.

Happy birthday last Sunday, Joe Montesanti, and also Winifred Nicholson, who was 16 on that day. . . and today we are happy to wish a joyful birthday to Ruth Reese. . . With our hopes for the nicest birthday present in the world. . . One she's been expecting for some time! Three birthdays are coming up all at once next Tuesday. . . Dot (Mrs. A. B.) Patterson. . . Bobby Cline, who'll be 10. . . and David Prim, who will be eight years old. Congratulations, to all.

We've half a notion to plant a fig tree.

John Gilchrist of West Southern Pines, who has been calling at The Pilot office offering figs for sale, discloses that from one tree some 13 feet high he has this season picked 300 quarts of figs; 60 quarts on the peak day.

Three hundred quarts of figs at

25 cents a quart means \$75 from one tree.

Our tree would bear in the "slow" part of the summer season. It would provide additional advertising for The Pilot (when Clyde's brow is the deepest furrowed), for we aren't as good at house-to-house selling as John is.

Yes, we're convinced that we should plant a fig tree!

Mrs. J. Bruce Cameron of Manly was watering her flowers. Four-year-old Ann Richardson, who was observing, inquired, out of a clear sky: "Grandmother, why don't you talk to God and get Him to water them for you?"

Just to settle an argument, we got straight this week on the facts concerning the legality of a fire department's answering calls outside of town. . . In so doing, as often happens, we proved ourselves wrong and hereby admit it. . . They passed some new laws when we weren't looking.

According to Popular Government, publication of the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill, North Carolina law provides that municipalities may agree to furnish fire protection for property within an area not more than 12 miles from the city limits, upon whatever terms seem feasible. . . The fire department employees have the same rights with respect to workmen's compensation, disability funds etc., as if such duties were performed within the corporate limits. . . However, this may need some interpreting. . . Sounds as if the protection is to be furnished through prearranged agreement, for specific property.

Here's what some other towns are doing: Beginning July 1, Warrenton's fire truck quit going beyond the reach of the farthest hydrant. . . The Laurinburg fire department computed the cost of 12 calls outside the town limits during 1947, and found the city was out \$158. . . In March, the High Point city council amended an existing ordinance to permit the use of city fire-fighting equipment at schools, churches, hospitals, and state and federal properties beyond the city limits. . . Asheboro council members agreed to give fire protection to a new excelsior plant just outside the city, the plant owner to pay an annual fee. . . The neighboring towns of Kenly and Beulah have organized a joint fire department (volunteer) to provide rural fire protection within a five-to-seven mile radius.

The Public Speaking

To The Pilot.

We are getting to be metropolitan. Business houses are going up, residences booming and more in the offing with the completion of the big manufacturing plant in Aberdeen which of course means spilling over into Southern Pines and contiguous localities.

Many demands have been made upon the Postmaster to institute home delivery of mail. As a newcomer here some seven years ago I had to wait in line to get my mail because there were no boxes available. When I finally got one it was so small that I had to wait in line again to get the red card service on the "too big for the box" or words to that effect.

I do not know that residence delivery of mail would advantage me as perhaps postmen can't walk this far, but at least it would relieve some of the congestion about the "Big Window" where most of the business seems to be done regardless of lettered windows offering other service than General Delivery, but often without servitors. So I am suggesting that the necessary petitions or whatever it takes to influence post office procedure to initiate delivery of mail by perambulating postmen, be instituted and circulated.

Of course this may disrupt somewhat the post office social gatherings where local scandal or the news not yet published by the Pilot is exchanged by the assembled citizens who congregate at this rendezvous of domestic helpmeets and businessmen and idle, but nonetheless interested patrons of Uncle Sam's relay of mail. Others who scan the offerings of political, financial and other human-interest advertisements can still enjoy the cool summer interior and the warmth of the radiators during the chill of winter.

But why not give the "city dwellers" a chance to feel metropolitan and add a few whistle blowers to the local payroll? We have paved streets and some sidewalks, and the town put numbers on our houses. But what doth it profit us if we have no postal delivery?

O. A. DICKINSON



note the back-yoke detail

Big moment

... the coat magnificent

... in beautiful all

wool suede by American

Woolen Company. You'll

thrill to the smart shirtwaist cuffs ... the elegant

back-yoke and flare ... the intriguing

buttons. In luscious Fall colors; junior sizes;

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