

THE PILOT

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"In taking over The Pilot no changes are contemplated. We will try to keep it as good a paper as Nelson Hyde has made it. We will try to make a little money for all concerned. Where 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.

Too Many Evanses

The case of Lt. Evans, recently discharged from the Navy for his wild utterances, should not be lightly dismissed. Lt. Evans, himself, is probably not important. He appears to be glib, hot-headed and dim-witted: such a one could not be too effective, for good or bad. But the trouble is: there are a good many people who share at least one of these qualities with the lieutenant, and they are qualities easily played upon by unscrupulous forces.

Lt. Evans was in close touch with such forces. His open letter was addressed to Alfred Kohlberg, a leading importer of Chinese textiles who is, according to reliable reports, deeply involved in Chinese intrigue. So here is a young naval officer writing, to such a character, a letter that shows he has been following closely the highly questionable line put out by the big operator and, furthermore, he says: "all the officers on the ship feel the same way I do." If that statement is only one tenth true, that's bad news.

We were reminded of the Evans case when we received in the mail last week a copy of the publication: "Common Sense." This pamphlet is an insanely flamboyant sheet, devoted to the spread of antisemitism, racism and slander against the United Nations, the Marshall Plan, and the United States government. Its editor is a former Nazi sympathizer, his main supporter heads the "Nationalist Action League," which figures on the Attorney General's list of subversive organizations. This is "Common Sense"; yet our copy was addressed to us in a handwriting that we recognized as that of a respected citizen of this town, the last person in the world one would expect to be taken in by or have any sympathy for such treacherous filth.

It looks as if some of us were in need of a dose of the old, shrewd, cool, American "you-got-to-show-me" medicine. There are too many Lt. Evanses, too many glib Americans, eager, for some mad reason, to believe the worst of their country, falling into the trap set for them by disloyal forces. These people are unwittingly playing the Communist game in thus spreading falsehood and suspicion. That is not only stupid, it is deadly dangerous.

Issues of the Editorial Page

At a recent conference of editors in Chapel Hill, Robert H. Estabrook, of the editorial staff of the Washington (D. C.) Post, addressed the group on the responsibility of the editor to his readers. The following is the first of two installments of excerpts from the Estabrook speech, dealing with one of the great issues of today, which the Pilot will print.

TO MEET THE CHALLENGE SUCCESSFULLY

When General MacArthur testified before Congress he said, in effect, that the enemy is Communism. I should like to have seen more editorial pages take him up on that one, for it seems to me a very dangerous generalization to make.

In my view, at least, the main enemy is not communism as an abstract idea, but the very concrete threat of Russian imperialism. However much we may abhor the deceptions of communism, it is not communism as a philosophy or religion that threatens us most directly. Communism is an enemy but not the enemy; and communism as an idea cannot be defeated by military means.

The thought that it is communism and Communists as such that we are fighting leads us into a lot of blind alleys. Take, for example, the case of Marshall Tito. Tito is a self-proclaimed Communist; indeed, he professes to be a purer Communist than those in Moscow. But Tito is not threatening us; he is fighting for the right of his nation to be independent of the Kremlin's dictation. And that, I suggest, gives a pretty good idea of what the struggle is about.

One blind alley that the war against communism leads us into is the notion that every national revolutionary movement is somehow Communist-inspired. One of the great historical facts of this century is that a large segment of the world is in revolt... against alien rule, economic despoliation, racial oppression. We, who have the only really revolutionary political and economic system in the world, have somehow let the Commies steal our thunder, semantically at least. By sheer default they have captured, in many areas, the hopes of men for a better life.

Now if we are going to meet this challenge successfully, we are going to have to overcome some false notions. One is that revolutionary movements are all Communist. Another is that other people are cast in our own image, that we can transplant our ideas of democracy and free

enterprise and expect to see them grow in our own replica.

It is only natural that people in other countries with a history and traditions totally alien to ours, are going to think for themselves and seek to develop in their own way. Our objective ought to be to help them, for we have a vital interest not only in encouraging every kind of deviation from Moscow, but, more fundamentally, in encouraging the strong indigenous national movements which are an antidote to communism.

At the same time we should not be surprised that people over a good part of the world are profoundly suspicious of us and our motives. They are touchy on the subject of colonialism, and the free enterprise they know is not ours; it is the discredited free enterprise of cartels and monopolies. If we seek to impose a politico-economic system according to our own notions, it is bound to fail. In many countries our best allies, and the most stable, are the leaders of the non-communist left. Let us not let cries of "socialism" blind us to this fact.

The fact that the Communist party is a well-disciplined conspiracy and uses conspiratorial means is all the more reason for us to help the people who are taking positive steps to counter the menace through land reform, social legislation and the like. The emergence of a responsible, middle-of-the-road government in Indonesia, with American encouragement, is one of the most hopeful signs observed in this direction.

Now, to promote this sort of approach takes a good bit more than merely to be against Communism. That is why I should like to see editorial pages define the issue a little more clearly than General MacArthur did.

Leroy Lee

It is important to note that, in ruling for the Town last week in the civil action of Leroy Lee vs. Southern Pines town board, Superior Court Judge J. H. Clement based his decision on one outstanding point of law: the town board cannot grant the permit Mr. Lee desires because it simply has not the authority or power to do so.

What is more, said the judge, no one—town board or building inspector—has ever had the authority to grant permits for building on the alleys of Southern Pines, even though this has been done time and again.

Alleys once designated for public use in a town, once any lots have been sold in that town, have the same standing as the public streets, insofar as being kept clear for continued use is concerned. No act of any official or governing body, no buying and selling or granting of permits, can change that unalterable fact, according to the law as Judge Clement saw it.

Pending the decision of the State Supreme Court, it is impossible to tell where that leaves us in respect to buildings already built, and alleys already obstructed and all but vanished in the town's development. Mr. Lee may be only one of many innocent victims of mistakes of the past.

But it will do no good to start placing the blame here and there, "cussing out" town fathers long dead and gone or those of more recent memory. All this is water over the dam, part of the growing pains of a town not long since a village, some day perhaps to be a city. Attorney Hoke Pollock, presenting the board's case to the judge, spoke a parable in saying: "It is not to the past and its errors we must look today, but to the future of our growing town."

They'll Have A Better Chance

North Carolinians may congratulate themselves that the long-awaited reorganization of the state prison system is at last being undertaken. Plans have been drawn up for the separation of long-term from short-term prisoners and for the establishment of minimum and maximum security camps. With the appointment by Governor Scott of an able young man, Allen Nelms, to oversee this program, under the guidance of State Prison Director John M. Gold, there is every expectation that this needed reform measure will be carried through.

This welcome news will probably not come as a surprise to those local citizens who heard Director Gold when he addressed the Kiwanis Club early in the winter. Mr. Gold classified this step as one of his first goals and he looked and sounded like a man who would get things done. But it may well be a sort of reverse surprise to many others. For the realization that such a system was not already in effect is quite a shock.

The fact is: our state's position as regards penal reforms has long been regrettable. The system is still administered in the same department as the highway and public works bureaus, and North Carolina has long been one of the few states where misdemeanants and felons are both handled by the state system, without separation. The first offender, in for a minor infraction of the law, has been, until now, placed in close contact with hardened and vicious criminals. Under such a system hope of reform and rehabilitation was largely futile.

The state survey made by Dr. Austin McCormick, noted New York penologist, last year placed classification of prisoners as a need of paramount importance. Speaking of the wide variety of background found among the prisoners, the McCormick report said: "There are large numbers of young and trainable prisoners in the North Carolina system, and it is in the state's best interests to prepare them for law-abiding, self-supporting lives."

It looks as if Director John Gold would be able to put his check-mark of accomplishment beside that first goal on his list of prison problems. For many young men and women, this change in the state system will mean new hope that the first stumble will not be followed by another.

"The Most Important Memorial Day"

Address made by Brig. Gen. Roger M. Wicks at Memorial Day Service, Mt. Hope cemetery, Southern Pines, May 30, 1951.

Never before, in my lifetime, has there been a Memorial Day as solemn in its significance as this one. We are here to honor the men of Moore county who died defending our way of life. We are here to show our gratitude to them for their sacrifice in our behalf. But we must do more than that. We must keep faith with them by meeting the present world crisis as they would have met it, and by preserving the nation for which they fought.

I believe we fail to evaluate properly the events of the moment. We are too complaisant. Yet there is evidence that the United States even now is in the supreme test of its ability to endure as it was originally conceived.

There is a grave and growing danger which confronts our own country and freedom everywhere.

The aggression in Korea is part of the attempt of the Russian Communist dictatorship to take over the world step by step.

The threat of world conquest by Soviet Russia endangers our liberty and endangers the kind of world in which the free spirit of men can survive. We have of course faced the threat of communism for years. But for years it was the threat of communism content to proceed as far as possible by subversive means.

This threat however has been intensified by recent events into something incalculably more deadly and more immediate.

One of these events was an atomic explosion on Soviet soil. The other happened last June in Korea. There communism ripped off its mask. It was revealed as something more deadly than merely a rival ideology. By its unprovoked attack on Republic of Korea, communism stood revealed as a heartless, power-thirsty aggressor supported in its lust for world domination by a ruthless and mighty military machine.

In view of this attack and the subsequent reactions of Russia there remains no room for doubt that communism has what President Truman termed "the hostile intent" of taking over the world, by bloodshed if necessary, whenever the time is considered ripe.

The Joint Senate committee on foreign relations and military af-

fairs recently issued a statement on the implementation of the Atlantic Treaty. It estimated the total strength of the Armed Forces of the treaty nations, including the United States, at less than 4,500,000.

The total mobilization capability of the Soviet Union and its satellite nations, exclusive of China, was estimated at approximately 5,000,000. China is reputed to have more than 5,000,000 men under arms right now.

Accepting these estimates, it must be recognized that the Soviet Union and its satellites at the moment have under mobilization more than twice the military manpower of the North Atlantic Treaty nations.

From the days of Genghis Khan down to the present, aggressors have ignored pleas to their humanity, for they have none.

Nor do they have regard for world opinion except to twist it by propaganda to help achieve their ends.

The aggressor is swayed by one form of logic only. That is force. It must be force which is ready to be applied against him. To be truly persuasive it must be force he knows will be applied against him and applied disastrously.

There is a creed which has always formed the basis of Armed Forces discipline and unity of purpose. It is this: That it is the duty of every man or woman to think independently and to advise a superior on any problem. But once competent authority has made the decision and issued the order, then it becomes imperative to render generous and whole hearted support, regardless of personal feelings in the matter.

These dead, whom we honor today, gave their lives in support of that creed. So did the more than 10,000 Americans who have died in Korea since last June.

We cannot let them down.

Above all else, now, partisan feeling must be forgotten. Once any decision is made and announced by those we have chosen to be in authority, every one of us should feel that it is our duty to support it to the utmost.

Only this way, in this grave time, can security be achieved. In this way we can keep faith with those who have died and are now dying for freedom.

Grains of Sand

In listing some buildings in Southern Pines said to be sitting on public alleys, plaintiff's counsel in the Leroy Lee hearing at Carthage last week were mistaken in several instances. . . The Pilot was careful (if you noticed) to state that "plaintiff alleged" these things, as it was not our business at that time to judge their accuracy but only to relate what they said.

Charlie Sadler was quick to inform us that his Park View Hotel is not on an alley, as they said. His father was aware of the "alley situation" and purposely left that space open. . . Neither is the fire station on an alley. . . And, the way it looks to us, the Belvedere Hotel isn't either.

Not from Southern Pines or Pinehurst, we are sure, was the gentleman mentioned Sunday in Sam Ragan's entertaining column, "Southern Accent," in the Raleigh News and Observer. . . This person, said Sam, went in a bookstore and asked for a copy of Ernest Hemingway's "Across the River and Into the Trees" under the illusion that it was a golf story.

Which reminds us of quite a different type of player. . . Dick Chapman, the pride of Pinehurst, who just copped the British Amateur Championship on the Royal Porthcawl course in Wales. . . He

is, as a matter of fact, the pride of all the Sandhills, as he has given us a never-to-be-forgotten thrill.

And much of the credit, news releases say, goes to the Little Woman, who, when Dick threatened to blow up about the middle of the crucial match, drew him aside to whisper earnestly, "Are you man or mouse?"

Dick pulled himself together, decided mice won no championships and from that point on was Man.

Not everybody can do that, or maybe others don't have so persuasive a galleryite following along. . . Anyway, the Reader's Digest last month reprinted a publicity plug about the Sandhills, which stated that the area has "more golf curses than any of similar size in the world."

It Pays to Advertise and also gets you letters from your friends, it has been discovered by Broadus W. Smith, who works in our post office.

Broadus has a sideline. . . He is local representative for a large moving concern, the United Security Associated Warehouses, Inc., which handles transportation all over the country. . . The USAW, Inc., runs a small standing ad in The Pilot, in which Broadus' telephone and box number are given, but not his name.

Friends of his in Allentown, Pa., planning to move here next fall, are taking The Pilot. . . They saw the ad, and wrote Broadus to ask if he could get in touch with the company and arrange their moving for them. . . They didn't know they were going right to headquarters. . . Needless to say, arrangements were expeditiously made.

Congratulations to our boss and lady Pilot, who attended the N. C. Press Association editorial writers' conference at Chapel Hill weekend before last, and was elected vice chairman of the group. . . More than 30 editorial writers of dailies and weeklies were present, to hear editors from some of the nation's great papers

as speakers. . . Later the Charlotte News complimented the editorial pages of some of the papers represented there. . . And "Mrs. James Boyd's Southern Pines Pilot" led the list.

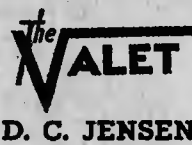
"The Lost Colony," America's longest-running outdoor production, to be presented for its 11th season at Manteo during this summer, is the only drama presented on the actual site of the original happenings.



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