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"In taking over The Pilot no changes are contemplated. We will try to keep this a good paper. 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.

More Blessed

Christmas in the Sandhills is always homecoming-time for the young people and for some old ones, too; it was, this year, its usual time of family gatherings. There was some gaiety too, in the way of parties, but the report is that the social whirl spun less dizzily this year. Most of all, Christmas was a time of giving.

Reports from the various organizations and people who helped with the County Welfare Department's Christmas project are that more people pitched in this year than usual. Here in Southern Pines 34 baskets were given to the needy families on the department's list by the VFW and many personal gifts were made. The tale is the same in other parts, with the Lions Clubs, Legion, Elks and other civic organizations sharing the Santa Claus role with kind-hearted individuals.

Christmas parties were held at the hospitals and at the County Home, while carolers stood outside the latter on Christmas Eve, singing the old songs. A Christmas dinner was served for the seven well and two sick inmates. Christmas with children is the most fun and those who took home for the day the youngsters from the Jonkers foster home must have had a merry time.

Everywhere the spirit of Christmas was abroad, the spirit of Love Your Neighbor and Good Will to Men. And if that made it a happy time for those on the receiving end, we are sure that for those who thus gave of themselves, with loving hearts, in time and trouble, the day was doubly joyful.

Save Moore County Assets

A matter of vital interest to the people of this section is the proposed sale of the state land in the northern end of the county. The property has been held as prison farm land, attached to the Carthage Prison Camp, but actually only a minor portion of it is under cultivation. Most of it is heavily timbered, rolling country. Penal institutions coming under the jurisdiction of the Highway Department, in this state, this tract is in the Sixth District, which has decided that it is no longer needed and should be sold.

At the same time the Department of Conservation and Development which has charge, among other items, of forestry and state parks, is interested in this land. First of all because it is an extremely valuable and beautiful tract of timber including both pine and hard wood. The forest, covering hills and ravines, is full of dogwoods and laurel and azaleas. It constitutes probably the only comparable piece of wild woodland in the Eastern part of the state. Both from the angle of hunting and fishing and as a tourist attraction such an area is of inestimable value to Moore County, and to the state, as well. Of far more value than the amount of money the timber would bring, large as that may be.

Another point: the land adjoins the Philip Phillips place, the famous revolutionary home in the Horseshoe, which the state has its eye on, along with many historical landmarks that it might be secured and preserved as a state monument. An exchange of land arranged, it is thought, for the Phillips place and the Alston tract.

The state agency, the Highway Department, is something that another state department of Conservation and Development would much like to get. The Highway Department needs it, but to the Conservation Department it is of great importance. The Conservation Department innocently: "Why not give it to a good many people who need it and have it about, but the Highway Department has been hammering away at it for some time and every result has been a loss of money."

The way suggested by a great many people is the Community Chest method. This is done in a great many places and apparently with success. The objection to it is that some of the national charities refuse to join. Even so, some do and all the local charities could. If no more than this were accomplished it would seem worth at least a try. A great advantage, besides the easing of the public's nerves, would lie in the pooling and therefore reduction of administrative expenses and personnel. It is likely, too, that the pooling of funds would result in a more thorough coverage of the community, which is needed, could be made with the able assistance of the people released from their individual drives to concentrate on the one campaign. As things are, many people are constantly dunned, and many get no appeals at all. There are many house canvasses, which, in our opinion, must mean a material loss.

There is nothing about the Community Chest method that would be a good thing for the state. But the young ladies got booked up fast and New Year weekend found many a lad phoning fruitlessly for a date for that important evening of December 31.

Stalled In Reverse

Powerful reinforcement for the Pilot's editorial of December 7th, "Ten Years Ago," comes in a report from Paul Green on his recent trip to Japan. The Carolina author comments with admiration on the remarkable comeback of the Japanese and points out that the whole thought of the country is swinging into line with Western concepts. But, says Green, the very fervor with which the Japanese are taking up democratic ideas is evidence of their fear of a return to the regimentation and militarism that was instrumental in bringing about the war. And Green warns that if militarism is once more forced upon them while at the same time, by tariff barriers and discriminatory measures, this country refuses to accept Japan as an equal partner and a legitimate competitor in the world's markets, the intellectual leaders of Japan may combine with other, now dormant, hostile forces in a swing towards the Eastern bloc.

This is the dilemma that confronts us. We see our survival in the face of the Russian threat depending on armed might which, to be truly effective, must include allies among whom are those very nations that so recently fought against us. Too, the war-weary peoples of Europe are included as major aids in our strategy. None of these people want to fight, some because they are too exhausted, the others because they fear their own war-like impulses that brought them to their present ruin.

For us Americans, rich, comfortable, united, free, comparatively safe, this point of view is hard to understand. It is very necessary, however, that we try. Put, admittedly too simply, the facts are these: the people of Europe and, to a slightly lesser extent, of Japan, suffered during the war as we never did; few Americans have the least conception of what they endured. Many are still only on the thin edge of recovery. These people are irrevocably convinced that nothing could be worse than another war. Also, when we talk about losing democracy under Russian conquest, many of them don't know what we mean. They have never experienced ease, security, bountiful living, the freedoms we know as part of our daily lives. A deeply destructive element, also, has been the legacy of moral corruption left by the Fascist regimes in Germany and Italy and by the occupation in France. To all these people domination by Russia, while a terrible prospect, does not present the inconceivable fate that it does to us. War, however, in which they would be the battleground, would mean the end.

We must resist the temptation to say: "If they are such fools as even to contemplate being overrun by Russia, let them go." That would be fatal. It would place in Russian hands overwhelming economic and military power; even more serious would be its effect on our democracy and everything we believe in. Confronted by a totalitarian state, our only means of survival would be to follow suit. Thus totalitarianism would have won the victory without a battle.

Through the Marshall Plan, through ECA and the start of Point Four, even through our own disarmament, hasty and ill-considered as it was, we won friends and started the machine moving. Now, in the sudden reversal of policy into which we have been forced, there is danger that we will strip the gears: that our insistence on rearming will result in turning our friends against us.

This seems to be the message in the warnings heard today: behind General Eisenhower's criticism of the slowness of the European effort, in the reluctance of the Germans to have anything to do with the program, in the dismay in Italy and France over the huge U. S. bases being established there and in Africa, and now in the Green report of the fear among the Japanese of this turn toward rearmament and the warning that if pushed too far it will boomerang against us.

The Drives Are Starting

As we in the Sandhills face the unknown season ahead, there is at least one thing we can be quite sure of: that is the endless chain of "drives" that it will bring.

Every one is for a good cause; every one is being managed by hard-working, public-spirited, fine citizens, nevertheless, as the letters appear with exhausting regularity and the personal appeals are made, you can feel a helpless sort of irritation growing throughout the community. We are a generous people; as a rule every campaign is oversubscribed, but we do wish they wouldn't do it. We wish, earnestly, that some other way of raising these needed funds could be worked out.

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Grains of Sand

Now that you have enjoyed your Christmas cards, admired their beauty and color and thrilled to their sentiments of the season, you will be pleased to know that there is a place you can pass them on where they will continue to give pleasure and joy.

Once again the Carolina hotel at Pinehurst has placed a big bin at the doorman's desk to catch those Christmas cards when you are through with them. . . For several years now the hotel has acted as collector for the cards and has sent them to the N. C. Orthopedic hospital at Gastonia, where they are distributed among the crippled child patients. . . These small shut-ins use them to make scrapbooks, as cut-outs for posters and to make new Christmas cards for another year.

It ought to be possible for the Sandhills to produce 100,000 cards if everyone pitches in. . . All you have to do is drop your cards in the bin at the hotel, or hand them over to Happy, the Pinehurst bus driver, anywhere along his route and he will drop them in for you. The bin will be there until well after New Year's day, so you don't have to rush about it. . . When you are clearing your cards away, just remember.

Guilford college is making a name for itself in dramatics, and a lovely, lively little girl from Southern Pines is right in the thick of things there. . . A transfer from High Point college last year, Frances Jo Cameron had leading roles in "Our Town" and "Death Takes a Holiday," and this year was elected to the Dramatic Council, an honor which goes to only 10 students of the college, who are supposed to have been there two years before they can become eligible. For Frances, though, this restriction was lowered.

This fall she played a leading role in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street"—that of Henrietta, the younger sister, which she preferred to the part of the invalid Elizabeth. . . Along with that she is on the social committee at Guilford, assisted with the freshman reception and was in charge of the Thanksgiving dance; was one of four ladies-in-waiting in the Thanksgiving court of beauty, sings in the chapel choir and plays on the varsity field hockey team.

As chairman of the Modern Dance club she is in charge of the choreography for May Day, and is busy thinking up routines on an Aztec theme, to be danced to Yma Sumac music.

She's managing, moreover, to keep up her grades—and also, through the fall, attended all the Carolina football games and found time to date on Saturday nights—as who wouldn't, in her place? For further information see Mogo Baker, of the UNC football team.

Make your New Year resolution right now to give blood when the Bloodmobile comes again. . . We understand this will be some time within the next few weeks. . . Let's make a better showing this time than last, when only 187 pints of blood were collected here.

Though that 187 isn't very creditable for a community this size—and 88 pints were given by members of USAFAGOS and their wives—one shining fact has recently been revealed: 55 of the local civilian blood donors gave both times the Bloodmobile came.

This was shown on the blood donor list sent from the Charlotte Blood Center, home of the Bloodmobile, to the Red Cross chapter office here.

We have the list of "repeaters" but somehow feel they wouldn't want us to publish their names. . . Eighteen of them are women, and a quick glance shows at least one mother of a boy in Korea, and one wife of a young officer who is over there. . . Several war veterans are on the list, and one displaced person from an Iron Curtain country.

The fact that this New Year is a Leap Year may mean something in other parts of the state and nation, where recent statistics show that women are slightly outnumbering the men. . . However, it was certainly different—among the young unattached set, that is—in Southern Pines during the holidays.

The rush of boys home from the armed services on holiday leave, at the same time the young college set was home, brought a startling preponderance of males and all at once there just weren't enough girls to go around.

Many of the young males made their plans in leisurely fashion, confident that as usual there would be a girl for every boy. . . But the young ladies got booked up fast and New Year weekend found many a lad phoning fruitlessly for a date for that important evening of December 31.

We had a look-in at the struggles of one quartet of handsome youths, who ordinarily have no trouble securing feminine companionship, as they employed the telephone in an effort to stave off a lonesome evening. . . "I don't mind so much when they say 'no,'" one of them admitted, "but I don't much like it when they laugh first. . . And one of them just laughed."

One popular young lady, besought on Christmas Eve for the granting of a date for New Year's Eve, turned down the importunate one, exclaiming, "I don't know what in the world you mean asking for a date at the last minute like this!"

Maj. "Tex" Willard Young, one of the Air Force' top parachutists,

At Local Churches

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 New York avenue at South Ashe
 William C. Holland, Th. D.
 Bible school, 9:45 a. m. Worship 11 a. m. Training Unions, 6:30 p. m. Evening Worship 7:30 p. m.; Scout Troop 224, Tues., 7:30 p. m.; midweek worship, Wed., 7:30 p. m.; choir practice Wed. 8:15 p. m.

Missionary meeting, first and third Tuesdays, 8 p. m. Church and family suppers, second Thursdays, 7 p. m.

EMMANUEL CHURCH
 (Episcopal)
 East Massachusetts Avenue
 Rev. Charles V. Covell
 Holy Communion, 8 a. m. Church school, 9:45 a. m. Morning Prayer, 11 a. m. YPSL, 7 p. m. First Sundays, Holy Communion, 11 a. m. Wednesdays, Holy Communion, 10 a. m.

CHURCH OF WIDE FELLOWSHIP
 (Congregational)
 N. Bennett at New Hampshire
 Robert L. House, D. D.
 Church school, 9:45 a. m. at High School building. Sermon, 11 a. m. in Weaver auditorium. Nursery at High School building. Twilight Hour for Juniors, 6:45 p. m. Pilgrim Fellowship at Fox Hole, 6:30 p. m. Fellowship Forum, 8 p. m.

Afternoon meetings: Circles meet first Tuesday, first and second Thursdays. Missionary society, third Thursday. Women's society, fourth Thursday. Evening meetings: Bible study, first Tuesday. Mothers' club, second Monday. Prayer group, second Tuesday. Church supper, second Friday. Pilgrim Book club, fourth Monday.

ST. ANTHONY'S
 (Catholic)
 Vermont Ave. at Ashe
 Father Peter M. Denges
 Sunday masses 8 and 10:30 a. m.; Holy Day masses 7 and 9 a. m.; weekday mass at 8 a. m. Confessions heard on Saturday between 5-6 and 7:30-8:30 p. m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH
 East New Hampshire
 Service, 11 a. m. Service Wednesday, 8 p. m. Reading room open Tuesdays and Saturday 3-5 p. m.

BROWNSON MEMORIAL CHURCH
 (Presbyterian)
 South May at Indiana
 Cheves K. Ligon, Minister
 Sunday school 9:45 a. m. Worship service, 11 a. m. Women's auxiliary, 8 p. m. Monday following third Sunday. The Pioneer Fellowship meets at 7 o'clock each Sunday evening in the ladies' parlor of the church. The Youth Fellowship meets at 7 o'clock each Sunday in Fellowship Hall of the church.

MANLY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Grover C. Currie, Minister
 Sunday School, 10 a. m. Worship service, first and fourth Sundays 11 a. m. Prayer meeting Thursday, 7:30 p. m. Women of the Church meeting, first Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.

VASS BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rev. Lewis Beal
 Sunday school, 10 a. m. Morning worship 11 a. m. Training Union, 7 p. m. Evening worship, 8 p. m. Mid-week Prayer service, Wednesday, 8 p. m.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY
 (Catholic)
 West Pennsylvania at Hardin
 Fr. Donald Fearon, C. S. S. R., Fr. Robert McCrie, C. S. S. R., assistant
 Sunday Mass, 10 a. m.; Holy Day Mass, 9 a. m. Confessions are heard before Mass

made his 169th jump the other day—right into the Arch Coleman's front yard.

He has made previous jumps in Europe during World War 2, and more recently in Korea. The 169th was on a gardened yard with curving driveway, and one of the prettiest views in Moore county. Running to greet him were no enemy troops but members of the Coleman family, who were pleased to see him land expertly on his feet with no damage done to parachutist—or shrubbery.

The jump was made in the course of one of the regular USAFAGOS air-ground demonstrations over Skyline airport, which is across the highway from the

Col. . . . US 1. Major of the USAF-AGOS Two other officers at the same time, on target.

Shields Cameron, visiting in Raleigh the other day, spied a familiar figure on a downtown street. . . . It was Father Herbert A. Harkins, deep in converse with a young couple who appeared to be asking directions somewhere.

"I don't believe I know," Father Harkins was saying, then, looking up, saw Shields, and added, "But here's a Cameron right here. He ought to be able to tell you."

Turned out they were asking directions to Cameron Village.



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