

THE PILOT

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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.

India Says: No Thank You!

It is deeply heartening to read that India has rejected famine aid from China and Russia that had political strings attached to it. The gifts of the much-needed food and funds carried the provision that it was to be distributed in certain specified regions and by the Communist-sponsored relief agency, but the Indian government said: "We will welcome these gifts as we do assistance from any country, but it must be left to us to decide where help should go and how it should be made available." And they returned the gift.

This raises the spirits. It takes courage for a government to deprive its people of food and money to buy food, for a principle. It is good to know that the Indian government has that courage. But, more than that, the fact that it can act so boldly and independently proves that the situation in India is not so bad as some would lead us to believe. For a government must be pretty sure of the support of its people before such courageous action would be possible.

This should be an encouragement to the free world. It should be, also, a lesson to some of us. It was not so long ago that a similar gift was under discussion in our Congress. There were a good many voices raised, then, among anti-administration Congressmen in particular, stating that the United States should do just what China and Russia tried to do. They wanted this country to attach strings to the gift of food that we sent: to specify that it should be distributed only by our agents and under certain conditions. Fortunately, wiser heads prevailed and the generosity of this nation was not used as a club over the heads of our neighbors in distress. The gift was made to help India feed her people, because she needed it and we could spare it and wanted her to have it.

India's action in refusing to be coerced by the Communists through her need for food places her among the nations we must respect. We may congratulate ourselves that in the face of the greatest difficulties, she is maintaining her independence and high principles.

The Editor Answers

Mr. Patch's Two Points

In the Pilot of September 12 appeared a letter from Charles S. Patch, Jr., in which he took issue with a previously published editorial entitled "How Do They Stand?"

The title referred to the two presidential candidates and it is, of course, natural that on this subject Mr. Patch and this newspaper should disagree. The Pilot supports Governor Stevenson's candidacy, while our correspondent is the head of the local organization backing General Eisenhower. While we believe there are a great many matters in which we and our correspondent see eye to eye, this is one in which, we confess happily, we are poles apart. We have been for the Governor from the start, if not before it, and we are more for him every minute.

Mr. Patch picks out two points in particular, for criticism of our editorial: one relates to foreign policy and the other to the Stevenson speech to the American Legion. As to the first, Mr. Patch feels that The Pilot is all wrong in saying that, as he puts it, "Eisenhower and Stevenson are similar in views on foreign policy." He says that the General wrote down a ten point program and quotes the General's criticism of the Administration's program: "one policy for Europe, a feeble policy for South America; a little policy for the Middle East; writing off the Far East at one moment and the next finding our sons fighting in Korea."

Well, we read the General's ten points carefully, and they still sounded like mighty familiar ideas. As for the above quotation, let's take it, piece by piece as the General gave it. "One policy for Europe": presumably that one policy is the Administration policy that culminated in NATO of which General Eisenhower was the head. We have never heard that he did not approve of this plan; he continues to stress the importance of a united front against communism and the need for all the allies we can get. "A feeble policy for South America." Maybe we ought to be doing more there, but seeing how hard-pressed we are everywhere else, somehow it seems to us that a feeble policy is probably about as much as we can afford in South America. Next comes "a little policy for the Middle East." Here we would point out, the Administration gives every sign of

wanting not a little but a big policy in the Middle East: it is the Republicans in Congress who have consistently refused to appropriate enough money to carry out the Point Four program which, it is agreed by all observers on the scene, would be the best way to draw this part of the world in our direction and away from Russia. The last item on the quotation seems to us to be entirely controversial. But with occupation troops in Japan, with an American military mission in Formosa, with American missions, military and civilian, in the Philippines, it doesn't look to us as if this country were "writing off the Far East." As for the men fighting in Korea, that decision was made largely by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It followed up a speech made in Korea a few days before the outbreak of the war by John Foster Dulles, Republican, foreign policy adviser, in which Mr. Dulles spoke openly of armed intervention by the U. S. if trouble developed. Would General Eisenhower have advised against the course adopted by his colleagues and his party's leading foreign adviser? It would seem doubtful.

Mr. Patch feels that the Pilot is in error regarding the General's foreign policy: Maybe so and, now that, since the editorial was written, the General and Mr. Taft have gotten together, it may well be that the Eisenhower program has become very different from the way it started. We frankly admit to a good deal of confusion on the subject and if Mr. Patch can set us right, we'd appreciate it. For instance, here are a few questions we'd like answered: (1) In what respects would Eisenhower change the administration policies, in Europe, in Asia, in Korea? (2) Would Eisenhower have opposed U. S. intervention in Korea?

The other point dealt with in the Patch letter takes little space to answer. Mr. Patch asks why, if Governor Stevenson meant what he said about pressure groups he "accepted the support of CIO and AF of L leaders." We are tempted to ask if Mr. Patch thinks his candidate would refuse that support if it were offered to him, but eschewing such temptation, may be say this: our democracy functions, at the present time, largely in response to so-called pressure groups. The labor unions are pressure groups, so are the AMA, the Grange, the oil lobby, the conservationists and the anti-conservationists, the bankers, the butchers, Wall Street or the schoolteachers: they are all pressure groups, as are also, of course, the veterans. Governor Stevenson did not speak against pressure groups; what he said was that he would resist pressure groups when they seemed to him to be putting their own aims ahead of the welfare of the country. We believe that the Governor would continue to hold that view and act in accordance with it, whether the undue pressure came from the veterans, or from labor or from Wall Street. We believe he would try to do an honest job, if president, just as we believe Mr. Patch's candidate would do his best. And Mr. Patch is not quite fair in accusing Stevenson of wanting to scrap the Taft-Hartley Act. What he said was that the principle behind it was good, but it ought to be re-written. He argued strongly for less government interference between labor and management and more dependence on direct bargaining.

We welcome Mr. Patch's letter. It is good to have a forthright expression of opinion and we hope there will be more such.

The Disfranchised Soldier

Those who are in any way responsible owe an apology to members of the armed services and their families if, absent from home, they are deprived of their vote Nov. 4 because they have answered the call to the colors.

Most members of the armed forces from thirty states will have the privilege of fighting for their country but not of voting. One estimate places the disfranchised as high as 1,000,000 or more.

Only eighteen states now meet all the tests for absentee soldier voting prescribed by the Armed Forces Information and Education Office.

It is impossible now to foresee a time, in this troubled world, when we shall not have absentee soldiers, absentee civilians and their families—stationed abroad in the interests of saving the very democracy which guarantees the continuing right to the free ballot. It is a shameful thing that our Congress and our State Legislatures have not fully foreseen their duty in this matter or fully acted upon that duty. It should be the first order of business, as the various lawmaking bodies meet, or if need be are called into special session, to insure that another election shall not pass without restoring the absentee to full citizenship and the ballot
—New York Times

Our Country Is United

We don't agree on everything—never have—never will—and wouldn't like it if we did. . . except about one thing—our right to disagree. Fools—and enemies—sometimes think those loud sounds mean we are not united. . . but we know our basic unity is there because now there are so many more of us agreeing on that one important thing.

Commercial airlines in the United States carried more than two million passengers last month. One might say this indicates how many Americans are up in the air, but we prefer to believe that greater numbers are rising to new heights.

No. 23—Do You Know Your Old Southern Pines?



This gabled house with its picket fence and sloping yard is sure to be recognized by some readers of The Pilot, and we'll appreciate it if they will let us hear from them, for we are in the dark as to the ownership of this early South-

ern Pines home. There are people on the porch, but it would be difficult if not impossible for anyone to recognize them. Sometimes the seemingly impossible happens though, so speak up, won't you?

Grains of Sand

THANKS MRS. PRILLMAN

We are indebted to Mrs. Edna Prillman, who has lived in Southern Pines for 40 years, for the first and only identification of Old Picture No. 21, which she feels sure is the R. W. Tate residence, at 310 North Page street. This house, Mrs. Prillman says, was formerly owned by a family named Emory, and she thinks that the couple standing on the upstairs porch are Mr. and Mrs. Emory.

No. 19—the white columned house in a woody setting—she identified as Cedar Pines Villa, operated as a rest home by a Miss or Mrs. Thompson, and, later, for years owned by the Struthers Burts, who did considerable remodeling, and recently sold it to Martin Gentry. This is another first identification.

She agrees with Mrs. Milliken that No. 20 is the old Gregory house, now owned and occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Milliken.

Mrs. Prillman says that she thoroughly enjoys the pictures each week—in fact has been losing sleep trying to figure some of them out.

All news reporters can sympathize with Editor Paul Dickson of the News-Journal (Raeferd) in an incident recorded in his column "Addenda" last week and rejoice with him in its happy outcome. It's usually the "notes" taken at off-the-beat times and tucked in a pocket or handbag that are forgotten until after the paper is off the press.

Editor Dickson writes: "I was informed by no less than three separate and independent members of Bethel church last week that John Reagan would preach the sermon at the morning service at the church last Sunday I wrote it down, so I wouldn't forget to put it in the paper. "I knew that John had married Jane Todd McCain, daughter of Mrs. P. P. McCain and the late Dr. McCain, but thought that the public might be interested in knowing where he was from, going to school, and things of that nature. In trying to find these things out I tore my note off

and left it by the phone for someone to call me back. They never did call back and I thought of it Thursday when the papers were in the mail. Up to this point this is the same story that has happened to me many times before. From here on it's different.

"This week I have run into two of the three who gave me the item and first one I saw I steeled myself to keep from running and started making excuses. Before I could finish I learned that John Reagan did not preach at Bethel after all and that it was just as well I left it out.

"I don't know John, but he's my friend for life. All the other preachers I have left out of the paper have appeared and preached right on schedule, with few prayers for me, I fear."

"Mixie," the pet dog of Police Chief and Mrs. Ed Newton, who, incidentally, was given that name because of her nondescript ancestry, was cared for by Miss Mary Scott Newton while her master and mistress were away on vacation.

But whatever Mixie lacks in pedigree is outweighed by her appreciation and her promptness in expressing it, as is evidenced by the following letter which Miss Newton found on the seat of her car last week:

"Dear Aunt Mary Scott: "I just didn't have a thing to give you for your birthday as my old Lady went off in such a hurry, but thank you so much for looking after me, and buy yourself something with this, as they won't let little dogs in the stores. I love you, Mixie Newton." Some "folding money" was enclosed.

If you are down Hamlet way you might like to see the full-size model of the Seaboard's first locomotive, which has been donated to the town for permanent display. You'll find it in a specially constructed building on East Hamlet avenue at Municipal Park adjacent to and facing the intersection of Highways 74 and 38. The building is of brick with glass front and ends.

The "Tornado," as the engine is named, is an exact reproduction of the first steam locomotive purchased by the Seaboard railroad.

Bagpipes In The Highlands

A few weeks ago the town council of Aberdeen repented with indignation and far-from-kind comment the offer of a girls' bagpipe band from the State University of Iowa to give an open-air concert in this ancient Scottish town, provided board, lodging and travel expenses were furnished. This action of the council was reported widely in the press of the United States and the British Isles. There followed unpleasant editorial remarks regarding the parsimony and lack of gallantry of the town fathers. But when five Aberdonian business men volunteered to put up the required 250 pounds, the council hastily reversed itself, the local soccer club offered the use of its stadium and everybody was happy.

All this has served to recall a night in the Highlands in the early years of this century, when I had the pleasure of listening to a master piper. An old school friend, then living in Stirling, and I were on a two-week walking trip. One of his neighbors had provided us with a letter of introduction to Peter Mackie, of Glenure. We arrived there in the late afternoon.

Peter Mackie was one of the finest looking men I have ever seen. Tall and broad-shouldered, muscular without excess flesh, he wore his kilt at all times about his farm work and not for show, as so many Scots are accustomed

to do. We had been told that he had the second sight and had seen the exact circumstances of his father's death some time before it occurred. Naturally, we did not venture to go into this. He and his family spoke Gaelic. (The dogs and horses understood no English.) But with the delicacy of the Highlanders, the Mackies spoke only English in our presence.

After supper Peter got out his pipes and played for an hour or more. What a never-to-be-forgotten experience it was. The tall man, with their turf fire at his back, pacing to and fro, playing stirring pibrochs and lilting pieces full of grace notes; perhaps they were love songs. And everything had in it the heart of the Highlands—the lonely, heather-covered moors, the misty mountains and the glens and the rush of clear streams among the rocks, body-deep.

I only made one error. I asked him if he would play "The Flowers of the Forest." He shook his head gravely. "We only play that at funerals," he said, and I was properly rebuked. I thought that he might have considered that the playing of this famous lament might bring ill-fortune on the house. We never realized until afterward that this same house of Glenure had once sheltered Colin Campbell, the victim of the Appin murder.
R. P. L.
in the N. Y. Herald-Tribune.

miles north of Raleigh. The name "Tornado" was probably earned by the locomotive from its whirlwind trips through the undeveloped parts of North Carolina at the great speed of some 20 miles an hour. There are three of these replicas. One is on display at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, and the other in the Hall of History in Raleigh.

A minimum price support for the 1953 wheat crop has been set at \$2.21 a bushel.

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