

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.

We Are Proud of Stevenson

No matter how the November 4 election turns out, we will be proud that in this time of crisis we supported Adlai Stevenson.

He started out to "talk sense to the American people" and we believe that he has done so, and that he has been the only candidate for the presidential nomination to have done so consistently.

We believe that he has demonstrated the qualities we need in a President of the United States; that he has shown a firm grasp of the issues, and ability to think them through clearly and conclusively; and that he can express himself decisively upon them, with a lucidity remarkable in politics, intelligible to every voter.

We are convinced that he is the "tool" of no faction or individual, and that if elected he will act independently according to his own views of what is right for the nation as a whole.

If he is not elected, we shall still feel that he has put these campaign weeks to good purpose, lifting himself within a short time to a height of prominence, prestige and good will which should stand him, and the Democratic party, in good stead in 1956.

At the beginning of the campaign Stevenson was a comparatively obscure name, while that of his opposition was a household word, an object of hero-worship. Yet at this writing practically every poll portends an extremely close election. At Stevenson's present rate of gain, and with changes in a few crucial states, the differential between the two candidates can easily be closed by Tuesday.

He has accomplished this in the face of many obstacles, including almost unanimous opposition on the part of the nation's press, most of which had lined up for Eisenhower before either party had even held a convention; and of wholesale defections on the part of those from whom he had every right to expect support. His achievement is, according to even the anti-administration Time, "unprecedented in American history."

We are proud of Adlai Stevenson and believe he has earned the right to the nation's top job, and that he will bring to it both the will and the ability to provide the "change" the country needs.

Latest From "Low Blow Joe"

Adlai Stevenson has now become one of the company, of which General George C. Marshall is the ranking member, blasted and be-slimed by Senator Joe McCarthy.

The latest McCarthy "revelation," with its distinguishing characteristics of "Listen to this, friends—I hold in my hand, and I quote—just listen to this—" rates just as little attention as its predecessor, being similarly compounded of distorted half-truths, outright fabrications and mysterious references which are never followed through.

The main difference between the two was that the speech against Marshall had no limitation, being printed at the taxpayers' expense in the Congressional Record, where it took up 60 pages. His Monday night speech was limited by funds supplied by private supporters, to 30 minutes of radio and television time. With plenty of money on hand the Republican National Committee, quite rightly, wouldn't touch it.

In the meantime McCarthy himself never refers to, or explains, deliberate lies in which he has been caught time and again, or mysteries concerning his personal career and finances which many people would like to have clarified.

Anyone who thinks either Marshall or Stevenson is a communist, or affiliated with communists, or working for communists, or appealing communists, or seeking the support of communists, or in any other way condoning communism, needs to straighten out his thinking, and to examine its source.

This is the type of thing which is tending more and more to keep able men from seeking public office. The very idea that a smear expert such as McCarthy can be turned loose against them on a nationwide scale, associating them falsely with the very things they hate the most and against which they are fighting most ardently, is

repugnant to the true American. It takes a high order of patriotism to risk it, a brave heart and tough hide.

We don't need a McCarthy, nor does Stevenson, to point out the dangers of communism, nor to spur us on in the battle against it. No communist was ever caught through shouts and smears, nor was any fight ever made easier to win through beclouding the issues. Many a good man has in the past few years been turned aside from running for office, or defeated once he began, by the mass hypnosis induced by such shouts and smears.

We saw it happen in North Carolina during the 1950 senatorial campaign, which gave us a do-nothing Senator who has consistently voted with the Republicans and who has signally failed in party leadership in the current presidential campaign. These tactics have also succeeded in Maryland, California and other states, are just about to succeed in dividing our country beyond repair and may some day, God forbid, give us Joe McCarthy for President.

Letters Invited—Pro and Con

We feel, with Mayor Page, that 20 people at a public meeting to discuss a \$160,000 bond issue is all too few. While absence might indicate satisfaction, it is likely that it means indifference—a bad thing in civic affairs.

One who attended the meeting is expressing himself to a wider audience in a letter to The Pilot this week. We invite attention to Captain McDaniel's letter in Public Speaking, also more letters, pro and con. At least let it not be said the bond election was won, or lost, through ignorance or apathy.

We Are Fortunate

In his Chapel Hill Weekly, Editor Louis Graves makes a complaint that should be required reading in every town in North Carolina:

Chapel Hill's main street used to have a row of big flourishing trees on each side, so big and flourishing that they met over the middle of the street. You could go from one end of the street to the other and, the whole way, you would be shaded from the sun by this canopy of foliage. Everybody who came here admired it and Chapel Hill was famous for the beauty of this tree-bordered avenue.

In recent years there has been a shameful destruction of our trees.

The reason for this is that the people who do not want them destroyed have been passive about the matter. They have not made any real move to save the trees. They have been content to fret and fume, to express their indignation to one another, to tell the newspaper editor how much they sympathize with his protests, but they have not been willing to go to bat, in the right quarters, to save the trees.

Edenton's main business street, with its vista of Albemarle Sound, once had a magnificent row of elms in the center; it was then a broad, beautiful, cool street. The elms were cut down; it is now a hot and ugly street.

In Charlottesville, Va., High Street is charming, with large trees forming an arch over it. A few years ago the city council decided to cut the trees down to make parking easier. The women of Charlottesville rose up in arms, the council saw the light, the trees stayed up in the air, and Charlottesville is a more beautiful and comfortable town than it might have been.

In Warrenton a few weeks ago there was a proposal to change the zoning law to allow erection of a filling station on the main street side of the old Governor Bell place. This is the lot with the magnificent boxwood on it, which has been a show place since the days when (so they say) Governor Bell of Texas used to stride up and down its walks with a brace of dueling pistols and a couple of bowie knives in his belt. The women of Warrenton told the city council in no uncertain terms that a filling station on such a location was persona non grata, and the council harkened to the voice of authority.

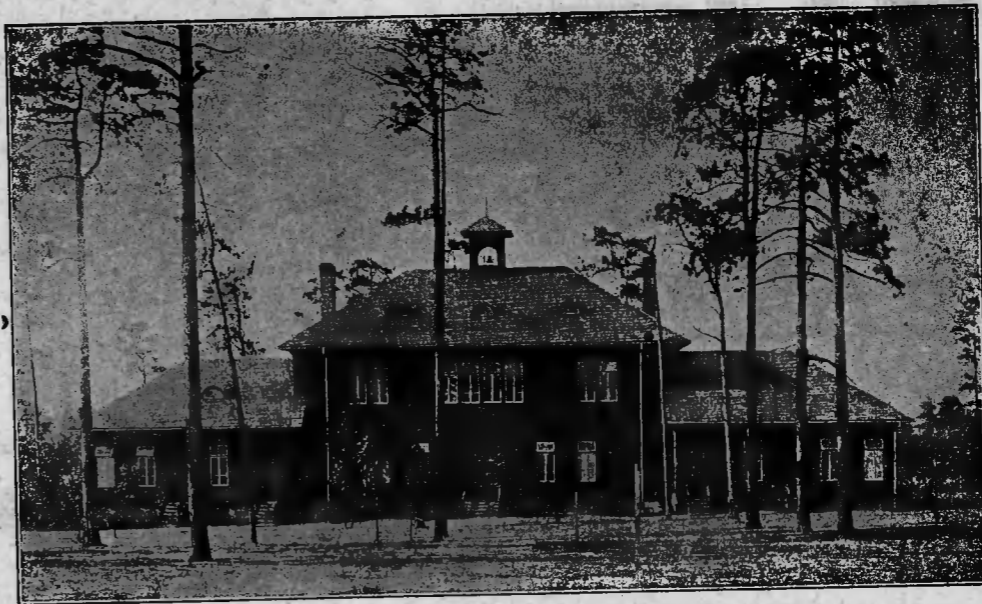
Someone has come up with a two-fold solution to the problem about which Editor Graves was writing: a group of women organized to go into action at the first sign of danger to their trees; and a zoning and planning commission, preferably with a tree-defending woman as one of its members.

Southern Pines has long recognized the importance of its trees, with the result that it is known far and wide for the beauty of its streets and parkways. Only last spring a visitor from a distant state, here for the first time, inquired if the town had any parks. After being taken on a tour of the place he remarked: "The whole town is a park!"

Southern Pines is fortunate in having a Mayor and Town Board that appreciate trees, civic clubs that are ever on the alert and a citizenry that rises to action if danger threatens. And, in thinking of the recent occasion when the Seaboard cooperated so wholeheartedly to preserve the beauty of the railroad parkway, we add the SAL Railroad company to the above list. Yes, we are fortunate.

There is no reason why the beckoning highway should prompt inconsiderate actions. Perhaps many good people just don't realize how they change when they get behind the wheel.

No. 28 — Do You Know Your Old Southern Pines?



This is the Southern Pines school, as it appeared some 40 years ago. Our understanding is that the central part was built first, the wings added later. There was considerable remodeling as time went on, the latest being that of Aymar Ambury II, nationally famous architect, who redesigned it into the building now used for the high school. The old school is still a part of the

structure as the (now obsolete and unused) auditorium section. Within the past four years the plant has been expanded by the addition of the beautiful elementary school building, the auditorium and gymnasium, fronting on East Massachusetts avenue. A new high school building within the next few years is a cherished hope and plan.

The Public Speaking

ON TOWN AFFAIRS

To the Pilot:

Will you please publish the following communication which I have addressed as an open letter to the Mayor and Town Commissioners of Southern Pines.

Gentlemen:

For the good that it may do, the following constructive criticism is submitted for your consideration.

1st. You are assured that this writer never has been and is not now interested in anything that has already happened, except in order to prevent a repetition of same.

A. The Country Club "affair." It was admitted at the Town's School Auditorium meeting of October 22nd that the taxpayers suffered an operating loss of nearly \$60,000. We are not interested in the whyfore or how-come of this loss; but only in the fact that a loss for any cause was had.

To quote ex-President Roosevelt, our Board of Commissioners must have been unable to see the forest because of the trees. And to again quote an old saying, "a cross-eyed mule" would have shown better judgment in this matter than our so-called Town Board exercised.

B. Recreation Building and Grounds. We understand that recently our Town Board, with taxpayers money, purchased the old Elks Club property on Highway 1, for recreational purposes. In addition to paying about \$15,000 for this property, by its action, the Board also deprived the Town of some two or three hundred dollars per year in taxes that the town would have received had the purchase not been made. We realize, however, is beyond understanding other than as a combined scheme of Major Hoople and Senator Sorgum with the advice of five-oh-hell harry.

ize that a place of recreation is not only desirable, but is needed. But how the Town Board could possibly have approved the purchase of this property which, in addition to being most undesirably located and the building wholly unsuited for recreational

C. The foregoing is believed sufficient reason to analyze the town's proposed \$160,000 Bond Issue. Is it all needed? Positively No. A small part of it, yes. First, consider the proposed liquor store building. Some 60-odd thousands of dollars of the bond issue is supposed to go into its construction, which is entirely unnecessary, because a wholly satisfactory building can be purchased for less than one-third of that amount.

2nd. Police Station. Positively not needed, because there is a detention room in the present Police Station Building used by the phant army of democracy. Bring good enough to lock our soldiers in, it most certainly is good enough to detain the drunks and speeders in until they get sobered up or until it is convenient to take them to Carthage.

3rd. Fire Truck. Absolutely not needed, because, Mr. Mayor, as you stated, our present truck is O. K. but it has only two wheel brakes. Therefore, you want a new one, costing \$20,000. A comparable example would be that all of us be compelled to live in single story houses, thereby avoiding being killed by the upper story falling in on us. We subscribe fully (10 per cent) to your contention that West Southern Pines needs better fire protection. But your proposed plan is far from the best. As stated by the Assistant Fire Chief at the meeting, a fire reporting system is needed more than anything else.

By installing several fire boxes at accessible places, West Southern Pines would have the same

prompt and efficient fire protection now enjoyed on the east side of the tracks.

In view of the foregoing, it is suggested that you and your Board reconsider the whole \$160,000 proposed Bond Issue, and reporting to the public on our town's practical needs, prior to the election on November 18th.

Cordially yours,
A. R. McDANIEL

ON POLITICS

To the Pilot:

Regardless of who wins the coming Presidential election, let this be our slogan for 1953: "Get America out of the UN and the UN out of America."

JULIAN T BISHOP

To the Pilot:

Everywhere in these few days before the election the air is poisoned with open and concealed hatreds. The rivalry between the Eisenhower and Taft forces is greater than what usually exists between the opposing political parties. As for the Democrats, they can usually be depended upon to fight each other as wholeheartedly as they fight the Republicans. They, too, left Chicago with wounds to nurse.

The duty of the Christian is clear enough. They must use their brains for all they are worth, and vote for the candidate they consider honestly to be the best. No Democrats and Republicans are to be considered as enemies of the people. It is the duty of every citizen to see that the best man is elected. Let us strive to be honest and Christ-like, especially in the matter of politics.

MRS. W. E. COX

To The Pilot:

With all the mud slinging and fantastic accusations brought by the New Dealers against General Eisenhower in this campaign, I submit below the citation, accompanying the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws, conferred on him by Princeton University (June 1947) during her Bi-Centennial Celebration:

Dwight David Eisenhower
Doctor of Laws
Chief of Staff,
United States Army

"Supreme Allied Commander in the war and unofficial ambassador of good will, of whom it has been aptly said 'His character and skill made of coalition a triumphant army of democracy.' Bring good enough to lock our soldiers in, it most certainly is good enough to detain the drunks and speeders in until they get sobered up or until it is convenient to take them to Carthage. 3rd. Fire Truck. Absolutely not needed, because, Mr. Mayor, as you stated, our present truck is O. K. but it has only two wheel brakes. Therefore, you want a new one, costing \$20,000. A comparable example would be that all of us be compelled to live in single story houses, thereby avoiding being killed by the upper story falling in on us. We subscribe fully (10 per cent) to your contention that West Southern Pines needs better fire protection. But your proposed plan is far from the best. As stated by the Assistant Fire Chief at the meeting, a fire reporting system is needed more than anything else. By installing several fire boxes at accessible places, West Southern Pines would have the same

To The Pilot:

In a radio address a few nights ago the Honorable James F. Byrnes, Governor of South Carolina, declared that the issue of war vs. peace is paramount in the

than it is in China? Committed to a war of "liberation" would we not have to continue into Russia itself?

And what has been said on this subject by John Foster Dulles, High Priest of Republican foreign policy for 10, these many years, and slated to be Secretary of State if Eisenhower is elected? Dulles on September 3 came to the conclusion that "aggressive despots must be slowed down and stopped from within or we shall have to check them from without in the head-on collision of atomic war." So much for the peaceful intentions of the Republican party!

Contrast this with the credo of Adlai Stevenson, which has been expressed by him in these words:

"Not in the ashes of another world war but only in the atmosphere of a peaceful world can the reaffirmation of the right of self-determination have any meaning. I will never fear to negotiate in good faith, for to close the door to the conference room is to open the door to war!"

Sincerely yours,
RUSSELL E POWELL

The U. S. Department of Agriculture by September had purchased 317,600 pounds of frozen turkeys to provide an outlet for temporary surplus. The turkeys will go to non-profit school lunch programs.

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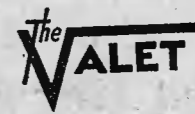
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