

# THE PILOT

Southern Pines

North Carolina

"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.

## Filing Time Ends Today

This week marks the end of the period when candidates for the town council must file in order to run for election in May.

With Friday evening the deadline, that leaves just one day more to go. There are good names on the list of those who have filed thus far, names that mean a lot in this town, in its past and in its present. That these men are offering to place their time, their talents, and their efforts at the service of the town speaks well for this community. Southern Pines people may feel justly proud in the calibre of those who are willing to serve as councilmen for the coming year.

It is to be hoped, of course, that more names will be added to the list before Friday night. And, in this connection, we cannot forbear a word of encouragement, a little prodding, so to speak, to those who may be hanging fire.

We have followed the town government of Southern Pines for a good many years, now, and seen it grow and change as the town has grown and changed. But, though the problems of the town have increased with the growth of the community, we feel convinced that, through the change in system from a town board to the council-manager type of government, the job of governing the town is less rigorous than it used to be. Where individual members of the board were under constant fire and harassment, from citizens coming to them with every imaginable, and a good many unimaginable, re-

quests, now things are different. The requests come directly to the manager, to be settled by him in a large majority of cases, which fit into the routine business of town administration. The council concerns itself almost exclusively with matters of policy and most of the petty, time-consuming, exasperating and embarrassing part of the old job is now eliminated.

In other words, men of ability but whose days are already over-full, who are yet drawn to this opportunity to do something for their community, who see things that need doing and feel the urge to get in there and help, these potential candidates, who are still undecided, may feel a certain amount of assurance that this job is within their time and strength. Good business methods have shortened the time that is spent on it; the elimination of a good deal of politicking has smoothed the councilman's path. The busy man, we believe, as well as the man who has more time to spare, can take on this extra work with the knowledge that he may fulfill conscientiously his accepted obligations without sacrificing his business or knocking himself out in the process.

That's what the council-manager system has done, as well as a whole lot of other things. It should prove an inducement to those still hesitating to take the plunge. We believe the present council would agree and go so far as to give the hesitators a cheer: "Come on in; the water's fine!"

## A Calendar That Runs Downhill

Joseph Harsch, special correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor, presents a calendar of quotations that makes progressively disturbing reading. In their contradictions, in their deteriorating downward look, they show why the morale of this country is dropping, why the fears of war are spreading, why hope has ebbed.

The first is dated October 19, 1954. On that day, says Harsch, President Eisenhower said that in this age of atomic weapons "there is no longer any alternative to peace." Years before, in England he had said: "In the next war, there will be no victory and no victor."

In December, NATO commanders were authorized by the organization to include atomic weapons in their plans. In the U. S., the military budget was sharply cut in the realm of non-atomic war-making.

In Jan., 1955, President Eisenhower did not think that atomic weapons would "normally" be used "except in lesser hostile actions not broadened by the intervention of a major aggressor's force."

On Mar. 8 Secretary Dulles, returning from the Far East, urging resistance to Red China, referred to U. S. possession of "weapons of precision which can utterly destroy military targets without endangering unrelated civilian targets." (To which a good many civilians, and perhaps even a few of the military may have said: "Oh yeah?")

On Mar. 16, President Eisenhower said, according to Harsch, "Now, in any combat where these things can be used on strictly military targets I see no reason why they shouldn't be used just exactly as you would a bullet or anything else."

So, it took the President about six months to decide that there is an alternative to peace and that it calls for nuclear weapons.

Now Harsch goes on from there to say, what is also being said by many other as intelligent and serious and patriotic men as this one. . . notably Adlai Stevenson in his Monday night speech. . . that there is now a strong presumption everywhere that the United States would fight the Red Chinese with nuclear weapons;

(2) that this fact has been fully exploited in Soviet propaganda to turn all of Asia against the West;

(3) that the Western European Powers, NATO, believe that Peiping would welcome U. S. use of nuclear weapons and the outbreak of war for the effect it would have in India and, even more, in Japan;

(4) that there is nothing the Soviet would like so well as to have the U. S. thoroughly embroiled in Asia;

(5) that none of this nation's allies will join in such a war;

(6) that the U. S. will be fighting alone, and (7) that, therefore, the use of nuclear weapons by the U. S. in China would achieve what ten years of Soviet propaganda has failed to achieve: the splitting of the western alliance.

To which this newspaper adds: we continue to hold the belief that the President will, despite all present evidence to the contrary, refuse to capitulate to the warlike advisers in his party. The danger lies, we believe, in the temper of the Nationalist and Red Chinese, both sides brought to the boiling point by the provocative statements of these same Republican advisers and the military. Chiang must know that this is his last chance while, to the inflamed nationalism of the Reds, the temptation to light the big fuse may prove irresistible.

Through vacillation and bungling, the administration has laid the ideal ground for the "incident" that would start the war that might never be stopped.

## Child Welfare Worker Needed

As the time approaches for making up the county budget for the next fiscal year starting July 1, we suggest that the county commissioners make a thorough study of the needs of the Moore Welfare Department.

Welfare Department needs, of course, do not exist in a vacuum. The needs of this department are in reality the needs of the people of the county—human needs of the most basic sort—food and shelter for mere survival, to begin with, and other needs that provide primary necessities in a Christian and compassionate community.

Three Welfare Department case workers are attempting to administer more than 680 financial assistance cases, not including 300 or more children's cases. In addition, with the superintendent of public welfare, they are called on to help in adoption proceedings and juvenile court cases. They supervise parolees and help get up three or four "social histories" per month on persons who are being admitted to State institutions—a task which, like most of their work, means prolonged interviews and asking of dozens of questions of families.

A fairly new task for the Welfare Department is supervision of the county's seven boarding homes, including inspections of each of the homes at least once a month.

On top of all this, the Welfare Department is called on to check on school truancy cases—in the absence of any provision by the board of education for this service. There is, of course, no North Carolina law that requires truant officers to be appointed. The job is dumped on the Welfare Department in many counties, where it is impossible for any of the busy case workers to give it the attention it deserves.

One way in which the commissioners could in some degree ease the burden of the Welfare Department personnel, while at the same time making an investment in the human resources of the county, would be to authorize appointment of a child welfare worker to the Moore department's staff, in addition to the number of personnel presently employed.

In the continuing absence of a truant officer paid with funds for education, a child welfare worker could in this field make more progress with the truancy problem than can overworked department personnel under present circumstances—but truancy would be only one of the many problems in which a trained person could help underprivileged children in this county.

Let no one think that the need does not exist. There are dozens and dozens of children in Moore County who are leading a marginal existence, physically, spiritually and morally, by reason of poverty, ignorance and other handicaps of the way of life into which they have been born.

Because the State Welfare department views attention to children as of supreme importance, this county could receive the services of a trained child welfare worker free of cost, except for transportation allowance, for the first year in which such a person worked in the county. Succeeding years would require that a salary for the worker be budgeted. This offers the county a chance to ease into the addition of such a worker without too radical an increase in the welfare budget.

Will the doors of opportunity be opened in some measure for these underprivileged children? The county commissioners have it in their power to answer the question.

## Grains of Sand

"Just A Little Advice. . ."

It was several weeks before Mrs. J. R. Lynes, vivacious hostess at the Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst, became aware of the fact that Fred Brindley, retired businessman of Southern Pines, had composed a reply to her verses "At Seventy," which first appeared in this column February 18 and which assumed a somewhat patronizing tone toward all males.

And now, as we are told the ladies often attempt to do, Mrs. Lynes is having the last word—having seen and reacted to Mr. Brindley's reply which was published in March. Or will it be the last word? We'll leave that up to Mr. Brindley.

As such a long time has expired since the original publication of Mrs. Lynes' first contribution and since Mr. Brindley's reply, we'll start at the beginning to refresh readers' memories.

Mrs. Lynes first wrote: I've lived my three score years and ten—Should I not know the ways of men?

I've known them brave and strong and wise, But never with wide-open eyes They see just what they want to see;

They want to hold you, yet be free. They hear what's music to their ears;

They want your praise whatever their years. And there's nothing much that we can do,

Unless, of course, be ever true—God help them through.

Then came Mr. Brindley's reply, using exactly the same number of lines:

Hark now, you three score years and ten And listen to the ways of men! They work, they play, they have their joys,

For after all, they are but boys. They tell their tales of what they've done

From break of day to set of sun. They'll open wide their eyes to see

Hedy Lamarr in "Ecstasy." 'Tis plain to all just what they do. So rest content—we know it's true

God helps them through.

Now comes Mrs. Lynes' last (?) word:

Just a little advice from me, to Mr. Brindley on "Ecstasy"—He who answered my verses free is someone I'd really like to see,

For I like a man who talks back to me. Though it's true, alas, I'm most seventy-five,

On good repartee I can always thrive. As in fact I am still very much alive.

So, old or young, whatever you are, Keep gaiety ever your guiding star.

That spirit, my boy, will carry you far. But if you'd be both safe and free

And still not miss any glamour to see Keep the brakes firm on your Ecstasy.

## Good For the Girls

A news story that made good reading recently, we know our readers will agree, was the one about the fire at the Lawson Institute in West Southern Pines, where the girls in the dormitory acted as fire fighters till the department got there.

Frank Kaylor, veteran fire fighter, had high praise for the teen-agers and their teacher. It was a mighty rare thing, said Mr. Kaylor, to find things so in hand when he got to a fire.

Seems when the building was built there had been trouble getting plumbing fixtures, and a spigot with threads, like a regular hose bib, had been substituted in the bathroom for the ordinary tub spigot. When the fire started in the room next that bathroom, somebody remembered that important fact. The girls ran for the garden hose, brought it in, quickly threaded it onto the bath spigot, and had the stream playing on the fire before you could say "Jack Robinson."

Another thing: the day bed in the room caught fire. Said Mr. Kaylor: "A lot of people would have tried to put it out with water, but these girls didn't. They carried the thing outdoors. That was exactly the right thing to do. 'They surely kept their heads,' the fireman said: 'They did the right things and they did them fast and nobody got panicky. Those girls and their teachers did a nice job.'"

## Home Life and Delinquency

In her report to the county commissioners at last week's meeting of the board, Miss Flora McDonald, Home Demonstration agent, told about speeches she had heard recently at an adult education

## Four Responsible Factors Recognized

# Part-Time Farming Is Increasing



(The following article, describing a sociological development that is evident in Moore County, as elsewhere in the State, was written by Selz C. Mayo for "Research and Farming," a North Carolina State College Publication.)

One-third (32.9%) of the farms in North Carolina are operated either as part-time or as residential farms. In terms of actual numbers this means about 95,000 out of the approximately 288,000 farms enumerated in the 1950 Census of Agriculture.

These units are noncommercial by definition and such farms, on the average, contribute very little to the market place even though they may contribute a great deal to the larder of the specific family concerned.

## Distribution in State

Part-time and residential farms are not simply a part of the suburban development. They are, in other words, merely associated with the larger cities and towns of the state. The table shows this fact in convincing fashion. These data demonstrate with equal clarity the tremendously wide distribution and variations of intensity of part-time farming in North Carolina.

In Greene County, for example, only 6.4 per cent of all farms are classified as part-time and residential. At the other extreme is Swain where 90.1 per cent are so designated.

The Coastal Plains counties have low proportions of part-time farming. The very high gross sales value of tobacco probably accounts for this picture. The Piedmont and a few Tidewater counties occupy, in the main, an intermediate position. Finally, the proportion of farms so classified is highest in the mountain counties.

The relative position of the three major regions may not change during the next few years but the number and proportion of part-time farms will very likely continue to increase. This is especially likely for the Coastal Plains counties. Concerted efforts to develop and attract industries into these counties may change this picture radically during the coming years.

## N. C. About Average

North Carolina is just about an average state in respect to part-time or residential farming, since 31.1 per cent of the farms are so classified in the nation. Among the states, North Carolina ranks 25th. Ohio ranks 24th and Maryland ranks 26th.

Texas is the only southern state in which the proportion of part-time farms is lower than that for N. C.

## Factors in Development

Some part-time and subsistence farming have been parts of the meeting in Raleigh. The talks were on juvenile delinquency and were made by a highway patrolman and a sheriff. Both these law enforcement officers said the major blame for juvenile court problems lies with the family.

Said the patrolman, according to Miss Flora: "If the parents would just keep their children off the roads at night, there'd be a sight less trouble. They have no control over them and let them ride or carry on late at night."

Said the sheriff: "The main thing that brings these young people into court is bad homes. They have no decent home life; no one to look up to; no one to help them with their problems. There's where the main trouble lies."

Earlier, Miss Flora told of 20 Home Demonstration clubs holding meetings addressed by their own members on home life and the training of children.



## Industry And Agriculture

A new look in rural living—a mixed agricultural and industrial economy—is evident in Moore County, North Carolina and the South. Above: the Jones, Inc., textile plant at Vass. Below: tall tobacco in a Moore County field. More members of farm families are working in industry, creating a new way of life in rural areas.

onal days. However, it is largely true that only a few decades ago urban and city life on the one hand and rural and farm life on the other were poles apart and represented a fundamental division in American life. Now, however, part-time and residential are defined as simply points on a continuum and represent blends of urban and rural life.

With these simple historical facts in mind, it is possible to look at the factors which have made possible the present magnitude of this agricultural phenomenon. Four such factors, really sets of factors, are readily recognizable and are briefly enumerated below:

(1) Historical factors which are recognized in terms of a continuation of the cultural heritage conditions of the past. Some families and some communities have for generations past combined agriculture with other occupations. At the same time, in some areas agricultural production for subsistence rather than for the market place continues to be the pattern of life.

(2) Developments in industry. For well-known reasons it became possible to shift some industries out to the hinterlands and away from water transportation and water power. Then too, mass production techniques made it possible for the worker to actually work fewer and fewer hours per day. Many such workers put some of their extra hours into small scale agriculture.

(3) Developments associated with the automobile (including buses, etc.) and all-weather roads which have made possible the spanning of greater distances.

(4) Longer life expectancy and the development of retirement systems for both public and private employees. In later years many persons find it necessary to contract their work activities and eventually fall into the part-time farming category. Retirement systems make it possible (or necessary) for many to leave their regular employment while still quite active. They turn to part-time farming for recreation as well as a means of increasing the family larder.

## Definitions

Farms in the 1950 Census were classified on an economic basis as commercial and other. The latter group of farms, with which this study deals, were subclassified into two main categories: (1) part-time, and (2) residential.

Part-time farms were defined as "Farms with a value of sales of farm products of \$250 to \$1,199—

provided the farm operator reported (1) 100 or more days of work off the farm in 1949, or (2) the non farm income received by him and members of his family was greater than the value of farm products sold."

Residential farms were defined as "all farms except abnormal farms with a total value of sales of farm products of less than \$250." In 1950 there were 28,371 part-time, 66,460 residential and 132 abnormal farms.

Recall that in the 1950 Census a farm was defined as "places of 3 or more acres—if the value of agricultural products in 1949, exclusive of home gardens, amounted to \$150 or more. Places of less than 3 acres were counted as farms only if the value of sales of agricultural products in 1949 amounted to \$150 or more."

These are obviously very stringent definitions which means that the large number of such farms in the state is even more remarkable. In other words, the farms classified as part-time and residential represent an irreducible minimum for practical purposes.

For example, there were 41,846 additional farms classified as commercial farms even though the gross sales amounted to less than \$1,200 per farm. Such farms were classified as commercial simply because the total value of sales from such farms was greater than family income from non-farm sources and the operator worked less than 100 days off the farm. These farms plus the part-time and residential farms accounted for 136,809 or 57.4 per cent of the 288,508 farms enumerated in the 1950 Census.

## The PILOT

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