Page TWO



"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. Wherever 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.

An Outstanding Career In Education

The Southern Pines board of education is education, which are listed elsewhere in toschools was announced a few days ago. Dr. Dawson's administration of the schools here has been outstanding and he and his family have become very much a part of the community's lfe.

Dr. Dawson has been in Southern Pines 22 years-two as teacher, 12 as high school principal and eight as superintendent. It is obvious from this record that he has had the confidence of the board of education and of the community. It is a fine record, a record that can be seen not only in listing of the years but in the steady advancement of a school system that has grown and developed beyond all expectations during the past two decades. The stature of Dr. Dawson as an educator is apparent also in the responsible posts he has held in State organizations devoted to

faced with a difficult task in finding a re- day's paper. A decade ago he was president placement for Dr. A. C. Dawson, Jr., whose of the North Carolina Education Association resignation as superintendent of the local to which he is now going in the professional position of executive secretary. His abilities will be used there for service to education on a state-wide scale.

> A life-long devotion to education is to our mind one of the most admirable careers, a way of life that has unmeasured influence through its effect on class after class of young people passing through a school system. It is incidentally a career that has not merited until recent years the attention and respect it deserves from the public-a fact that must have been disappointing to men like Dr. Dawson but also a fact that did not diminish their constant efforts. We are pleased to see educators on all levels becoming rated according to the importance their profession calls for. Our best wishes go to Dr. Dawson in his new work.

North Carolina Loses An Opportunity

new interstate highways and also to acquire some \$800,000 in additional federal assistance was thrown away last week when the House Roads and Highway Safety Committee-apparently under extreme pressure from the outdoor advertising lobby-killed the bill that would have made these worthy aims possible.

The bill would have prohibited advertising signs on the highway right of way and within 660 feet of the right of way. A few types of signs, such as those advertising the premises for sale or goods produced or services rendered on the premises, would have been exempted. The bill to us seemed reasonable, setting up no more rigorous restrictions than those in force for the New York State Thruway, the New Jersey Turnpike and other modern high-speed, heavy-traffic highways. Anyone who has driven these highways can testify to the pleasantness and restfulness of being able to see the landscape and ride

North Carolina's opportunity to beautify its tryside where no signs now exist and natural beauties abound, it makes sense to keep signs out. This, of course, is why Congress authorized the extra federal aid as a spur to state legislatures to accept the sign regulation. Millions of people all over the nation subscribe to the opinions outlined above about the new roads.

> If nothing can be done about all the signs along the thousands of miles of existing highways, these people think, at least on these new roads, the signs could and should be banned. One has only to look at the No. 1 highway parkway through Southern Pines to see how pleasant it is to ride along a fine modern highway where the natural landscape is unmarred by advertising signs.

Unwillingness to accept a federal regulation may have had something to do with the Roads Committee's rejection of the bill introduced in Raleigh. The extra federal money may have seemed to some of the committee through the country without facing an inces- members, consciously or unconsciously, like sant, and often garish and ugly, stream of a bribe. We would like to see supporters of the bill and legislators who could not support the bill as introduced get together on some kind of regulation about the new highways, so that if there must be billboards and other advertising signs along the interstate superhighways in North Carolina, at least the ugliest and most objectionable of such signs would be prohibited. However, it is probably too late now to do anything. Too bad.

When Justice Is Diminished

(From The New York Times)

A United States Assistant Attorney General, George Cochran Doub, presumed to tell the Su-. preme Court on Wednesday that when it is necessary to balance "an injustice, an inequity," against "the safety of the Government" he thought "the people of the United States have the right to the benefit of the ing and research corporation

"It's A New Standard Of Measure-You Know. In Case Strauss Should Be Confirmed"

doubt."



The Public Speaking

I am not in possesson of the facts. This letter is addressed to This letter is written with a twofold purpose: to comment on the request of the School Board that Mr. Irie Leonard resign as principal of Southern Pines High School; and, to view in perspective that high school as an educational institution. I have read school. with interest the editorials and

As one who has had some brief experience teaching school, I can only say that discipline is a mini-

which was working for the Gov-Mr. Doub, supported in this inernment had been deprived of stance by the Solicitor General J. his security clearance on the ba-Lee Rankin. was defending the sis of statements made by his action of the Justice Departfriends or friends of his now diment in refusing to confront invorced wife. To most of us, who dividuals with witnesses who are at least casually familiar had given testimony against with Anglo-Saxon conceptions of their loyalty. In a case which justice, the principle that an acwas being argued before the cused person is considered guilty until proved innocent and court an official of an engineerthat he need not be confronted with his accusers is an intolerable heresy. Chief Justice Warren seemed to be making this application when he asked:

If my neighbor accuses me of anything else but this

(that is, of being a bad security risk) and they are going to put me in jail or deprive me of my livelihood, I have a right to confront him. Why is this different?

Why indeed? The Department of Justice, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, possesses no right, legal or otherwise, to run contrary to the principles of the Bill of Rights or of the common law. Nor would it be proper or safe to give the department and the bureau such rights. There are many kinds of security in a nation, chief among them the liberties of the individual. We may suffer a loss in national security when some disloval person gives secrets to our antagonists, but we suffer much more when justice is diminished. We cannot defend ourselves against Russia or any other dictatorship by imitating-as the Justice Department seems to be urging in its present argumentthe practices that help dictators

bad, but this seems to be the time to dig dirt so that is what I shall do. While at S.P.H.S. at times, along with my fellow students, I was coddled and appeased-a sorry preparation for college, not to mention life itself. To be successful, a school must be staffed by teachers who know more than their students. The student, to be motivated, must try in part, to please the teacher. The creation of this situation demands an underlying philoso-

to control their subjects.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1959

Grains of Sand

Ready To Go

It is rumored that the Aggressor occupation forces had chosen another citizen to take the plac of Mayor Robert S. Ewing, following the latter's forcible ejection from the invasion scene.

The man chosen to be occupation mayor, they tell it, was Capt. A. R. McDaniel.

Says the indignant Captain: "I never accepted. I refused to be a Quisling for enemy forces!"

Oh To Be A Hero!

Seen walking by himself up the railroad tracks on Invasion Day, a particularly round-faced, pink-cheeked young Aggressor, softly whistling "The Bridge on The River Kwai."

Not Quite That Bad

Bewildered citizen, returning to town on "Invasion Day," confesses to some confusion. "I knew there was a lot of bad feeling over the situation in the East Southern Pines School, but I didn't realize they had to call in the troops!"

Right On The Ball

Mrs. Robert S. Ewing, wife of the Hon. Mayor scheduled for early "execution" Friday, was called to the telephone Thursday night.

Said a deep male voice: "Hi! I hear your husband is going to be shot at dawn. How about a date for tomorrow night?"

It's An Ill Wind

There was some pretty brisk firing in town as the liberating troops moved in Friday morning. The Aggressors put up sharp resistance and casualties were reported. As one such was being lugged along protesting loudly to his captors, a waitress in a well-known restaurant stuck her head out the door.

"He's not dead yet," she called, "I'll take him. Bring him in."

Editors And Judges

Among highlights of the editorial writers' conference at Chapel Hill recently were the following pearls of wit and wisdom:

Malcolm Seawell (on himself), "I hear some people are calling me 'the mouthiest attorney general in the history of North Caro-

those, like myself, who do not. know the facts, who align on one side of the question or the other by virtue of their feelings toward Mr. Leonard's use of discipline. This letter is addressed to those people who stand against Mr. Leonard on this question because they do not agree with his enforcement of discipline in the

phy of respect for education in general and teachers in particumal requirement necessary to the lar on the part of the student. task of imparting knowledge. Without discipline the teacher cannot begin to teach!

commercial advertising signs.

As stated in previous editorials, The Pilot's position on this matter has not been as extreme as the convictions held by some opponents of the signs. We have no wish to destroy the outdoor advertising business and outlaw all signs along all roads everywhere. But when a superbly engineered, entirely new highway is to be built through a coun-

question of his resignation has become inextricably entangled with the question of the philosophy which should underlie school system itself. For that reason I undertake to comment on both.

I do not pretend to know the School Board's reasons for requesting Mr. Leonard's resignation, and my education has taught me not to comment where

letters concerning Mr. Leonard

and the school. Somehow the

Discipline Essential

Part Of Education

To the Editor:

My experience in Southern. Pines High School, four years all told, left me with two main currents of feeling: a sense of reward, and, in part, a sense of a ridiculous waste of time. Certainly, not all things \ about Southern Pines High School are

That was the message of a

Tar Heel philosopher who went

on from Riverton to Greensboro

to Baltimore, thence to world

What a preposterous situation it is for teachers to be forced virtually to crawl before their students! Why is this so? Because, as our school system is currently operated, the student rests assured that no matter what he does he will not suffer grievously. Why is Irie Leonard forced to use discipline? Because irresponsible students cannot, according to our philosophy of education, be dropped or treated wth indifference. There's an old bit of Chinese philosophy that says water finds its own level. Until we stop the damming processes much of the knowledge which that prevail throughout our educoncerns Dr. Oppenheimer. But cational system, until the student is made to stand on his own in libraries, in books, in colleges merits or sink, men like Irie and universities, he may still Leonard must be forced either to find knowledge of good and evil use discipline or to succumb and and how man has dealt with it admit themselves nothing more in the past. And such knowledge than sitters for long-overgrown is supremely important. If man babies. has triumphed in the past, he

SIEGER HERR CANNEY Class of 1953, S.P.H.S. B.A., Duke University, 1957 3708 Chapel Hill Road

Durham, N. C.

Dr. Lorin MacKinney, professor of Medieval History at UNC was one of the reading public invited to pass judgment on the editorial pages. Said he, of his method of judging: "To tell you the truth, I took the editorial pages up to bed with me. Some of them put me to sleep and some woke me up!"

Prof. MacKinney came down hard on "those editorials telling everybody to get out and vote. The way you editors bellow at your readers: 'Get out the vote! Hurry up and vote!' You'd think the country could be saved if just enough people would go to the polls. It isn't how many vote, but HOW they vote." The Prof. snorted like a warhorse: "I'd like to keep some of 'em home and vote twice myself!"

Prof.-Newsman Walter Spearman introduced the judges. And in masterly Spearman style. When he came to Fanny Gray (Good Morning, Miss Dove) Patton he spread his wings and soared. After describing her pluperfect fitness for the task of judging the works of editors, he said:

"For my concludng observation, I shall turn to one of Mrs. Patton's own stories: the scene where the old gardener is describing his lady-employer to a friend—'I can say one thing about her,' the gardener says"and Walter grinned impishly out at the assembled editors-" 'she's a prime judge of garden fertili-

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Highway Chases: What's The Answer?

We are pleased to see the General Assem- of a car when its license number was taken, bly giving its attention to the matter of highway chases-officers pursuing traffic law offenders who attempt to escape at speeds up to and more than 100 miles per hour. However the bill now being debated (this is written early this week) has about it drawbacks that overbalance its merits.

Under this Humphrey bill, an officer chasing an automobile speeding at 80 miles an hour or more would have only to record the license number which would then become prima facie evidence that the registered owner of the vehicle was driving it. The owner could then be summoned to court. Supporters of the bill say that, if the owner were not driving, it would be possible for him then to produce evidence to that effect and, in most cases, produce the actual driver, to save his own skin.

The big flaw, of course, is that this reverses the accepted American system of jurisprudence-the presumption that a person is innocent until proved guilty. This vital principle, which is tellingly cited in another connection in a New York Times editorial reprinted on this page, should not, we believe, be trifled with in even so pressing and important a cause as stopping fantastically dangerous and sometimes lethal highway chases.

Though it was perhaps not made clear in an editorial we wrote on this subject several weeks ago, our criticism in this matter is not levelled at the officers who, in giving chase and keeping it up until the fugitive is captured or escapes despite all that an officer can do, are simply doing their sworn duty. It is no doubt true, as they maintain, that they can't let the word get around that all you have to do to escape arrest on the highways is go so fast that the officer in pursuit will quit because of the danger to the fugitive, himself and other motorists on the road. There are plenty of drivers, officers say, who would delight in outrunning an officer in the knowledge that the officer would break off the chase when the speed became dangerously high. This kind of driver, say officers, doesn't give a hoot for himself, the motoring public, the officer or the law.

One drawback, in fact, with the proposed Humphrey bill is that a car owner might have great difficulty forcing such an irresponsible driver, who had been at the wheel to admit his guilt or accept the punishment rightfully due him.

A simple and basic solution to the problem, suggested by the Greensboro Daily News, is to prohibit by federal law the manufacture of automobiles so powerful that they can run 80 miles an hour or more. Action along this line could be initiated through resolutions from state legislatures throughout the nation. This would appear to be a very long procedure and it would be years before highpowered cars capable of terrific speeds could be gotton off the roads. Millions of cars capable of going 80 to 100 miles per hour are now on the roads and hundreds more are coming off the assembly lines daily.

An avenue of approach that might bear some fruit is continued intensive driver education, through school-connected courses such as we have in Southern Pines and through every other feasible avenue of approach to young people-not least, we vigorously point out, through parents who should teach respect for traffic laws, by example and by word, all through a youngster's childhood and teens. Most chases are led by young drivers whose lack of respect for the law and for the pursuing officer is probably due more to adolescent instability and irresponsibility than to deliberate, vicious flaunting of highway regulations. We suspect that these chases get started and the young drivers are going 100 miles per hour and maybe are wrecked and in the hospital before they realize what they are doing. The necessary good sense and mature judgment simply have not yet been acquired.

Certainly the public-people traveling a highway on which their lives are endangered by these chases-has a vital stake in the matter

If the Humphrey bill as written does not pass the Senate, having already been approved by the House last week after hot debate, we hope that the subject will not be dropped and that some sort of legislation can be offered, in the present Assembly session, that will at least discourage highway chases. Could an exceptionally severe penalty be put on an attempt to outrun an officer-a penalty. so heavy that not even a foolish kid would undertake to risk it?

There must be some way.

Landscape Of The Heart (From The Greensboro Johnson concedes, cannot know

can do it again.

'fame.

Daily News) About 40 years ago Irvin S. Cobb said, "All North Carolina needs is a good press agent."

Today North Carolina has as many press agents as Texas has oil wells. The press agents are dong all right.

But North Carolina does not have enough philosophers, poets and saints. It has been exporting far too many of the nome-grown variety-beginning with Walter Hines Page.

Therefore it is good when a native-born philosopher comes home to give us of his wit and wisdom.

Gerald Johnson did just that in Elliott Hall at Woman's College Wednesday night. The occasion was the founding of a Friends of the Library for Woman's College, But Gerald Johnson's lecture, as usual, went far beyond the bounds of that mission.

The sage of Bolton Street came home to tell us that although man's knowledge of his universe has broken the bounds of outer space and pierced the heart of the atom, his knowledge about inner space-the landscape of the heart-leaves much to be desired. He would agree with Robert Oppenheimer that most of man's current knowledge about his universe was not in the textbooks when most mature men and women were in school; but then Dr. Johnson would move on to explain that the secrets of honor, courage and love have been probed by man since the beginning/of time. The problem of good and evil-the supreme issue of this or any other time-remains as challenging as ever.

But it has a new pertinence in a time of supreme danger, when man has forged weapons sufficiently powerful to destroy himself.

The average man today, Dr.



