

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. 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.

As The Election Approaches

The Pilot is supporting the Democratic Kennedy-Johnson ticket at the national level and Terry Sanford for Governor of North Carolina, along with the Democratic ticket for all other state and county offices.

If there is one word on which the 1960 issues hinge, we would say that word is "responsibility."

In all of the appearances of Senator Kennedy and of Vice-President Nixon and in the many statements and speeches made during their campaign, we have been increasingly convinced that Kennedy is concerned with ideas, a bed-rock and undeviating devotion to the welfare of the United States, while Nixon, a man with a history of contradictory loyalties and fluctuating opinions, simply wants to be elected President of the United States.

Of course, it's not that simple, but it's on this matter of responsibility that the paths of the two Presidential candidates, which admittedly run parallel on many phases of proposed government, turn in opposite directions, allowing voters to judge them as they walk alone. And, on Tuesday, it's up to the voters to choose in which direction and under what type of leadership, they want to proceed.

Responsibility is the key word, too, at the state level.

Hundreds of thousands of voters chose Terry Sanford as the Democratic party's candidate in the primaries and he represents a party that for six decades has

given the state good and honest government.

The Republican candidate, Robert Gav-in, chosen by a small group of politicians to be the standard bearer of a party that, on its own, could not possibly come to power, has recklessly attacked his opponent and Democratic state officials while welcoming the support of "conservatives" of either party. We call this an irresponsible bid for power.

And, for the final word, how responsible is a party which, like the Republicans, cannot provide candidates for a full ticket at either the state or county levels?

Their county ticket, for instance, lacks candidates for judge, solicitor, one of five county commissioners; two of five members of the county board of education; and county surveyor.

If the Republicans, as a party, wish to advance themselves as ready to govern North Carolina and Moore County, they will have to do better than that.

A two-party system is one thing—and a good thing—but campaigns that attempt to rally the disaffected, the disloyal and the dissident, in an attempt to slip into power by whatever door is found unlocked—that's another.

So, this pre-election endorsement of the Democratic tickets carries with it a plea that Democrats remain loyal to leaders who have proven their responsibility and who ask for no votes other than those due them from people of their own political faith.

Express Office Should Be Kept Here

The town council has done well to approve and forward to the North Carolina Utilities Commission a resolution asking the Railway Express Agency to withdraw its request to close its office here, and asking the Commission to deny any petition for such a closing.

The Express Agency's proposal is to close the Southern Pines office and consolidate it with the Aberdeen office.

No public announcement of this proposal has been made, but representatives of the company have discussed the matter with various business people in the community.

The proposal was presented, we are told, as an economy move on the part of the company, in that the services of one employee could be eliminated and that the company owns its own office in Aberdeen but pays rent here. (This rent, by the way, is said to be \$15 per month.)

The fact that Aberdeen is a railway junction (Seaboard, Aberdeen and Rockfish and Norfolk and Southern) was also advanced, it is reported, as an argument in favor of the move.

While we do not at this writing pretend

to know or understand the company's financial problems with the local office, these arguments, on their face, seem trivial compared with the loss of service to this community that the move would entail. While it is understood that deliveries would be maintained in Southern Pines, out of the Aberdeen office, that in itself would seem an uneconomical move by the company, entailing much more transportation expense. Many persons who would send off packages or pick them up, if the office were in Southern Pines, would be unwilling to go to Aberdeen for these purposes, or, if going, would resent the time and trouble involved.

The council's resolution points out that Southern Pines is the county's largest town and that industrial activity and population here are growing. If this trend continues, and if the office were to move, the company might be faced with the necessity to move it back here in a few years, a situation that could present even more complications.

The council has acted with the best interests of the town in mind.

Voter Interest At New High

Newspapers are accustomed to urge people to vote—often feeling that the appeal is futile in view of voter apathy—but in Moore County this fall, it appears that the folks don't need much urging, if the interest in registration can be taken as a guide.

Some 2,000 new registrations were placed on the books of the county's 18 precincts during the three-week period that ended Saturday, more than 400 of them in Southern Pines. This is, or is close to, a record, for a year in which there was no all-new re-registration.

Four years ago, for instance, in the lively second Eisenhower-Stevenson campaign, the new registration increase amounted to about 1,000. This was con-

sidered remarkable at the time. So it appears that the Kennedy-Nixon battle is evoking keen voter interest in this county.

Also indicative of voter interest is the large number of absentee ballots processed by the Moore County board of election—over 300 by yesterday and more waiting attention.

We hope all the new voters and all the old voters, too, turn out on election day next Tuesday. The reasons why citizens of the United States should vote are known to everybody from seventh graders up. Anyone who has read the newspapers or listened to radio and TV in the past few weeks knows them almost to distraction, for the din that has been made about voting.

But we don't know a better subject to make a noise about. We're looking for a record vote to be cast in Moore County Tuesday.

Small Pools Hazardous

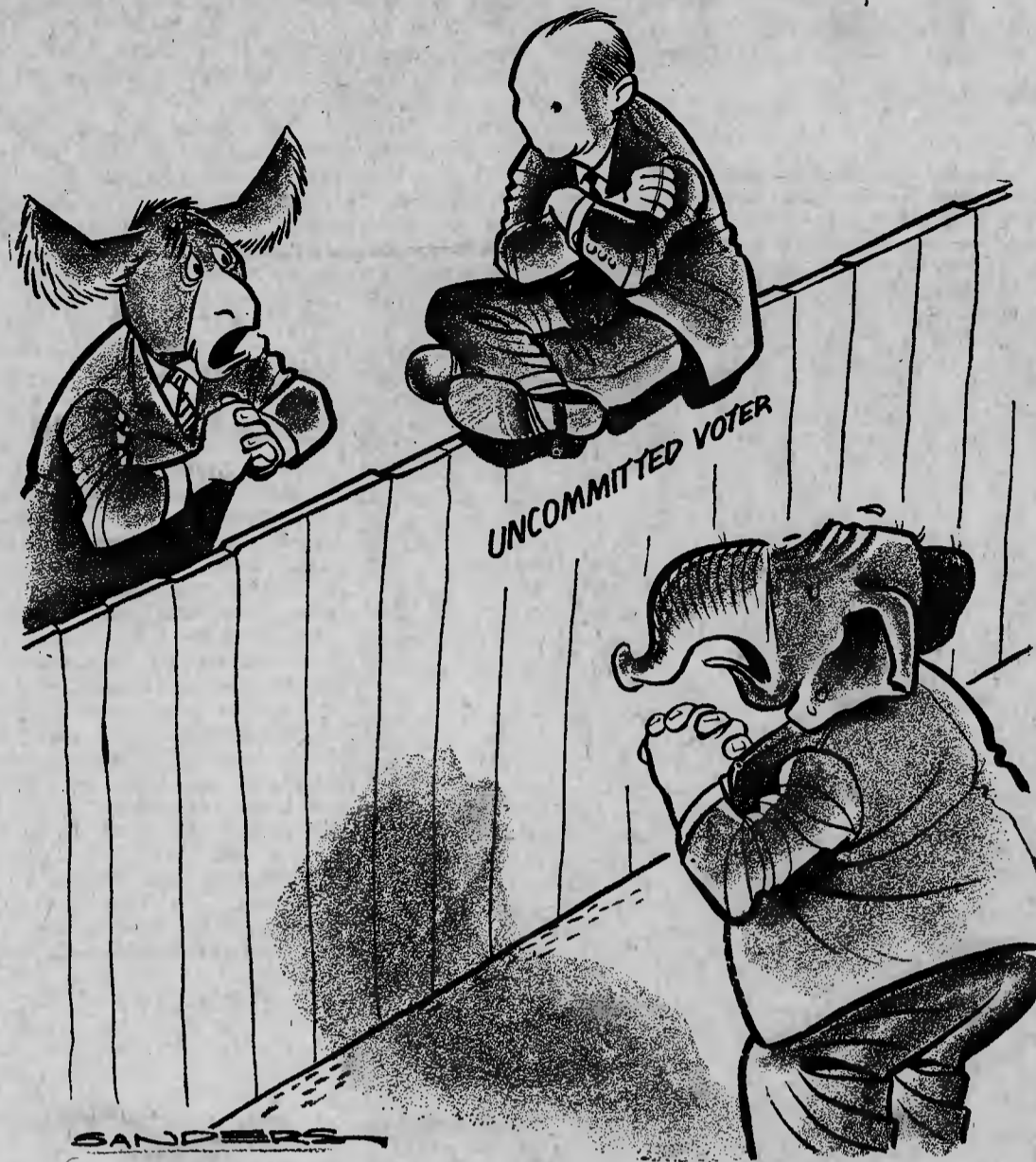
The drowning of a child in a 12-inch-deep garden pool at Pinebluff points out again the hazard of these simple installations that all too frequently become death traps for toddlers.

These pools seem harmless to adults and they add to the charm and beauty of a garden, but they should be protected or fenced off in some way, in a neighborhood where there are little children.

Custom, and in many communities, law, sees to it that private swimming pools are fenced to prevent their unauthorized and possibly dangerous use when there is no adult supervision there, but the provision does not apply to smaller pools which can be every bit as dangerous to little children.

Persons who have such pools or contemplate building them should use some method to eliminate the hazard they pose.

"Oh, Silent One Upon The Wall, Who's The Fairest Of Us All?"



KENNEDY, NOT NIXON, IS LEADER

'Evading The Real Task'

In a recent column, the nationally syndicated news analyst, Walter Lippmann, voices a strong indictment of Vice President Nixon and an equally strong endorsement of Senator Kennedy.

This column by Mr. Lippmann—who is known for his conservatism, probity and vast experience in governmental matters—indicates the effectiveness of the Kennedy campaign, as does also the support for Kennedy announced last week by the independent and highly respected New York Times. Mr. Lippmann's column follows:

Last Friday Mr. Nixon made a speech at Beverly Hills on "The Gravest Problem Confronting America," which is how to "win the struggle for peace and freedom." But there is not one word in the speech saying what Mr. Nixon intends to do to win the struggle. The whole speech is devoted to describing the machinery by which Mr. Nixon hopes to find out how to win the struggle.

The machinery consists of a series of committees and conferences, and of two individuals, Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. Lodge.

There is to be first of all a committee in the Defense Department consisting of all the secretaries and the chiefs of staff who will tell him, presumably unanimously, what he should do about defense. No mention is made of the fact that what the defense establishment and the country need most of all is not another conference and more investigation, but decisions by the President, decisions about how much to spend, decisions about which of the services is to do what. This proposal to sit back and hope to be told by the secretaries and the chiefs of staff is a promise that we are going to have more of the very same executive passivity and weakness which we are now suffering from.

This passivity pervades all the rest of Mr. Nixon's proposals. He wants to have Mr. Lodge, not the President himself, act as supreme commander in all the non-military aspects of the cold war. Between the President and the Secretary of State, between the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, there is to be Mr. Lodge. He will have no legal authority whatsoever to conduct the foreign policy of the United States. This is a recipe for building into the administration jealousy and confusion.

Next Mr. Nixon would convene an "extended meeting with perhaps a hundred men and women representing a cross section of American life." This mass meeting would be supposed to review and survey and assess the nation's foreign policy which, says Mr. Nixon, "would have a significant impact on the global struggle!"

Next, with an insatiable appet-

ite for committees and conferences, he would have a series of regional conferences of all the free nations of Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Their task would be to strengthen the United Nations and the free nations "politically, economically, socially, and militarily."

Next, he would ask the NATO states to strengthen NATO and to coordinate and direct aid to the under-developed countries.

Next, he would have a conference of the heads of government of the American republics.

Next, he would have a conference with the heads of the new African states.

Next, he would have a conference with the heads of the Asian states.

To make all this fruitful and constructive and devastating to our adversaries, he and Mr. Lodge would participate in all these conferences, and so, too, would Governor Rockefeller if he can find the time.

This is the way Mr. Nixon proposes to find out what his foreign policies ought to be. It is a bad way. For committees and conferences do not propose policy. At best, they produce the proposals, the issues, the choices, among which the genuine executive makes his decisions. It is highly significant that never once does Mr. Nixon face the fact that the foreign policy of the United States is formed by the decisions of the President.

This extraordinary array of committees and conferences is a

device for postponing and evading the real task of the President which is to judge and to decide. The oldest and most hackneyed device of a weak government is to appoint a committee and call a conference.

This disclosing speech confirms the impression that has grown stronger since the TV debates began. It is that Mr. Nixon is an indecisive man who lacks that inner conviction and self-confidence which are the mark of the natural leader and governor of men.

This has appeared most clearly in the Quemoy-Matsu affair. Mr. Nixon has exhibited a lack of knowledge of the facts of a great question of war and peace, about which he is supposed to have had first hand knowledge. In the second debate he did not know what the Eisenhower policy was, and he had to be re-educated for the third debate. This is most significant because it discloses such a weak, infirm, inaccurate grasp of a great issue.

The contrast with Mr. Kennedy has become very sharp. It has been truly impressive to see the precision of Mr. Kennedy's mind, his instinct for the crucial point, his singular lack of demagoguery and sloganeering, his intense concern and interest in the subject itself, the stability and steadfastness of his nerves and his coolness and his courage. And through it all have transpired the recognizable marks of the man who, besides being highly trained, is a natural leader, organizer, and ruler of men.

The Public Speaking

Republican Party Too Sacred To Be Criticized?

To the Editor: The most sacrosanct organization in the country today is, without a doubt, the Republican Party. Any attempt at honest criticism of Republican policies is equated

with treason, or at the very least termed damaging to the national welfare. An Administration too scared to be criticized seems to be exclusively Republican property.

I can remember that a favorite Republican epithet during Roosevelt's Administrations was "that madman in the White House," even after we were engaged in the global conflict of World War 2. Also, the Korean War was referred to by Republicans as "Truman's War"—exactly the term applied to that conflict by Moscow.

It was "catastrophic nonsense" for Adlai Stevenson to suggest suspension of nuclear tests, but it was quite all right for Eisenhower to adopt the proposal a year or so later and present it as his own.

While the present Administration has referred to the Democrats as the "spenders," the fact remains that this Administration has spent more of the taxpayer's money than any other Administration in history, and would have spent more had not Democratic Congresses pared almost ten billion dollars from the President's budget requests.

How much more of this hypocrisy can we stand?

RUSSELL E. POWELL
Southern Pines

Grains of Sand

You Don't Say!

Here is another gem of wisdom comparable to last week's quotation in this column, telling young men how to fold handkerchiefs—from the Division of Agricultural Information at State College: "The telephone is made to carry words spoken no louder than in ordinary conversation—so come a little closer to the phone and don't shout. Your lips should be from one-half to one inch away from the mouthpiece. It's just as important to speak directly into, and close to the mouthpiece of the telephone as it is to keep the receiver close to your ear. When you speak right into the mouthpiece, there is no need to shout or talk loudly."

Again we ask: why should state and federal taxes be spent to write, mimeograph and distribute such "hints to farm homemakers" as this?

Noell Noell

Our ornery mood inspired by the Division of Agricultural Information was not improved by a release from that old joy-killer, the National Safety Council.

"Don't give your child a booby-trap this Christmas!" snarls the Council. "Some of the toys given youngsters as Christmas gifts can be lethal weapons..."

After reading about what might happen if you give a five-year-old a chemistry set and fire hints involving "eye-threatening pieces of metal," we've just given up on Christmas gifts for the kiddies.

It's like the time, two or three years ago, when we were starting on a vacation just as a batch of releases came in from the Safety Council telling what terrible things happen to vacationers—boats turning over, campers falling into the fire, fish-hooks catching in the ears of people standing behind you when you cast. After that and a set of releases about how most crippling falls occur in the home, we just stayed in bed for two weeks. It was awful.

Problem

For some time now, Americans have been informed by the canner social scientists that the automobile is no longer a status symbol. In other words, driving a big, shiny, new car doesn't prove that you're a big shot as it once did or was said to have done.

This has been worrying us: what's going to take the automobile's place if the great tradition of American snobbery is to be preserved?

BATHROOMS, that's what. It says so right here in something that's just come in: "Bathrooms are becoming gayer and more interesting and some designers feel that they have replaced the automobile as a status symbol. . . . In some homes bathrooms are built on a grand scale, decorated with oil paintings, wood sculpture etc. . . ."

But how frustrating! The whole world can see you riding around in your automobile, but how are you going to get people to see your bathroom status, assuming you go ahead and fix it all up with paintings and sculpture?

Suppose somebody who you feel really must be apprised of your status comes to your house and makes no move toward the bathroom where the great revelation awaits him. Suppose he (or she) just sits in the living room and doesn't ask to see the house or anything. You could hardly ask, "Wouldn't you like to go to the bathroom?"

On the other hand, you'd have people who were curious about your status coming to the house just to try to get to the bathroom, to see how you rated. They'd hardly get in the house and they'd ask you where the bathroom was. That would be a nuisance, too.

No, no. Not bathrooms for status. Anything but that.

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