"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.

Support the Christmas Cheer Program

County's Christmas Cheer program—a county-wide coordinated effort to make Christmas a happier time for individuals and families who need help.

The names of persons who receive food baskets-sometimes, in the case of children, toys or other gifts-are provided largely by the Welfare Department whose case workers have checked the circumstances of each person or family and vouch for the genuineness of their need.

The program is well administered in the various towns of the county, reaching out into rural areas around the towns, by organizations or individuals who give many hours of volunteer work. In Southern Pines, this function is performed by members of the John Boyd Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, who for years have done a good job of it, receiving, in addition to gifts of food, old toys which members of the post repair if need be. Probably no other toys given at Christmas time in this area bring more pleasure than these once- effort.

We urge generous support for Moore broken, outgrown or rejected ones that are distributed with the cheer baskets.

The program in Southern Pines needs cash as well as food donations in grocery store containers, because more food than the amount donated always must be bought to fill the 75 or more baskets that are prepared.

The Pilot believes in governmentfinanced public welfare programs, and has tried to use its influence to extend and improve these programs, because private charity can never efficiently cope with or reach the needs of the aged, children, the disabled, the handicapped and others. But if modern Americans no longer have to be as much their brothers' personal keepers as in former days, there is still no substitute for personal generosity and personal attention to less fortunate

The Christmas Cheer program provides this personal touch and any one can share in it by giving food, toys or money to the

Air Rifles Are Dangerous Weapons

We commend the town council for existing ordinance. authorizing an ordinance that will prohibit the firing of air rifles or BB guns within the town limits.

Here is the background of recent incidents that brought a demand for such an ordinance:

Street lights have been shot out; lights were shot out in an unoccupied home; lights on a tank at the National Guard armory were shot out (police have apprehended the boys); a window in a private home was hit and shattered; a BB gun was discharged at a metal bucket near which some children were playing and the shot ricocheted, narrowly missing the head of one of the children; boys shooting at squirrels, accompanied by barking dogs, outside a church while a service was going on, had to be reprimanded an i sent away; and, worst of all, an air rifle was actually pointed and discharged from a distance, at a group of boys who had gathered for a Scout meeting.

Without an ordinance on the books prohibiting any firing of air rifles or BB guns in town, the police, though concerned about such incidents as those noted, damage or some other offense against an air guns lies with parents.

To comply with legal requirements, the new ordinance has to be advertised and come up for a public hearing, but it is good to know that it has been authorized and will be adopted as quickly as possible.

We urge parents to think twice before giving a child an air rifle or BB gun. In no case, should such a gun be given to a younger child or an older one who has not demonstrated a sense of responsibil-

Even if air rifles and BB guns are relagated to out-of-town areas, parents should instruct children not to shoot at song birds -which are protected by law-or at small animals like squirrels and rabbits who can be wounded but rarely killed with such weapons, simply causing the animal needless suffering.

It is a great American tradition that all boys become proficient in the use of firearms and the air rifle and BB gun have a legitimate function in the first steps of this process, but they should be used strictly in target practice and all the wellknown customs in handling regular fire arms should be taught and observed.

The council's action will help, but the can do little, unless there is property basic responsibility on control and use of

Rural Diets in a Changing Society

or than their parents did—but they may not be eating as well.

This interesting aspect of changing rural and semi-rural life was brought out in this month's meeting of the county commissioners during reports made by Miss Flora McDonald, home economics agent, and Mrs. Eva Crawford, Negro home economics agent.

One of the commissioners questioned Miss McDonald as to whether rural fam-

In Front Row

The North Carolina background of Dean Rusk, President-elect Kennedy's choice for Secretary of State, puts at least three men with North Carolina connections high in the new Administration.

Most direct connection, of course is Gov. Luther H. Hodges, the Commerce Secretary. Dean Rusk attended Davidson College (class of 1931) and worked in a Greensboro bank in the summers. He, like Governor Hodges, springs from humble people, worked his way through college and is a self-made man: the similarity of their careers is remarkable, though they made their marks in different fields of endeavor.

Thirdly, there is Adlai Stevenson, ambassador to the United Nations, who has ancestral roots in this state and considers it his second home through his visits over many years at the home of his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest L. Ives, here at Southern Pines.

Though Governor Stevenson had for some time been the choice of this newspaper for Secretary of State, we feel that he will be in a post in which he can exercise his abilities very effectively. Probably no other American can rival the respect in which he is generally held throughout the world.

We are pleased that Chester Boles will have a prominent role in the administration as Undersecretary of State.

With Governor-elect Terry Sanford standing high in the graces of the Administration and with the Tarheel connections of Governor Hodges, Governor Stevenson and Mr. Rusk, North Carolina has a welcome front row position in national affairs.

Many Moore County rural families are making more money than they used to— of their food. She replied that with one or sometimes both parents working off the farm, in industry or other occupation, many rural families are buying an increasingly large proportion of their food. Nobody in the family has time or the energy to tend a garden.

Miss McDonald made this interesting point: it's true, she said, that you can buy a can of tomatoes more cheaply than you can raise that many tomatoes, but if a family is growing tomatoes, they grow and preserve a lot of them-more than they can afford to buy, or will buy, if they are getting canned tomatoes at a store.

"They make the money, but often they use it for something else, not for food, she said.

Mrs. Crawford said that she had made survey of 500 4-H Club members and found that only 33 of the families represented by this group of young people had family cows.

This lack of milk in the diet of rural residents also came out in a survey of 110 Home Demonstration Club members. Only 25 per cent of them, the Negro home agent said, bought milk.

Mechanization of farms seems also to be a deterrent on home gardens. As one of the commissioners pointed out, and as confirmed by the home economics agents, one of the reasons given by rural families for not having vegetable gardens is that they can't get anybody to plow up the ground in the first place.

The new pattern of rural life, in which farm income is supplemented by industrial income, is, we think, basically sound and had done much to raise the standard of rural living in Moore County and throughout the State and the South.

Undesirable side-effects of this revolution in rural living—such as the food habits pointed out by the home economics agents-will be corrected in time. In 4-H Clubs and Future Homemakers classes in schools, girls are learning good dietary practices and will, we hope, when they have homes of their own, put more of their income into food and less into payments on TV sets and other luxuries. And the home economics agents themselves are evidently trying to raise the dietary standard of these families—who are by no means all rural families, many of whom eat extremely well-in a time of changing customs everywhere.

"Hello, Ike? If You Think You Have A Dollar Problem ..."



'AMERICA'S FOLK-TYPE ART FORM'

The 'Western'-- Symbol of Change

From the Chapel Hill Weekly

The saying grace of the western hero is his gun. It is the deus-exmachina, the cymbol of masculinity, the hero's key to individuality "a quick and potent agent of death or sustainer of life" says Martin Nussbaum in the October issue of "Social Forces," edited at the University here.

The adult western is America's folk-type art form, "the first to have features of universality," says Nussbaum.

The English had their Eliza- and brave the elements. bethean theatre, the Greeks, their sculpture, the Spanish their Fla- He is independent and individualmenco dancing, and finally, the istic. "Togetherness" may be the Americans have their "adult west-

Writing on "Sociological Symbolism of the Adult Western," Nussbaum says that this form permits emotional identification in "our culture." With six features of recurring ideas or emotions that have produced this form, he implies that the western is "universal enough to be appreciated by a wide range of people as the

answer to their current prob-

1. The western is a symbol of foreign adventure to us. The days of the wild and wooly west are bygone days and few living persons have experienced them. The land of the west is a heroic land. 2. The westerner is a "univer-

sal-type hero." Like Davy Crockett, the pioneer, or like an idolized baseball player, such as Babe Ruth, but more than these, the western hero is faceless and can be any man who wants to go out

3. The western man is a "loner." keynote today, but the western hero can move at will and drift with the sands, the wind and the tide He is not tied down, there are no apron strings attached.

4. The western hero has an unbreakable contact with nature. He is like primitive man, and knows how to live with nature. He sees nature as She is and does not see things as a by-product of nature. 5. The western man is a combi-

nation of good and evil. Modern man is complex and does not see the absolute extremes of good and evil, but finds a middle road between the two. So does today's westerner. He incorporates the "inadequacies," "psychoses," "emotions" and "fears" of modern

6. Finally, the gun is the most important feature of the western hero. Not only the gun itself, be it rifle, six-shooter or sawed-off carbine, but the way he uses it is important. The gun is fascinating; it is the mediator in all situations; it, finally, solves a difficult situation 'when all other methous

have failed.' Nussbaum says that the "adult western" appears at this time of modern man's advances when the world is moving at such a fast pace in developments and progress, "where his inventions and machines are speeding ahead of him and getting out of control," in a revolt against rationalism and

"Social Forces" is a quarterly journal of scientific and social interpretation published by the University of North Carolina Press. Editors of "Social Forces" are UNC Kenan Professor of Sociology Rupert B. Vance and Dr. Katherine Jocher.

The Public Speaking

Voit Pleads Not Guilty

Several have suggested that I brought this week's weather back from the South Pole.

Foul calumny! I wouldn't do that to my friends-besides, I'm buying fuel oil too! VOIT GILMORE Southern Pines

Edict on Dependents Has Moral, Economic Effects

To the Editor: The more thought one gives to President Eisenhower's bombshell edict to bring 284,000 military dependents home from overseas, the more one is forced to conclude that the whole idea is incredibly unsound. Not only will it cause an unnecessary and highly damaging crisis in the military establishment, it will most likely fail to accomplish what little in the way of practical aims it had in

the first place. The practical objective, says the President, is to prevent about \$284 million from leaving the U.S. annually and thus help to ease the serious drain on the nation's gold supply and keep the dollar sound. No one disputes the fact that this is necessary, but neither does anyone deny that \$284 million annually will do little to help. Biliions flow out of the U.S. each year. Furthermore, there is serious doubt that the plan will even saye this pointless \$284 million. What our high policy makers apparently fail to realize is that most of the foreign goods banned from sales in overseas PX's by the edict are fixed-price luxury goods. People who can afford them and want them will buy them anyway whether they are sold in the

PX or not. In all this, one fact becomes glaringly clear. Whether the money is saved or not, it will hardly balance out the grave hurt it will cause to our military establishment. Much has been said about the damage to morale. That is true and evidences of that damage are already showing up in reactions from all branches of the service.

But even more important,

though less seldom noted, is the fact that the edict perpetrates a moral hurt on career servicemen. Why? Because forced separation of families would strain marital relations and destroy families. These disruptions of family life have appreciably increased living costs, multiplied personal problems, strained marital relations and, in many instances, destroyed normal family life. Rather than suffer this moral hurt, the intelligent serviceman will be forced to get out of the service as soon as he can. And those who will leave will be the nien the military can least afford to lose-the highly trained specialists who can get good paying jobs in industry or on the military's civilian payroll. Enlistments also are likely to be affected. How can the military offer a man a proinising career and at the same time tell him he can never enjoy genuine family life? The end result may be a return to a larger military draft. In short, far from saving money, the edict may in the end have to be chalked up as a major economic loss to the nation.

A2c DONALD D. WALTER, USAF Misawa Air Base, Japan

(Ed. Note: A2C Walter, a native and former resident of Southern Pines, is the son of Mrs. S. D. Fobes of this com-

George Mason's 'Sacred Rights'

Today, December 15, is Bill of Rights Day, observing adoption of the first 10 amendments to the U. S. Constitution 168 years ago.

On this page last week mention was made of George Mason of Virginia (1725-1792) who wrote for Virginia a Declaration of Rights on which the later "Bill of Rights," or first 10 amendments to the Constitution, was modeled, and who fought-vigorously for the inclusion of such a Bill of Rights in the Constitution.

Mason died at Gunstan Hall, his estate on the Potomac River, now restored and open to the public, less than a year after the Bill of Rights amendments were adopted.

Notable in the will that he left was a noble statement on liberty, in the form of an admonition to

his sons: "I recommend it to my sons from my own experience in life, to prefer the happiness of independence and a private station to the troubles and vexation of publick business, but if either their

own inclinations or the necessity of the times should engage them in public affairs, I charge them on a father's blessing never to let the motives of private interest or ambition induce them to betray, nor the terrors of poverty and disgrace, or the fear of danger or of death deter them from asserting the liberty of their country and endeavoring to transmit to their posterity those sacred rights to which themselves were

Grains of Sand

Christmas Cheer

Well, here comes the National Safety Council with some of those releases that take the bloom off the nicest times of the year:

"How many persons will die in fires during the Christmas holiday?," one story begins, with further details too gruesome to re-

Another starts: "Christmas suggestion for the man who has everything-almost: Buy him an auto seat belt. . ."

Wouldn't that look great under the Christmas tree?

Crime, says Sir Sydney Smith, a British authority, is "simply the normal development of unchecked primitive instincts."

And the reason for mounting juvenile crime, he thinks, is failure by parents to control children.

Crime asserts Sir Sydney, is "not an abnormality but a form of human conduct."

It's up to parents, therefore, to decide what "form of conduct" their children's lives are to fol-

We can't believe it's that simple-but it's refreshing to hear somebody NOT being profound and complicated about juvenile delingency.

Goose Pond Time Again

Here's a reminder to both newcomers and oldtimers that it's time to visit Gaddy's goose pond (official name: Lockhart Gaddy's Wild Goose Refuge) near Ansonville again to see the amazing sight of 12,000 to 15,000 Canada geese and ducks, many of them so tame that you can walk right in among them and feed them bread

A tip: teeding time is around 3 to 4 p. m .-- and that's a sight! A truck drives back and forth on a hill dumping off bushels and bushels of dried corn on the ear and thousands of the big birds flock to the hillside from the water and nearby areas to polish the corn off in short order.

There's no better place to take a gang of kids for an afternoon's

Refreshing

The Rockingham Post-Dispatch, of which Isaac S. (Ike) London is editor, remains the most refreshing weekly newspaper in the state and we suppose in the nation for

Ike breaks most of the rules and customs of writing and making up a modern newspaper but ends up with a paper that is more readable than most.

We just came across a corner of a Post-Dispatch front page we tore off back in October because of two items that caught the eye.

Up in the top right-hand corner of the front page ("ear," it's known in newspaper parlance) where conventional papers sometimes carry the weather report, circulation figures or an exhortation to Buy Christmas Seals or Support the March of Dimes, this notation appears:

"A Rockingham man who went io a Charlotte night-spot says the music was so bad that when a waiter fell down with a trayful of dishes, six couples got up and started to dance." Right under this is a two-col-

umn headline in capital letters, in the right-hand top or "lead story"

NO COUNTY COURT UNTIL SO REJOICE, YE PURE IN HEART

Not 10 other editors in the United States would have had the guts to write and print a headline like that. Rejoice, Rockingham, in your Post-Dispatch editor.

The PILOT

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