

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.

Good Citizenship In Action

Tuesday's approval by Southern Pines voters of four proposed town bond issues was a display of good citizenship.

Town officials, who studied the proposals carefully and decided to put the issues before the people, can take results of the bond election as an endorsement of their foresight in attempting to meet vital present and future needs of the community.

The water and sewer bonds, for essential improvement of facilities that affect each householder, were handsomely endorsed, almost four to one. The bonds for

the library, and for the West Southern Pines swimming pool, although involving smaller amounts of money, were not nearly so strongly supported, but nevertheless carried, showing that numerous citizens are magnanimous enough to vote for community services from which they themselves may not directly benefit.

All in all, the bond election was a good positive showing, demonstrating faith in the town and its future development—a development that would have been handicapped and hamstrung in several important ways had not the bonds been approved.

Civil Defense: The Picture Brightens

The new Civil Defense Council appointed by the county commissioners and the new county CD director, Col. Alfred M. Koster, are working with commendable cooperation and speed to provide for Moore County an up-to-date program that will be accorded state and federal recognition.

The county will then, happily, be removed from the roster of only 20 counties, of the state's 100, where an approved program has not been set up.

The commissioners, in regular session at Carthage Monday, came through in fine style with an appropriation to carry the program through the end of the year and gave every indication that they intend to back up the council and the director financially and otherwise in the

future. Details of the commissioners' action and other aspects of the program are reported in a news story elsewhere in today's Pilot.

It may be premature, before people have even been told what they can or should do to help the CD project, to point out that the citizenry of Moore County holds the key to success in the program to be developed and that public acceptance and enthusiasm will be essential.

It was a dull person indeed who was not chilled by the Cuba crisis into a realization of how ill-prepared for disaster we apparently are, as communities and as individuals.

It is good to know that sensible, vigorous people are now working hard to change this picture.

Toward A Permanent Solution?

President Kennedy's "road of courage," as we called his policy on Cuba, writing at the height of the crisis, two weeks later seems also to be a road to peace, at least so far as the immediate issue of Soviet offensive weapons in Cuba is concerned.

The world has been moved—though no one can say how far—"back from the abyss of destruction," to use the memorable words of the President's appeal to Khrushchev in his talk to the nation that revealed the course he had chosen and the perils it involved.

One can hope that the leaders and people of the two giants who stood recently brandishing nuclear weapons have been so shaken and awed by the experience that there will be renewed vigor at all levels, in pursuing the noble aim that was inextricably linked by the President to ending the immediate threat of war: "... to join in an historic effort to end the perilous arms race and transform the history of man. . ."

The withdrawal of Soviet offensive missiles from Cuba was most assuredly an end in itself—an action in which the peace of the world hung in the balance. Yet with that end attained, only one step will have been taken toward the great goal voiced by President Kennedy even while he stood, so to speak, with his gun pointed and his finger on the trigger: the "search for peaceful and permanent solutions."

If, having stood at the edge of the abyss, millions of Americans are inspired anew to strive for that goal, the central moral significance of the Cuban crisis will bear fruit.

All concerned, the leaders and their people, have now seen with transcendent clarity that mankind cannot long sanely face a continuing existence on that abyss brink.

We are bold enough to pray that what has happened in the past two weeks be not simply an exercise of naked power but a shuddering first step toward a "peaceful and permanent solution."

Something Exciting in the Arts

Tarheels interested in the progress their state must learn with approval the resolution presented to Governor Patton last week by his newly-appointed committee for a Conservatory of the Performing Arts. It was unanimously approved by the group to take up with a will the task he had assigned them and in haste to the fullest extent the project could be carried. The decision was made to proceed with plans for such an establishment as soon as feasible.

The committee is a strong one, there is every reason to believe it will come up with an exciting and practicable plan. Its membership includes leaders from all parts of the State, among them, we note with pleasure, a member from this town.

It will not be an easy one and they are well aware of that. There will certainly be divisions of opinion between those who may favor a more conservative approach and those who favor a more liberal one; and of course there will be a certain amount of gloomy participation by that part of the public which is bound to be skeptical of any whole thing with the same kind of vision that defeated the bond issue for better schools and cultural needs. But there is no doubt that people all over this state are more and more eager to grow up to the standards in the arts, to show sensitivity and creativity in their children and greater opportunity to witness the crowds of people in our cities when the Bernstein's orchestra or other great music comes to town, the de-

light with which good theatre and musicals is greeted; witness also the strenuous, often anguished efforts made by PTAs and parent groups to bring music and good art teaching into the curriculum of our schools. As a climax: witness the extraordinary success of the North Carolina Symphony, the "Orchestra on Wheels," and its twice yearly tours to crowded concert halls.

To mention the Symphony is to recall the words of its director, Dr. Benjamin F. Swalin, here not long ago, on the need for the Symphony to find a real "home." The idea was echoed somewhat in a News and Observer editorial of a few days ago in which it was suggested that if the state orchestra could be incorporated into the new conservatory scheme, it could probably be transformed into a permanent organization and eventually draw more and more for its players on those North Carolinians who would be students and graduates of the home Conservatory of Music.

The possibilities in this direction are exciting, while the vision of a North Carolina School of Music, foremost in the South and attracting students from every state, brings a real thrill. It is hoped that both the local angle and the vision will be pushed—if you can push a vision—to the utmost. As the editorial was probably from the typewriter of Editor Sam Ragan, president of the Raleigh Music Association and a member of the Conservatory Committee, it seems altogether likely that the push will be made. The harder the better, Mr. Editor Ragan!

Confucius Say: "Never Pet Hungry Dog!"



KEPT COMMUNICATIONS OPEN

UN Eased Way In Cuban Crisis

By JOSEPH C. HARSCH
Special Correspondent
The Christian Science Monitor
(Reprinted by permission)

Not knowing whether the Cuba venture was promoted inside Moscow by Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev against warnings from others or by others against warnings from Mr. Khrushchev, the West cannot yet know which element inside the Soviet political system will be damaged by the failure of the venture.

It is conceivable that failure in Cuba will plunge Moscow into one of those introspective periods which alternate down through Russian history with periods of aggressive expansionism. It is equally conceivable that the entire Soviet hierarchy is imbued with a burning urge for revenge which will produce an unpleasant surprise for the West in some other place—most plausibly in Berlin.

While the West waits for events to disclose the sequel, it can usefully be noted that the Cuban story involved successful use of the institution of the United Nations as a device for easing the way to the solution of the crisis, once elements of the solution were visible.

Two Theories

There always have been two theories about the proper role of the UN. What might be called the "millennial" school of opinion has seen and promoted the UN as the institution which ultimately should make and keep the peace and become a sort of world federation or super state.

Another school of thought has held out a more modest role for the UN. Members of this second group have seen it not as a future super state but as a useful device to the nations in speeding such solutions or settlements as the great powers are ready to make.

THE PASSING OF BLUEBIRDS

From Raleigh News and Observer

For some time amateur ornithologists have warned of the increasing paucity of bluebirds. This fear is now corroborated officially by the current issue of "Audubon Field Notes" which says bluebirds on the Atlantic Seaboard are down to 20 per cent of normal. Severe winter storms and insecticides are blamed primarily for the approaching extinction of "the bird of happiness." Too, Tar Heel observers know the predatory house sparrow has a diabolical talent for usurping the nests of the gentle bluebirds.

Of course, in light of today's issues, the death of the bluebird may seem but a feather in a storm, a wayward picaresque that will not prompt a meeting of a subcommittee, if even of a scout troop. But on the moon, in orbit, in health, poverty, sickness or

and are capable of reaching.

In the Cuba crisis, the UN did not play any role in reaching the outlines of a possible resolution. It did play three parts in the drama as follows:

1. It acted as a post office for such mutual communications as the principles chose to have. The moment was too tense for them to communicate directly to each other. They could address communications at each other through UN Acting Secretary-General U Thant.
2. It provided an opportunity or excuse for keeping the line of communication open. An appeal from the Secretary-General becomes, under such circumstances, a face-saving device particularly useful to the side most in need of saving face, in this case the Soviets.
3. It provided the machinery for implementing the agreed settlement. In this case Mr. Khrushchev announced that he would withdraw his missiles and allow the UN to inspect and verify the withdrawals. He never could

have agreed to direct and overt United States inspection, although well understanding that Washington, of course, will do its own extraofficial verification.

These three functions played their part not in bringing the crisis to a settlement, but in providing the machinery whereby the settlement could be arranged, recorded, and executed. The UN had no physical power, but it did provide useful services. It acted, in effect, not as a world state but as a world utility.

Humble Role

To the millennialists the role of general utility is too humble and insufficient. This humble role is, I think, insufficiently appreciated. The great powers must have a neutral meeting place, a common post office, a general facility for face saving and for executing difficult settlements when such settlements have been achieved.

The role may appear to be unimportant and unworthy all the cumbersome machinery of the United Nations. If it did not exist, it would have to be invented.

What Is An Education ?

(From an interview with William B. Aycock, chancellor of the University of North Carolina, as quoted in the Chapel Hill Weekly.)

"... An education is, in a broad sense, everything that happens to a person—the personal contacts he makes, the things he does, the experiences he has, everything that happens to him all contribute to his education.

"On a formal basis, an education is of course acquiring knowledge and the tools with which to handle yourself in the world.

"But at the same time I think an education is also a matter of moral training. If a man has the tools, and of course he has to

have tools to carry on his profession, he can put them to dangerous uses. If a man is going to be a gangster he'd be a much better gangster if he studied law. For some kinds of gangstering. Or if he's going to be an embezzler if he knew accounting. Part of an education is learning to put knowledge to safe uses.

"And education is training the mind, the intellect. I think part of it is learning to recognize the significance of what you do. A person's outlook is important; what he plans to do with his knowledge and training, and his understanding of what he does.

"I think an educated man is one who goes into every situation and determines the facts.

"He's a man who is interested in finding out the truth. He can think rationally. He's a man who understands his relationships with another man, and a man who understands his relationships with men, with the society in which he lives. He has learned to be tolerant of other people's views and thinking. That doesn't mean he has to agree with everything."

"To illustrate what I'm saying—this is the law training coming out in me now—suppose you and I go into a situation and investigate the facts. We both make every effort to find out the facts, and we both find out the same set of facts. I arrived at a conclusion, and you arrive at a different conclusion, but we tolerate each other's conclusions. We don't agree, but we understand the other point of view.

"The thing I don't like is the person who arrives at a conclusion without first determining the facts. . ."

Grains of Sand

Ye Olde England

Last week, according to The Times, the City of London made its annual payment to the Queen's rent collector.

You'd think it might be the other way round, in this age of modern royalty, with Queen Elizabeth being dunned for the rent of Buckingham Palace, but it isn't. England sticks to the old ways in the old days when royalty was Royalty. So the City paid the Queen, and still does, ever since the first payment was made back in the 13th century.

Even with all the changes there have been since then, nobody has raised the rent on the kings and queens of England.

It remains the same, namely: one hatchet, one billhook, six horseshoes, (large) with nails (61) in them. That's what they got 600 years ago and that's what Queen Elizabeth II got last week.

Which Reminds. . .

There was a tale brought back from Trinity College, Cambridge, some years ago, that was also hung on an old English custom.

It seems two undergraduates, newly come to Trinity and doubtless looking for trouble, were entertaining themselves one day mulling over old Trinity records in the library. They were perusing some of the ancient college regulations when they came across an item that caused them to prick up their ears. The interesting item was an old rule which allowed a farmer to pasture his cow on the square of green grass that formed the center of Trinity Great Court, most hallowed part of the ancient building. Even the charge for such pasturage was noted: one shilling sixpence a day.

It struck the young men that here was a chance to have a little fun with the authorities.

They proceeded to scour the countryside and finally found an elderly cow whose owner reluctantly agreed to hire her out for a few days. That night the two maneuvered the cow through back ways, prodded her into the court and tied her firmly to a stake driven into the center of the velvety lawn. Then they retired into their room and waited.

Great was the astonishment of the inhabitants of Trinity next morning when the sight of the cow peacefully cropping met their eyes; great was the glee and anticipation of the pair who were waiting crouched behind their curtained window, ready to sail forth with the rule book to prove their case when Official Trinity should bear down upon them. But . . . nothing happened. The cow remained there all day; they carried her water even fetched a little hay; still nothing happened.

It was the same the next day and the next. But early on the fourth day, a Saturday, an envelope addressed to the two arrived in the mail. Inside it was a bill that read:

"For pasturage one cow three days: 4.06."

That Fixed Him

Trollope's Dean is giving his newly-married daughter a word of advice on how to handle her husband.

Dean: "If he says a cross word or two, now and then, just let it go by. You should not always suppose that words mean what they seem to mean. I knew a man who used to tell his wife every so often that he wished she were dead."

Daughter Mary: "Good heavens, papa!"

Dean: "Whenever he said it she just put a little magnesia into his beer. And things went on as comfortably as could be."

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