



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.

'If We Can Have Something Better ...'

... The expenditure of large sums, where any controversy exists, should be done only after thorough public discussion and adequate, expert consultation ... Educational experts have not compared for us, the taxpayers, the relative merits of maintaining a separate high school or consolidating with our neighbors ... If we can have something better, I would like to find out more about it ...

Thus, in part, reads a letter appearing on this editorial page last week—referring to the Southern Pines administrative unit's share of the \$3 million school bond issue approved recently by the county's voters, and how this money will be used for betterment of the local school system.

Actually, the letter goes beyond that. The local share of the bond money, \$554,700, is about half committed to projects already begun or promised in West Southern Pines, the other half being tentatively earmarked for a new 16-classroom elementary school on the East side. The latter is a project that could be eliminated, along with a good many thousands of dollars more for purchase of land on which to place it, if Southern Pines were to join Aberdeen and West End (and possibly Pinehurst), in a consolidated high school project for which the county bond issue is providing vastly more money than is available from the Southern Pines unit's share alone.

What the letter is getting at—and we can't emphasize this too strongly—is that the school board's decision to reject

a long-discussed proposal to consolidate with one or more of the neighboring high schools is a decision that simply assumes the people of Southern Pines don't want to consolidate.

For a long time, we haven't thought that the people's feeling against consolidation is nearly as strong as the board of education thinks it is—yet, apart from that, how can the people of Southern Pines school district make up their minds on what they want unless the information needed to make a choice is placed before them?

We do know that twice in the past decade, survey teams of educators from out of the county have recommended that Southern Pines and Pinehurst join the county school system in a consolidation program. We do know that the three new consolidated high schools planned by the county will offer a broader curriculum than is possible here or will be possible for some time to come. We do know the conviction of Dr. Conant and many other top educators that a small high school can seldom in any field—academic, business or vocational—offer students as much educational opportunity as a large one.

It is good news, therefore, that a committee of citizens is being formed to press for information on consolidation possibilities, and a reconsideration of the evidence by the local board of education.

Whatever is done, the citizens and taxpayers of the Southern Pines school district are entitled to an assurance, spelled out in clear information, that we are doing the right thing.

Mr. Eure's Misplaced Hesitancy

Secretary of State Thad Eure's recent proud assertion to an American Legion group that he wrote the "Communist speaker ban law" affecting State educational institutions contrasts starkly with the deep silence maintained by Mr. Eure and all other promoters of the bill while it was being concocted and right up to the minute it was bulldozed through the General Assembly with sudden and questionable procedures.

The ringing statements voiced at the Legion meeting ("I am ready to write another bill if it would strike another blow at communism ...") were nowhere heard while the Assembly was in session. Nobody made ringing statements about the bill then. To do so might have let University officials, the press, the public and even other legislators not in the

little clique who cooked up this totally unnecessary law know what was being proposed; that North Carolina's educational institutions were about to be robbed of the full freedom that is their most precious asset.

If Mr. Eure had spoken half so strongly and so proudly before the bill was presented as he does now, we are confident it would never have been enacted. Once examined and debated, the bill could not have stood the light of day.

Its promoters, of course, did not want that to happen.

Let's hear no more from Mr. Eure on having "no hesitancy about admitting I wrote the bill ...". At the hour when it counted, he was plenty hesitant. And the State suffered thereby.

The Moon Race: Doubts and Questions

It is remarkable that there has not been more public debate on the enormously expensive and incredibly risky government program to send an American to the moon and back by 1970.

Discussion has been stifled by the fateful injection of the moon program into the Cold War, making it a race with the Soviet Union—and thereby putting doubts into the realm of anti-patriotism or even disloyalty to the nation. Ironically, the Russians now say they are in no hurry to reach the moon—and the United States is left, if this be true, racing itself.

Another stifling force has been sheer ignorance. Who is qualified to question or to doubt? Are not the nation's top scientists dedicated to this fantastic project? Who are you or who are we to

Commercial To The End

Right to the end, the terms were commercial.

At that recent extravaganza of bad taste—"A 'Going In Party' On The Occasion of Kidd's Entering Prison For Influence Peddling," to quote from an invitation, capital letters and all—Kidd Brewer of Raleigh righteously thrust out his chin, as seen on TV, and pointed out something he said hadn't been mentioned before: that he had not cost the State of North Carolina any money by reason of his machinations (he didn't use that word) with a sign company and a State Highway official.

It seemed to be the money that counted. That was the point.

Whether what he said was true or not makes no difference—though if the money he pocketed had been saved, we can't help but deduce the State might have benefited. The appalling thing was that, going off to prison, he was still thinking in terms of money, not of right and wrong.

The man at the microphone was vastly different from the haunted Kidd Brewer who tried to kill himself in his barn after he was found out.

We think we like him better in his penitent mood.

PRIVATE VS. PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY

Rising College Price Tag Varies

Higher education bears many price tags today. A private university in one Southern state charges \$1,450 annual tuition, and a public teachers college in another charges \$40 annual tuition.

Though price is one indication of quality, an education cannot be measured by that yardstick alone, for a student attending the \$1,450 institution will not necessarily receive an education 29 times as good as the student in a public teachers college. He may even receive an education better suited to his needs and his talents at the lower price.

As a result, picking a college is like supermarket shopping for the Southern family. Before the high school graduate is a broad selection of colleges and universities classified by types of curriculum, by types of control, and by price to the student.

Ideally, the choice of a college is based strictly on the student's talents, ability and interest in education. More practically, it is largely determined by the price tag, which has been going up for every kind of higher education.

'Basic Charges'

Whatever the cost, tuition is usually less than living expenses and incidentals. The amount which the U. S. Office of Education calls "basic student charges" is a combination of averages for tuition and for room and board. Basic student charges are theoretically the minimum cost of attending college—but the minimum is always exceeded.

A recent study of student expenses at a large state university showed that basic student charges comprised only 65 per cent of total expenses incurred by the average male undergraduate resident student. Laundry and cleaning expenses, transportation, weekends—all add to the bill.

Student costs have increased more rapidly than any other major source of income for higher education.

Trend Continues

And the trend is continuing. Figures based on a special U. S. Office of Education survey of 90 land-grant institutions and state universities show that tuition jumped seven per cent in the single year between 1961-62 and 1962-63.

The arguments in favor of placing a larger share of the costs of higher education on the individual have often been stated. They usually include the assumption that advances in tuition will be countered with increases in student aid because the objective of providing every individual with opportunity for maximum development of his abilities has become axiomatic in American society.

However, there is not enough scholarship aid available to offset the increases in tuition, and where aid is available it is often awarded to students whose parents could afford to see them

through college anyway. Society Benefits The Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges and the State Universities Association recently made this joint statement:

"The process of making students pay an increasing proportion of the costs of higher education will, if continued, be disastrous to American society and to American national strength. ... The primary beneficiary of higher education is society. It is true that great economic and other benefits do accrue to the individual, and it is the responsibility of the individual to help pay for the education of others on this account—through taxation and through voluntary support of colleges and universities in accordance with the benefits received."

"But even from the narrowest of economic standpoints, a general responsibility rests on society to finance

higher education. The businessman who has things to sell is a beneficiary whether he attends college or not, whether his children do or not. Higher productivity and higher income make better customers for business."

Individual First

Or, as the Commission on Goals for Higher Education in the South put it, "In a democracy the individual comes first. We are irrevocably committed to the principle that every individual should have the opportunity to progress as far as his interests and abilities will permit." The Commission has further suggested that by 1970 the South enroll in its colleges and universities at least as high a proportion of college-age youth as the nation enrolled in 1960.

—From "Student Costs and Public Responsibility" in "Financing Higher Education" (A Service of the Southern Regional Education Board).

Extending Low-Cost Education

In states where public tuition charges are a larger part of family income, fewer students of college age tend to go on to college. Where public tuition charges are less of the family income, more students tend to go on to college.

The community college, offering low cost education near home, has helped raise college attendance rates in states where such institutions are located. The community college has become an island of minimum charges in a sea of rising costs.

The economic logic of the community college, for the student, is that it is cheaper for him to go to a college near home than far away. In Florida, the 1961 freshman enrollment was 50 per cent of the number of high school graduates in those counties which had institutions of higher education, but was only 34 per cent in counties which did not have such facilities.

From 1957 to 1961, over-all enrollments at Florida's institutions increased 55 per cent, but enrollment at public community colleges rose 259 per cent.

Eight community colleges were established during that time, five of them in three counties which were previously without institutions of higher learning. In those three counties, the per cent of high school graduates going to college rose 15 per cent.

Over the same period of time, first-time college enrollments as a per cent of high school graduates in the state as a whole dropped one per cent.

Americans of an earlier generation accepted the principle that support of public education through 12 years of schooling is a responsibility which society should bear. Because the present generation has become greatly dependent upon the skills of the scientist, the bulk of all education beyond the level of the bachelor's degree has likewise become a public responsibility through the widespread operation of various fellowship programs.

The present generation, through widespread adoption of community college concept, is beginning to close the gap between public support of secondary education and public support of graduate education.

The establishment of a widely dispersed system of community colleges in a state is a primary method of removing economic barriers to college attendance.

Goldwater ... Or Quicksilver ?

Senator Goldwater (AuH-20) is changing chemically to Senator Hg—the chemical element known as quicksilver.

Webster's Dictionary defines quicksilver as "an elusive person or thing." It doesn't define Goldwater. He is shifting positions so frequently he uses an electronic computer to keep tabs on his new and old statements.

Actually, we still have the same old Goldwater who wants to exploit our natural resources, who wants to tax everybody at the same rate, who wants to sell Tennessee Valley Authority to the private power trust, who wants to dissolve the Rural Electrification Administration, who would weaken Social Security,

who has cast 33 votes against better education since being elected senator, who believes the elderly should be left to shift for themselves, and who has the blessing of Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society.

We are now getting the "new Goldwater" treatment. His statements soften on social legislation which he has opposed so steadfastly. He no longer wants to put labor unions under antitrust laws. He now wants a "study" of our tax laws rather than elimination of the progressive feature.

As former President Eisenhower observed recently, "I am unclear on precisely what Senator Goldwater's present views are,

and I think all Republicans would want to learn more about how he—and each of the other possible candidates—would now approach the issues of 1964."

Now this hurts Senator Goldwater. "It is difficult to understand how President Eisenhower can be unclear about my position in view of the wide publication my views have received," Goldwater observed.

Senator Goldwater insists on the fiction that people who don't understand his present views just haven't read his statements over the years. The truth is that former President Eisenhower is unclear on Senator Goldwater's views because Senator Goldwater has said two or more different things—taken two or more different positions—on a number of issues.

Congressional Quarterly, a non-partisan publication, observes in its introduction to a collection of Goldwater's, September 18:

"His stands on some issues show significant changes from past positions."

Even Richard Nixon, former vice president has noticed the Goldwater shift.

"Goldwater," he says, "will continue to move more toward the center, as he has been moving recently."

Governor Romney of Michigan added to Senator Goldwater's discomfiture by observing: "As far as I can see, he hasn't disassociated himself from the Radical Right. I haven't seen any statement that changes his position from what it has been in the past."

Don't give up, Governor.

—From "The Democrat"

LIBERAL'S VIEWPOINT EXPLAINED

Freedom, Peace Are Inseparable

By NORMAN CORWIN In Saturday Review

In the context of today's world, the liberal sees no contradiction between believing in freedom and believing in peace. For he believes neither in surrender nor suicide. He believes that the policies that are committed to the cause of a durable and enforceable peace also best serve the cause of freedom.

Nuclear war may not destroy all life on earth, but it will certainly destroy the prime conditions for a meaningful life. Peace without freedom is unthinkable; freedom without peace is impossible. Hence the genuine liberal never separates the two. He puts the making of enforceable peace at the top of the human agenda for our generation.

Ideologically, the genuine liberal is familiar with Marx and En-

gels, as he is with all the principal ideas about human organization. But his ideological and historical kinship is not with Marx but with men like Mill, Milton, Jefferson, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and William James. He believes in the perfectability of man. He sets no limits to the possibilities of betterment of the human condition because he sets no limits to the potentialities of the human mind.

He does not blind himself to the existence of evil, but he never loses faith in the essential goodness of man. He is concerned with those conditions and circumstances that can control the evil and provide the fullest outlet for the good. He sees a pluralistic free society as offering the best arena for meeting the problems, basic or contrived, that spew out of the fact of life itself.

Grains of Sand

Foxes Or Golfballs

With the news that yet another golf course is being added to the many that already crowd the land of southern Moore County, there grows a feeling of unease. Will the inhabitants of this gently friendly area have to start dodging behind trees?

Then, as November days crisp up and the early morning chorus of the Moore County Hounds reminds that the Opening Meet is next week, the unease of just ordinary folks grows: is the time coming when we will have to choose between being run over by the fox hunters or hit by the golfers?

The thought brings to mind some observations penned by James Boyd, founder of the local pack and first huntsman, whose disgust with the game of golf and delight in careering about the country on a horse following the pack were about equally powerful. His loathing for the former sport certainly entered into the bitterness with which, in the letter printed below, he bewailed the gross error of the News and Observer when the Raleigh paper named him as an inhabitant of Pinehurst, the Golfing Capital of the World, instead of Southern Pines.

Widely reprinted in the State press, the letter drew howls of rage from the golfers and loud cheers from the hunters.

Letter From James Boyd To The News & Observer

December 6, 1927

Editor, News & Observer Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Sir:—

At a single stroke your powerful newspaper has destroyed my happiness and ruined my reputation. Although for nearly thirty years I have been a citizen of Southern Pines, you described me as coming from Pinehurst. The difference is immense.

Pinehurst is a resort visited by golfers; Southern Pines is a town inhabited by fox-hunters. In the summer, Pinehurst ceases to exist. It is merely a deserted village haunted by the ghosts of departed golfers. But all the year around, Southern Pines may be seen vigorously flourishing, its noble civic life distinguished by sectarian disputes, town dogs, corner loafers, Kiwanians, caucuses, tax-dodgers, boot-leggers, dead-beats, rummage sales, law suits, chiropractors, literary gens, beauty shoppes and all the other attributes of organized metropolitan society.

You can, therefore, conceive my grief at your misapprehension. Especially when I tell you that I am a fox-hunter, and that all fox hunters are ex-officio Nature's noblemen whose lustre no amount of lying, liquor and vaingloriousness can dim. If it could, that lustre would have been dimmed long ago.

Golf, on the other hand, is merely the most expensive and depressing form of pedestrianism. It renders its victims on the one hand gloomy and self-pitying, and, on the other, tediously and interminably loquacious. I know of no other practice, except the purchase and consumption of bad liquor, wherein good money can be spent for so pitiable a result.

From all this, you can see the wrong that you have done me, and when I add that I never visit Raleigh without making your newspaper office into my social club where I try to persuade your City Editor, your special writers, your Staff Correspondents and reporters, and the sons of your distinguished owner to desert their labors of getting out the paper and listen to my tales of fox-hunting, you will feel, as I do, that you have made me a mighty sorry return.

I am, sir, Yours truly, James Boyd

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