

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.

'Little Federal' — Wrecker, Not Builder

As next Tuesday's voting on the proposed "Little Federal" constitutional amendment draws near, we find our long-held opposition to the plan enhanced by a growing resentment against those members of the General Assembly who foisted this perplexing, divisive and unnecessary decision on the people of the State.

The elements in the Assembly who exacted the amendment proposal as their price for approving the Senate redistricting bill were, generally viewed, those stubborn, power-jealous, short-sighted, backward-area legislators in spite of whom, rather than because of whom, North Carolina has made such remarkable progress.

The very fact that the amendment goes to the people as a kind of pay-off to this group (again we speak in general terms and recognize that there are distinguished supporters of the amendment) should make citizens of the State suspicious of it, if not downright disgusted with it.

Under these circumstances, voters have

a right to wonder if Little Federal is not indeed an attempt to undo the good that the 1963 Senate redistricting and the 1961 House reapportionment have done, because the group (again, in general) supporting Little Federal is of the same stripe as those who failed, all through the 1950's, to redistrict and reapportion, as required by law.

Representation is the issue. To our mind, a vote for Little Federal is a capitulation to elements of the General Assembly who, for selfish reasons, fear what the State now—with no further changes—will get: the fairest and potentially the most responsive and positive representation it has ever had in Raleigh.

The Pilot has previously stated its opposition to Little Federal and now endorses and commends to readers the specific arguments against it, listed in an article on this page—an article that also notes what those who favor it say.

We urge an "Against" vote on Tuesday.

Welcome To Dr. Raymond Stone

Last week's news that Dr. Raymond A. Stone of Raleigh had been offered, and had accepted, the presidency of Moore's new community college was most welcome.

We commend the board of trustees on their unanimous and excellent choice, which, like most important decisions, has implications far beyond the immediate task in hand.

It shows the trustees, organized barely one month earlier, mean business and are moving full speed ahead; that they work together well, that they are out to get the best, and that they are alive to the challenge of the times.

Dr. Stone is the embodiment of the new generation of educators which is spurring enormous progress, almost a revolution, in that field. Only 36, he has already rolled up a record which has caught state-

wide attention. The brilliant promise he has shown will, we predict, move far toward its fulfillment in Moore.

A telling point: Dr. Stone helped step by step in preparations for this college. In his acceptance, he indicated that the spirit which he found here had much to do with his decision. He said, "I have been much impressed by the attitudes and actions of the people of Moore, their unified support of the college and their singleminded efforts to get it. With their continued help and support, I believe we can have a college second to none in the State."

We believe he will have cooperation in full measure, and that the people of Moore are eager to share in the adventure and challenge of creating a superior institution which will outlast us all.

College Buildings: Seek 'The Best'

When the idea of a community college was first advanced, Moore County people set their sights high: if we were going to have a college, then it must be the best college. We must get the best man to head it, we must have the best teachers, the best buildings. We must have the best of everything, or as near as possible.

Well, thanks to the county's sturdy pledge and the State's encouragement, we are going to have the college. What's more, it is to be the first one in the State's plan for the establishment of a selected group of community colleges.

Pretty good for a starter. At the close of last spring's enthusiastic meeting in Carthage, Dr. Dallas Herring, chairman of the State Board of Education, had been asked: "If we should get the college, how can we get a good faculty? How can we get the best man for president?" Dr. Herring replied: "We will help you. This college in Moore County seems likely to be the first one. It will be our show window. We'll help you to find the best man to head it and a good faculty."

And so, with the appointment last week of Dr. Raymond Stone as president, a third "best" joins the first two.

Going on at what seems like whirlwind speed, things are moving toward another step: the college buildings. What sort of buildings will they be?

Obviously they must be practical, ef-

ficient, easy to maintain. Less obviously but no less surely, they must be appropriate from an aesthetic standpoint to the purpose for which they are built. Their appearance, the impression made, is as important as the plan itself.

This college must look like a college, not like a factory. It must look like a place where growth of mind and character may take place, young minds expand, ideas burgeon. It must look like a place where Wisdom is the host—a welcoming host.

There must be something of this in the actual appearance of the buildings, so that all who come will feel it and quicken to the call of what they will find within. So, though there may be great simplicity, there must be in its appearance dignity and the sense of loftiness and light that speaks of vision.

Along with the good contemporary planning of this age of automation, there must go a sense of history, of the past, of the great architectural tradition in the unremitting search for knowledge, for beauty and the truth that is beauty. There must be beauty in this Moore County College.

A large order? Yes, but our boys and girls rate a large order. The best is none too good for them. We who are responsible must see that this college we are building will be worthy in every way of the great purpose it is destined to fill.

Basic Schooling: A Debt Long Past Due

Governor Sanford's planned attack on illiteracy cannot help but have the support of all North Carolinians. It is this affliction of deep basic ignorance of 17 per cent of our population which contains the seeds of poverty, crime and other ills, affecting not only the State's progress but the life of every citizen.

The Governor's project of a residence school for concentrated work with some of the illiterates is undoubtedly an important part of his plan, probably necessary to get many such students over the hump.

However, we believe that schools in every county and community could and should be used for night classes, and that the communities and counties should work with the State, to see that every individual requiring such instruction gets it.

In announcing plans for the residence school, the Governor noted it would take care mostly of young people, though "occasionally" it could take in older people "to catch up."

Young people illiterate are not only a waste of money, they are a waste of the law. We are not building a better world if we aren't building a better world for our children.

have been in school and weren't, or dropped out before learning the first things. The law simply was not enforced.

This is an outstanding example of the penny-wisdom, pound-foolishness into which a poor State will take refuge. Attendance officers cost money. Getting them was for years the counties' responsibility. Welfare departments were on starvation rations. Child welfare workers were, and are still, all too rare on welfare payrolls.

What the State owed these people as children, it still owes them. Whatever it takes, using the school buildings and equipment, school buses for transportation, additional teachers, counselors and administrators, must be provided. Whatever it costs, it's a bargain.

And while the plans are being made, it must be noted that even today, too many children aren't in school and not enough is being done about it. In Moore County schools, for example, one white attendance officer, added just this year, and one Negro, added three years ago, are doing their best but cannot cope with the whole situation. (The city administrative units have none.) Let us watch out that, while trying to cure the illiteracy born States of the Union. Counties owe their existence and derive their

Moreover, opponents say, the counties of North Carolina are not legally comparable to sovereign States of the Union. Counties owe their existence and derive their

"Burns Good Like A Statistic Should . . ."



ZSCHIESCHE

THE 'LITTLE FEDERAL' CONTROVERSY

Pros, Cons On Amendment Listed

Here are the major arguments for and against the constitutional amendment, known as the "Little Federal" plan, on which North Carolina voters are scheduled to express their approval or disapproval next Tuesday, January 14:

For The Amendment

1. The amendment would make possible a legislative body like that of the Federal government (hence "Little Federal") in which the North Carolina House would be comparable with the U. S. Senate, based on geography, and the North Carolina Senate would be comparable with the US House of Representatives, based on population. This plan, say its proponents, would make the North Carolina legislature "conform to basic principles of representative government."

2. A State House of Representatives based purely on geography, with one legislator from each of the 100 counties, no matter what a county's size, would assure fair representation for the widely diverse sectional interests of the state and would act as a check on hasty legislation not of benefit to the whole state—especially important since the Governor of North Carolina has no veto power.

3. The 20 "extra" House seats, which are now allotted, according to a constitutional formula, to growing counties as they add population and would be lost under Little Federal, would be compensated for by 20 added Senate seats, the Senate then becoming a body based "purely" on population.

4. Little Federal would prevent control of either house of the General Assembly by a "concentrated population majority"—but populous counties would have the power, in the Senate, to control legislation they deemed for or against their best interests.

5. The amendment makes redistricting of the Senate inevitable after each decennial census, providing that if the General Assembly does not redistrict at that time, a commission whose members are specified would be empowered to accomplish the task. Proponents note that this would prevent the failure of legislatures to redistrict (the N. C. Senate was not redistricted from 1941 until 1963.)

Against the Amendment

1. Opponents of the amendment say that the comparison between the U. S. Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly is not valid. For nearly 100 years, the North Carolina Constitution, while guaranteeing that each county has at least one member in the House, has seen both the House and Senate as representative bodies, limiting neither to purely geographical representation. Amendment opponents see this as a healthy approach, suitable to the state, if not to the nation, and see no reason to change.

2. Moreover, opponents say, the counties of North Carolina are not legally comparable to sovereign States of the Union. Counties owe their existence and derive their

A "FOR" Vote Would Mean . . .

100 members in the House of Representatives, one from each county.
70 members in the Senate, to be allotted in districts that would be set up by the 1965 General Assembly, according to a formula based on population.
The plan would go into effect for the 1967 General Assembly.

An "AGAINST" Vote Would Mean . . .

120 members in the House of Representatives, at least one from each county, and the rest on the basis of population of the counties.
50 members in the Senate, one each from the 37 new senatorial districts, the rest on the basis of population of the districts.

This is the plan now in effect as a result of redistricting accomplished during the special session of the General Assembly in October.

powers from the General Assembly and may be "altered, changed or abolished" by the Assembly and do not therefore bear toward the legislature the same relationship as the States to Congress.

3. The N. C. Senate has just been redistricted according to the constitutional formula that each senator represent "as near as may be an equal number of inhabitants," and the Senate now stands

as fairly districted as it ever has. The addition of 20 senators under the Little Federal Plan would require another redistricting and the new plan, it's pointed out, abolishes the "as near as may be" formula and substitutes a stipulation that there can be a variation of 25 per cent above or below the population norm in each senatorial district—meaning that one district could vary as much as 50 per cent from another in population, permitting gerrymandering tactics. The much-touted "pure population" aspect of the Senate's makeup, therefore, is not nearly so "pure" as the amendment's proponents would like to have us believe. No such variation, opponents point out, is allowed in population of districts represented by members of the U. S. House of Representatives, to which the proposed N. C. Senate is being compared.

The Public Speaking

Kennedy Memorials Have Been Overdone

To the Editor:

Since no further reference to a local John F. Kennedy memorial has appeared in the last issue or two of The Pilot, is this, an indication that the idea has been dropped?

My opinion is that the whole thing has been overdone, but I realize full well the futility of trying to convince those swept along in the Niagara of emotion that has followed President Kennedy's death.

Perhaps, though, some may be influenced by these excerpts from recent articles, concerning Jacqueline Kennedy's feelings about the matter: "Newsweek: 'For all her zeal in memorializing her husband, she is aware that such gestures as naming things for him—however well intentioned—can be carried to excess.'"

Drew Pearson: "Embarrassed over the number of memorials to President Kennedy, according to intimates, is the serene Jacqueline Kennedy. She thought it would be nice to rename Cape Canaveral after her husband, but the reaction to this was sour in some quarters and she now fears so many places are taking his name that it may cause an adverse public reaction."

As for the suggestion to rename a street here "Jacqueline Boulevard," I agree on one point: I, too, would have chosen to remain anonymous, as did the writer of that letter!

MRS. J. H. CARTER, JR.
Southern Pines

Grains of Sand

Too Bad

Jimmy, spending his third year in the second grade, felt so sorry for his teacher, that nice lady, Miss Jones.

He seemed resigned to his own fate, but, said Jimmy: "It's too bad for Miss Jones, she has to spend three years in the Second Grade, too."

Byronic "Poetry"

For some reason we've never credited the poet Byron with a sense of humor. But under that dramatic swashbuckling exterior, he must have had a good one. For one thing, he loved to make up and tease himself and others with horrible little rhymes. Such as these:

"What men call gallantry and gods adultery, is much more common where the climate's sultry."

And another: "But, oh ye lords of ladies intellectual, Inform us truly, have they not hen-pecked you all?"

Words Are Fascinating

Here's an interesting thing about a word, as told in John Moore's good book, "You English Words":

He says that the word "SMOG" was an ancient English word that went out of use long ago. It was quite forgotten until that time out in Los Angeles when the city was first badly blanketed by smoky, tainted fog. Then L. A. combined the two words and called it the old word: "SMOG."

It was only a few years later that the same thing happened to London, only much worse. It was in December, 1952, that a similar fog and smoke combined over that city. It choked to death a number of frail, elderly people and also a lot of entries in the Fat Stock Show then being held at Smithfield, a suburb of London. It was only the enterprise of the Scottish herdsman that succeeded in saving the lives of those animals that did survive.

How? They gave them huge drinks of the best Scotch whiskey. Thereby creating a prodigious but happy uproar.

So that's how come "SMOG" came back into the English language.

The Certain Naval Person

Read in that charming book, "My Darling Clementine," that after she'd been married to Winston Churchill a few years, Lady Clementine decided she was married to a hurricane.

Force 200 at least, we'd say.

For The Birds

Christmas was for the Birds, this year as far as GRAINS was concerned. And that's not meant in the way you think.

Now why should that expression be taken to mean that the thing referred to is no good? The person who invented it certainly didn't know anything about our birds. Ours turn up their beaks at trash. They're as pernickety about the quality of the eats we supply as the most high-falootin, mustachioed gourmet.

We've given up trying to get rid of inferior goods by means of the birds. Put out a dried up old piece of apple—and many of the books actually recommend such—and they flirt and twerp, picking and pecking here and there, eventually shoving it off the edge of the feeder.

"It's for the bugs!" they screech in that unattractive nasal high C.

Our birds had good fresh seeds with lots of sunflower mixed in Christmas morning and they really put it away. The Squirrel was apparently at home eating the Christmas dinner he'd been storing away, because for once he didn't show up and the birds took full advantage of it.

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