

# Think Before You Vote On The Courthouse Plan

On Nov. 14, Laurens County voters will go to the polls to cast their ballots in an advisory referendum concerning a proposed new courthouse in Laurens.

The courthouse, as proposed, would cost an estimated \$2.9 million and probably call for about a 15-mill tax levy increase.

It is unfortunate but local issues often suffer because of rising federal government costs and taxes.

People, apparently feel there is little they can do to cut down on federal spending but they can have a more di-

rect say in the spending at the local level.

**WE ASK** that you consider the new courthouse proposal strictly on its merits. Do not reject it immediately because it will mean an eventual tax increase. Do not accept it simply because it will add an attractive major building to the Laurens County landscape. We just ask that you study the proposal and give it serious thought before you vote.

R. L. Plaxico of Clinton was chairman of the committee which drew up the proposal. Under his leadership, the committee has done a good job.

There is much to recommend the proposal.

For example, considerable thought was given to grouping offices which have related duties. The efficiency of these offices was a prime concern and it shows in the final proposal.

Another attraction is the planning which went into the jail portion of the building. The jail is designed for maximum security and allows for juveniles to be held in areas away from adult prisoners who may be hardened criminals. This latter consideration is an excellent one.

The proposed site was well-selected. It is very near the center of population in the county and is within easy driving distance from all points in the county. It would take only a few minutes to drive from Clinton to the new courthouse site. Plenty of parking space is planned. Undoubtedly, there would be a considerable saving of time to do business in the proposed new courthouse when compared with running through that ring-around-the-courthouse traffic and then finding a parking space at the current courthouse.

**THERE** are those who do not wish to abandon the current courthouse. We feel that something should be done to preserve that building through some useful purpose. However, the idea of renovating the current courthouse to continue as a courthouse does not compare well with the new courthouse plan. In the long run, it would be more expensive. As Sen. W. C. (Bill) Dobbins of Joanna pointed out recently, if the current courthouse is renovated, that will be an expensive project and in 10 years we will be faced with a courthouse problem again. Ten years from now, construction costs undoubtedly will be considerably higher than they are now.

Plaxico and his committee and the county delegation have volunteered to go anywhere and speak to any group to explain the proposal and answer questions about it.

We suggest that civic clubs and other groups accept their offer. If you have a question or doubts about the proposal, ask a member of the committee or the legislative delegation.

## A Salute To Mrs. Pitts

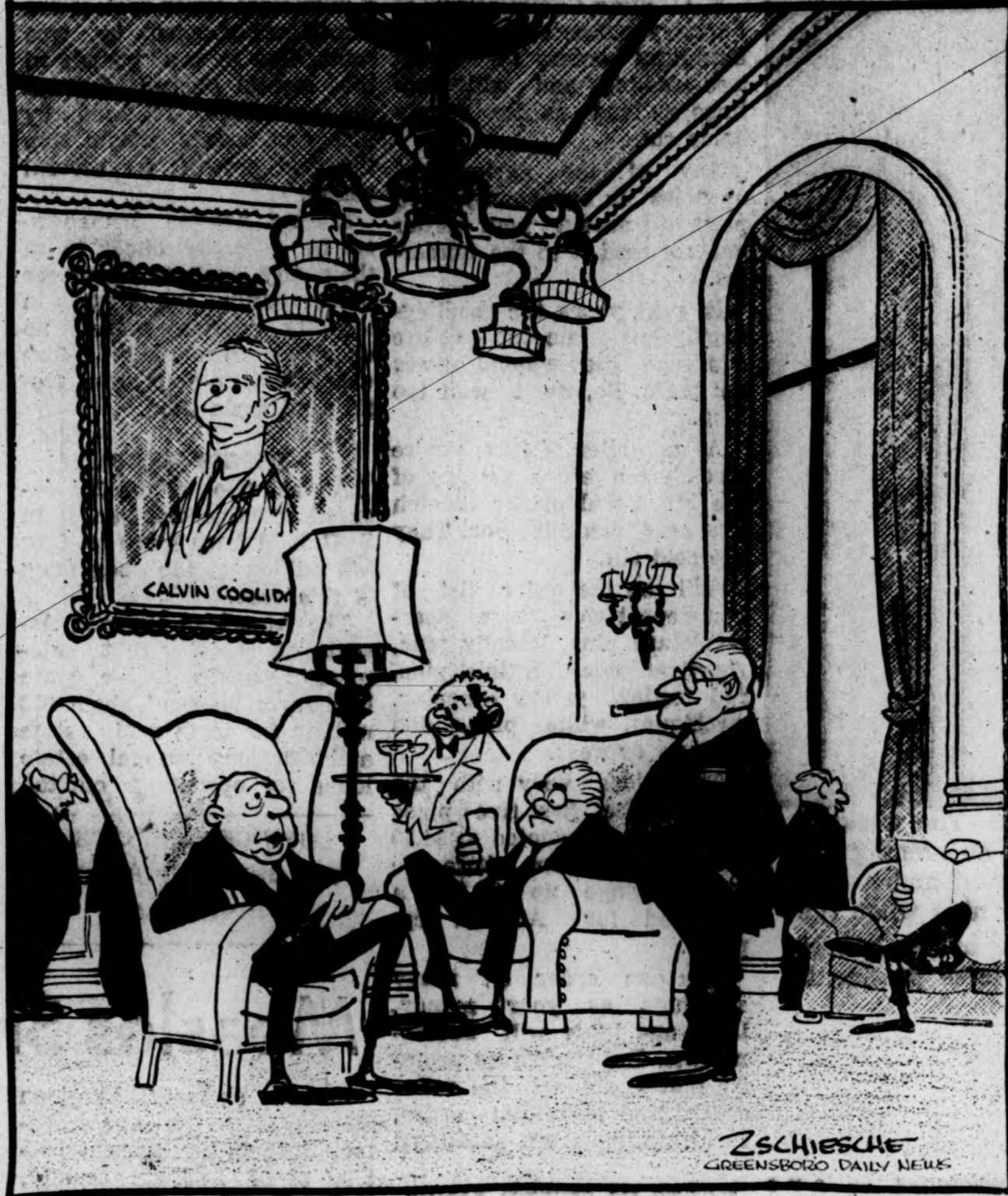
The selection of Mrs. P. M. Pitts as Clinton's "Career Woman of the Year" brings a well-deserved honor to a woman who has contributed much to Clinton.

As secretary of the Greater Clinton Chamber of Commerce for the past 14 years and secretary-treasurer of the Greater Clinton United Fund for the past 10 years, she has worked behind the scenes in two organizations which are instrumental in the progress and welfare of the community.

Her many other activities have been noted previously and the list is long—long enough to be a busy schedule even if she didn't have her career to follow.

In addition to all this, she has reared three fine sons who have realized major accomplishments in their own individual fields.

It is gratifying to see the spotlight of public attention fall upon a woman who has worked quietly and without acclaim on so many worthwhile projects.



## Stories Behind Words



By William S. Penfield

### Admiral

The word "admiral," which denotes a naval officer of the highest rank, came from the Arabic word "amir," ruler or commander.

There were a number of "amirs"—amir-al-muminin, commander of the faithful; amir-al-ma, commander of the water, etc. European writers adopted "amir-al" as one word—"amiral"—and used it as a title for a commander.

The English, influenced by Latin words beginning with "adm," inserted a "d," which resulted in the present form—"admiral."

## Parents Should Watch TV Diets

"Terror-Vision Is On Again—Will TV's Increasing Diet of Brutality Have Harmful Effect on Children?" is the headline of a recent newspaper story. Here are some excerpts:

"Despite parental outrage over the increasing volume of TV violence, this fall there's more mayhem committed in our living rooms than at any time since TV became the electronic babysitter.

"Violence does not adversely affect well-adjusted children," says Stanford University scholar Wilbur Schramm. He believes any television show is potentially beneficial: its harm or benefit lies in its power to reinforce parental values.

"Child psychiatrist Dr. Ner Littner, says, 'A constant diet of brutality can harm children, especially teenagers. They are trying to cope with their own violent feelings. A TV diet that stirs up these impulses makes it harder for them to grow up.'

"Dr. Jerome L. Schulman, head of child psychiatry at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, says, 'Rather than violence, I'm more concerned about TV as a substitute for living. (The average child, one study shows, watches 5,000 hours of TV by age 18.) We are becoming a people who sit in front of television instead of talking. TV is the big mother-narcotic.'

While the specialists debate the harmful effects of crime and brutality on TV and the motion picture screen, we might take a look at the events which are happening in the world today. When in the history of man has there ever been more brutality, sadism, murder, lust, robbery, and even the scientific extermination of millions of individuals in concentration camps, than in the past 50 years.

We are witnessing unprecedented indifference in the suffering of our fellowman. We read of crime on the

## EVERYDAY COUNSELOR

By DR. HERBERT SPAUGH

streets, in the subways of our big cities, perpetrated in full view of bystanders who make no effort at all to help the victim.

Modern communication brings all this into our homes. We see it and our children see it.

In the last three months two dreadful cases have been brought to my attention. In one case a teenage boy murdered his mother in the living room of their home. In another case a teenage boy murdered his teenage sister as they watched television. Many thoughtful people cannot help but associate crime presented as entertainment with crime perpetrated in fact.

Parents who are careful about the diet received by their children through the month might take equal care about the diet received through the eye and ear.

You may have copies of my bulletins, No. 76, "Play With Children," and No. 81, "Home Prayers," by writing to The Everyday Counselor in care of this newspaper enclosing a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and twenty cents to cover printing costs.

### Wallace To Speak

COLUMBIA—Former Alabama Governor George C. Wallace, who is being mentioned as a possible third-party candidate for President in 1968, will speak at the Township Auditorium in Columbia, Saturday night, Nov. 18.

The address, which will be under the sponsorship of the Wallace Forum Association of South Carolina, is part of a nation-wide tour by Wallace.

## Age Limit Raised For Vet Benefits

Effective Oct. 1, the maximum age limit for sons and daughters of veterans entitled to Veterans Administration educational financial assistance was raised from 23 to 26. The liberalization is provided in a new law signed by the President last Aug. 31, according to Hayward Watkins, Laurens County Service Officer.

Eligible for this help under the War Orphans Educational Assistance Program are the sons and daughters of veterans who died or were permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected injury or illness, Watkins said.

They may receive grants from the VA up to \$130 a month for 36 months of approved, full-time college or vocational training. Lesser grants are paid for three quarters or half-time training.

While an 18 to 26 age limit generally applies, a young person may begin school before age 18, and, in certain instances, continue after age 26.

Marriage is not a bar to this benefit.

# Colonial-Nelson Bankruptcy Case Is Complicated

By THE CHRONICLE'S Capitol News Bureau COLUMBIA—One of the most unique, and the largest in sum, bankruptcy cases in the history of South Carolina is underway in Columbia but it has received scant public attention.

Starting in March with the filing of the \$1,301,103 bankruptcy petition of Colonial Distributing Co. of Columbia, the complicated case was further compounded in September when the president of the company, Ellison Theodore Nelson, and wife Marion Lucile Perry Nelson, filed a personal bankruptcy petition which was likewise in the astronomical bracket—\$1,051,807.95.

A special master, Robert J. Foster, a professor at the University of South Carolina Law School, was appointed by Federal Judge Robert Hemphill to handle the Colonial-Nelson case.

After whatever series of hearings are necessary to establish the facts of the case, Foster will report back to Judge Hemphill with his findings. Then the battle between the lawyers begins before the judge. There could be several hot summers and cold winters ahead before final disposition of the case is made.

Nelson's troubles began in March when a bevy of creditors forced his alcoholic beverage wholesale business on the financial rocks via the bankruptcy court.

Since then Colonial's assets have been up for grabs in a series of hearings and related actions.

On Sept. 19 Nelson took the plunge personally. In his petition he listed a parade of suits which were in progress on real estate deals and a bunch of back bills and pending actions from liquor suppliers like \$699,000 owed to Majestic Distilling Co. of Maryland, Affiliated Distillers Corp. of New York, and Canada Dry Corp. of New York.

Nelson listed as secured claims \$332,000 and unsecured claims of only \$8,807. And in addition to the \$699,000 there were miscellaneous items of \$12,000 and \$44,068.64.

To offset his total listed indebtedness of \$1,051,807.95,

*The Old Timer*

One of the best educational toys is still a pencil."

Nelson could list only \$50,387.22.

In the Colonial suit, a batch of creditors allege that Nelson, seeing that there were headaches a head, showed some preferential treatment by allowing some other creditors to get theirs while the getting was good.

According to the wording in that petition, Colonial committed one or more acts of bankruptcy in that while it was insolvent it "... 1—made or suffered preferential transfers ... 2—transferred or removed assets which were subject to warehouse receipts ... 3—suffered or permitted creditors to obtain a lien upon various assets through legal proceedings ..."

Colonial was a bonded whisky warehouse and is one of only two in the state. Running a bonded whisky warehouse is not like running a bonded cotton warehouse, says the Attorney General's office. And here is where the question gets complicated.

"This is the first time it has come up," said state's assistant attorney general Everett Brandon who is handling the state's interests for Commissioner of Agriculture W. L. Harrelson, who is responsible for bonded warehouses.

Big money is involved in any warehouse doings since one is dealing in large—and expensive—lots. And hardly anyone walks around with that kind of pocket change or has that much in a readily available checking account.

Hence, loans against sales are common. What's in the warehouse is the security.

The state takes the position that in this case security is identified by case, size of bottles and brand. It seems the special master takes the position that a case of bottles by any other name is a case of assets to be shared equally.

Colonial's case is complicated and Nelson's personal financial troubles will add to the problem. Creditors and attorneys, private and public, are clamoring for their share of what's left.

Meanwhile, Capitol News Bureau has learned that another unique and massive case, this one a personal income tax action, may soon be announced from the Greenville County area.

Insiders say that Internal Revenue Service adding machines are putting together figures and totals approaching the \$ 2.5 or \$3 million mark. According to some of the best legal minds, this could make the case the largest personal income tax suit in state history.

CLINTON, S. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1967

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## Will You Be 6 Years Old In Nov.?

### Get Your FREE Pepsi Party Package

# THURSDAY, NOV. 2nd

## Baldwin Motor, Co., N. Broad St., Clinton, S. C.

### 2:00-2:30 P. M.

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**LOOK FOR THIS TRUCK!** This is The Only Place You Can Get Your Pepsi Party Package

If you live in Greenville or Laurens Counties, and will be six (6) years old anytime in Nov. here's all you have to do to get your free Pepsi Happy Birthday Party Package. Have Mom or Dad, or your guardian take you to the Pepsi-Party Truck to help you carry your big Pepsi-Party Package home. You must bring your birth certificate and twenty cents for bottle deposit (this will be returned to you... remember, a bottle returned is money earned!) Now you can have your own Birthday Party and invite your own friends!

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- 12 BIG Bottles of Pepsi-Cola
- 12 Cups of Pet Ice Cream\* with spoons
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Watch Papers For Your Pepsi-Party Package Locations

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