

**Pulse of the Public**

# 'Good-Bye' to 1776; 'Hello' to 1984

DECATUR—I can not sit back for this one, something must be said. When the people of American can not speak their minds without getting blasted by armed government troops one must wonder what this once great country is coming to. What has happened to our freedoms? What of our freedoms of speech and assembly? Is the **Kent State** massacre an indication of what will happen in the future to dissenters?

The threat of a facist state hangs more heavily over our heads than ever before. The placards reading 'The world is doomed' were more accurate than the prophets knew. Unless responsible action is taken soon by all good citizens we can say 'goodbye' to the declaration of 1776 and 'hello' to 1984

PATRICK J. MANSELL.

## ***Dying Machine?***

DALTON—A two-party political system for our state is beginning to blossom in time for the 1970 elections. Many Georgians are now realizing that the Republi-

can Party is able to furnish us with much needed new leadership.

After the recent Georgia GOP Convention, one could be confident that many Southerners are awakening to the realization that we can have "a new day for Georgia" and the rest of the South only through rededicating ourselves to the needs of this state, this nation and a political party that, at all levels, cares about the South. I can't help but to agree with Georgia Congressman Fletcher Thompson when he praises the Nixon Administration's "Southern strategy".

Unlike the state and national Democrats who have led us to hell (we haven't made it back yet), the GOP emphasizes "integrity in government, integrity in the highest offices in the state." Georgians cannot afford to continue to elect men who do not put the first emphasis on the benefit of the people of this state beyond all else.

From the governor's race to the court house to Congress, more and more Georgians are now willing to support a "party of performance, not broken promises". Thus, the Republican Party becomes the

prime route to breaking-up the political machine which has always run Georgia politics.

BOBBY BEAVERS.

## ***Five Years Late***

DECATUR — As a dove back in 1964, I recall telling my hawkish friends that the Communists would continue to frustrate the United States as long as we stayed there I felt then that one of their main purposes was to weaken us financially and polarize us into different camps. It is so obvious they have accomplished both purposes. What is so frightening is that there appears to be no end.

Your paper along with so many others has strongly supported this senseless war in the past. Now it seems that you are re-evaluating your position somewhat. Frankly, I think you are five years too late. My hope now is that you will use your influence to protest loud and clearly against our continued presence in Asia.

JAMES R. COLLIER.