

LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Thursday, June 11, 1964

That Mad Madison Muddle

There is a great deal of smoke in the aftermath of the primary voting in Madison County. The State Board of Elections and the State Bureau of Investigation, wisely, will now attempt to locate the fire. Certainly, if reports are true, there is cause for alarm in Madison County and cause for every other county to take a look at its own election procedures.

We are fortunate in Franklin County. There has been no question of the honest and efficient procedures during elections here. Madison County, if and when found guilty of misconduct, will then become a discredit to the entire state. Juggling registration books and voting irregularities cannot be tolerated. Our right to vote and do so privately, with the knowledge that our vote will count, just as will every one cast, is

the greatest assurance of continuing our democratic way of life.

When any doubt is cast that elections are fixed, or that our single vote may be killed by a non-existent voter, we become in great danger of losing much more than just a single election.

Let it be that the State officials will make a complete investigation, and make a full report to the people. And may they have wisdom to dole out punishment, if guilt is established in Madison County, in direct relation to the severity of the crime.

And may Franklin County and every other county in our state take note. Whether it has actually happened or not, is yet to be proven in Madison County, but it could have already happened there, and it can happen here.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Save The Signs

U. S. PRESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
May 28, 1964

If you found a way to protect your children as they crossed streets near their school, and the state tried to prevent you from using it, what would be your reaction?

This has happened to community leaders in Edison, N. J. Their reaction has been resistance to the state.

Here's the story: Police Chief John Ellmyer requested support of the Edison PTA for installation of blaze orange fluorescent school warning signs at approaches to the city's 17 schools. The PTA endorsed the signs, enthusiastically, and up they went.

The state quickly pointed out that state law specifies yellow painted signs.

"Take down the fluorescent signs," said the state.

"We intend to leave them up," replied the city of Edison.

Edison community leaders are right in defending the fluorescent signs. We should have them in this community also. A private research study proved that a driver can see an orange fluorescent sign twice as far as a painted yellow sign.

One of the greatest values of the signs is that they glow brilliantly on dark and rainy days, when painted signs are least visible.

More than 600 communities are using the fluorescent signs today. Among them are New York, Indianapolis and more than a dozen Chicago suburbs, including Oak Park. The Oak Park Police Chief said: "Motorists definitely slow down when they see them."

In contrast with New Jersey, in nearby Virginia, state employees are erecting fluorescent school signs as fast as they can. They are hard-pressed to fill requests for them.

Fluorescent signs, say New Jersey officials, are non-uniform. They insist that signs with the same purpose be identical - and they are right. New Jersey and most other states specify yellow school signs because a manual published by the US Bureau of Public Roads does.

In view of the safety superiority of fluorescent signs, the manual should be changed. Fluorescent school signs should be substituted for yellow signs - and the sooner the better.

THE PASSING SCENE

Politics making strange bed-fellows here. Campaigners who, just a short time ago were busily working against certain candidates, now

are just as eager in their work for their former opponents.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Hoggan And Hitler

An American professor who authored a book attempting to clear Adolph Hitler of much of the blame and guilt history has accorded him, has caused a recent sensation in Europe.

David Hoggan, who has been given several awards by nationalist and rightwing groups in West Germany, recently became the subject of intense discussion in Germany and Austria, in addition to the United States.

Austria banned several lectures to have been delivered by Hoggan, and some of his arrangements in West Germany were cancelled by authorities, after knowledge of his "message" became more generally known.

In brief, Hoggan exonerates Hitler and the Germans of much of the blame for pre-World War II and World events. His book is a long and heavily documented thesis-which

critics claim is one-sided and misleading documentation.

Of course, we believe in Hoggan's right to express and have his views printed. And his book will have little impact in the United States. Unfortunately, the situation in Germany is different. There are ex-Nazis, still unreconciled, and ultra rightwing groups which seize upon such a book by an American to prove that the Hitler regime was not so bad after all-or at least not as bad as has been claimed.

For those too young to remember, or know better, in rich and heady Germany today, such a book is political dynamite and could be the beginning of another myth rationalization if the hard truth is not pointed out with effectiveness by respected leaders.

should follow the example.

The Franklin Times

— Established 1870 —

Published Tuesdays & Thursdays by THE FRANKLIN TIMES, INC.

Bickett Blvd. Louisburg, N. C.

Dial GY 6-3283

Clint Fuller, Managing Editor

Elizabeth Johnson, Business Manager

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Advertising Rates Upon Request

— SUBSCRIPTION —

Rates \$3.50 per year; \$6.00 for 2 yrs.

Sales Tax .11 .15

Total \$3.61 \$6.18

\$4.50 per year Outside State

Single Copy 5c

Entered as second class mail matter and postage paid at the Post Office at Louisburg, N. C.

June 14 - Flag Day - Long May It Wave



News Report From Washington

A Cuban Parallel--Asian Threat--Stakes Are High--Lonely Decision--

Washington, D. C.--The late President Kennedy faced up to an agonizing decision in the peril fraught days of mid October, 1962, when this country was quite literally looking down a Soviet gun barrel aimed menacingly from the shores of Cuba.

He chose to confront the threat head-on and it abated, though not without some unpalatable after effects which still linger.

Now, in a somewhat different guise, President Johnson has his own lonesome agony stemming from festering Southeast Asia.

Except that the personal safety of this country's civilian population is not in immediate jeopardy, there is a striking parallel between Cuba two years ago and South Vietnam today.

The issues are much the same and the long-range stakes equally as high. Had President Kennedy ducked the missile threat the effect at least would have been to let all of Latin America go to Communism by default. America's world position would have been direly damaged.

Absence of a firm U. S. position would have precisely that effect in Asia, with the Chinese Communists the direct beneficiary in that case instead of the Castro-style Reds.

The inevitable result, should U. S. forces be either driven out or withdrawn at this stage from South Vietnam would be to leave a vacuum into which Laos, Cambodia and possibly even Thailand would be inexorably sucked by Communist force. Malaysia could very conceivably be next and the effect would be obviously bad in other Asiatic areas now tied

to the West. There is tacit recognition of this in the public pronouncements of the President, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and Secretary of State Dean Rusk and announced decisions for a step-up in arms and long-range support of the Vietnam operation.

Hints coming out of secret briefings staged for Congressional leadership and members of Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees, however, suggest that top-level analysis of the situation may be even grimmer than what's been said for public consumption thus far.

The general concensus seems to be that it will take a great deal more than is now involved in the operation to hold South Vietnam or even to prevent further setbacks. And the inference is that the impetus must be supplied by this country, with or without abettance from others in the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization--or hopefully--the United Nations.

Any new show of force of course risks involvement with the Chinese Reds.

These are the ingredients of the President's awesome problem.

Surprise

An old man was engaged as a watchman in a famous film studio and given a pass-key to all the players' dressing rooms.

"After he had been working on the job for a month or so, it was realized that he hadn't received any payment. So one of the staff sought the old man out and asked: "Sam, why haven't you called to collect your salary? You have been working here for some time now and haven't had a penny." Sam stared at the man in amazement. "What!" he gulped, "I get paid too?"

County Women Attend Coffee Hour

Franklin County was represented at the coffee hour at the College Inn in Raleigh given by Mrs. George Ross Pou and Mrs. Edwin Pou honoring Mrs. Dan Moore and Mrs. Beverly Lake on Tuesday, June 9.

The following ladies attended: Mesdames Arch N. Wilson, Umphrey Lee, Maynard Baker, Bob Moore, E. L. Watson and Charles Davis.

It's easy to forgive mistakes, but hard to forgive inaction. -Thomas D. Cabot

Looking Back With The Times

1 Year Ago

1st Federal plans building here. Bunn Board calls for elections, new registration. Local group visits Smithfield. Jane York named to Welfare post.

5 Years Ago

15 arrested in mass liquor crackdown. Daniel Foster, Epsom youth, killed in auto accident.

10 Years Ago

Windstorm does damage in Franklin. Alston decedents gather for meeting here. Louisburg Recreation program starts next week. Shirley Hunt and Martha Freeman named to Girl's State.

25 Years Ago

Lawyers to observe half day holiday. Louisburg wins at tennis; Warrenton wins in golf matches. Louisburg tops in standings in Tri-County Baseball League.

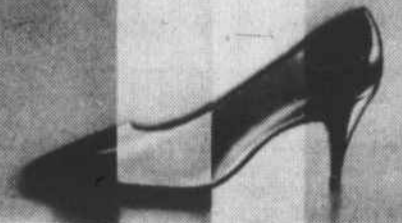
Hard Luck Ambulances

Sao Martinho, Portugal--An ambulance carrying Mrs. Augusta Geurro, who had suffered a broken leg, to a hospital 75 miles away crashed as it rounded a curve. A second ambulance was called but it overturned when it swerved to miss a car. The third ambulance made it to the hospital where doctors said the patient was in an extremely irritated condition.

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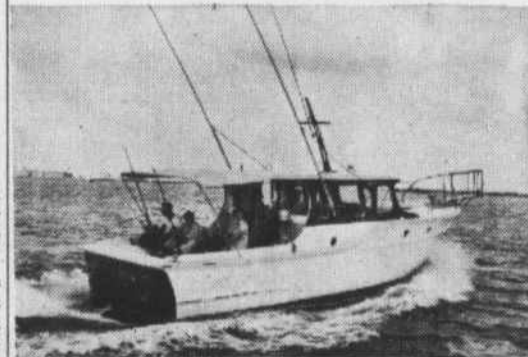
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