

LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Tuesday, September 15, 1964

Hospital

The announcement, last week, of a proposed bond issue for improvements to Franklin Memorial Hospital, was welcome news. The hospital has served the community well for the past 13 years, even though short on necessary equipment and facilities much of the time.

Even though he would be the last to admit it, the present administrator, M. M. Person, Jr., is due much credit for the success of the local hospital during the past six years. The hospital board, led by E. C. Bulluck, long-time chairman, has had the vision and foresight to set policies consistent with good service and good business. Person and his staff have carried them out in such a manner as to improve the service and conse-

quently increase the number of people using the hospital.

There were days a few years ago when an entire floor of the hospital was not being used, when twenty patients made a heavy load. In the past few years, many patients, far too many, have had to be bedded in the halls.

Now, in keeping with the dedication of the board, the administrator and the staff for improved services to the people of this area, the County Commissioners have been requested to call for a vote of the people on a bond issue, to bring the hospital facilities up to present day needs.

Surely, the people, given the opportunity to do so, will support their hospital.

Other Needs

The needs of Franklin Memorial Hospital have been brought to light by the hospital board's request for a bond issue. These needs exist and surely they should be met. Our citizens deserve the best medical care. Support of our hospital is a necessary community project.

However, the hospital is not the only community need. Wilbur Raynor, local aviation enthusiast, spoke at a Civil Air Patrol meeting Friday night, and pointed out the need for improvements to the local air field. His points were well taken. He spoke of the need for visitors to use the facilities, and the growth of the area in other fields, pointing up the need for a longer runway and improvements of the services available at the local air field.

There have been remarks, for a long time, by those working there and doing business there, that remodeling the courthouse is a must. Certainly, everyone visiting the courthouse can easily see there is much to be desired in this building. More space is needed for efficient operation of the county offices.

And never least in the minds of those concerned with the needs of our community, are our schools. A State survey last December disclosed that 110 ad-

ditional classroom spaces are needed to bring our schools up to minimum state requirements, with an estimated cost of over \$3 million.

So, our hospital needs enlarging; our air field needs improvements; our courthouse needs renovations and our schools need more space and there are undoubtedly other community needs in addition to these.

Let nothing get in the way of our hospital's plans for improvements because they were foresighted enough to make the forward move and ask for the necessary action on the part of the Commissioners. But, it might be well that some committee be appointed by the Commissioners to look into all our needs. Such a committee has been appointed to look over the courthouse project, and a Citizens Committee was long ago appointed to study our school needs. One should now be named to coordinate the efforts of all these groups, so that in the end, the people would derive the most good from all the efforts.

Franklin County is on the move. We may not be able to afford costly projects at this time, but it never hurts to look to the future with hope and expectations.

Tobacco Sales Help Everybody



Viewpoint --

Dan K. Moore Doesn't Please Sanford Regime

By JESSE HELMS

Jonathan Daniels, in a little dispatch from Atlantic City labeled "editorial correspondence," wrote in THE NEWS AND OBSERVER the other day that Dan Moore was disrupting the unity of the Democratic Party by refusing to knuckle under to Governor Sanford in the selection of the state's new Democratic National Committeeman. The width and the breadth of that kind of logic can be fenced in upon the head of a pin with room left over to graze a herd of buffalo.

Mr. Daniels and his kind are ill-equipped to talk about unity. Obviously, the truth is that apparently they do not yet comprehend the very clear message conveyed by the people of North Carolina in the Democratic Primary election returns in June. No amount of advertising to the contrary by Mr. Daniels will erase the fact that the voters resoundingly rejected the kind of Democratic Party operated by those so ardently loved by Mr. Daniels and his newspaper.

It may be that Dan Moore, then, is confronted by forces of opposition in his own party who insist that they must rule or ruin. In that event, Mr. Moore had no choice but to demonstrate who is in command. Any disclosure of weakness now on Mr. Moore's part would have cost him much of the enthusiasm, if not the support, that won for him the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in June. Mr. Moore can have unity with Terry Sanford, or he can have unity with the people. Mr. Sanford's crowd made it clear in Atlantic City that Mr. Moore cannot reasonably hope for both. It was well that he stood his ground.

Dan Moore's selection of Billy Webb of Statesville was not destructive to the strength of the Democratic Party in North Carolina. The decline of the party began four years ago. Politics on the national scene contributed to the deterioration, but mostly it was a public awareness of the kind of party leadership in North Carolina that struck at the vitals of party strength. Dan Moore's nomination in June was a sign of hope that there might be a restoration of confidence and respect among the people.

The rise of the Republican Party in this state and the startling success of the brief Wallace-for-President movement did not happen by accident. These were born of resentment and disappointment and disillusionment. The people were--and still are--groping for leadership in which they can have confidence. They intend to have a

change, one way or another, from the things and the personalities advocated by Jonathan Daniels.

And yet, Mr. Daniels presumed to send home from Atlantic City the suggestion that Dan Moore was destroying the unity of the Democratic Party by refusing to surrender to those who have done most to debilitate it. What nonsense is this!

As for Billy Webb, it is hardly up to Mr. Sanford or Mr. Daniels, or any others in that repudiated group, to pass judgment as to Mr. Webb's dependability as a Democrat. Mr. Moore found him satisfactory. Senators Erwin and Jordan found him satisfactory. Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges found no fault with him.

Mr. Webb's signature on the Wallace-for-President petition raised an interesting question. At least 60,000, and perhaps as many as 100,000, other Tar Heels signed the petition also. Regardless of Mr. Webb's motivation in signing the petition, the fact remains that he was in a group large enough to swing the election in November in North Carolina. Can the Democratic Party afford the luxury of implicitly alienating such a sizable group?

Of course not. And, of course, the hassle at Atlantic City had little to do with anybody's desire for unity. There is well-founded suspicion that some who were disappointed by the outcome of the Democratic Primary in June are really promoting disunity in the pious name of loyalty.

This was not the first test of Dan Moore's leadership. Nor, we suspect, will it be the last. He inherited a shaky political house and must now live in it as best he can, and rebuild it as quickly as he can. It cannot be done by doing business with a wrecking crew. Perhaps it cannot be done at all. Still, his only choice is to keep faith with the people who nominated him, and stick to the principles which guided him to victory in June.

That's his best hope for victory, not to mention unity, in November.

Discovery

A teacher was telling her class about the discovery of the law of gravity.

"Sir Isaac Newton was sitting on the ground looking at a tree," she explained. "An apple fell on his head, and from that, he discovered gravitation. Wasn't that wonderful?"

"It sure was," piped a small lad in the back of the room, "and if he had been sittin' in a school lookin' at his books, he wouldn't have discovered nothin'!"

Senator Sam says--

Washington--The long time Senate controversy over "medical care for the aged," which advocates seek to finance through social security payments, has been reopened. Two weeks ago, in a series of Senate Finance Committee votes, the committee refused to add the so-called King-Anderson health plan to other House-passed social security amendments. As in previous sessions this plan has not won endorsement by the influential House Ways and Means Committee. It thus did not become a part of the House approved bill to increase cash benefits by 5% and extend coverage to certain full-time students and elderly persons.

The House action and the subsequent Senate Finance Committee report ordinarily would end the matter this late in the session, but Medicare has become a political and emotional issue. Whatever political mileage there is in the issue, until now there has been no broad consensus that the Federal government should assume responsibility for the medical care of all persons 65 years of age or older. In my judgment, there are sound reasons why the government should not take this step.

Federal and state and local governments have an obligation to share the costs of medical treatment for needy elderly citizens. On the other hand, a multitude of problems are involved in changing the concept of the social security program to finance medical care. The social security insurance program has functioned since its inception as a "cash benefit program" whereby the recipient receives a monthly check to

spend as he sees fit. The medical care proposal would inaugurate a program whereby the government would determine how a beneficiary's insurance contributions should be spent. The principle once established would very likely be greatly expanded.

Any study of the King-Anderson Medicare plan discloses that it is inadequate to provide comprehensive medical attention to the elderly. Its most favorable coverage would provide very limited hospital benefits and would not provide anything for doctor and surgical benefits. In a short time, Congress would be confronted with a costly inadequate program which it would be called upon to implement at an even greater cost.

The cost factor has been downplayed. Even a very limited medical care plan for all persons aged 65 years or over, irrespective of financial need, would cost several billions of dollars a year. The truth is that the social security tax system is bumping against a practical limitation. Many believe that it is unwise to tax payrolls more than 10% for this purpose. The Administration's Medicare proposal would raise payroll rates to 10.4% by 1971.

Most important is the policy question of "how far do the American people want to push medical care into the realm of a government operated service?" This could determine much of the fate of our free enterprise system.

The immediate danger of any prolonged Medicare fight is that it could defeat some salutary social security amendments, for the House is unlikely to agree to any Medicare.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Football Song

School bells will soon be ringing and that brings the football season. It has more spirit and excitement, perhaps, than any other sports season. And so, as we enjoy the games this fall, we will hear the same old football song, over and over again.

We are not referring to the marching song of the alma mater of any college. We are referring to the song of the coach. It goes like this:

"Well, we can't possibly do as well as we did last season. We've lost eight good tackles, fourteen top guards, sixteen great back and thirty-four assistant coaches. No, we can't expect to do as well as last

season."

Despite this weeping, the coach goes on to win most of his games, with a fine crop of talent.

Football is a sport that is peculiarly American, a sport that we associate with cool weather, falling leaves, school and the coming of winter.

The season doesn't last long. When it is over, and basketball is over, the worst sports lull of the year follows.

The fall, the football season, is actually the height of the sports season in the United States. It is a time of year to be enjoyed to the fullest.

beautifully easy way to put an end to silly family squabbles.

Mr. and Mrs. Leeb ought to live happily ever after.

The Franklin Times
— Established 1870 —
Published Tuesdays & Thursdays by
THE FRANKLIN TIMES, INC.
Bickett Blvd. Louisburg, N. C.
Dial GY 6-3253
Clint Fuller, Managing Editor
Elizabeth Johnson, Business Manager

NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION
REGULAR MEMBER

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.

**WE BUILD PONDS AND CLEAR LAND.
ALSO EQUIPPED TO HANDLE ALL
PULPWOOD AND TIMBER.
SEE US FOR FREE ESTIMATION
LOUIS DORSEY
CALL FRANKLINTON, N. C. 494-2435
OR CALL LOUISBURG, 496-4432**

1st

for Safety since 1902

Since 1902 the people in this area have looked to First Federal Savings & Loan for the safety of their savings. Their confidence is based on this fact:

Not one penny invested at First Federal has ever been lost by a saver.

This perfect record of safety is one good reason why more local people have looked to First Federal for the safety of their savings since 1902.

1st
FIRST FEDERAL
Savings and Loan Association
OF ROCKY MOUNT
104 EAST NASH STREET IN LOUISBURG
across from the Court House