

Tuesday, April 19, 1966

LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Boosters On The Go

The Louisburg High School Boosters met last night, elected new officers, and mapped some plans for the future. Several schools in the county have like organizations and one question was raised in the meeting which bears some explanation.

What does the Booster organization do? That's the question which, somewhat surprisingly came up. Here in Louisburg, there has been a Booster organization since 1949. Actually, prior to 1957, it worked more with community athletics than directly with the school, but with the return of football that year, it became primarily a school auxiliary agency.

The State of North Carolina nor the County of Franklin makes any expenditure for coaches salaries, athletic equipment, facilities other than the building of gymnasiums, and in order for a school to offer such opportunities to its students, outside money and support is necessary.

The Louisburg Boosters work gates

at games, sponsor an annual dinner for all kids connected with sports, supply an activity bus and pay the expenses (Some help also comes from PTA and Band Boosters here) and in general underwrites thousands of dollars worth of necessary equipment, such as the expensive football gear.

Louisburg has had a satisfactory program of sports for several years. Many more things are needed. For one thing, the Boosters stay in debt in the neighborhood of two to three thousand dollars each year. The take at the gate is never enough to pay the bill.

It is good that the group is heading into a new year, with new leadership and with new enthusiasm. Every parent of a child in the school should be interested in this work. Much more than athletics are supported by this organization. It is good for the children, the school and the community. And, it might be very good for you. They're looking new members.

Viewpoint

By JESSE HELMS

Get The Most For The Least

There was a time, and not at all distant in history, when the most ridiculed citizen in any community was he who dared to doubt the wisdom of turning to the federal government for handouts and controls. Those were gloomy days indeed for the fellow who had read the Constitution, and who had thus determined that there is a direct relationship between personal responsibility and individual freedom.

Those were the days when the politicians chanted "New Deal" and "Fair Deal" and "Go Forward" and "New Day." The path to the ballot box suddenly became a boulevard to the public trough. It was all a question of who could get the most for the least.

The days are still gloomy for the fellow who was apprehensive during those earlier days. But now that the cen-

tralization of power in Washington has become an accomplished fact, there is enough gloom to darken, at long last, the countenances of those who were loudest in their advocacy of turning to Washington for cure-alls. What can be said now that millions of Americans have become aware of what they have brought upon themselves? The chickens have come home to roost and their squawks have a sort of cruel I-told-you-so rasp. But there is little consolation for the fellow who, through the years, tried to sound a warning about the inevitability of sweeping federal controls if Americans persisted in clinging in their something-for-nothing philosophy.

Downtown the other day we chanced upon one of the top officials of one of North Carolina's largest cities. In earlier years he had not always seen the wisdom of resisting the temptation of "free money" from Washington. But he was no worse than most of his counterparts across the land. Indeed, if anything, he saw the handwriting on the wall earlier than most.

He began to recite the difficulties he is now encountering in his attempts to operate the municipal government which he serves. "We can't do anything," he said, "without some federal bureaucrat looking over our shoulder." Cities cannot, he said, exercise their own judgment in choosing the programs in which they wish to participate. Either you go all the way with you-know-who or you invite the pressures of the federal government up and down the line. As the gentleman put it: "We are nothing but puppets on a string."

Of course not. And what the gentleman now realizes is that it will get worse before it gets better—if ever it does indeed get better. There is an air of hopelessness which is not likely to lift until the masses of the people engage in a political revolution. And who will lead it?

It cannot happen until there

are candidates for public office who are willing to seek election on a genuine pledge to stand uncompromisingly in resistance to the present trend. And where, one must ask, is even one such candidate today?

It is no longer, we suspect, a matter of politicians not knowing where they are leading this country. They know. And the people know. The trouble is to be found in the measurement of the courage and moral fibre of us all.

Even the apprehensions of the U. S. Supreme Court occasionally glimmer through the mist. For brief moments, it sometimes appears that the Court may be on the brink of confessing its role in the destruction of the principles of America. One notes with interest, for example, that Hugo Black, one of the Court's oldest and foggiest architects of the spirit of lawlessness now sweeping the country, wrote a stinging rebuke the other day to a pressure group that invaded a public library some months ago, taking the law into its own hands. Black did not precisely retreat from his positions in civil rights matters in general. He paid tribute to what he called the "noble ideals" of those who have been flouting the law for a decade. But then he said: "I say that the crowd moved by noble ideals today can become the mob ruled by hate and passion and greed and violence tomorrow."

It hardly needs noting that tomorrow has arrived. A great many "noble ideals" of yesterday have today become unmasked, and exposed for what they are. America has been asking for trouble for a long time. There is no occasion for surprise that trouble is now upon us. Yet we continue to beg for more of the medicine that made us sick in the first place.

New Medical Society Officers

Although elections were held some time ago, names of the new officers of the Franklin County Medical Society have not been announced. Dr. B. L. Patterson was elected President of the organization, and Dr. T. O. Wheelless was named Secretary. Dr. J. B. Wheelless is County Health Director.

The American Medical Association says that the level of immunity against smallpox in this country has been shrinking steadily for years as more and more people neglect to get boosters.

GRASSROOTS OPINION

LANCASTER, S. C., NEWS: "Printing plants can borrow from the government but newspapers are barred because the Federal government does not want to be in the position of taking possession of a newspaper in the event the loan is not paid. That sounded like good Constitutional reasoning until we got a report from Michigan this week that \$188,000 in Federal funds has been allocated to establish a weekly newspaper in Willow Run, Mich. The new paper, which will compete with four others in the area, proclaims that its purpose is to provide 'honest and true reporting' on matters the government feels are of interest. A sort of TVA yardstick to measure the press?"

CUSHING, OKLA., CITIZEN: "The road to the Great Society may be paved with good intentions but potholes are popping up along the right of way.... It would be unfortunate, indeed, if strategic planning from a bureau in Washington were allowed to override as a matter of course the people who have been in the front lines of the war on poverty for a great many years. Charity began at home in America. At least some of it ought to remain there."

TERRE HAUTE, IND., TRIBUNE: "One more good word is losing its reputation through misuse: 'protest'."

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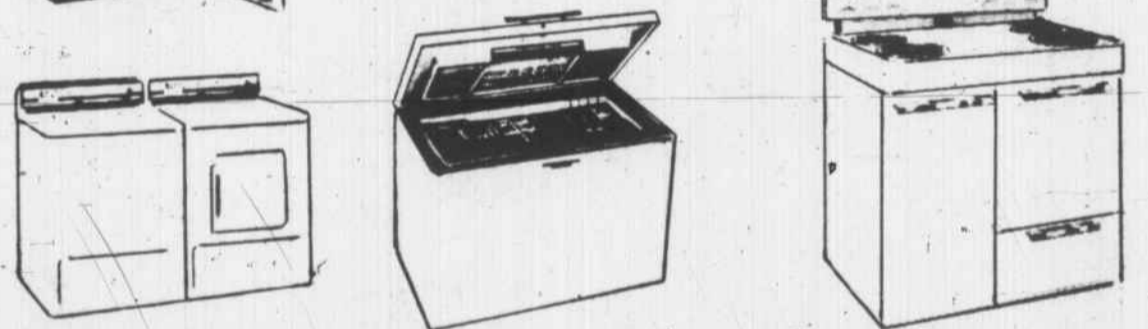
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For one thing, you can keep that midnight ride. He gets up early enough as it is.

And he wouldn't trade his car for Paul's horse. The new way gets the messages spread out through the countryside at a clip that puts Mr. Revere's lightning gallop to shame.

For another thing, that stuff about the British coming is old hat now. This modern bearer of tidings is probably bringing you your light bill or a letter from your son who's off at college.

Maybe some of the drama's missing. But, to you, that message is mighty important. And somehow you don't seem to care if your rural mailman doesn't get such a big splash in the history books.

According to Floyd E. Huffman, president of the National Rural Letter Carrier's Association, about the only excitement today's country mailman has is when some speedster crashes into him as he's stopping at a mail box.

"So carriers today would just as soon do without the excitement," says Huffman. "Anyway, it doesn't happen often. Our rural mailmen pride themselves on a fine safety record."

Huffman, who has taken a leave of absence from his own rural route while serving as national president of his association, says that the country carrier's service has been improved by the automobile and better roads.

"Carriers across the nation today travel 400,000 more miles daily than they did thirty years ago," he revealed, "but with 10,000 fewer people required for the job."

The average rural mailman, he said, covers a 60-mile rural route six days a week, serving 260 families. North Carolina's 1,089 carriers travel 74,263 miles per day on the job.

We revere them as much as Revere.

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