

Tuesday, February 18, 1969

LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Board Also Has Right

Attorneys for the Franklin County Board of Education have filed Motions asking the federal court to order the plaintiffs and plaintiff-intervenors in the school desegregation case to name names and places in their charges that the Board is in contempt of court. The request is proper.

The Board and the Superintendent of Schools have a right—guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment of the Constitution—to "be confronted with the witnesses against" them.

The Board in apparent good faith set about the total desegregation of the county schools last fall. That a monumental job was done is clear to most. In a period of nine days, Franklin school officials and school personnel accomplished more than most systems have done in years. All this was done in a peaceful and orderly manner although by everyone's admission it totally disrupted the school system at that time.

Through dedicated teachers and hard work coupled with good cooperation from parents and other school patrons, things settled down and an acceptable amount of education was forthcoming from the once disrupted classrooms.

Somewhere along the line, some people obviously felt that this was not enough. They began to complain with some of them obviously registering complaints with the United States Justice Department. This is revealed in

Save Some, Spend Some

One of the things historians must guess about, as they record the Johnson stay in the White House, is whether or not Lyndon turned off the lights before motoring down to the Capital for the Nixon inauguration. However, they will not need to guess about the telephones. He did call the phone people to come take them out at the ranch.

And they came. It was the largest demolition team in Texas history. They covered on the ranch not to dismantle the 6,300-foot airstrip the taxpayer's built there; nor did they come to tear down the several buildings used to house guests, staff and newsmen. These buildings will be needed to house the Secret Service and the Air Force personnel assigned to former President's family now in retirement. Nor did the demolition team bother the many flowers which the Bergstrom Air Force men planted there on the ranch last summer and fall.

The team concerned itself with taking out most of the 300-yes, 300 telephone lines which ran out of the ranch to Washington, to the Johnson neighbors and heaven only knows where else. It's revealed that ten of those lines—yes, ten—were direct to the office and home of Mr. Johnson's business partner, Judge Albert W. Moursund. One, according to reports was connected into the Judge's bathroom. Not many business partnerships are carried that far.

Through all this we must remember that Commander Bucher could not rate phone reliable enough for him to call the engine room on the USS Pueblo. And somehow, some sympathy must be noted for that Judge who couldn't escape Lyndon even in the bathroom.

But that's the way things are when you're the government. Economy is a relative thing. You save a penny or two here on the light bill and blow a few on the phone bill.

And sometimes you have to spend money to save it. The University of Texas is spending \$6 million for the Johnson Museum and Library. Atop it will be a helicopter landing for a

a letter sent to Judge Algernon Butler by the Assistant Attorney General last October.

The FBI was called in to investigate. The agents informed the Board of Education Chairman that they were here. They did not report their findings to the Board. They did not suggest any corrective measures. As far as is known, they did not talk with any school official in the county although they did interview some teachers.

Soon thereafter, came charges that the Board of Education is in contempt of court. The Board was accused of operating segregated classrooms in an integrated system and it was said that Negro children were threatened by school officials unless they sat at the rear of the school buses. The Board contends in a Motion filed last week that these charges are "vague and ambiguous". The Board has denied that there is any discrimination whatsoever in the school system.

These are serious charges launched against the Board by the federal government and the NAACP and justice dictates that the Board be allowed to see their accusers face to face in court.

Those who have registered complaints against the individual members of the Board and the Superintendent should be brought forth to face those they have accused. This is one right guaranteed the Board of Education by the United States Constitution.

government-provided helicopter. Inside will be an exact copy of the oval room, where Mr. Johnson worked while President. When the building is completed, it will be permanently leased to the General Services Administration in Washington and maintained by you-know-whose taxes.

That's when the real savings begin. After all, how can you duplicate the White House Oval Room cheaper than that? And it may be worth it to have Mr. Johnson play President in Texas for awhile.

Schools

(Continued from Page 1)

ed to answer a question from the audience on his plans for next year. He told of special measures being taken internally to lessen the possibility of problems with the students.

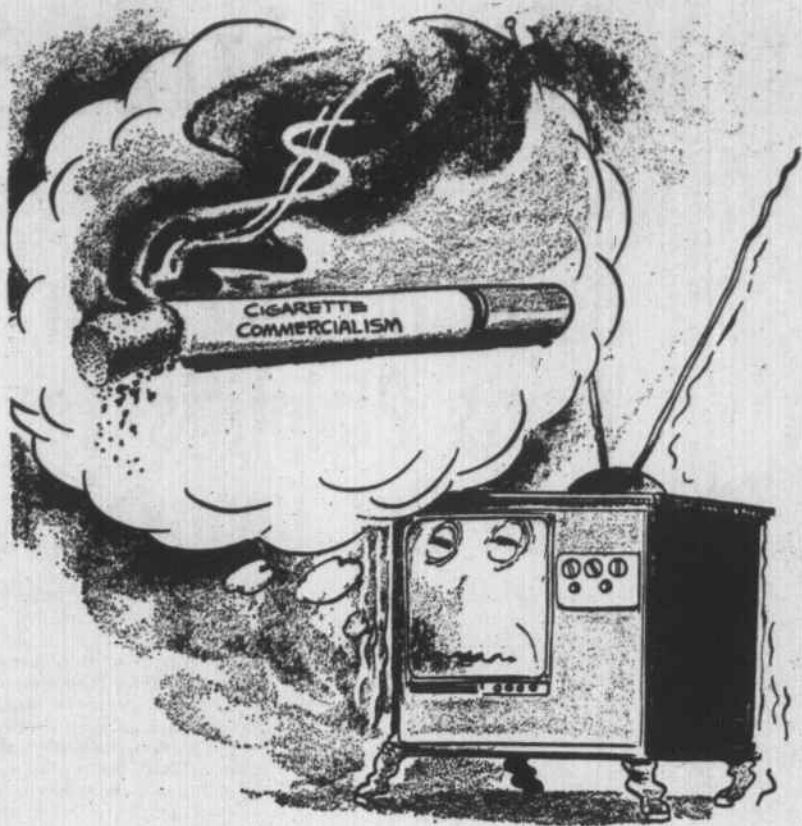
At the close of the meeting, Mrs. Allen called for the group to make its wishes known on whether or not there is to be another meeting. A motion was made from the audience that another meeting be called at the convenience of Mr. Riggan at which both PTA councils from the old Riverside School and the Louisburg School would attend. The purpose of the next meeting is to determine if a newly formed PTA could be helpful and or advisable.

The motion passed unanimously with it being left to Riggan to call a future meeting of the group. He stated that regardless, he wanted to hold at least two open-house meetings before the close of school. He also said there are 73 more school days left in this year and that it is never too late to start in view of the PTA question.

Both white and Negro parents were in attendance Sunday to hear a report from a select committee appointed earlier to plan the get together of the larger group.

The organization was formed last week to determine if it could do something to bolster public schools in light of a number of false rumors being circulated in the area which told of teacher resignations and students leaving for private schools.

'I'm not sure I can kick the habit'



La Pelley
The Courier, Salem, N.C.

Report From Raleigh

By Rep. John T. Church

Raleigh - More than a week before Governor Scott delivered his budget message last Wednesday, I and a number of other concerned members of the General Assembly called on the governor to express our opposition to any proposals to place additional taxes on tobacco.

Our meeting was arranged by the governor's legislative counsel, former State Sen. Thomas J. White, and was quite pleasant and relaxed. We were received cordially.

We felt it was our duty to express our views on tax matters and specifically our opposition to the principle of further taxation on tobacco. The governor indicated to us at that time that in order to support the proposed program to be presented in his budget address, that he was afraid it was going to be necessary to recommend a tobacco tax as a part of his budget proposals. We reminded Governor Scott of his promise during the recent election campaign that he was and would oppose a tobacco tax. He conceded this, but in all fairness to him and to his position, I must say he added a frank explanation to why he had changed his position.

We are, of course, still opposed to this particular tax and will continue to oppose it. Governor Scott invited us and other members of the General Assembly to suggest alternative sources of revenue. I am sure others will be offered.

As the governor pointed out, it will be up to us to find some other, more acceptable sources of revenue to carry out the program.

I feel the governor's program is sound and has many good features. It was courageous and he made an effective presentation. It contains much that is good for the people. It is challenging, and the big challenge is to find the revenue to accomplish this.

I approve of the governor's recommendations to increase salaries of teachers and state employees. I am very much in favor of strengthening the vocational education programs in the middle grades of our public schools.

I agree with the governor that our elderly citizens with low incomes should receive further tax relief, in the form of \$25 annual refunds, to lift an unnecessary burden, and I favor equitable exemptions for heads of households.

It was a signal privilege and I felt it was an honor to serve as House chairman both of the invitation committee which conveyed the formal invitation to the governor to address the Joint Session on February 12, and to be chairman of the official escort committee of the House when the governor entered the legislative chambers to make this historic address.

We have been involved recently in the preparation of a certain amount of local legislation, some of which has been introduced. One bill, drawn on a statewide basis, would authorize local ABC boards to sell real and personal property at public auc-

tion.

We co-signed a resolution with Rep. A. Hartwell Campbell of Wilson and others opposing the announced Federal Communications Commission (FCC) prohibition against radio-television cigarette advertising. This action followed almost immediately the announcement of the FCC's intended action, and we question the authority of any federal agency to promulgate such regulation and have called on the Congress to investigate the matter thoroughly.

We have co-sponsored resolutions to honor the memory of certain distinguished figures from our area, such as the late Frank Hancock. An appropriate resolution will be introduced soon to honor the memory and long legislative

work of the late John H. Kerr of Warren County.

Washington - Out-going Postmaster General W. Marvin Watson has suggested the combining of first class and public service of the late John H. Kerr of Warren County.

airmail for the single price of a 7-cent stamp, and to tear down those local post offices which look like "huge public monuments." He also suggested the postmaster general be a business man not a politician.

It's enough to make a body start dipping snuff... 'cept, that dude with the sideburns done asked for a tax on that.

Watson On Post Office

Armstrong Floor Covering - ALL KINDS
Congoleum-Nairn Floor Covering - ALL KINDS
Patcraft Carpets - RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
Salem Carpets - RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
Thomas Pride Carpets - RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL
Trend Mills Carpets - FOR KITCHEN, DEN & BATHROOM
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Come To Think Of It
By Frank Count

Now he's gone and done it. I knowed full well it couldn't no good come from them sideburns. I ain't never seen no good come from nobody that wore a top hat, smoked a cigar and had sideburns.

It won't so bad when trembling Terry put a tax on food. I just cut the little woman and the youngin' to one meal a day and I ain't been able to tell no difference. But young Robert done overstepped the bounds of decency. I don't mind the gasoline tax... I can walk. I don't even mind the insurance tax... I ain't paying my premium as it is and if he wants to add a little to mine and his cigars... well I been planning on quitting for quite a spell any how.

It ain't so much that license plates gonna cost more. They ought to. After all they're pretty and they shine at night and you can tell your car by them.

But when he told them honorables that he wants to tax likker... that did it. Yes, sir... that's when he lost old Frank. Who ever hear of such a thing as a tax on necessities? Just like he asked for a nickel more on cigarettes. They's necessary. That is, they's necessary if us farm boys gonna keep on eating and having poker money.

And Robert is a farm boy. He said he was last year. He wore his farm clothes 'till it frosted. I knowed there was something wrong when I seen him in Raleigh at the parade. He didn't look the same in them city duds.

I'll tell you a thing about farm boys. They love to come to town. When they do... some of them get likkered up... some of them get locked up and some try to make a impression. Now young Robert don't drink... and that ought to say something about the liquor tax... and he ain't locked up. Not yet, anyway. So's what's he doing? He's showing off. He's trying to impress the city boys. He wants them to think he's as smart as they are. And when telling the city boys been saying all these years? They been having country boys: Stop making likker. Stop smoking. Grow tobacco. Sell it in town and spend your money with us. Now we got a farm boy that's seeing things like a city boy... 'cept he says he's a farm boy.

I know young Robert's got to have some money to run the state. After all somebody's got to pay Thad Eure and somebody's got to be responsible for Joe Hunt's pension... but seems like they could tax water or air or maybe even charge for looking at the sunset... the sunrise is too early and they couldn't make no money that way. But there ain't nothing to be gained by putting more of a burden on them amateur likker makers and us tobacco smokers and eaters and growers.

It's enough to make a body start dipping snuff... 'cept, that dude with the sideburns done asked for a tax on that.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:
I read with interest Mr. Norman Chadwick's letter of Tuesday, February 11, 1969, in which he invited the public to visit the new, very well equipped science room of Louisburg School. He says, "I want to show you what we are doing in the area of quality education, and in a relaxed atmosphere." The first grade of Gold Sand Elementary School can also serve as an example of "quality education." To promote this "quality educa-

tion," there are 17 basic reading books which must be shared by 30 students. If a teacher is to teach a child to read without the all-important aid of a book, then she truly must be a miracle worker!
Something should and must be done to remedy this situation if we intend for our children to have the quality education to which they are entitled.
Very truly yours,
Mrs. H. E. Cassell
P. O. Box 265
Louisburg, N. C.