

LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Council Makes Wise Move

Action by the newly elected Louisburg Town Council toward getting the registration books straightened out before another municipal election is commendable. A number of complaints were registered in the recent elections about the conditions of the books. Fortunately, however, there were none of a serious nature.

Louisburg is fortunate that it escaped without a scar. Chapel Hill did not. In every precinct there were some indications of serious errors. If reports coming from there are correct, there were some flagrant violations of voting procedures.

It is reported that Chapel Hill voted people long dead and others long moved away. There were reports of persons coming in from outside of town to vote in the municipal elec-

tions and of several persons voting in more than one precinct.

These are serious charges even in Chapel Hill and it is hoped that that community will do something to correct this type of thing. This is one reason it is good to see the new council take such speedy action in Louisburg.

There should be as little confusion as possible in the election and voting processes and there should be no room for suspicions. Elections must be strictly above board and they should appear that way. An orderly registration, properly handled is one of the surest ways to gain and keep the public confidence. The Louisburg move is a wise one and others should take note.

Moment Of Truth On Gas Tax

One day this week—maybe today—members of the General Assembly are going to be facing their moment of truth in the controversial two-cent per gallon gasoline tax. Chances are the truth will result in the passage of this part of Governor Scott's tax program.

Results of voting in recent bond elections clearly shows the general public to be anti-tax and justifiably so. However, there are still some facts of life Franklin citizens cannot ignore.

Franklin voted against the road bonds in 1965 and it gained us absolutely nothing except, perhaps, a moment of getting it off our chests. We are paying that tax. We just didn't get a whole lot of benefits from it.

Franklin's road needs are no less acute today than they have been for years. The main difference seems to be that the state doesn't have any money with which to build roads. In the past, there seems to have been money but it found its way elsewhere.

Arguments of the past are fine for reminiscing but they get us very little road improvements. Motorists across the state will, of course, share in this latest proposed tax. Maybe Franklin will in some manner get some of its money back from past years.

Gasoline prices in this area are reasonable compared to some others in the state. We're paying a bit more than the 28.5 for regular reported earlier this year in Shelby but less than the 40.9 being paid for high test in Duplin County a while back. In practically all towns reporting in a

recent survey by the Association of Afternoon Daily Newspapers, all service stations said that a penny or more was tacked onto the pump prices in March, less than a month after the Governor proposed his two-cent tax on gasoline. If this survey is accurate, these service stations have already added the extra and motorists are already paying the difference.

The survey did not include the Franklin County area and may or may not apply here.

Franklin's Senator E. F. Griffin reportedly plans to support the bill. Just how Franklin's two Representatives stand has not been disclosed. If this bill passes, it would be to Franklin's advantage to have supported it.

It is extremely difficult to ask for road improvements and not be willing to help get them. If waving a magic wand would reduce taxes, there would be a windstorm from the waving, but no such device exists and increases must be faced, if not joyfully, certainly realistically. And while we favor few such increases, it seems that Franklin's best chance at meaningful road improvements in the foreseeable future rides with this week's moment of truth.

It is not a decision for the people but a decision for the people's representatives. Their task is a difficult one and it will be made easier by the people's understanding. May they always act in the best interest of the county they represent.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

You Can't Satisfy Them

The Henderson (N. C.) Daily Dispatch

Bureaucrats of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare seem to be implacable and a law to themselves. They grab the ball tossed to them by Congress and start running with it, imposing their will upon helpless States and communities whether within the law or not.

Local school authorities have tried in good faith to be reasonable in plans for integration of the public schools. But each plan submitted to the HEW dictators is countered with something different or additional. That apparently is the predicament of the board of education now. Not only are proposals rejected, but arbitrary deadlines are established which local authorities are given to understand must be accepted, or else.

Except for extremists, the black people are supposedly resentful of some of the so-called guidelines of the autocrats in Washington. The schools

have been integrated, racial barriers have crumbled, and efforts have been and are being made to act in good faith. But the HEW people are still not satisfied. They want things the way they demand-period. And will consent to nothing less. There is no reason that we can see for continued and incessant harassment of school boards who in their own service have forgotten more about the welfare of local schools than the bureaucrats will ever know.

The Vance County board took its plan to Washington but was told it wasn't enough. Now, whatever has been agreed upon must again be submitted for approval. It seems to be a relentless merry-go-round of controls with the big stick. Two or three decades ago, few people expected ever to be browbeaten in such manner by their own government in what Americans have thought was a free country.

Bonehead Instead Of Backbone



Rustin Comments May Provide Approach To Situation At College

The News - Journal Raeford, N. C.

About the most sensible and realistic analysis we have seen of the spreading college-campus-black student situation came this week from the lips of a man who ought to know what he is talking about. Bayard Rustin, Negro civil rights strategist who organized the 1963 march on Washington, made the comments to newsmen who interviewed him before he was to make a luncheon speech.

Rustin urged college officials to "stop capitulating to the stupid demands of Negro students . . . and see that they get the remedial training they need."

These Negro students, he said, are "suffering from the shock of integration" and are looking for "an easy way out of their problems" by demanding separate dormitories and study programs.

"What the hell are soul courses worth in the real world?" Rustin asked. "In the real world, no one gives a damn if you've taken soul courses. They want to know if you can do mathematics or write a correct sentence."

Rustin said he favors bringing Negro and Puerto Rican youths into the nation's colleges and universities, "if it is done with the understanding that you're going to do remedial work for them."

He said it is a "cheap way out" for college officials to give minority group students separate programs and living quarters. Some white professors, he said, desire a "revolution by proxy," and are using unwitting Negro students toward this end. He said Negro students, for the most part, are "ill prepared for college education" and that there is a lack of "social courage on the part of this generation of Negro students."

"We want the agony of educating the Negro," he said, was the view of many white professors.

Somewhat inconsistently, it appears to us, Rustin concluded that the only way out of this "very dangerous situation" is "another couple of school generations of integration."

Rustin certainly offered at least a partial solution before offering two more school generations as the only

solution when he urged college officials to stop capitulating, and rightly called this the "easy way out." If they will stop falling for the application of group force, and insist that students be dealt with as individuals, we feel they will be well on the way. As individuals they can be helped. It would be just as wrong to treat them as a group for remedial training as it has been to damn them as a group for a century to second-class citizenship, and the inevitable result will be to water down the degrees and standards of our colleges to where they will have little value to anyone.

True, as Rustin said, giving in is the cheap way out, and further, to give in is to destroy our universities along with whatever promise they may have for the future of black students. As for the white professors who foster much of the unrest, it is our opinion that they could start work for the establishment, or they could pack up. Remedial training can be administered, and social courage can be attained, as it has been in this country by the Irish, the Jews, the Italians, the Huguenots, the Scottish Presbyterians and others.

Rustin spoke a mouthful to point the way, and we would sure like to see some of those involved in the situation give his analysis some careful consideration.



If anybody wanted to get a education without going off to school and paying all that money, they'd do mighty well to visit some of the country stores. There's a education to be got in most of them. Of course, a education ain't all that's to be got there. You can find everything from mule collars to frozen pizzas but the thing most of them got the most of is information.

And if there's anything easier than information to get in these places, I ain't never seen it. Right off, that's the first thing you notice. Of course you're gonna fare sorta common till they gets to know you. They ain't much for talking to strangers. These boys that hang around the stores are well trained and they ain't gonna say nothing agin nobody unless they know pretty well who they're talking to.

I happened to drop by my favorite the other night to pick up a plug of tobacco and whatever else they was offering when I took special notice of two fellows discussing the weighty issues of the day. The more they talked, the louder they got and folks could have heard them in town if they'd had their TVs turned down. It was better 'n anything I've seen on TV for years.

The tall one was saying, "Now there ain't no need of you trying to get all high and mighty about all this stuff going on. I can remember when you was a boy, you did some pretty silly things yourself!"

The short, fleshy one give him the mean eye and said, "Leave my wife out of this. I was talking about them college campuses. I say there ain't no sense in all that violence being allowed to go on."

"Yeah", said the tall one, "I know what you said. But you remember when you use to go on them hayrides? I remember who it was that was always throwing the hay and letting it blow on everybody. I suppose you're gonna say that was alright?"

"It ain't the same thing", shorty said, "That was fun and I was having a good time. This is different."

"Oh, yeah", come back the tall man, "There ain't so much difference. Them youngins is just letting off steam. They don't mean no harm by what they're doing. I don't mean the violence but all that other stuff. They're just having a good time."

By this time, I felt like joining the short man. I agreed I didn't think them college students ought to be let alone to tear up the campuses. And being a man of principle, I said so.

"Who're you", asked Shorty. "Yeah", chimed in the tall one, "Who asked for your opinion?"

"Well", I said, "Fellows I don't think them students ought to be let alone to tear up the campuses. I agree with Shorty. It ain't right. And what you're saying is that it's like pulling a girl's pigtails or something. That's all I got to say."

"Where you from", a fellow asked over in the corner. "Yeah", said another poking his head over the counter. He's been asleep behind the hog feed.

"Aw, come on fellows", I said, "Y'all know me. I'm old Frank. I know I missed last night, but I was here night before last. You ain't forgot me this soon?"

"Well", said one, "We can't see too well by this lamp and your voice must be changing. You got to be careful, Frank. You know better 'n to butt in on a conversation. You could get into trouble."

"Well, now that you know who I am, I'd like to know who them fellows are that are doing the talking. How'd they get the right to come in here and express themselves. They ain't one of the gang?"

"Don't rightfully know who they are, Frank", said the storekeeper. "They just stopped by for gas and started talking. We figured if we listened for awhile, we might learn something."

By that time the two strangers had left muttering something about folks butting in whenever they wanted to intelligently discuss some of the major issues.

I didn't feel inclined to discuss anything with the boys seeing as how they had been unfriendly there for awhile so I just left them with one thought to ponder.

"Boys", I said, "As long as we got the caliber men we got on the Supreme Court, things can't be all bad."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

The 4-H club add in the Franklin Times of May 13th thanked each local sponsor and buyer for their excellent support in the Junior Livestock Show and Sale. I thank each one too and also our County Extension Agents who helped me throughout my steer project.

I want to give special thanks to Mr. Harold Talton, First-Citizens Bank and Trust Company and to Mr. Jones Winston, Youngville Milling Company, who bought my steers. The grand champion and reserve champion received the highest prices and Mr. Talton and Mr. Winston paid the next highest price for my steers. (They were

there to see me show my steers too! Mr. Ray Collins and Mr. Tom Coghill from F.C.X. were there in Durham also and bid on my steers.

I hope I will grow up to be the kind of girl they will be proud they helped.

Sincerely,
Martha Lou Leonard
Route 4
Louisburg, N. C.

The best advice for modern people facing all sorts of propaganda is the single word, think.

Well, boys and girls, it won't be long before commencement oratory will burst upon you like an artillery barrage.

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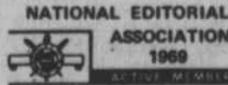
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