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Cooperative Road Effort Want

Merrill Evans, former chairman of the State Highway Commission, told the Suffolk Rotary Club recently that I-95 could swallow up the tourist business unless the other area tourist highways were modernized. Evans said I-95 is a remarkable piece of highway, extending from Maine to Florida. "It can be a blessing," he said, "or it can be a calamity."

If I-95 drains off tourist traffic from points east in Carolina or Virginia, he declared, "it could be an economic calamity." Evans described the interstate artery as "the greatest threat to the tourist industry" in this area. "We must be doubly sure that we modernize our tourist highways," he added.

I-95 cuts through the northwestern-most part of the Roanoke-Chowan area in Northampton County, but most of the traffic on it goes by at 60 miles per hour and there is little economic benefit from it.

Hertford County has always been active in seeing that its highways were promoted. Bertie County has also had an active chamber of commerce in Windsor that works on the promotion of its needs as shown by its recent campaign to get improvements to combination U.S. 13 and U.S. 17 south of Windsor. Northampton County has recently initiated a chamber of commerce and a better highways committee. This fills an important gap that has been needed in Northampton County's promotion plans.

The organization thus exists in the area to do something about highways—but it exists in only county level form. In considering Evans' suggestions it seems that one of the obvious needs in seeing that tourism isn't injured in the area, is an area-wide effort to coordinate development plans for all of the systems that feed into the

four counties of the Roanoke-Chowan.

Highways must come from somewhere and lead to somewhere. A county promotion effort is good but it must tie in with the plans of the state planning groups. Since Evans has returned from Raleigh he has continued his expert interest in the area's problems. It might be that he could be convinced to put his talents to use in working with Choanoke Area Development Association as an advisor in these matters. His know-how and contacts in Virginia are important to any area-wide efforts. While county competition is good, it will be more effective if it accomplishes an over-all objective of an improved highway system in eastern North Carolina.

Highways Evans cited in his Suffolk talk as in need of improvement are Va.-N.C. 168, leading from Norfolk south to the Outer Banks; U.S. 17 from Portsmouth to Elizabeth City; Va.-N.C. 32 from Suffolk to Edenton; U.S. 13 from Suffolk to Ahoskie and Windsor; and U.S. 258 from Franklin, Va., to Murfreesboro and Scotland Neck.

Although he was speaking from Suffolk, Evans was talking of North Carolina's needs. Another prime project would naturally be U.S. 158 from the Outer Banks to I-95 so that there would be national connections with the entire area.

Now that all of the area counties are alert to their own needs, they should become aware of the benefits to be derived from an area plan. We are not going to have as many representatives and senators to look after our interests as we are accustomed to. Instead we must substitute cooperative effort to make further progress.

Cultural TV Network Needed

One of the great handicaps in our American society—in attempting to give our children an appreciation of good music—is the present system of commercial radio (and television), which by its very nature in directing its appeal to the lowest common denominator, to sell products, stresses popular, novel and gimmick music, rather than the great music of the world's best composers.

It is true that one can find good music, programs, either on FM or by carefully waiting for, and selecting, rare programs devoted to fine music. But this is a process most people either have not the time nor the training to pursue.

Our schools are doing what they can but this is not enough in itself—in the face of the barrage of commercialism and jungle music one hears at every turn. If there are those who doubt the effects of our radio and television, all that is needed to prove the point is a trip to England or Germany or to other countries and a comparison of what is stressed on the airwaves in these countries and what the U.S. listener is offered.

While no one wishes to do away with the commercial, free-enterprise system of radio and television as we know it,

nevertheless it might be that one cultural frequency will be necessary to offer Americans adequate cultural programs. This could be operated by state universities, by a special national cultural committee, or by a number of state committees. The educational channels such as TV channel 2 which reaches part of our area is an attempt to help with this problem by its cultural programming. It is a help but educational stations by themselves are not enough.

A strictly cultural network, even if it required public financing, which would sell no advertising, and which would not compete with the commercial channels is needed. It could offer all Americans fine music, opera, government services in such fields as agriculture, taxes, etc., news conferences of importance to voting citizens, etc.—free of all political or government propaganda. It is through such a channel that the people of other countries have access to such programming.

There is no reason commercial frequencies and channels need fear such a system—and we would then have the best of each system. For the benefit of all citizens.

Can The People Manage Colleges?

In the aftermath of legislative settlement of the Speaker Ban issue, there has been public criticism of the Legislature because it refused to submit the issue to a vote of the people. We live in a democracy, the critics say. In a democracy the people rule. What possibly could be wrong with letting the people decide at the polls whether to retain or remove the ban on specified campus speakers?

Critics who raise this question seem to be ignoring some basic realities. The American democracy has never been an absolute democracy in which every public question is decided by popular vote. The people hold ultimate authority, but the people elect representatives to make decisions. The representatives in turn delegate responsibility to trustees and administrators. In a complex society, democratic government could not function without trusteeship.

Education is a specialized field. The people own the public schools and colleges. God forbid that the people manage these institutions by popular vote. The people, directly or through their elected representatives, select trustees to govern schools and colleges. The people should hold the trustees accountable for the management of educational institutions. Flagrant mismanagement calls for changes in trusteeship, not administration by popular vote.

The people are not qualified to manage educational institutions. This is an old concept, but it is a concept still valid in our times. It does not run contrary to democratic tradition in the United States.

The late Dr. William Preston Few, first president of Duke University, discussed this concept

when he became president of old Trinity College in 1910. In his inaugural address, he acknowledged that "to contemplate human life with any degree of patience, one must believe that the people wish to do right and in the long run and in the main will do right," but Dr. Few drove home the point that the people cannot manage a college, that in a democracy they are susceptible to waves of hysteria and to alarmist leaders. He insisted that the colleges must serve as bulwarks against which passions "beat in vain." (See Dr. Earl W. Porter's book "Trinity and Duke, 1892-1924: Foundations of Duke University," published by Duke University Press, 1964, page 176.)

Dr. Few was aware of difficulties which the Trinity College administration had experienced in its relations with both Methodist laymen and citizens of North Carolina in general who misunderstood academic freedom and some of the educational decisions made by college administrators. What he said in his inaugural address applies with equal validity to all institutions of higher education, public and private. Dr. Few's view does not reflect haughtiness, rather it reflects mature understanding of the workings of democratic society. We may be sure that he understood how important it is for a college to retain the sympathy of the people even as it boldly exercises leadership, refusing to be molded by popular prejudices and notions.

The Speaker Ban controversy has been a test of North Carolina's maturity. We passed, but we still could improve our grade.

—Smithfield Herald

The People Write:

Retarded Child's Christmas Card Appeal

To the Editor: Some one sent Tony a card with this address, saying if he wrote to the News, they bet his mail would be covered with pretty Christmas cards. Sir, Tony cannot write, he is a cerebral palsy victim, both legs and arms are afflicted, he does not walk, he is 20, but only a child. He will never become an adult. Tony is retarded, but never cries, always has a smile. He watches TV but goes crazy over his record player, which was given to him from a radio station. He loves to

get mail, really I love to open and read them for him, then I put them on the wall. Do you think you could have a Christmas shower of cards for Tony. He can not do anything but sit. Please if you can, can you?

Thank you and God Bless Written for Tony by his Mother Tony L. Sasso

51 Cooldidge Street-S.W. Wyoming, Michigan-49508



CHRISTMAS CARD—The 117-year-old Columns Building on the Chowan College campus makes a lovely Christmas card with its decorations up—and holiday vacation begins at noon Friday.

Carlton Morris Writes— I'm Not Defending The South; It Needs None

Ever so often I'm accused of defending the south, but this simply isn't true for the south needs no defense from me or anyone. I would like to set the record straight and would do just that if I had some mass media as big as CBS so I could pour out my honest convictions as well as they pour their bilge into every home across the nation.

It seems they had a terrible time out in Los Angeles (Interpreted City of the Angels) last summer. As a matter of fact, 34 people were killed and many a man was run out of business and ruined for life. Block after block was destroyed by fire, and this same CBS showed thieves carrying away furniture, television sets, rugs and just about anything the residents of the area could steal.

All this is the business of California and Los Angeles in particular, and it must be CBS business as well as TV, which has done its utmost to loosen the morals of one and all, has also set itself up as the conscience of the nation. All this is well and good if they like it that way, but the thing that makes me puke isn't the sight of such wanton destruction and lack of godliness among the residents of the area, as much as it is the dirty, unfounded insinuations by CBS and the California authorities.

Here are 3,000 miles away minding our own business, already bearing the burden of being the stepchild of the nation, the retarded son, the skeleton in the closet, and charged with committing all the sins of man against man, and now they claim that Los Angeles riots were caused by our poor southern Negroes, whom have been dumped on their doorstep like so many bastard chil-

dren. Which is just about as far as you can go afield in a day's journey in any direction.

In the first place, I'm almost as well off as some of our poor southern Negroes, and I couldn't raise the price of a trip to California if I was inclined to go there, which I am not. In the second place, our people, black or white, have better morals, better principles and a greater respect for the laws of God and man than to pull any such caper as that.

The thing that was topmost frosting on the cake, was when the CBS reporter took one of his queer sounding friends on a tour of the burned and looted area. The queer sounding one told how he stole and how others stole from different shops and even pointed them out one by one. He explained how they rioted for hours on end. Then the police did a terrible thing. They arrested him, not in the riot area mind you, but in a plain simple residential area without a single shop in sight. At least none were in sight of the one direction the cameras were pointed. And he derided if he didn't have to serve 30 days for it, it was police brutality is what it was.

Don't it tear your heart out to hear such slanted drive? We have just as many sorry whites as we have poor despised southern Negroes. But I've never been acquainted with people from either race, and my acquaintance is rather extensive in both races, who would travel from here to California to riot, steal, or even revolt.

It has hinted strongly that the whole thing was a revolt as the people were practically paupers, only averaging about \$3,000 a

year. But if they were revolting against that scapegoat of a poor, misguided nation, the Deep South, it certainly appears they would have done it before they left home.

Nope, they can't pin this one on us, black or white.

LOOKING BACKWARD

interesting items reprinted from old files of The Roanoke-Chowan Times By MISS ESTHER CONNER Editor Emeritus

December 3, 1936 A Thought For The Week — For where envying and strife is there is confusion and every evil work. — James 3:16.

Those from Rich Square who attended the 4th District meeting, Order of Eastern Star, held in Henderson Monday were Mesdames Frances Boone, Worthy Matron, Alice F. Bell, Mabel Martin, Clara Leake and Janet Brown.

Mrs. L. H. Gibbons and children, Billy and L. H. Jr., returned to Hamlet Sunday after spending several days in the home of Mrs. Ada Buxton and attended the Eatmon - Weaver wedding.

Captain Farmer of the Highway Patrol is asking for an increase of his squad of patrolmen to 200 and it will be an act of economy to enlarge the patrol to at least that number. Such a course will make the highways safer, because it will make drivers more careful if they are expecting to be overtaken by a patrolman every time they violate a law. An enlarged patrol would also pick up many drunken drivers and get them off the roads before they have a chance to kill others.

The Rehoboth Home Demonstration Club met with Miss Nannie Lee Spivey Wednesday and served a Thanksgiving supper. Sixteen members present to enjoy this evening.

The Northampton Players Festival will begin next Friday at noon, December 4, in the Woodland school auditorium. One of the best programs in the history of the County Festival is in prospect.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Griffin of Woodland are hosts Tuesday evening at a three course turkey dinner honoring the members of the school faculty with their wives and husbands. Mrs. Griffin was assisted in serving by Mrs. D. H. Brown.

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet Thursday afternoon, December 3, in the home of Mrs. Bruce Lassiter at Potocasi.

December 24, 1908 The new brick building being erected by Contractor Stanford for John H. Baugham is rapidly assuming shape.

A play entitled "Between the Acts" will be presented at the

R-C Editors Say . . .

Brains May Become More Important

By MARIE WOOD News Editor The Herald

Shoskie The time could come when brains will be much more important than they are now—and there are occasions now when I am inclined to wonder just what anyone wants a brain for.

Electrical gadgets can do almost anything around the house these days once they are turned on, and anyone can push a button. Brains, when I was young, and I recognize this dates me even more than my hobbies, were something which equipped an individual to speak intelligently when spoken to, to be able to carry on a delightful conversation at meal time, and to be provocative and stimulating in the evening—or any time for that matter.

Town Hall at Lasker Thursday evening, December 31, and at the Academy building at Conway Friday evening, January 1, by the Lasker talent. Proceeds will go for the benefit of the Lasker High School Library and the Methodist Church. Admission for adults, 25 cents, and for children, 15 cents.

To fully appreciate the value of the farm lands in Northampton, Bertie and Hertford our people need to travel in other parts of the country. Here we can grow profitably about all the things on the agricultural list, including the best paying and principal money crops — cotton, tobacco, peanuts, potatoes, corn, hay and small grain. We have considerable quantity of unprofitable land that is not properly cultivated nor drained as it could be but our wide-awake hustling farmers are making money.

The members of the Rich Square Baptist Sunday School are requested to meet at the high school building Saturday for a Christmas treat and general good time. The hour of meeting has been changed from 7 o'clock in the evening to 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The people of Rich Square and vicinity have been fortunate during the past year in being able to buy a good quality of beef at a very low price — from six to 10 cents a pound. Our beef dealers sell staled beef, that is, beef that has been thoroughly cleaned and refatened specially for the market before being butchered.

Brains, today—bah! Of what purpose are they? To get you into college? Nonsense. rote, rote, everything is rote. You learn by repeating, you learn by memorizing.

You forget that education once an individual so he could get along with other individuals. Today, who cares whether he gets along—generally—with other individuals? One must get along only with one's small clique — one's few chosen friends, and not for long, very often with them.

Anyway, what I am leading up to, stems from a mighty fancy experiment carried out at the University of California, where they have been transplanting the learnings from the brains of hamsters to the brains of rats.

Or maybe it's just the memory, I dunno. But anyway, they (and that "they" always delights me) have learned, discovered, made use of the finding, that the learning of a skill will alter the arrangement of the brain molecules, so permanently, that if you transfer the arranged molecules from the brain of one animal to the brain of another animal, the second animal will automatically do what the number one animal did at the moment of incentive.

And if that sounds awfully involved, read it again. Then I'll say it simpler. Hamsters were trained to run to a food box at the sound of a click. Then they were killed and scientists extracted from their brains those molecules affected—rearranged — and injected the molecules into the brains of rats and sounded the click and the rats ran to the food box!

Now, wouldn't it be perfectly wonderful if the brains of a Da Vinci or an Einstein could be handled — at their deaths — in the same fashion! Some of us, probably would just sit there and wait for it to happen and then hope to be the highest bidder.

Of course, it probably would end just as all other auctions do — the buyer would be the man with the most money. But wouldn't it be wonderful if the government would step in and decide that the disadvantaged would get those brains — at government expense no doubt with taxpayers paying, but nowadays, that's the way the cookie crumbles.

Then we could all stop working and join the great society of the disadvantaged and have just as much right to those brains as the next one.

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