

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1982

Correction

Last week's editorial on the role of Dr. Craig Phillips, state superintendent of public instruction, in the defeat of State Sen. Sam Noble in the primary of June 29 contained errors.

The errors were that Noble voted in the 1982 session of the General Assembly with the majority to table action on the women's Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and that David Parnell supported the amendment. We were informed later that Noble actually supported the Amendment, voting against the tabling motion. It also was pointed out that Parnell, as a member of the State House didn't have the opportunity to vote on the proposal since the Senate majority tabled it before it got to the House.

I regret the errors.

--BL

Remember the 56

Network Radio commentator Paul Harvey in an article published in a church-related newspaper, "Pulpit Helps," describes the fates of some of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, fates that are not known by probably most of the American people. Few of the 56 survived very long after the signing.

Harvey's introduction reads: "Few American living today comprehend the courage needed to sign the now famous Declaration of Independence."

The Declaration was signed very early in the Revolution, in a time when the odds against victory by the rebelling colonists were huge, since Britain was an awesome military and naval power in that 18th century world.

If Britain won, the signers of the Declaration knew they would hang for "treason," as King George III had "promised" all rebels would. They also knew they also would lose their homes and all other possessions.

Even if the Revolution succeeded, Harvey points out, the signers knew they had nothing to gain but years of hardship in what would be a struggling nation.

And every one of these signers had a lot to lose. "These were all men of means," Harvey explains, well-educated. Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants. Nine were farmers and owners of large plantations.

He adds later, "...Each knew the full meaning of that magnificent last paragraph, in which his signature pledged his life, fortune, and sacred honor."

Yet the 56 men signed. And though the Revolution succeeded, some of the signers suffered for the victory before it was achieved.

Here are some of the fates, documented, Harvey describes. Carter Braxton of Virginia, wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas. To pay his debts he lost his home and all his properties.

Thomas Lynch, Jr., was a third-generation rice grower. An Aristocrat. A large plantation owner. After he signed, his health failed. With his wife he set out for France to regain his health. Their ship never got to France -- was never heard from again.

Thomas McKean of Delaware was so harassed by the enemy that he was forced to move his family five times in five months. He served in Congress without pay. His family lived in poverty and in hiding.

Vandals looted the properties of Elery, Clymer, Hall, Gwynnett, Walton, Heyward, Rutledges, and Middleton.

And Thomas Nelson of Virginia raised \$2 million on his own signature to provision our allies, the French fleet. After the war, he personally paid back the loans, wiping out his entire estate. He was never reimbursed by his government (to this statement by Harvey we might add in all fairness that the American government at the time was in no position to repay such debts). And in the final battle of Yorktown, Nelson urged Washington to fire on Nelson's own home, which Nelson believed the British commadner, Lord Cornwallis, was occupying. Nelson died bankrupt.

The Hessians seized the home of Francis Hopkinson of New Jersey. The home and belongings of Francis Lewis were destroyed. His wife was imprisoned. She died within a few months afterward.

Richard Stockton was captured and mistreated. His health broke to the extent that he died at age 51. His estate was pillaged.

Thomas Heyward, Jr., was captured when Charleston fell.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she lay dying. Their 13 children fled in all directions, for their lives. Hart's fields and grist mill were laid waste. For more than a year, he lived in forests and caves and returned home only after the war ended. Then he found his wife dead, his children gone, and his properties gone. He died a few weeks later of exhaustion and a broken heart.

Lewis Morris saw his land destroyed, his family scattered.

Philip Livingston died within a few months from the hardships of the war.

John Hancock is well remembered for his signing the Declaration in script large enough, as his historic explanation goes, so King George could read it without his spectacles. One of the wealthiest men in New England, he stood outside Boston one terrible night of the war and said, "Burn Boston, though it makes John Hancock a beggar, if the public good requires it."

He, too, lived up to the pledge.

Of the 56 who signed the Declaration, five were captured by the British and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes -- from Rhode Island to Charleston -- sacked, looted, occupied by the enemy, or burned. Two sons of one of the signers were captured. Nine of the 56 died in the war, from its hardships or from its more merciful bullets.

Harvey wrote this piece on the occasion of the celebration of Independence Day this month.



The Independence Day of 1982 is 11 days past now. But we are running this because it is important, even in these times when this nation is far better prepared to face enemies even infinitely more powerful than the Great Britain of the 18th century, to remember this: the dedication and the courage of these 56 men, not to mention on the same qualities shown by the countless other patriots not publicly known or recognized. Harvey says of the 56: "...they considered liberty -- indeed they had learned THAT liberty -- so much more important than security that they pledged their lives ... their fortunes ... and their sacred honor. And they fulfilled their pledge. They paid the price. And freedom was born."

They did have no less to lose than the wealthiest and post powerful of Americans of today: their lives, their families, and their property.

Let us pray that this nation ever again need that kind of courage and dedication; but let us pray that, if we ever do, this nation already has them.

--BI

Letters To The Editor

Editor, *The News-Journal*.
 After reading your editorial concerning the Senate Primary election in last week's *News-Journal*, I felt compelled to correct certain statements and assumptions made in this article.

Concerning the ERA, you seem to have your facts confused. Senator Noble is recorded as having voted against the tabling motion in the Senate, which was a position favoring the ERA. Since the tabling motion on the ERA was passed by a majority of 27-23 in the Senate, the effect of this motion was to kill the ERA in the N.C. Legislature.

With the defeat of ERA in the Senate, the N.C. House of Representatives did not vote on this issue; therefore Representative David Parnell did not vote at all on the ERA during the June session of the Legislature.

Your editorial also made the assumption that the endorsement of Superintendent of Schools, Craig Phillips was the deciding factor in David Parnell winning the election. Certainly Craig Phillips' support was helpful, but those of us who worked in David Parnell's campaign know that the real reason

that our man won, was the high quality of our candidate. I thought your readers needed to know this.

Yours very truly,
 Jimmy Guy

Editor, *The News-Journal*.
 I am doing research on my family history and am trying to find descendants of Neal Carver BEARD and Mahala Marsh BEARD. I understand that Mahala Marsh BEARD lived in Rockfish in October 1874 when her son, John Q BEARD was married. I am thinking that some of that family may still be living there.

I am the great-great granddaughter of William Carver BEARD, the brother of Neal Carver BEARD.

I am anxious to hear from anyone with information about the BEARD family or any descendants of the BEARD family.

Thank you for your assistance. I shall be looking forward to a response from this letter.

Sincerely,
 Mrs. Jackie Morgan
 3520 Le Blanc
 San Antonio, Tex., 78247

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:
 There are a lot of things nobody understands and high on the list as far as I'm concerned is foreign policy. I followed right on its heels by monetary policy.

It's foreign policy however that's in the news now. Some are saying our foreign policy is in a mess, which isn't odd in a world in the same shape.

As I half-way understand it, our foreign policy makers are always worried that if our international relations aren't handled with the utmost delicacy we'll make some other country mad.

My question is, doesn't any other country ever worry about making us mad? Has any other country ever pulled up short and said, Look, we can't do that, it might offend the United States? Now you tell me.

I have no more idea that a State Legislator what our foreign policy or any other country's foreign policy has accomplished in the last hundred years, but whatever those policies were they didn't seem to work. The world's in about the same shape, except that now it has three wars going at the same time while one used to be adequate.

You reckon if no country had a foreign policy the nations of the world would get along any better? As it is, enemies one year can be allies the next or the other way around and it's hard for anybody's foreign policy to keep up with the changes.

How can a Secretary of State

It's a Small World

by Bill Lindau

Rich's Cigar Store in downtown Portland, Ore., offers cigarettes for sale for 5 cents each.

The purpose is to help who can't quit smoking entirely from having to mooch cigarettes from friends. I remember one guy saying after a fellow worker who quit smoking had "bummed" cigarettes from him and others during the day: "He hasn't quite smoking. He's just quit buying."

There are people who can't quit cold turkey but want to quit, so they're very unhappy about buying a whole pack when they decide they have to have just one more cigarette. Buying a pack makes them feel they've surrendered to the old habit.

Rich's, however, let's them have their single "fix" and at the same time gives them the feeling that they're still quitting, that they just back-slid this time.

That newspaper piece about Rich's, though, reminds me of the 1930s. You could buy a single cigarette for one cent at some places. Offering cigarettes for sale that way wasn't to help people quit smoking; it was to help people who didn't have the price of a pack. A pack in those times was 15 cents for the regular brands (Camels, Chesterfields, Lucky strikes, Old Golds, etc.), 20 cents for Egyptian and other "high class" cigarettes, like Melachrinos, Murads, and Herbert Arreytons, and 10 cents for the "cheap" brands, like Avalons.

The "high class" brands also had ivory or cork tips (to keep them from sticking to your lips). Those were the times before the filter cigarette was invented. You could, however, buy for a dime a little cigarette holder that acted as a filter. I think it was supposed to keep the cigarette tar from staining your teeth and your fingers, rather than keep all that junk from getting into the lungs.

Those times also were long before the U.S. surgeon general

had determined that smoking could be hazardous to your health. Coaches, however, forbade smoking by their athletes in training and during sports seasons, as it was known even then that smoking "cut" you "wind (lung power)."

The long cigarette holder made of bone or something like it was commonly used by the "classy" smokers (see old pictures of Franklin D. Roosevelt with cigarette inholder clenched in teeth while smiling).

Some cigarettes were stronger than others. Cuban cigarettes, which looked like cigarette-size cigars, were the roughest I've ever had.

But the most potent cigarette of all, Denver Robinson says, was one made on his daddy's farm way back. Robinson was Western District farm agent for the Extension Service when he told me about it. His daddy grew aromatic tobacco, which was used in the blend that made up the cigarette tobacco. It constituted about 10 per cent of the cigarette tobacco (before filtered cigarettes were invented). One day Denver decided to see how a cigarette made entirely of aromatic tobacco would do for a smoke. So he rolled himself one and he smoked it.

He said it made him so light-headed he felt like he was floating in mid-air. But he never tried it again.

Many quit smoking, and many others want to, but many others absolutely refuse, even in the face of great bribes or threats.

For instance, there is the young man in one of Rudyard Kipling's poem. He proposes to his sweetheart, and she says, "okay, (I'll marry you,)" or words to that effect. But then she says she will marry him only if he gives up smoking.

So this worries him, and he thinks about it, and then he replies: "A woman is only a woman."

"But a good cigar is a smoke."

CLIFF BLUE ...

People & Issues



HIGH WAGES...High wages and high living cost is having an ill effect upon jobs in America.

Recently we noticed that American companies are shifting their production to countries where cost is not so great as in the United States.

We note that SCM will phase out a portable electric typewriter factory in New York, eliminating some 400 jobs, and will switch production to Singapore. The company estimated that the loss for its typewriter and appliance groups widened to more than \$25 million for fiscal 1982, a big rise from the year earlier, with an \$8 million loss.

We like to see people make good wages, but when wages get out of line with other nations, and with companies losing millions of dollars, you can't blame them for looking elsewhere in order to survive.

In Utah, Kennecott Corp., the nation's largest copper producer, announced layoffs of 1,310 employees at its Utah and Arizona operations. It also announced that effective immediately, the base pay for Kennecott's salaried personnel at all locations would be reduced 10%.

Kennecott, a subsidiary of Cleveland-based Standard Oil Co., of Ohio, has piled up huge losses in recent quarters because of a sharp slump in copper demand and prices.

When governments, local, state and federal realize the situation that private business is in, they should stop, look and listen before asking or moving toward higher salaries, lest units of government find themselves in the same situation that government leaders did back in the Herbert Hoover administration.

Better to prepare for it, and it not come, than to sail ahead and come to the situation of "payless" days!

LIONS...We read recently where a Lions Club chapter that was expelled last year from the International Association of Lions Clubs for admitting women, is suing to have the international's bar against women removed. The Lions Club in Portland, Oregon,

was the first Lions chapter to accept women as full members. The club, which now counts seven women among its 23 members, sued over Oregon's public accommodations law. Three of the women are co-plaintiffs.

The suit claimed that club membership affords economic advantages that sex discrimination denies to women. The suit asked \$2,000 in damages for the club and \$2,500 for each woman defendant. The suit also asked restoration of the lost insurance benefits administered by the national chapter.

POW'S...Last week we read in the newspapers that some 40 U.S. pilots are still held as prisoners of war in Vietnam and may be used for diplomatic relations with the United States. A former member of the Viet Cong told this to a magazine recently. If this be true, we feel that every effort of the American government should press for their immediate release.

Looks like all U.S. involvement in Vietnam turns sour before it ends!

3-MILE CONTRIBUTIONS ... We feel kindly toward Duke Power Co. Chairman, Bill Lee, who is advocating that the users of public power help the Three-Mile Island get started up again. For Tar Heel utility users, the cost would be a small price to pay per customer -- three cents a month or 36 cents a year for six years.

Something like this could happen in North Carolina, and if we have led in helping at Three-Mile Island, we could get help in a similar situation more easily.

DAVID BRITT...We note that David Britt, a good friend of your scribe is retiring from the N.C. Supreme Court, come July 31 this year. Justice Britt has acquitted himself with distinction during his years of public life. He served from 1958 to 1967 in the N.C. General Assembly and as Speaker of the House in 1967; served on the N.C. Court of Appeals 1967-78; Associate Justice of N.C. Supreme Court 1978-July 31, 1982.

In addition, he has made other contributions in public and church service that make him an outstanding citizen in North Carolina.

