

# Opinions



"I see the shipment of letter openers finally arrived."

## Tall talkers worth watching

Every community has its tall talkers. They gossip adeptly, spin interesting yarns and hold listeners' attention. Those who possess penetrating voices command even more attention.

It's interesting to watch reactions to those able to gossip with charm and personality.

The guilibe are easily led and entertained. Even those who know better often appreciate the humor and talent exhibited.

Few challenge the clever, loud tongue. In many communities this form of entertainment -- and that's what it is -- is the greatest relief from boredom and routine.

Gossips, then, serve a purpose, as well as ruining reputations and working their well-known mischief.

**STOCKS ...** What stocks will do well in coming years, with interest rates and inflation lowered and what stocks should one buy? This is the key question for millions of individuals who don't know whose advice to accept.

A national magazine recently surveyed brokers all over the country and asked them which stocks were best, and the safest investment, at this time. The reader might like to know which favorites were named by the greatest number of brokers.

The favorites in order of selection, were:

IBM, AT&T, Caterpillar, DuPont, General Motors, Merrill Lynch, Allied Corp., Hewlett-Packard, NCR, U.S. Steel, Advanced Micro Devices, American Express, General Electric, ISC Systems, K-Mart, Key Tronic, Motorola, Philbro-Solomon, Pfizer and Sperry -- to name twenty.

I have a few stocks, but none of the above are on my list. Most of those above mentioned are blue chips. For safety and appreciation, plus income, however, the blue chips might be hard to beat.

Cliff Blue



### People and Issues

**EXPENSIVE COVERS ...** The House, upset about \$640 toilet seat covers and other procurement scandals, recently approved sweeping reforms in the way the Pentagon buys weapons and ordered more competition to try to drive down the cost of defense contracts.

**PRICE ...** The Federal's milk price support was reduced by 50 cents per 100 pounds on July 1 because of another rise in surplus dairy products, Agriculture Secretary John R. Block announced recently.

**MORE MONEY ...** Federal tax cuts have allowed Americans to begin taking home more money, even through their total earning fell in the 1983 recessions, the Census Bureau reported recently.

**DISCIPLINE ...** Labor Unions may not discipline members who

quit during a strike and go back to work, a deeply divided Supreme Court ruled recently.

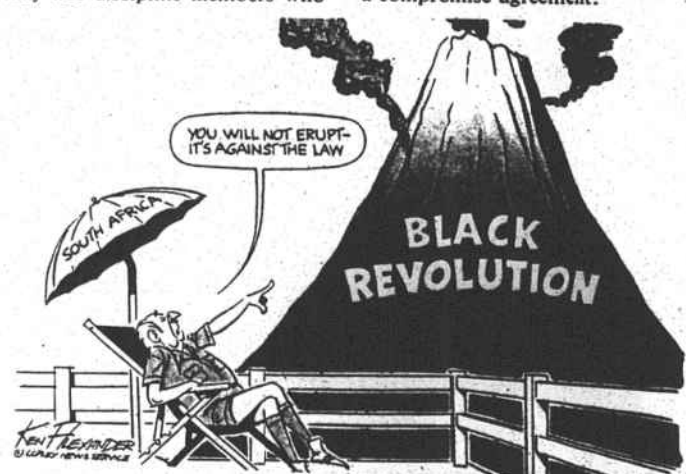
**ANOTHER DECLINE ...** The nation's factories operated at 80.3 percent of capacity in May, down by 0.4 percent from April is the fifth decline in the past six months, the government reported recently.

**SABBATH ...** States may not give employees an absolute right to refuse to work on their Sabbath Day, the Supreme Court declared recently in an 8 to 1 ruling in a Connecticut case.

**CHEESE INVESTIGATION ...** The investigation into tainted Mexican-style cheese linked to at least 49 deaths has spread to three additional manufacturers in California.

**HOUSE DEMOCRATS ...** House Democrat conferees so stubbornly held out against reduction in cost of living increases in federal, civilian and military jobs, committee talks seeking to reduce the deficit by at least \$50 billion broke down June 25.

The latest hope is that Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and House Speaker Tip O'Neill will intervene with conferees to obtain a compromise agreement.



## Farm exports should be priority

The United States must give trade policy a higher priority according to a preliminary report by the National Commission on Agricultural Trade and Export Policy. The Commission was created by law last summer to look into several years of decline in farm exports.

The Commission blames much of the decline in exports on the value of the dollar compared to other currencies. It's recommending that the U.S. government give greater consideration to agricultural exports in formulating fiscal and monetary policies. In other words, farmers have been victimized by the federal deficit and high interest rates.

The report also recommends that in the 1985 Farm Bill establish a national priority to encourage

agricultural exports, with the U.S. committed to being competitive in world markets, a reliable supplier and a supporter of fair trade.

The Commission believes that unfair trade practices should be swiftly dealt with, while continuing to negotiate a general reduction in trade barriers.

Furthermore, the Commission calls for a greater share of foreign economic assistance to be made in the form of food aid. It asks for an expansion of agricultural export credit programs, and even the use of an export payment-in-kind or bonus to counter export subsidies used by other nations.

### Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are encouraged and welcomed. Writers should keep letters as short as possible. Names, addresses and telephone numbers should be included and all letters must be signed. Names will be printed, however, other information will be kept confidential. We reserve the right to edit letters for good taste and brevity. Letters should be received by *The News-Journal* by noon on the Monday of the publication week.

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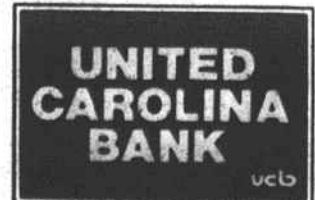
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