



The NEW BERN

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No one, so far as we know, has accused North Carolina Senator Sam Ervin of being a crackpot, or even an honorary (or ornery) member of the Half Truth Club. This is what he has to say on a familiar subject:

"Federal aid programs have mushroomed in recent years into a prime means of financing projects affecting virtually every American. Annually programs to expand Federal aid are urged, and often a handful of new ones are adopted during a Congressional session. The question arises as to what is not the proper sphere of these programs.

"The answer should come from the experience of men and nations with government and its effect upon the lives of men and the civilization they are building.

"I think that government should do things for people that people cannot do for themselves. For this reason, I favor the use of Federal monies to control pollution, to conserve water resources, and to develop rivers and harbors.

"Controlling water pollution, building huge reservoirs, creating usable harbors and navigable rivers are functions that benefit all citizens, and yet these are things which are beyond the means of citizens to perform for themselves. The development and control of these resources and necessities play an important role in the life of the people.

"On the other hand, it should not be the function of government to grant special privileges to some in an area of life that individuals can control themselves. For this reason, I oppose rent subsidies, because they put the Federal Government into an activity which ought to be conducted by the people themselves.

"Jobs are the most plentiful they have been in two decades, and anyone willing to work has a reasonable opportunity to do so. Aside from this, rent handouts take away something very precious from the recipients. They take away one of the durable satisfactions of life—pride. Living-cost handouts steal away from free men those vital traits of self-reliance and self-responsibility which are essential to democracy.

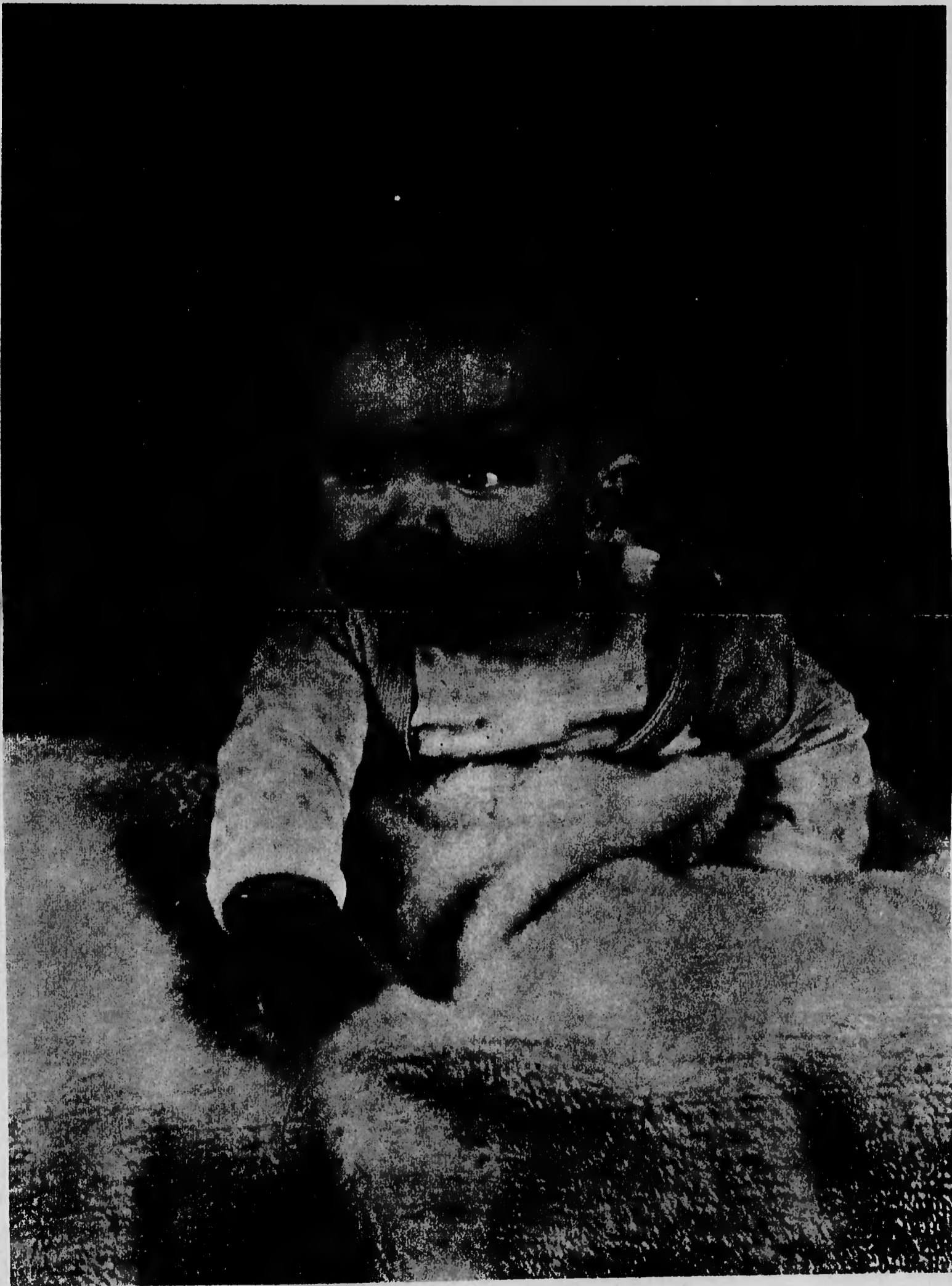
"Long ago, Hamilton and Jefferson disagreed over many things which touched on individual freedom and centralized government. But they both agreed on the evils of paternalism and the disastrous effects it had on the spirit of men.

"Hamilton put it tersely: 'A power over a man's subsistence amounts to a power over his will.' Jefferson stated the danger in more understandable terms: 'Dependence begets subservience and venality, suffocates the germ of virtue, and prepares fit tools for the designs of ambition.'

"Rent subsidies are a prime example of what government ought not to try to do for men. In exchange for a few dollars from the Government, men trade their independence for the controls which ambitious men design for them.

"Today's handout breeds tomorrow's subservience in the hope of getting more. The new

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LOSING CANDIDATE—Robin Broadway, six month old son of the Robert Broadways of Route 2, Vanceboro, shows you the expression some of Craven County's politicians will be wearing Saturday night, when votes have been counted. Robin doesn't have to worry, of course, over what may or may not happen at the polls. Since he sought no public office, there was no reason to make campaign promises, pass out cigars, and smile at people he would prefer to ignore. In a

land of free elections, such as ours, voting is a privilege rather than a duty, and those who fail to exercise their right to express themselves don't deserve good government. Time passes quickly, and in a few years Robin will be voting or running for office. For the present, it's more fun to clown around a bit and ape a typical loser in the balloting.—Photo by Eunice Wray.