

# Senator Sam J. Ervin Says

WASHINGTON — Since I have announced my intention to retire at the end of my term on January 3, 1975, it seems not amiss for me to give the people of North Carolina at this time something in the nature of an accounting of my stewardship as their Senator.

I have endeavored to practice on all occasions the concept that a public office is a public trust. I have sought to make life more abundant for the farm families of North Carolina, who produce the food, fiber, and agricultural crops essential to our existence and comfort; to support the free enterprise system, and promote the economic interests of those who invest and labor in North Carolina's industries; to promote the development of worthwhile projects in North Carolina's river basins and harbors; to preserve constitutional government and the blessings of liberty for all Americans; to secure to those who labor freedom to join or to refrain from joining unions in conformity with their own desires; to compel the Federal government to balance its budget, stop deficit financing, and terminate its wasteful foreign aid programs; to maintain armed forces sufficient to insure our national survival in a precarious world; to further education, medical

research, and the public health; to conserve our natural resources, reduce pollution in our atmosphere and waters, and make our highways, parkways and parks toll-free to all our people; to secure reasonable benefits to disabled veterans and their dependents and to the aging and handicapped; to obtain the enactment of laws to protect Federal employees against tyrannical treatment by their government, and to obtain the enactment of laws establishing procedures for Constitutional Conventions called on the

petition of two-thirds of the States. At the same time I have fought, as sinful and tyrannical, proposals that Americans be taxed to support religious institutions in violation of the First Amendment; as incompatible with freedom proposals that State right-to-work laws be repealed and that compulsory unionism be forced upon those who do not wish to join unions; as inimical to justice, proposals to enact "no knock" and preventive detention laws; as inconsistent with our system of government

the use of the military to spy on civilians exercising their First Amendment rights of free speech, assembly, and petition; as intolerable, governmental efforts to intimidate individuals, newsmen, and broadcasters for exercising their rights of free speech and a free press in a manner displeasing to government; as rank tyranny, unnecessary governmental invasions of the privacy of our people, and governmental collection and computerization of data concerning their political and religious thoughts, beliefs, and activities; and as unwise, welfare proposals calculated to convert able-bodied Americans into mendicants.

I have authored or sponsored many legislative proposals which have been enacted into law during my years as a Senator. Among them were the Act protecting the constitutional rights of mentally ill persons in the District of Columbia, the Act securing constitutional rights to American Indians residing on reservations, the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, the Law Enforcement Assistance Act of 1965, the Bail Reform Act of 1966, the Narcotic Addict Rehabilitation Act of 1966, the Military Justice Act of 1968, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. I am grateful to the officers, members, and employees of the Senate whose kindness and helpfulness have made my service with them a happy experience, and I am especially indebted to the members of my personal staff and members of my Committee and Subcommittee staffs who have served me and North Carolina with great ability and complete devotion.

## The Superintendent Reports

At this particular time of year with a Christmas just over and a New Year before us, it perhaps might be permissible, or a least forgivable, for me to reflect on life in general and on what it means to live.

William Jones once said, "The great use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it."

Many of us may find this noble statement worthy of quoting. At the same time, however, we may ask, "without great fame or fortune, what in my life is so useful?"

Simply stated, it is this—oneself. The selfhood of each

person is special. The perspective from which each one views life is unique.

A message by Wilford A. Peterson, from The Art of Living, received in a Christmas card expresses this so well.

The Art of Giving We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the heart: love, kindness, joy, understanding, tolerance, forgiveness.

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the mind: ideas, dreams, purposes, ideals, principles, plans, inventions, projects, poetry.

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the spirit: prayer, vision, beauty, aspiration, peace, faith.

We give of ourselves when we give the gift of words: encouragement, inspiration, guidance.

Emerson said it well: "Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts. The only true gift is a portion of thyself."

Certainly as we begin this new year, the teachers, administrators and school board pledge to give a portion of themselves so that each student enrolled in the Edenton-Chowan Schools may, indeed, truly become what they potentially can be.

### L. H. Thomas, 79, Succumbs in Kansas

Lewis H. Thomas, 79, died December 29 in Blue Rapids, Kan.

Mr. Thomas was the father of Donald R. Thomas, 207 East Eden Street.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon in Kansas.

### A Prophet's Portion

Happy New Year! To me there is something joyous in starting a new year. There is also something quite religious about it as well.

For me, the beginning of a new year is a time of reflection upon the past year and its blessings and trials. It is a time of thanksgiving to God for those blessings and for His leadership through the trials.

The beginning of a new year is a time of resolve as one repents of the sins, failures, and mistakes of the old year and determines to follow more closely in the steps of Christ in the new year. A sin greater than the making and breaking of new resolutions is the making of no resolutions.

The beginning of a new year is a time of anticipation. Who, but God, knows the hidden blessings, challenges, and opportunities that await in the new year. I for one am thankful that I am alive at the beginning of 1974. Happy New Year!

BOB GRAY

## Sunday School Lesson

BREAD FOR THE HUNGRY

International Sunday School Lesson for January 6, 1974

LESSON TEXT: John 6

"What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

These were the words of Jesus Christ, Savior of mankind...and they are as true today as they were all those centuries ago when they were spoken! For the true Christian readily recognizes that only in Christ can our deepest needs be met — He is the "living bread" of man's soul, just as bread is the "staff of life" of our corporeal existence.

The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand is well-known enough that we do not have to belabor the details. Suffice it to say that it was of the utmost importance...as witness the fact that all four Gospels record it.

"I am...the bread of life" said Jesus; those who came unto Him and accepted Him as their Savior, the Son of God descended upon men, would never hunger, nor would they thirst! For unlike the manna that had been promised and provided the Israelites in their flight from tyranny (promised by Moses through the auspices of God) Christ, accepted, had no end in regard to provisions for the sustenance of mankind. It would not have to be physically garnered; it would not cease when the Promised Land was attained; it would continue into infinity! Christ, in fact, was speaking figuratively to the people, and He never claimed otherwise.

Detractors from the Bible tend to be literal in their interpretation. They were in Biblical times; they are today — and probably will be tomorrow! But for the true believer, within its pages the Bible carries many messages; the message of faith; the message of hope; the message of love...and the message of comfort for man's soul. For it matters not the circumstances of the individuals; there are millionaires who rejoice in their monetary riches, but who are impoverished spiritually...just as there are poor in the area of worldly possessions who are, nevertheless, blessed with spiritual riches beyond belief!

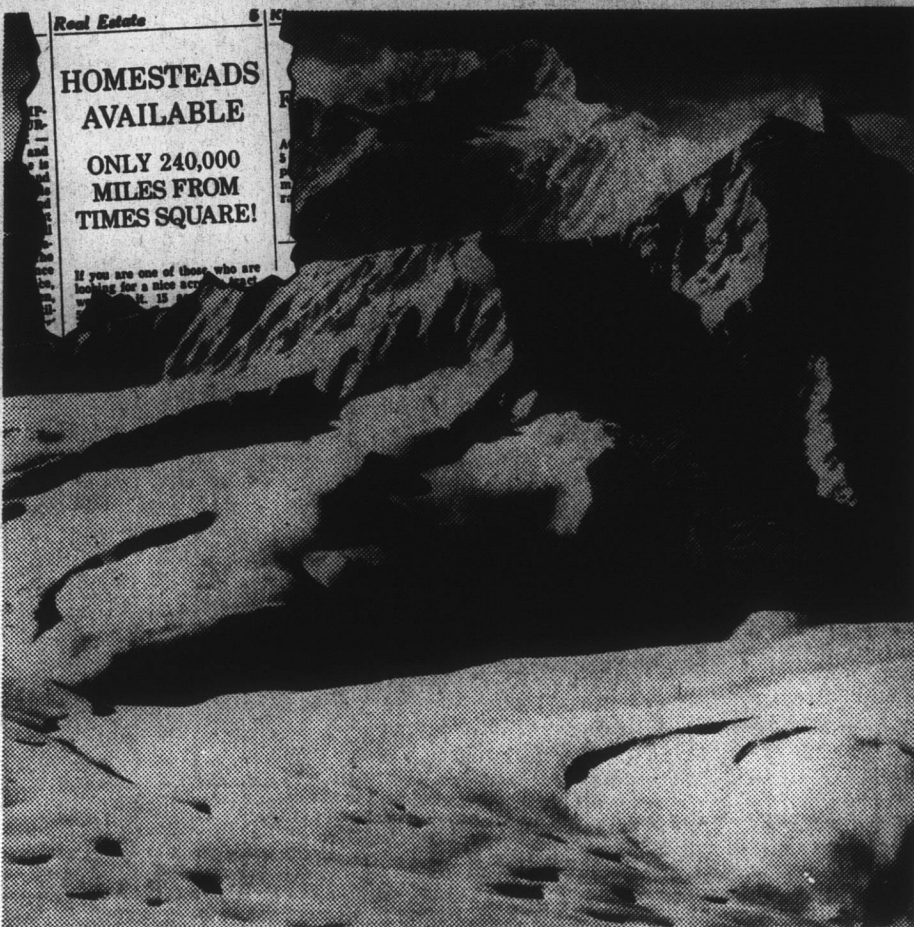
In this complex world in which we live today, many panaceas are sought for what ails mankind; alcohol as a crutch to weather heartbreak and disappointment; drugs to remove the user from a world he is not able to accept...either mentally or emotionally.

But do they cure the ailments of the soul? No! The same problems exist when their effects have worn off; they have not disappeared — rather, they have been compounded!

How much better to be the servant of Christ than the slave of addiction! How much more constructive is the strengthened soul, than the debilitated one! For the answers to the problems of mankind is not going to be found in a pill, or a bottle...but in God.

In reviewing the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand, let us not make the same mistake as some of those who witnessed it! Let us not be awed from a materialistic standpoint, as were some who attended on that occasion; let us, rather, be awed by its spiritual portent!

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Plenty of cheap land for hardy pioneer families. Would you like to be among the first to stake out a claim? Free transportation in the fastest, most modern vehicle an added inducement. Bring your own air and water.

Not interested! That's just as well—we're talking about the moon.

Far more, we need earnest men and women eager to explore the earth's spiritual frontiers... people who will seek courageously for Christian answers to the complicated problems progress has created... families trying to enrich their homes and their world with faith and love.

The Church is the homestead of such pioneers. Its grasp encompasses heaven and earth... from the throne of God to the depths of a little child's soul.

It cannot fathom the mysteries of outer space. But it will reveal to any man the center of this universe.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Acts 15:14-17	II Samuel 7:8-16	Psalms 2:1-12	Psalms 89:3, 28-37	Ezekiel 34:23-31	Zachariah 14:1-9	Acts Revelation 1:6-7 19:11-16

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**A Happy New Year For All in '74**

From All The Folks At...  
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During this, the merriest season of the year, we gladly welcome the opportunity to extend to you and yours our warmest Holiday Greetings. Once again, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the friendship and patronage that you have accorded us during 1973. It has indeed been a privilege and a pleasure to serve you and we will be looking forward to filling your needs during the coming year. May all the joys of a Merry Yuletide be yours, and the years ahead be filled with prosperity and happiness for all of you.


**Happy Holiday**

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