

The Franklin Times

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LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Thursday, November 25, 1965

Why Not At Home

Practically all of us live in Franklin County by choice. Whether we reside within the town limits or in the rural areas, this is home.

We live here. We raise families here. We die here. The place gets no better over the years than we ourselves make it.

Since progress, growth, the good life all depends for the most part on things financial, we should be interested in the economic conditions of our home.

With the tremendous decrease in farm income experienced this fall, now seems as good a time as any to stop and consider one very basic and important fact. If those of us who live here don't shop here, who will?

From where, if not from us, will the economic well being of the community come? Certain-

ly not from the out-of-town shopping centers. For surely they pay no taxes, support to churches, perform no local community services.

Going out of town for our needs is somewhat of a fad. While, at times, necessary, it is not always so.

What we need to do is decide on which is which. Certainly, it is the nature of us all to buy at lowest prices and, quite naturally, to choose what appeals to us. No manner of persuasion is expected to change this.

However, there are a multitude of needs which can be supplied by our own county merchants. We should give them first chance.

Make this a double Merry Christmas. Make your shopping dollar do double duty. Keep it at home.

Cut Them Off

Far too often, the story is told in Franklin County of a person refusing to work for fear their welfare check will be cut off. There are many cases rumored almost daily.

The Superintendent of Welfare has asked public aid in reporting these cases for action by department.

This could be one of the finest things to happen in Franklin County.

The taxpayer, always conscious of the manner in which his money is being spent, has watched with awe the ever-mounting welfare rolls. Certainly he does not wish to support able-bodied persons who refuse employment when offered.

Just as surely, the people of

Franklin County do wish to aid those in time of distress. Welfare assistance to the sick and disabled, those temporarily out of work, and those handicapped in finding jobs they can do is a mark of an enlightened community. It is necessary and most will support it wholeheartedly.

However, it is those who refuse employment the department is after. It is those who stay on the rolls week after week, loafing and, in some instances, hiding to keep from working. It is good the department is going to crack down on these, with the aid of the people.

If these people are able and employment is available which they refuse to accept, cut them off. It's the only thing to do.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Ray Gun

Today's scientists—spurred by technological competition with the Communists—are catching up with Buck Rogers and Flash Gordon.

A top space expert predicts development soon of that awesome weapon—the ray gun.

Such a gun, according to Doctor Arthur Kantowitz, would be able to fire deadly beams of radiation powerful enough to vaporize missiles in flight. He foresees guns capable of split-second destruction of flying missiles as far away as 6,200 miles.

Doctor Kantowitz, director of the AVCO-Everett Research Labora-

tory in Everett, Massachusetts, a leading center for missile work, believes these weapons will protect this country's vital satellites from possible enemy attack.

He does not explain, however, how we would defend our security if hostile nations also possessed such a weapon. That, no doubt, would eventually be the case. As was seen with the atom bomb, no country can monopolize a new development.

Each invention of war is in the name of self-defense, and sooner or later it becomes a Frankenstein's monster.

U. S. Contracts & The Market

Politicians and government officials in Washington have, for some inexplicable reason, failed to consider the effect of awards of major federal contracts on the stock market.

As a result, there has been little security protection against advance leaks where contracts are headed. This has often influenced stock prices.

The Securities and Exchange Commission is reportedly alarmed. So are securities industry executives.

The most glaring example of such a leak was recent presentation of the two billion dollar C-52 jet transport plane contract to the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

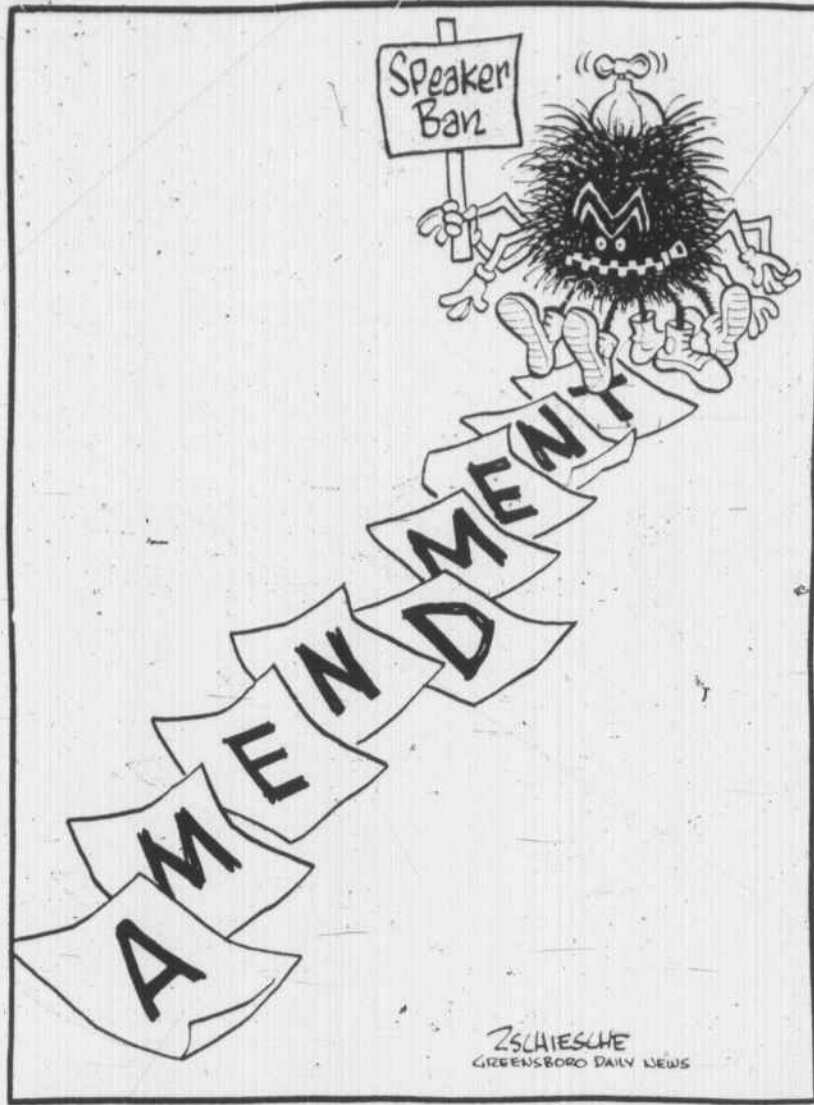
At 3:30 p.m. on September 30th, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara officially revealed Lockheed had won the pact over Boeing and Douglas Aircraft, the other bidders.

But to stock investors, that was old news. Heavy trading in Lockheed stock began the day before and reached such a crescendo by the afternoon of the announcement that the New York Stock exchange halted trading.

Boeing and Douglas stock prices, meanwhile, suffered sharp declines.

Nobody in the Defense Department is prepared to say how stock investors anticipated the outcome. But leaks of this kind should be prevented by every possible means.

WALKING PAPERS



Viewpoint Was He Wading Too Deep?

By JESSE HELMS

It will seem to many of his closest friends that former Governor Luther Hodges was wading perilously deep into the swamps of political extravagance recently when he told a gathering of Democrats at Asheville that the growth of the Ku Klux Klan can be traced to Barry Goldwater's campaign for the Presidency last year.

Mr. Hodges should stay out of the swamps, lest his image as an elder statesman become sullied by the slither of more snakes than Mr. Hodges can kill. There are, after all, some facts to be considered, and weighed against Mr. Hodges' blast of generalities. Certainly, for the sake of his own party, Mr. Hodges does not really want to raise the question of which politicians of which party have done most to promote the racial unrest in America upon which the Ku Klux Klan is said to have flourished.

In the first place, Governor Moore—whom Mr. Hodges praised in his speech—has said that there are relatively few Klansmen at work in North Carolina. In the second place, if either Senator Goldwater or his running mate, William E. Miller, really poured out poison which nurtured the Ku Klux Klan, Mr. Hodges should have no difficulty in being specific about it. With all due respect to the gentleman, we doubt that he can support the charges he made at Asheville recently.

Mr. Hodges remarked on October 30 that his last previous speech in Asheville occurred during the presidential campaign, and that he devoted his speech a year ago to "answering charges" by Republican vice-presidential candidate William Miller. We happen to remember those two speeches well, for both Mr. Miller and Mr. Hodges went to Asheville to address a convention of the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters. For the purposes of the record, Mr. Hodges—then Secretary of Commerce—did not "answer" the speech delivered the day before by Mr. Miller. Mr. Hodges spent much of his time charging that Senator Goldwater was an integrationist.

Be that as it may, it is certainly true that Mr. Johnson did indeed pass through the Congress a civil rights bill that was distasteful to much of the South. Senator Goldwater voted against the bill—as did every North Carolina Democrat in the Congress of the United States. It was the kind of legislation which Lyndon Johnson himself, in earlier years, had described as dictatorial, unconstitutional and tyrannical. There are many in North Carolina who have not the remotest connection with the Ku Klux Klan who still hold the view that Lyndon

Johnson once held. These include many of Mr. Hodges' closest friends, and certainly a host of state and local governmental officials who are trying to conduct their affairs within the frustrating federal controls embodied in the legislation sponsored by Mr. Johnson and his political party.

But there is yet another hazard contained in Mr. Hodges' choice of charges unloosed on Saturday night. If Mr. Hodges chooses to fault Senator Goldwater for the nature of some of his support, then presumably Mr. Hodges will agree that it is equally fair to bring up the question of some of President Johnson's support. The Communist Party USA supported Mr. Johnson. While we quickly add that this does not mean that Mr. Johnson is a communist, it does serve to put in perspective the gratuitous implications contained in Mr. Hodges' speech last Saturday.

Mr. Goldwater lost the election, and lost it badly. In retrospect, nobody denies that he was an ineffective candidate who conducted an ineffectual campaign. But he should not be deprived of the credit for having said what he meant, even if he sometimes said it with startling detriment to his own political cause.

In politics, one man's meat is another man's poison. The nation chose its brand of meat last November, undoubtedly to a great extent because the people were persuaded that the meat would be free.

It may be that the next time Mr. Hodges makes a political speech, he should bear in mind that extremism in the pursuit of oratory can very easily be a vice unbecoming to a man presuming to speak as an elder statesman.

In The Ring

Heavyweight Boxer -- The trouble is, I don't sleep well. Doctor-- You must practice auto-suggestion a little. Why not lie on your back, relax and count slowly up to ten.

Senator Sam says--

Washington -- Great events move in relentless fashion, but when we pause we notice there are differences in the players on the stage of history. A few months ago the world was shocked by the death of Adlai E. Stevenson. Time has not lessened the loss.

North Carolinians felt the loss keenly, for an empathy existed between our people and Ambassador Stevenson that no other could claim. When he came to visit North Carolina as Governor of Illinois or U. N. Ambassador, he was at home. His sister, Mrs. Ernest Ives, calls North Carolina home, too. Many of the Ambassador's ancestors came from our State. They were among our early settlers and were numbered among our first leaders. So a kindred feeling for the "Governor" grew in our state. North Carolina said as much in twice honoring him with its electoral vote.

Like Sir Winston Churchill and President John F. Kennedy, Ambassador Stevenson was a master of the spoken word and the English language. He gave a freshness to worthy values. He possessed a rare intellect. He demonstrated this at the U. N. which many thought brought out his best. Few can forget his finest hour there during the Cuban missile crisis when he challenged the Russian Ambassador at a Security Council meeting. It was a crucial moment for the world. Stevenson's questions were devastating. His own answers were too.

In an age when men of high purpose are needed, it is well to reflect on the life of a dedicated public servant. It can be said that no man had greater fidelity to principle. And the tasks he undertook were never easy. To him, we owe the quickened tempo of our intellectual life, the improved quality of our political debates, and the heightened dialogue between man and society, between citizen and government, and between this Nation and the rest of the world.

Fundamental to the fabric of the American philosophy is the dream for a finer world. Stevenson gave voice to this dream. Known for his intellect and wit, he exhibited the complexities of the 20th century American. Talented, scholarly, often lonely, he gained nobility, and an ability to inspire when others failed. Yet, twice he suffered political defeats that would have embittered lesser men.

The world and events rush onward, but there is regret that this battle for causes is gone from the scene of action. Many asked when he died on a London street: "Who now can speak for America?" Others can, but no one so well as he.

Poor little thing. Just lies there. Bare to the bone. Not a speck of life. Not a bit of covering. Just lies there staring back at you as if you'd done it all by yourself.

Well believe me, we didn't. We had plenty of help. One fellow just can't make a turkey look the way this one does. He would have had to have help. But don't they look pitiful.

We just didn't have the heart to tell him his remains were stewing in the pot over there—that he'd be long gone right after supper. And boy, will we be glad. Turkey hash, turkey stew. Ugh!

It was a pretty good day though...for everybody but the turkey. Now...on to Christmas. We are a slow starter. We don't like to think about Santa Claus until after Thanksgiving. We're ready now. Bring on your parades...your shopping crowds...your money-spending wives... (What am I saying?)

Christmas is a wonderful time of year. The music, while pretty, makes you think of funerals...the dimmed lights remind one of a wake...and the way the money goes is enough to worry any poor soul to death...but it's still a joyful time.

Kids want everything they see. So do mom and dad. Everybody has a ball. Nothing to pay until February...that's a good gimmick. Only trouble is by the time you clean up the Christmas mess...it's February. And we haven't seen anybody any better off financially in February than he was in December. He just puts off the misery.

But right now, we have four weeks to get ready. Watch everybody wait until the last day. We always do. And we fess because everything has been picked over. You can't find a thing you want.

We're looking forward to it, though. Come to think of it, we can hardly wait for that green and black polka-dot tie and unmentionables.



Parakeet Wins Contest

Chicago--A parakeet, called Tweedy, won first prize in a talking-bird contest and a thank you note from President Johnson. Tweedy says, "Vote for Johnson" and "I'm a Democrat and a Texan." Competing against eight other parakeets, his first prize was \$150.

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