

Tuesday, December 21, 1965

## LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Man Of The Year

Edward F. Yarborough has been named "Man of the Year" by the Louisburg Rotary Club. The award is most deserved. Established eight years ago, as a means of encouraging community service, the coveted plaque has been presented annually to the man in the community having served the best during the past twelve months. Yarborough's service as attorney to the County Board of Education during a most trying time is outstanding.

But, this service alone is not all. He has served his church. He has served in the Lions Club, the local country club, in industry hunting and in many other fields.

A native of Louisburg, he has been of service to his community for many years.

It is most befitting that he has been recognized for this service by being named "Man of the Year." It couldn't have happened to a more deserving fellow.

### And More To Come

If Santa Claus really lived in Washington as some people suppose, he would have no problems in getting his bag of gifts to Franklin County this year. The traffic from the nation's capital to Louisburg is heavier than the rush hour downtown.

Almost anybody could bring along a car load to ease the old gent's burden.

Last week there were two officials from the Department of Justice, a federal marshal and two FBI agents here, all concerning the suit filed recently in Federal Court by a group of local Negroes against the County Board of Education.

But, that was last week. There are to be more this week, and knowing Washington, there will be even more in the days to come.

Officials of the Office of Education have written the Board's attorney that they plan to conduct a hearing in Louisburg this week. They have again threatened to take away the money.

It appears to us that once a suit is filed, it is up to the court to decide the issue. This interference from Washington

administrative offices seems to be a slap in the face of the judiciary to us. What can an Office of Education official do to the Franklin County Board of Education about a plan they have already approved until this plan has been judged invalid by the court?

It is as plain as the noses on their faces. All it takes nowadays to get action from Washington is for one Negro to call or write alleging discrimination. No proof is necessary. Washington will send its highly paid officials to make a case for the complainant.

This may please the Negro at this time. But sooner or later, the cry of "wolf" will no longer be heard. Sooner or later, if the white man can be condemned without due process, so, too, will be the Negro. You cannot tramp on the freedom of one man without soiling the feet of the other.

Local Negroes, with or without prior knowledge, have opened a Pandora's box. It can't be closed. And what jumps from it can attack us all.

### Put Gadget A In Slot Z

Time was when there were only two ways the kids could get a toy at Christmas. It was either purchased at a store or it was made at home.

But, alas, like so many simple procedures in our lives, this, too, has changed. One can now buy a toy at the store and build it at home.

Just follow the simple instructions printed on the package. These are the most misused words in the English (or any other) language. To begin with, they are impossible to follow, and they are simple in the same degree as Einstein's theory.

Pathetic, indeed, is the unsuspecting soul, who in the last-minute rush, thinking he has a fire truck or a train set or bike in the box, is shocked senseless when he opens it to find a conglomeration of nuts and bolts. And it is a foregone conclusion, at least one part will be missing.

They look gorgeous on the store shelf—all together and

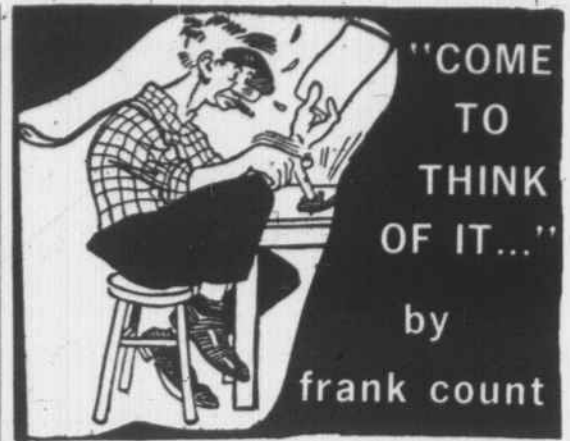
operating beautifully. Who is to suspect that some well-paid engineer carefully assembled this particular one to catch the unsuspecting sucker who thinks he, too, can follow the simple instructions.

If you've ever tried to place Gadget A into Slot Z, you know exactly what we mean. If you haven't, you're missing something. There is no better way to ruin an otherwise pleasant Christmas than to tackle the "Fold A over, bend D and fasten with part 3."

Don't say you haven't been warned when this Christmas you open that box and the instruction slip is missing completely. If you have an engineer's degree and plenty of time and help, you just might make it in time. If you don't, you'd better make your own at home or buy one already working at the store.

But, sore fingers and all, Merry Christmas.

"Now Where Did I Put That Bag?"



Been Christmas shopping lately? We have...or rather we've been Christmas looking. This is fun...cause people are the funniest creatures...and especially at Christmastime.

We were caught sitting in front of a certain place of business the other day...and in the fifteen minutes or so we sat there observing, at least thirty people tried to break the door down to get inside...completely ignoring the large "Closed" sign on the door.

It was right funny...watching the ladies gather their large pocketbooks and carefully lock their cars...pausing, of course, to straighten a hemline, or their hair in the reflection of the store front glass...and then huff off to tackle that Christmas shopping only to find the door locked.

The real fun came when one of the clerks from inside the store came out for an errand. You should have seen the looks on some women's faces when the door was unlocked to allow this clerk to go inside...The outsiders didn't know the lady was employed there.

And driving...man did we run...well almost...into a weird one this week. We followed the lady around the block by the theater and post office. It took us seventeen minutes to maneuver the short distance. She stopped half dozen times for no apparent reason. Finally she came to a complete standstill in front of a local department store...right in the middle of the street, with no chance to get around her. There she sat. There we sat. And there several others sat behind us...while we all waited for a somewhat chunky lady to emerge from the store several minutes later. Loaded with bundles, she found the door locked when she tried to unload. She spilled them all in the street. Finally she managed to throw them in the car...hope there wasn't any glass in them....

Just at that time...some impatient soul behind us decided to help the situation by seeing if his horn was working. You should have seen the look the lady gave us...and we didn't do anything but fall asleep waiting. Come to think of it...that fellow shouldn't have blown his horn...it's Christmas and this is the season of goodwill...lady drivers, notwithstanding.

## Viewpoint Prayers In School

By JESSE HELMS

We note with interest a little campaign launched by several newspapers to persuade their readers that there was no justification for the widespread concern two or three years ago when the U. S. Supreme Court banned prayer and Bible reading from the classrooms of the nation. This little campaign must surely rank as the baldest bit of deception since Little Red Riding Hood encountered the wolf masquerading in Grandma's nightgown.

In our state, it began with a curious sort of "survey", the depth of which is not clear, which sought to demonstrate that classroom prayers in North Carolina were left entirely unaffected by the Court's ruling.

Some superficial statements were attributed to a few school officials, statements which raised more questions than they answered. "Many of our schools," said the superintendent of schools in Craven County, still have classroom prayers. He did not say how many do not. In Buncombe County, the superintendent merely emphasized that such prayers as may still be conducted in the schools under his supervision are what he called "voluntary" prayers.

Of course. But where, one may ask, is any reassurance in either of these statements? If the press association wishes to conduct a meaningful survey, it should ask some meaningful questions.

No doubt there are indeed "many" schools in Craven County where children are led to prayer on a regular—or irregular—basis. And one can hardly blame the superintendent in Buncombe County for making haste to emphasize that the prayers in his schools are strictly "voluntary". What should be borne in mind is the fact that the U. S. Supreme Court, in both 1962 and 1963, struck down prayer and Bible reading in New York and Maryland that were obviously voluntary. No child was required to participate in either New York or Maryland.

Let's face it: Such religious exercises as still continue in practice in North Carolina are a tribute to the teachers and school officials who recognize that such training is desperately needed in the development of children. These school people are taking a calculated risk, knowing that all that is needed is one obstreperous parent willing to ignite a fire kindled by the fuzzy thinking and language of the Supreme Court decisions.

This issue cannot be hidden behind vague definitions of the words "mandatory" and "voluntary". The Supreme Court sided with the atheists and the agnostics in 1962 and 1963; there is no reason to assume that the Court will not do so again whenever and wherever the issue is raised again.

At the time of the Court's decisions in 1962 and 1963, a spokesman for the Justice Department said that there were no plans to enforce the decrees of the court. Obviously

not. The elements of apathy, timidity and intimidation are now working on the side of the atheists and the Supreme Court. Meanwhile, the newspapers will pretend that all is well, and that there is nothing to worry about.

But coincidences, sometimes serve as stumbling blocks for charlatans. This past Sunday, one newspaper published an editorial headed, "Who Doesn't Pray," a misleading little piece implying that the Supreme Court rulings have had no effect. On the front page of the same edition was a story reporting that the fourth stanza of the song, "America," is being protested in New York because it amounts to a prayer.

There is no question, of course, that prayers and Bible reading in public schools of North Carolina have been affected by the Supreme Court decision. Nobody knows the precise extent of this effect, but parents can easily determine for themselves what has happened in the schools attended by their children. Parents can take such action as their consciences direct.

But let no one be misled as to what the Court meant. It

talked of freedom of religion, but what it meant was freedom from religion. To mistake two is not unlike the wretch, facing the firing squad, who commented: "This isn't so bad; I haven't been shot yet."

Must we wait until the trigger is pulled?

### One That He Missed

"Has your husband any hobbies?" asked the neighbor. "No," said Mrs. Tuggle, "he has rheumatiz a good deal, and lives now and then, but he ain't never had no hobbies."

### The Reason

"Three policemen have been watching Brown's house constantly the last two nights." "What has Brown done?" "Engaged a new cook."

### Times Cartoon Picks



### ANOTHER MOUTH TO FEED



### One Match--Big Fire

Middletown, Ohio--When one boy struck one match, an estimated \$1 million fire resulted. Three boys meeting in their clubhouse, under a large warehouse owned by the M. J. Gibbons Supply Co., accidentally ignited a can of gasoline which destroyed a plumbing supply center and about 25 tanks of propane gas exploded.

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