

Tuesday, December 6, 1966

## LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

### About The Boarding Home Sale

The sale of the Boarding Home property on NC 56 by the Board of County Commissioners is perhaps one of the best things to happen to the county in many years.

The fact that, by this sale, the area is to gain a new industry is, of course, most important. However, there are other aspects to this action which perhaps some will overlook.

The State Welfare people have long condemned the building as being inadequate by modern standards. The Commissioners tried unsuccessfully last year to sell the property. Costly renovations were needed before the state was likely to approve its continued use.

The property has already cost the taxpayer a great deal of money in repairs and upkeep. Mr. Rufus Place, who leased the property and operated what amounted to a private boarding home, has done an outstanding job of caring for the residents there and has drawn much praise for his efforts.

But, whether the property was sold because of a new industry or not, the end to the use of it as a boarding home had already been spelled.

The end of any long association is painful. The moving of the residents, this week and last, was one part of the action which touched many. However, the move is for a short period and those who wish to do so may return to new and better quarters. The new home is expected to be completed in the spring and the joys of homecoming for those now moving will more than offset the

sorrow at their leaving.

The new industry which has graced us by choosing Louisburg as home has had no part in the Boarding Home actions. They sought a site suitable for their needs and our local leaders decided to offer the Boarding Home property. The company, in all likelihood, would not have chosen to locate here had it not been assured that the property was to be sold anyway.

The property has served its purpose. There are those who might contend that more use could have been gotten out of the aging building. Perhaps so. However, if a buyer could have been found, the property would have been sold earlier this year. The Commissioners had already said so. The county could not afford to continue to maintain the home. Mr. Place has reported that a larger facility was needed to make such an operation profitable and efficient for the operator and to give proper care for those making use of it.

It seems to us that the relocation of the residents of the Home, while painful, is a small price to pay for the advantages which are sure to come from the action. The elderly people will be better off when they return to their new quarters. Friendships will be renewed and the moving soon forgotten.

Such are the things of which progress is made and Franklin County is committed to progress. It's the only way we have to go. All should understand this and welcome the new industry with open arms.

### Starting Anew

New county officers were sworn here Monday. Some are returning to the posts they already hold. Others are beginning anew in jobs, which may for a time, be somewhat strange to them.

All are working today in their respective positions because that is the way the people said they wanted it in the recent elections.

There may be some changes in some offices. Improvements will probably be made in some, although former office holders did reputable jobs. They say a new broom always sweeps clean and some new methods will undoubtedly be tried. Most will be more enthusiastic about their new jobs for the next few weeks than their predecessors.

All in all, however, citizens are not

looking for any massive changes in any quarters. The fact that some new faces will be seen in some offices is not expected to change to any great degree, the complexion of the county government.

Many will agree, however, that it is probably good to make changes occasionally. Newcomers are generally more eager to serve and the people are apt to benefit from this trait of human nature.

Those retiring from their positions are due the thanks of the people for having served well. Those beginning new careers in government are due understanding from the public as they become adjusted to their new jobs. We wish them all well.

### Banding Together

The news that Franklinton City Schools and others now under attack by the U. S. Office of Education, are banding together in their efforts to defend their freedom of choice plans of compliance is good news.

The State of North Carolina has also entered the picture. Assistant Attorney General Ralph Moody will speak for the State in the actions.

It is time that the State and school units joined together in the common goal of defending the methods under which most operate in North Carolina. The eventual outcome of the proposed hearings and possible court actions involving the few units now under question, will seriously affect every school system in North Carolina and perhaps the country.

There are many well-informed people who just simply don't believe that the guidelines as proposed by Commissioner Howe and the Civil Rights Act as enacted by the Congress are the same. The Commissioner's stated intentions of forcing certain percentages of desegregation upon the schools should be challenged.

Franklinton City Schools alone could not muster the money nor the influence

to successfully fight a battle, which indeed is a fight for the life of local school systems. The fact that the State and other school units have joined the fight and will collectively plan their route of resistance is as it should be.

The federal government is big and the Johnson administration and Mr. Howe apparently are even larger. It is well Franklinton face them with as much strength as possible.

We believe Franklinton and the others are right in their compliance. We do not believe a few systems in this state should be singled out and forced to go to the expense and trouble of fighting what apparently is some radical ideas of the Commissioner.

We are familiar with the Franklinton situation. Freedom of choice, to us is all the law requires. We are convinced that this freedom exists in Franklinton. Any efforts to tear down this system should be opposed with everything we in Franklin County can muster. The fact that the State of North Carolina seems willing to do fight, is indeed a bright ray of light shining on what we believe will be ultimate victory over the dictates of Commissioner Howe.

## WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

### Should Be Loudly Protested

The Nashville Graphic

The State Highway Commission did not improve its public image or its reputation for fairness with the recent disclosure that funds earmarked for repairing and relocating U. S. 64 from Zebulon to Nashville have been

diverted to road projects for the Research Triangle.

The report is that U. S. 64 improvements, along with several other road projects, will be postponed "during this administration" because available

funds are needed to build the Research Triangle roads.

This means we must wait at least another two years—and possibly much longer—before the Highway Commission takes another look at the deferred

projects.

Postponement of other road needs in deference to those of the Research Triangle will probably be blamed on the cutback of the federal roadbuilding funds announced last week. It appears fairly obvious, however, that pressure and politics were the principal factors which brought about the change in plans and the switch of funds.

It's the same old familiar story. "The wheel that squeaks the loudest is the one that gets the grease."

There is justification for some loud squeaking about the postponement of the badly-needed U. S. 64 project.

The squeaking should come from the Nash County commissioners and from town boards, civic clubs and other organizations in Nashville, Spring Hope and Rocky Mount.

Politics and pressure, of course, should not be the basis for appropriating road money or for switching funds from one project to another, but if this is the way the game is played, these are the tactics that must be used.

And where is the protesting voice, incidentally, of our own Fourth Division Highway Commissioner, who stated unequivocally just a few weeks ago that there had been no change in plans for improving U. S. 64?

We are not opposed to new roads for the growing Research Triangle, but the money to build them should not come from funds already promised for U. S. 64 and other projects.

### Another Federal Threat

The Lincoln Times - News

This country's economy has been subjected to increasing inflationary pressure in the past few years. With a booming economy and a war effort going on, plus countless Great Society programs costing billions, growing scarcity of raw materials, labor, plant and equipment have brought higher prices in many things.

The same pressures have brought higher prices for food. Yet it is still a fact that in the United States consumers spend a smaller share of total income for food than anywhere else in the world.

However, efforts are being made against advertising, the very thing that helps assure lower prices. A merchant uses advertising to promote his business and, the merchant who has successfully promoted his business

and built his volume is clearly in a better position to offer lower prices and to hold the price line—thereby becoming even more successful than his out-promoted competitor whose volume has fallen below his real capacity.

Low prices are themselves simply one form of promotion and even low prices have to be advertised. However, the Federal Trade Commission is opening an attack on advertising, another dangerous threat of extension of Federal authority on the American economy.

The Federal agency says that big companies should not be permitted to spend so much on advertising because it puts small companies at a disadvantage. But, it should be noted that today's big companies were once small companies. Advertising, plus the quality of their product and good management, made them big.

The most important beneficiary today of advertising is the American public. Through advertising he can compare products and markets. Without advertising he would not have the knowledge of where the best place was to shop.

It all adds up to the fact that the Federal government's bureaucrats are looking for a new means of getting control of American business.

### 'They Didn't Say Nuthin' About Brown-Juggling ...'



### The Harrassing Hand Of Harold Howe

BY JESSE HELMS

It was too much to hope, we suppose, with the November elections behind us, that we should not now begin again to feel the harrassing hand of Harold Howe, the dictatorial U. S. Commissioner of Education. But one fondly remembers the serenity of the final weeks of the political season, when Mr. Howe was no doubt ordered by the White House to drop from sight and sound until the storm blew over. For weeks on end, nothing was heard from him. There was blessed peacefulness in the schools that should have continued forever.

This past week, however, Mr. Howe

emerged from his hideout. Down from Washington came word that proceedings had begun to cut off federal funds to three North Carolina school systems which had committed the sin, in Harold Howe's view, of giving parents and students the freedom of choice in selecting schools.

Freedom, in Harold Howe's vocabulary, is something to be rolled around the tongue in principle but to be spat out and forgotten in practice. Freedom is for the birds, not for school children or their parents. Children will go to school where Harold Howe chooses, by federal direction and dictation, or the federal purse will be snapped shut. In name only is the man Commissioner of Education. In practice he is Commissioner of Integration.

Except, that is, in the case of his own school-age child. When Mr. Howe first went to Washington, his son was enrolled in one of the District of Columbia's integrated public schools where enrollment was 53 per cent white, 47 per cent Negro. But the child didn't remain long in that school. Massive integration is for other children, not Harold Howe's. Today, the Howe child is enrolled in the exclusive Taft School for Boys at Water-town, Connecticut, where the tuition is \$2,750 a year!

Thanks to the taxpayers, Mr. Howe can afford to send his own child to a private school costing \$2,750 per year in tuition. He can exercise his freedom of choice. But this week he moved to deny freedom of choice to countless hundreds of students in Hyde County, Lenoir County and Franklinton. In the double standards of Harold Howe, it is quite all right for him to accept the tax money of parents who are forced to contribute to his own fat federal salary, and to withdraw his own child from an integrated public school in favor of an exclusive, expensive private school.

It is the hypocrisy of the man that offends us most. The record clearly demonstrates that he intends to look after himself first, then play havoc with the lives of others in a political chess game that threatens the de-

struction of public education in vast areas of the South. When Terry Sanford brought Harold Howe to North Carolina, the exchange of correspondence between Sanford and Howe reflects the demands that Howe made of—and granted by—the then Governor Sanford. There was to be a salary of \$27,000 plus expense allowances and other possible fringe benefits which, had Mr. Howe stayed in North Carolina long enough, would have amounted to about \$40,000 per year.

We have no particular complaint about Mr. Howe's personal demands in the way of compensation. If any complaint is to be registered, it should be directed at Terry Sanford's extravagance. What nags us about Mr. Howe is his gross pretense that he is performing a service for education. The man is a destructive force, and nothing else.

It remains to be seen what will happen to Hyde and Lenoir Counties and to the Town of Franklinton. But one thing is certain: The rest of North Carolina should not stand idly by while Harold Howe's federal boom is lowered on these three helpless school systems.

For freedom of choice is the official school policy of North Carolina. This state's Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Charles F. Carroll, has defended the North Carolina policy courageously and with great statesmanship. Now is no time for this state, or any of its officials, or its people, to retreat. The three presently-designated targets of Harold Howe's wrath deserve all the assistance and support that an aroused people can offer. If we fail to put up now, we will have no choice but to shut up later when resumed federal tyranny begins to rain down again upon all of us.

This would be a wonderful world, with millions of nice people, if men and women would learn to mind their own business.

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