

LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

"Like A Bunch Of Youngins"

An old Franklin County expression says, "They act like a bunch of youngins." This is generally used when any group of adults perform in a manner not in keeping with their age or supposed intelligence.

This tag could very easily be placed on the Honorables in the current General Assembly.

Regardless of all their accomplishments or errors they might yet display before the session mercifully and hopefully ends this week, the legislators have indeed acted "like a bunch of youngins" in the regional university fiasco.

At the beginning the question was relatively simple. Most expected that even politicians would be able to understand it. Was East Carolina College ready for University status? If so, would the General Assembly grant it such?

A team of so-called experts were called in. They expeted and said yes and no to the first question, depending on which side of the issue one lived. Some law-makers advocated a waiting period. This made some sense. Others wanted to rush it up. This too made some, although not as much.

University of North Carolina bigwigs screamed bloody murder. To make East Carolina a university without placing it under UNC control would wreck all higher education in the state. We doubt that even most UNC people really believed this.

After months of batty-hoo, the bill to make ECC a university was killed. The crying flooded the Senate chambers and then subsided. The threat of poli-

tical repercussion was heard. A terrible thing was about to happen. Democrats would suddenly vote for Republicans and Republicans would suddenly vote for Democrats unless something was done for East Carolina.

This cry caused more stir than the word "Fire" screamed in a crowded movie house. Everybody rushed to the door of solution in massive panic. The result was culminated last week. They made everything in sight a university.

Burdened with the inability to face up to an issue; take a stand just because it was right and to resolve the question with dignity and grace, the members of both houses of the General Assembly have indeed acted in panic and to the utter amazement of their constituents.

The question of A and T College, Western Carolina College and Appalachian State becoming universities was not raised in the original issue. Those who suffered so intently when they could not accept the findings of the study of East Carolina's readiness, quietly cast a vote to make all regional universities.

To paraphrase Philip Dormer Stanhope's classic comment, "trifle with them, play with them, flatter and humor them, but a man of sense neither consults them or trusts them with serious business."

Stanhope was writing about women. It can very aptly apply to the Honorables in the infamous case of East Carolina and the surprised universities. Yes, indeed, "Just like a bunch of youngins."

Are These Things Necessary?

Someone once said that while our form of government is not perfect, it is the best yet seen on this globe. We buy this. Certainly we would not exchange our democratic ways for any other.

However, one of the most valued aspects of our society is the right to question our government. The present administration, perhaps more than any other in our lifetime, is open for question.

In recent days, the administration spokesmen have once again began the song and dance routine preparatory to slapping a six cent surtax on the people. Mentioned first in the President's address to the nation last January, the Middle East crisis, continued stalemating in Vietnam and rising costs have all played right into the hands of those who would tax us more heavily.

None would hesitate to dig deeper to aid our men in Vietnam or for any other worthwhile cause our country might have.

However, the questions arise when disclosure is made on just how some of our hard-to-get money is being spent by our government. Nation's Business in its May issue disclosed that the Bureau of Indian Affairs decided to bring the Quinault tribe into the 20th Century.

According to the magazine account, the Bureau spent \$200,000 to build 20 houses for 20 families. The houses were built in the most modern manner, including all-electric everything. Time passed and the houses were ready to become homes. This is when one slight flaw was discovered. There was no electricity. The nearest power line was 15 miles away.

Luxury lodges in Oklahoma, financed by the government at a cost of \$10 million are already \$600,000 in the red. A housing development in Rio de Janeiro costing \$3.5 million is a failure. No one wants to live where the houses are built. Too far away from everything. (And what are we doing building houses in Rio de Janeiro, anyway?)

Another "necessity" claiming that \$20 to \$30 tax bite which comes out of your pay check periodically, are \$1.5 million worth of barracks built in Maryland to house WAVES. By the time the project was finished, the WAVES had been transferred to Florida.

And the King and Queen of Thailand recent visitors to Washington, must be smiling all over at the stupidity of us Americans. The government built \$1 million worth of locomotives for Thailand only to discover that the train couldn't run. It did not fix the Thailand tracks.

All this and more goes on in our national government. It's enough to keep a body awake nights.

Just thought you as a taxpayer, would like to know.

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CLINT FULLER,
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ELIZABETH JOHNSON,
Business Manager

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

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"Civic Pride"

To the Editor:

I want to congratulate you and your organization for receiving the recent National Newspaper Award.

This award is a high honor for Lenoir as well. Men like you are what it takes to push the community forward to even greater achievements. Men like you with your ingenuity and civic pride, are what made me select Lenoir for our new plant.

Best of Luck,

Fred C. Lohmueller
President
Carolina Fine Woods, Inc.

"Tops"

To The Editor:

We knew you were tops, but we're happy others recognize it, too.

Congratulations!
Joe and Margaret Moss
Youngsville, N. C.

Always Welcome

To The Editor:

On behalf of the officers, Board and members attending our annual National Newspaper Association convention held with the VPA in Richmond, Virginia, I am pleased to convey our appreciation for your participation in this program.

We hope that your participation in this convention will give you reason to come to many future meetings of the NNA. You always will be welcome.

Cordially,
Theodore A. Serzill
Executive Vice President
National Newspaper Association

"Proud"

To The Editor:

Please accept my heartiest congratulations on your recent well-deserved national recognition. You have brought honor, outstanding distinction and nationally recognized ability and success to yourself and to our County. We are really proud of you.

With warm regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
Edward F. Griffin
Raleigh, N. C.



Comments On Times National Award Deserved Recognition

Dailey Dispatch
Henderson, N.C.

We are delighted to pass along our sincere congratulations to our neighbor The Franklin Times of Lenoir for the signal honor it has been given by the National Newspaper Association in winning the annual Community Service Award. The Times won out among 2,700 newspapers, from throughout the United States.

The award was presented to The Times for its efforts to obtain improvements in road conditions in Franklin County. It is given each year by the association, which represents over 6,000 newspapers, both large and small, in the United States and Canada.

Editor Clint Fuller accepted the award for the newspaper. Also present for the event were Dr. Sadie C. Johnson of Henderson, president of The Times company; Mrs. James A. Johnson, advertising manager and wife of the vice-president. Mrs.

Fuller also was present.

In accepting the award, Editor Fuller emphasized the fact that "newspapering and service are synonymous," and "we cannot justify our existence unless we serve our community." We have always subscribed to that doctrine. A free press is free and can remain free only so long as it serves. It must certainly keep its head above water financially, but over and above all else is the cardinal principle of service. Not many publishing interests wax rich in operating a newspaper, but there is greater satisfaction in promoting the public good than in accumulating wealth.

Along with the Times readers, we followed with interest the crusade for better road facilities in Franklin County. The newspaper did a magnificent job in the undertaking and got results. We extend sincere congratulations.

"Contributors"

To The Editor:
Congratulations to The Franklin Times for its signal honor of being selected Number One in Community Service by the National Newspaper Association.

All of us, including newspapers, are contributors to our way of life, either plus or minus. When a newspaper contributes on the plus side in its dedication to community service, as has been and is the cause with The Franklin Times, it deserves best wishes from our community.

Yours very truly,
Hamilton H. Hobgood
Resident Judge
Ninth Judicial District

"Traditions Served"

To The Editor:
Congratulations on your national award for community service.

As the judges pointed out, "The finest traditions of journalism are served" when newspapers do what you did about your highway situation.

With best wishes.
Sincerely,
Watt Huntley
Publicity Director
Carolina Power & Light Co.
Raleigh, N. C.

"Well-Deserved"

To The Editor:
For the well-deserved distinguished honor---

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

Mrs. R. E. (Lib) Cheatham
Youngsville, N. C.

"Little Visit Home"

To The Editor:

Congratulations on winning the National Award among newspapers in the Nation, in the field of Community Service. The Franklin Times serves her County well.

As a former resident of the County, I look forward through The Times in keeping up with the great progress the County is making in Education, Industry and other fields of endeavor. I always feel like I've been back home for a little visit when I've read my Franklin Times.

Thanks for keeping us informed.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Rex G. Stephens
Moyock, N. C.

County
of
Franklin
progress
first
class
category
community
relations
because
editorializing
initiative
of
Franklin
Times

To Judge Illinois Press

To The Editor:

Congratulations on the national awards your newspaper won in the NNA Better Newspaper Contest.

Now come the requests for you (and your staff) to judge other contests, and I hope we are the first in line... will you oblige Illinois publishers by judging Division A of the Community Service category of our 1967 State Newspaper Contest??? We will certainly appreciate it if you can accommodate us in this matter.

Sincerely,
Arthur E. Strang
Secretary-Manager
Illinois Press Association,
Inc.

Appreciation As Well

To The Editor:

It is a very great privilege to join the host of friends of The Franklin Times to extend congratulations upon the signal honor received from the National Newspaper Association. The importance of the service rendered to our County by your campaign to secure better roads becomes clearer every day as we see road work going on throughout the County. Not only congratulations to you and to the entire staff of our County paper, but our appreciation to you as well, I would like

to express.

In this regard, I read, with pleasure the new County budget; it has been a matter of concern to me that so many of our fine public servants have not shared in the good things of our world through adequate salaries. I would like to take a moment of your time to express my appreciation to our County Board of Commissioners for the increases in the salaries for our County workers provided in the new budget.

Sincerely yours,
Aubrey S. Tomlinson

"Have-Not" Sister

To The Editor:

Just a brief note to extend to you and The Times my belated but sincerest congratulations on your having been selected number one in community service by the National Newspaper Association.

From here in Person County, one of your "have not" sisters, I watched with keen interest (and enjoyment I might add) your campaign to get for Franklin County its due. The effort by The Times is not to be regarded lightly by Franklin County citizens. Don't be modest about re-

ceiving the award. You deserved it! And, certainly, Franklin County deserved the fair shake that you won for it through the columns of The Times! I dare say your readers wouldn't mind too much if you rested on your laurels for a while--well, maybe a couple hours anyway!

Again, congratulations, and best of luck in the future!

Cordially,
Neal F. Rattican
Editor
The Courier-Times, Roxboro



Independence Day

"...That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness"

On July 4, 1776, at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, American freedom was born, with the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. For the 56 patriotic men who signed this document, their act was both an affirmation of belief and an expression of great courage. In signing, they truly pledged "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor." To the vision and determination of these men and others like them, we owe our progress and achievements as a nation, and our American way of life.