

# The Warren Record

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### Tortures The Law

Dep. Atty. Gen. Ralph Moody seems to have tortured the law in his interpretation of a North Carolina statute which seeks to prevent the state, or any of its subdivisions or agencies from competing with private business. Fortunately, his interpretation is only a ruling and does not carry the full force of the law.

Few people will fail to realize that in many instances the schools have gone beyond their proper sphere in engaging in business activities as they seek to raise funds for school purposes. But when the Dep. Atty. Gen. rules that a school or a boosters club can not sell popcorn or soft drinks at an athletic contest because it is in competition with private business he is being absurd, because such sales offer no competition to private business.

If popcorn or soft drinks are not offered for sale at the average football game it simply means that they will not be consumed, not that it will take the sale away from a private business. Actually, the point might well be made that it penalizes private business by denying what should be a legitimate outlet for the sale of their products.

Equally absurd to this layman is his ruling that vending machines may be placed in schools by private business interests and that concessions may be operated at athletic contests by a private business interest. Since when has it become

proper for private business to use public property for gain? We are also at loss to understand a subsequent opinion that the ruling would not apply to state supported colleges.

Dep. Atty. Gen. Moody expressed the view that funds for the support of athletics in the schools should be raised entirely from tax sources. Most persons would agree that it would be nice if this could be done, but most persons, including the Deputy Attorney General, should know that this is not apt to be done in the foreseeable future.

It may be that large city schools can run their athletic programs with tax supplements, but the enforcement of such a ruling in small town and rural schools would mean the crippling or possibly abolition of such programs. In some cases it would increase the danger of football to the players. Money raised by the sale of cold drinks, candy and popcorn at athletic contests in many instances has been spent, and is being spent, for safer equipment for players.

Naturally, school administrators and the general public are somewhat disturbed by the ruling, but believing that law must be based on common sense as well as technicality, this layman is of the opinion that Dep. Atty. General Moody's interpretation will not stand up, and that there will be no change in the practice of selling popcorn and drinks at athletic contests.

### Tarnishes Image

A friend from Washington, D. C., this week sent us a clipping from The Washington Post captioned "Backsliding North Carolina."

This article is but one of several indications of how the image of North Carolina has been hurt by recent political changes and particularly by the passage and retention of the Speaker Ban Law. The writer, after recounting sev-

eral things that has tarnished the image of the state in recent months, says:

"These are gusts that buffet North Carolina's proud banner of moderation, but it is the speaker ban storm that is tattering it."

It is no little thing for an individual or a state to lose face and most of our people have been proud of the image of North Carolina. There are many reasons why many people opposed the Speaker Ban Law, one of the principal reasons is that it makes both the state and the University look silly. That hurts those who truly love the state.

#### NEWS OF FIVE TEN, 25 YEARS AGO

### Looking Backward Into The Record

September 30, 1960

Work on the Roanoke River Bridge will not be started until next year.

Walter S. Smiley was re-elected chairman of the Warren County ASC Committee at the county convention here last Friday.

The annual Boy Scout Drive of the Occaneechee Council will begin in Warren County during the month of October.

September 30, 1955

Dr. William Pettway Jones Pette, a native of Warrenton, has been appointed to the staff of surgeons at Duke Hospital in Durham. Construction of a terminal warehouse for the Merita Bread Company was started at Norlina this week.

W. A. Godley, former assistant Negro agent in Bertie County, has been appointed Negro Agent for Warren County. The Warrenton Woman's Club has given an emergency cart to the Warren General Hospital.

September 27, 1940

Company B, recently called into federal service, is now stationed at Fort Jackson, S. C.

The John Graham High School football team won the opening game of the season last Friday afternoon by defeating a team from Oxford Orphanage 14-12.

Main Street of Warrenton has been treated to a coat of tar and gravel this week by the State Highway Department.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Stegall of near Warrenton on September 21, in Duke Hospital, Durham, twin daughters.

## The Way The Bored Go 'Bang'

The London Economist

It is not just an American tragedy. What happened in Los Angeles is pretty certainly going to happen in many other countries, both capitalist and Communist as the conditions that caused it spread to them.

This was an American phenomenon only in the sense that the United States is half a generation ahead of the rest of the world in the development of an industrial urban society with the special problems that brings.

It has the first taste of both the pleasures and the terrors of this new sort of life.

In Harlem and Rochester last year - quiet so far this year - the majority of the rioters were young people caught up in an explosion of violence against authority - any authority, but usually the police, the authoritarians they have run afoul of in their everyday lives.

This was an insurrection, but not against the economic order (which is the Marxist fallacy) and not even chiefly against white men's domination (which is going to be the Afro-Asian fallacy). It was an insurrection of anarchy, an outburst against any kind of system by the people left at the bottom.

Pitbreaks like this are part of the price we are going to pay for a society in which more and more people live in cities and do deadly dull work and waste their leisure.

One of the problems of urban-industrial life is that it creates communities of the left-behind.

These are the people who do the dull jobs of all, and are the worst paid, and live in the ugliest parts of crumbling old towns.

They have a high rate of illegitimacy and broken mar-

riages. Their religious and cultural roots have been cut. Materially, they are better off than their peasant grandfathers were, but cramming a man with distressful bread has never made him contented - quite the reverse.

These people know they are a community of the untalented, because a modern state needs to skim off the people with talent and by and large does skim them off. The rest sit and simmer.

They know they are the natural bottom layer; they have been deprived of the social and religious consolations of the old rural life; there is no legal outlet for young male violence, and every now and then they go bang.

Many of the Los Angeles rioters are brothers under the skin to the baffled young men from London and its suburbs who spend their holidays stomping along the front at Brighton and Margate, or breaking up bars of Calais and Ostend.

Their fathers got into fights at football games, or satisfied a dim ancestral prejudice by chasing second - generation Irishmen in Glasgow or Jews in Dalston. They were trying to prove that they belonged to something.

The elder sons ripped up railway carriages. It was their way of not belonging. Now the youth

of the bottom layer takes it out on the town - and even the seedy parts of their towns have more than ever before to take it out on.

The Swedish police were having trouble last week with young toughs raising hell in the center of Stockholm; in the bad things as well as the good, Sweden is America's closest follower on the march to the sort of society most of us will be living in by the year 2000.

The Czech police had a first taste of the problem a year ago when young hooligans disrupted Wenceslas Square in Prague.

Not even the Russians are immune. The passionate violence of the riots in Novocherkassk a couple of years ago, which probably killed more people than the Los Angeles

riots, can no more be wholly explained by their ostensible cause - a rise in food prices - than the Los Angeles outburst can be wholly explained in racial terms.

What had happened since 1945 is that the younger members of this community of the left - behind now have better means of transport and a wider range of weapons, at any rate in Western Europe and North America.

This makes the violence more noticeable; motorbikes and flick-knives on a south coast esplanade, or car drivers lobbing fire bombs into Los Angeles stores, make for bigger headlines, especially in the silly season, than a fist-and-boots brawl outside a back-street pub.

But at the same time, the frustration that lies behind it all has grown sharper as the hierarchy of modern industrial society takes clearer shape.

For those at the bottom, life presents a still more dismal picture when it is not God who calls men to their stations in life but the unappealable selection

processes of economic life. Russian sociologists have told Western colleagues they are deeply worried about this. So they should be. Communism and capitalism are rival mechanisms for supplying material plenty.

What neither of them has thought out, and what both are going to run headlong into by the end of the century, is the problem of the needs left unsatisfied by relative abundance; how to make routine work bearable; how to help people use their leisure; how to stop them dying of boredom - or killing from it.

The world owes us nothing - it was here first.

You meet the craziest people on the Subway. One day a fellow sitting next to me kept saying, "Call me a doctor."

"What's the matter?" I asked. "Are you sick?"

"No," he answered. "I just graduated from medical school."

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### Announcement!

THE WARREN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF A LICENSE SALES OFFICE IN THE TAYLOR BUILDING, WARRENTON, N. C. EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1965.

THE LICENSE SALES OFFICE WILL SELL—

- \* N. C. STATE LICENSE TAGS
- \* TRANSFER TITLES On New and Used Cars, Trucks, Trailers
- \* ALL OTHER FUNCTIONS Normally Conducted By The Registration Division, N. C. Department Of Motor Vehicles.

HOURS: 9:00 A. M. — 1:00 P. M. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

### Letter To

### The Editor

A MATTER OF DEGREE

To The Editor:

In a discussion with a friend concerning your editorial comment, for which I thank you, he remarked: "The haves and have nots have always been with us, and further, they will always be with us."

This truth cannot be denied except to the point of degree. For a moment I was stymied to give an answer until your statement came to my mind concerning the French Revolution and the most revolutions resulted from the flaunting of wealth and privilege. This, too, is dependent upon the point of degree. It is a fact that the historians have recorded 'time and time again and I am glad that you clarified it.

It is also a fact, as you said, that our government has a conscience. This conscience results from our people being given a sovereign prerogative. Namely, Freedom of Speech. Little wonder that the Speaker Ban Law has stirred up so much controversy. This is not a battle between the haves and the have nots; it is a battle between thinkers and those who wish us to be non-thinkers. True, we may err in our thinking at times but there is always someone who can correct the error.

This privilege to think and speak politically is so evident under our system of government, and is, if we gather information and think just a little, so lacking under the totalitarian forms of government, whether it be a communist, Fascist or a military regime.

Our economic and social well being is largely dependent upon our political set up. It is, thanks for our two party system, geared and able to make proper changes when necessary.

N. M. FITTS, M. D.



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