

The Warren Record

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Shares Responsibility

Rising prices indicate that there is a need for this country to take steps against inflation and while there is little quarrel with the government's objectives there may well be with the government's inconsistencies.

Recently when a labor union sought higher wages the government used pressure to hold down the increase on the grounds that such action would be inflationary. When the steel mills sought an increase in prices, the same tactics were used on the same grounds. More recently government

Beatle Locks, Granny Dresses

The Christian Science Monitor
Maybe it isn't of great importance when three little New York State sisters are barred from school because they are wearing the new long granny dresses.

Or when a small English child, obeying her mother's instructions, wipes her knife and fork with a napkin before eating in a school cafeteria. (She was suspended and taken from her mother's custody until she agreed to drop the habit.)

Or when a Massachusetts boy is refused admission to classes because he won't cut his Beatle locks (as demanded by school authorities) on the ground that short hair would lose him his rock-and-roll singing job.

Or when a Saratoga, N. Y., high school miss, wearing wool slacks on a cold day, is ordered to change to skirts or stay home. But all these recent incidents made headlines. And with reason. Editors who played up the cases, all involving court suits by parents, recognized the deep interest felt today in the person who defends his right to be an individual.

True, not all school authorities who have suspended the nonconforming students are acting like dictators. At a time when permissiveness is often carried too far, a firm hand is needed. But often administrators take the wrong things to be firm about—those not involving moral issues.

Controlling manners and dress is a delicate matter. School chiefs can save themselves newsmaking conflicts if they remember this. Even a child can feel strongly about his right to be different, and not only his parents but most newspaper readers are concerned when this right is lightly disregarded.

Tar Heel Syndrome In Kentucky

Louisville Courier-Journal

Everybody seems to be getting into the act. The Kentucky Department of the American Legion is sponsoring a bill designed to keep the state's campuses from "being invaded by persons insidiously motivated."

Sound familiar? It ought to. The people drawing up this particular bill have obviously taken a good close look at North Carolina's speaker ban law.

But while they have been influenced by the law they have not been content merely to parrot it. Indeed not. The proposed measure is even more sweeping in import than the Communist speaker ban.

And the questions it raises are equally pertinent - perhaps even more pertinent. It may be possible now and then to determine whether a man's a Communist. But how do you determine whether he is insidiously motivated? Would a man selling Hadaool be barred from the campuses on these grounds? Not even the House Un American Activities Committee could offer much guidance here.

We had never thought we'd find another piece of legislation as stupid as the speaker ban. But apparently we have. The only difference is that the Kentucky Legislature will probably have sense enough to vote it down.

Quotes

The most effective water power in the world - women's tears. - Wilson Mizner.

There comes a time that one must decide of one's dreams, either to risk everything to achieve them, or sit for the rest of one's life in the backyard. - Robert Maury.

What a pity it is that nobody knows how to manage a wife but a bachelor. - George Colman.

Cheek Reviews Work At Memorial Forest

G. E. Cheek, coordinator for the Recreation Council of the Memorial Recreation Forest, Inc., this week reviewed the following activities which have taken place at the Memorial Forest during the last month:

Three members of the North Carolina Fund met the Executive Committee of MRS's Council, Inc., in a two hour conference in the studio in the Forest.

A leading representative from the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington visited the Forest in a 3-hour conference and spent another 2 1/2 hours visiting several of the Head Start Child Development facilities.

The Rev. G. E. Cheek, MRF's Council's coordinator spent a day in Washington. He visited the VISTA Headquarters Building, the Project Head Start Building sharing hands with Miss Rebecca Silverman, Mr. Harold Balin, Mr. Len Slaughter and others. He also visited the Neighborhood Youth Corp Building and had a brief conference with Mr. Tibbett. Carmical Lorenzo was absent at the time.

Washington's Birthday Celebration was a gala affair at the Forest February 22 featured by the appearance of the Henderson Institute High School Band. Because of the cold weather the group decided to set another in the spring when it will be warmer so that they can do more of the needed work in

clearing bushes, brush, and briars to make the Forest more beautiful and attractive.

The annual meeting of MRF's Council was held, March 13. It was revealed that the Council, Inc., received in money or in-kind during 1965, \$57,540.84, and spent \$57,078.17. The committee on 1966 recommendations (representing Warren, Franklin and Vance Counties) left several important recommendations for the 3-county area in the hands of the Executive committee for study and implementation by suitable committees.

A special committee of MRF's Executive Committee was called recently to elect competent personnel to administer-through guidelines from OEO in Washington—the 5 month Child Development Program of 4 and 5 years old children from low income families of the 3-county area.

The training personnel institute is scheduled to begin April 4. The Head Start child development school is scheduled to begin April 11.

Thanks to the ladies of the community in working secretly on a fund to place needed curtains at the windows in the Studio at the Memorial Forest. Mrs. Beatrice Davis is serving as treasurer and it leaked out that the needed curtains will soon be installed.

The Homemakers club will meet at the forest in their next monthly meeting.

Court

(Continued from page 1)

pay court costs.

Otis Davis pled guilty to two counts of having no chauffeur's license and was ordered to pay court costs.

Lenwood Kearney was ordered to pay a \$100 fine and court costs when he pled guilty to a charge of drunk driving.

Bill Smith pled guilty to having no valid operator's license and to carrying a concealed weapon. He was fined \$25 and ordered to pay court costs.

Joe Lynch was ordered to pay court costs when he pled guilty to a charge of carrying a concealed weapon.

Sterling Brinkley pled guilty to a charge of reckless driving. He was ordered to pay a \$25 fine and court costs.

Carlton Ray Downing, charged with speeding, failed to appear in court. A capias was issued to Halifax County.

Defendants in other speeding cases and verdicts of the court were as follows:

Margaret Austin Holmes, costs; Ollie Evans Cooper, Jr., \$10 and costs; William Powell, \$10 and costs; Constance Amelia Cobb, costs; Clifton Wilson Miller, \$10 and costs; Spencer Legray Pierce, \$10 and costs; Alan Irving Murdock, costs; Louie Herbert Haskins, Jr., costs; Douglas E. Woodlief, costs; Sidney Earl Griffin, \$10 and costs; Robert Wayne Queen, \$10 and costs.

Census

(Continued from page 1)

An official report will be published later providing statistics for the county on the number of residents by sex, race, and five-year age groups. Population totals for incorporated places and townships will be included, also.

An old gent was passing a Raleigh intersection when a large St. Bernard ran by and knocked him down.

A moment later, a Volkswagen skidded around the corner and inflicted other damage. A bystander helped him to his feet, and someone asked if the dog hurt him. "Well," he grumbled, "the dog didn't hurt so much but the tin can tied to his tail scratched me up right smart."

Billy asked his mother, "Mom, the teacher told us in Sunday school that we come from dust and we return to dust."

"That's right, dear."
"Well, I just looked under the couch in the living room and somebody is either coming or going."

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As Others See It

Sit Tight And Grow Rich

By RICHARD L. STROUT

In The Christian Science Monitor

A friend told us the other day about the enormous increase in the value of his land. When he moved out to the suburb he could hardly see another house; now as we looked out the picture window from the little emittance we saw that the twinkling city lights had moved right to the trees of his property. We congratulated him on the financial killing he was going to make. It was fine of course, he said, and yet he hesitated. His conscience hurt a little. What had he done to deserve this vast increment?

A corporation not long back bought 2,100 acres of unimproved land in Florida for \$20,000. By 1960 the land was worth \$10 million. It is fearsome to think what it is worth now. One thing is sure, population is going to go up in the United States and land will be scarcer. Over the long run it will be hard not to make money out of appreciating land values.

A good many critics of present real estate tax laws wonder if we are doing the right thing about land, particularly in our cities. Suppose, for example, you deliberately wanted to create a slum.

You would probably proceed in two steps. First you would increase the tax on buildings that had been painted or remodeled; that would be a tax on improvement, a penalty on keeping them in repair. Second, you would reduce the tax on land values.

In other words as the property ran down the taxes would go down, too. That would be a bonus for letting things get worse. Many American municipalities impose their property taxes this way, and are surprised at the way blight is spreading.

A few years ago the magazine House & Home ran some articles on the subject. It quoted home builders as saying that land was "their most critical problem." Land was being "hoarded" by speculators, it found. "Today's taxes make misuse of land more profitable than good use. . . Today's taxes harness the profit motive backward. They give land speculation a better break

than any other business."

The article added that slums were subsidized by undertaxation while developments were penalized by overtaxation. When the municipality put in large-scale public improvements the speculators often gobbled up the increased land value.

This was much the same attitude that the American Institute of Economic Research, a New England group, took of the subject. How to turn a beautiful city into a slum? It recommended the same double procedure: raise the assessment on taxes on any building that is repaired, remodeled, or improved (that means older sections will decay); reduce taxes on land values as the property deteriorates; "this will encourage the slumlords to hold their properties for speculation on the future growth of the city."

Latest testimony comes from Perry Prentice in the Architectural Forum. He says about the same thing. Present tax policies "harness the profit motive backwards." They make "slums the most profitable of all housing investments." Fifty years ago land carried two-thirds of the realty tax load, Mr. Prentice finds, improvements carried only one-third. Today it is just the reverse: improvements carry two-thirds of the realty tax load, land carries only one-third.

Mr. Prentice adds that since 1896 Brisbane, Australia, has banned taxes on all improvements, but the land itself in the city is taxed the same for parking lots as the site of skyscrapers. One economist commented that Brisbane is "the only great city in the world without a slum."

When a woman preaches a sermon to her husband at home, she generally ends it by taking up a collection.—Frank Dickson.

Life is made up of sobs, sniffles and smiles, with sniffles predominating.—O. Henry.

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