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One Year	\$3.00	One Year	1.75
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Two Years	5.25	Two Years	4.25
Three Years	7.50	Three Years	6.00

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Profoundly Revealing

"You can rest assured I am not looking for any den mothers for these recruits platoons."

So spoke the Marine Corps' new inspector-general of recruit training. The pronouncement came after a few hours' visit to Parris Island, the scene, a month earlier, of the swamp death march on which six recruits were drowned.

This remark, by Major General David M. Stroup, would hardly be classified as profound; it may, however, be profoundly revealing.

For it suggests (a) worship of "toughness" as a virtue in itself; and (b) something all-too common in the armed forces — contempt for the civilian and all his works.

Both attitudes are essentially adolescent. For invariably the bully is the person who hasn't grown up. And just as invariably it is only the immature who are tolerant of no group but their own.

Incidentally, the determination of some — not all — military authorities to maintain toughness may be the chief reason for the constant lowering, during the past decade, of the draft age. Probably it is not so much lack of physical stamina that makes an adult — of, say, 28 — a poor recruit as the intellectual and emotional maturity that leads him to resist indoctrination in adolescent attitudes. Conversely, the fact that the military gets most of its recruits from the adolescent age-group may account for the readiness of so many servicemen to defend toughness — they were indoctrinated with an adolescent idea while still adolescents. It is a little like the college hazing of another era; the student who was hazed most severely as a freshman, a year later, as a sophomore, was the most enthusiastic advocate of hazing.

Den mothers on a military post? Obviously not! But equally obvious is something O. J. Coffin suggests in the Greensboro Daily News: As a rule, if the boys "make good marines, it will be mostly due to what they learned from their mothers". Then Mr. Coffin adds this sound comment:

"General Stroup and all other Marine Corps commanders should somehow be made to realize" that "sons are still reared to be soldiers, if and when the need occurs; but they are sons first and soldiers second."

Toughness is justified in the name of discipline. And of course there must be discipline in the armed forces. But discipline and toughness, as the latter term is used by the military — toughness that sometimes approaches brutality — are not the same things — as advocates of toughness could quickly learn, if they would take the trouble to look up the definitions of the two.

The word "discipline" comes from the same root as "disciple".

Bouquet

Flowers to Mr. Dean Henson, the director, and members of the cast of "Rest Assured", the play presented by the Dramatic Club of the Franklin High School, Friday night at East Franklin School. It was a creditable performance.

Perhaps the best way to say just how creditable is to point out that interest in such amateur performances usually is tied to personal interest in the individuals taking part. ("Isn't Jim, or Mary, good?") But Friday night the audience often forgot it was the Jim or Mary they knew and became absorbed in the characters Jim and Mary were portraying.

New Bedford (Mass.) Standard-Times

Segregation 'Mess' That Ike Deprecates Should Have Been Foreseen

In two recent press conferences President Eisenhower discussed the school segregation issue in the South, saying this is "a time when we must be patient" and try to avoid "a tremendous fight that is going to separate Americans and get ourselves into a nasty mess."

Unfortunately, the "mess" which the President deprecates already exists and should have been foreseen, when, under White House pressure, the Supreme Court reversed the law of 60 years standing with reference to school segregation in the South.

Several cases involving alleged discrimination against Negroes in Southern schools were pending in the Supreme Court when former Governor Warren became the new chief justice. The views of the President against segregation were well known, as may have been those of Chief Justice Warren. But to make doubly sure the Supreme Court made the "right" decision, the President instructed Attorney General Brownell to appear in the case, as a "friend of the court," urging desegregation.

Two important provisions of the Federal Constitution are involved in the desegregation decision. The 14th Amendment, approved in 1868, forbids any state to "deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Letters

Union Students Win Praise

Dear Welmar:

Raleigh, of course, is accustomed to seeing groups of school children visit the Capitol and the other points of interest here. Her citizens adopt a rather hopefully skeptical attitude about the behavior of visiting students, remembering experiences in which the visitors were discourteous, if not worse.

Whenever a tradesperson or a state employe remarks upon the good behavior of a group, it is refreshing; particularly this is true when you can adopt some of the flavor of the conduct which is remarkable by its being unusual.

A recent week-end, Principal Art Byrd and Mrs. Byrd brought about thirty of the young people from the Union Elementary School to Raleigh for a visit. From the time they arrived until they had eaten their last meal, this group received favorable comment from restaurant owners, hotel people, guides, the capitol steward, the butler at the Governor's mansion, and many others, about their attentiveness, courtesy, and excellent behavior.

Raleigh has seen many similar groups, but Raleigh especially enjoyed having this fine delegation from Macon visit here. I know that the parents and teachers will be especially pleased to know that these representatives from our county have captured the good wishes and appreciation of the people of Raleigh.

All of the Maconites here are proud of these young people, and extend a cordial invitation to any group which will uphold the fine pattern these Union students set.

G. A. JONES, JR.

Raleigh, N. C.

Views Of A Marine

Editor, The Press:

First, I would like to thank you for the article in The Press a couple of weeks back, "Who's Responsible". That is the best comment I have read concerning S/Sgt McKeon, drill instructor of Platoon No. 71 here at Parris Island.

I have been stationed here two years and I'll probably spend my last 12 months down here, as much as I hate to. The normal tour of duty at Parris Island is two years, but you can hardly find a man down here who hasn't been down here at least 30 months.

I guess some of the people have wondered why they don't just go ahead and give Sgt. McKeon the "shaft" and get it over with. Sure, the 9 o'clock coffee drinkers have hanged him a dozen times haven't they? I would like to ask you (the readers) this: "What do you know about the drill instructors of Parris Island?" Sure, you know about one of the unfortunate ones. I know them pretty darn good. I work with them. How many people who aren't in service put in 19 hours hard work every day? Very few! That's the average working hours for the average drill instructor here on the Island. Up at 4:30 a. m. Shave and then get the skin-heads up. Go to chow at 5:30 a. m., fall out for drill. School on military subject, rifle classes, day after day. Noon chow and back at it. Then evening chow and back to the barracks for his evening review with the men. Taps at 10 p. m., but not for the D. I. (drill instructor), he's up shining shoes, brass, and ironing uniforms so he can set a good example every day for his men.

I would like to leave you with this question: "How many of you would like to take the places of some of these drill instructors here at Parris Island?"

The big political leaders have the pressure on their subject this election year. Don't be one of the followers who condemn these men, just think what you would do in case you had to train street walkers, pool sharkies and every day high school boys to be marines, something to live up to, brother.

PFC. DAN W. ANGEL

U. S. M. C., Parris Island, S. C.

Here in Western North Carolina is an ideal spot for handicraft work and when I say handicrafts, I mean honest, well-made products which are typical of this region and its people. I do not mean shoddy, worthless pieces which can quickly be copied by some Brooklyn factory.—Governor Luther H. Hodges.

Views

By

BOB SLOAN



Each February and March that rolls around brings a new case of economic blues singing from local merchants. It is our let down time of the year. But nearly always by mid-May we have bounced back and are rolling along in high gear with our eyes on new goals. It doesn't seem to me that such is the case this year.

Here are a few straws in the wind.

I have heard more comment concerning how difficult it was to collect back accounts than I have heard since going to work for the paper in 1947.

Last year those advertised for taxes by the town of Franklin numbered 36; as compared to 46 this year. The number is small but that is an increase of roughly 1/3 percentagewise.

Recently a local contractor told me that he had the smallest amount of work in sight for the future that he had had in three years. Generally speaking this time of year you can't even get anyone in the building business to stop long enough to speak to you.

Van Raalte has been on part time production now for about six months.

Several filling station operators have told me that there is less tourist travel now than they have seen at the same time of year for several years.

Here is hoping that this doesn't mean that retrenchment time has come yet, but we should all keep in mind that it is coming sooner or later.

There are many different types of segregation. To me some seem more justifiable than others. One that has never made particular sense to me is segregated seating on the busses and trains. If a man buys a ticket on a bus or any public conveyance he should be able to pick his seat on a first come first serve basis. No difference has ever been made in the rate charged.

Proof that "fictional prejudice" is the only factor that has stood in its way in the past was found recently in Richmond, Va., where the bus company posted signs that

(See Back Page, 1st Section)

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mr. W. H. Shanck's new brick machine has been busy for several days past. It worked nicely and makes very nice bricks. A kiln of 80,000 will soon be ready for burning.

Henry Angel went to Bryson City Saturday, there to join his brother, W. E. Angel, and together they go this week to Oregon and later to the State of Washington.

A telephone message received Saturday informed The Press that the first Tallulah Falls Railway train crossed the state line Friday at the Locust Post, and entered Macon County from the south. It was a work train, but it was a train all the same. The dream of more than a half century has been realized.

25 YEARS AGO

Dr. O. F. Schefflin, of West Palm Beach, Fla., has returned for the season to his summer home. — Highlands item.

Police Chief Bob Henry announced this week that beginning Monday of next week he would enforce strictly the town ordinance limiting parking on Main Street in the business district to one hour.

Misses Alleen and Tilda Warren, of West Asheville, have been visiting on Ellijay.

10 YEARS AGO

A Macon County post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will be instituted at a meeting at the court house at 7:30 p. m. Friday of this week. J. D. Cole, district commander, will present the charter.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Zoellner have moved to an apartment on West Main Street. Mrs. Zoellner has accepted a position in Highlands Drug Store, and Mr. Zoellner is with the Highlands Electric Company's force of electricians. — Highlands item.

Peter Wendel Keener, of the U. S. Marines, who has just returned from northern China recently, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Keener.

A Question For Three

In the Democratic primary election May 26, voters will select a nominee for this county's representative in the General Assembly; then, in the general election in November, the people of the county will choose between the Democratic and Republican nominees.

After they have made their choice, how would the people feel if the governor or the state supreme court should decide that the people had made a poor choice, and appointed someone else? That, of course, would be the very reverse of democratic government; it would be so alien to democratic tradition that it is inconceivable that it could happen.

Yet exactly that can happen in the case of an equally important office, membership on the county board of education!

Under the state law, members of the board of education are nominated in the Democratic primary, but are appointed by the General Assembly. The law says the Assembly "shall" appoint those nominated, but it provides no penalty for failure to obey that provision; so occasionally the Assembly ignores the wishes expressed at the polls, and appoints a board of its own choosing.

That is a bad law, of course. It is bad in that it disfranchises Republican voters in the choice of those who are to direct the schools attended by children of both Republicans and Democrats. And it is bad because there is no more reason for the General Assembly to appoint county boards of education than for it to appoint sheriffs, or clerks of court, or registers of deeds.

Two wrongs, though, do not make a right; and because we are operating under a bad law is no excuse for compounding the wrong.

The point is not whether the legislators' motives are good or bad, when they appoint their own boards of education, nor even whether they select better boards than the voters. The point is: Are the people going to select their own officials, all the time, or only when their choices meet with the approval of somebody in Raleigh?

That is a very important point. And so The Press directs a plain question to the three men running for the Democratic nomination for representative:

If you are nominated and elected, will you, or will you not, appoint to the board of education the men selected in the primary election?

We think the people are entitled to straightforward answers to that question from the three candidates, Mr. Finger, Mr. Houk, and Mr. Sorrells.

The columns of next week's Press — the last before the primary — are open for their replies.

Refreshingly Different

It is gratifying to learn, from a letter on this page, that a group of Macon County school children, visiting the state capital, drew praise for their good manners.

It is a commentary on our times that courteous behavior should be so rare as to be refreshingly different; for good manners are nothing more nor less than thoughtfulness and consideration of others.

Though there is no course in that subject, courtesy should be — and, here, it evidently is — taught in the schools. The first and lasting lesson, though, is learned in the home — children absorb consideration of others from seeing it shown by their parents.

You and I cannot control what happens in Raleigh or San Francisco or Boston; we can what happens in Macon County. And it is up to each of us to see to it that good manners never become unusual here.