

WELMAR JONES
Editorial Page Editor

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1959

HOW TO VOTE?

Tuesday's Bond Election

In next Tuesday's special election, should Macon County people vote for or against the proposed nine state bond issues?

We do not pretend to have any easy yes or no answer.

Many voters' first reaction undoubtedly was one of confusion, and resentment that the legislators, who were in position to find out whether and where and how badly these funds are needed, shifted the decision to the voters, who are not in position to find out.

How, for example, is the average voter in Macon County to know whether \$500,000 is needed for state ports? For all he knows, the amount needed may be 5 millions.

Why, if the legislators were convinced the funds for all these nine different purposes were needed, didn't they wrap it all up in one package, tell the voters what it was for, and then let the voters cast a single yes or no answer?

And why, in a time of almost unprecedented prosperity, is it necessary for North Carolina to vote bonds for needed capital improvements? A good guess on that is, it's because the legislators lacked the courage to levy enough taxes.

In view of all that, it is human for the average voter to say: "Well, I'll vote against the whole thing; then maybe next time, the Legislature will do its job."

There's only one trouble about that: It'll punish not the legislators, but the people served by the agencies and institutions these funds are for.

There's plenty of evidence that the proposed building funds are needed by the institutions of higher learning; and there's shameful evidence they're needed by the mental institutions.

And so, with considerable misgivings, we suggest that people probably would not go far wrong to vote for the first two bond items, and against the other seven: Not because we're at all sure the other seven are not desirable, and maybe needed, but because, on those, we, like most others, don't know enough even to have an opinion.

Where It Comes In

Before the proposed sale of Nantahala Power and Light Company's distribution facilities to Duke Power Company can be consummated, the deal must be approved by both the N. C. Utilities Commission and the Federal Power Commission.

We wondered what the federal agency's interests are, what its authority is, and what points it would consider. So we wrote the Federal Power Commission and asked.

A letter from its secretary explains, and we quote the pertinent paragraph, as a matter of public information:

In all cases arising under Section 203 (of the Federal Power Act), the Commission must decide whether the proposed transaction will be consistent with the public interest. Pertinent to that issue in an application for the approval of a sale of facilities are the questions, among others, of whether the price to be paid for the particular property to be sold is reasonable, whether adequate service will be maintained after the transfer of title to the facilities, and whether the cost of service will not be increased unreasonably as a result of the sale of facilities. Thus, the effect of the transaction upon the interest of consumers affected as well as upon any other interests either national or local that may be involved is carefully considered by the Commission. Each case, of course, must necessarily be decided on its own merits.

Good Neighbor

Officials of Burlington Industries have often remarked on the good neighborliness of Macon County people. And last week Burlington, by its generous donation to the center for Macon County youth, proved that it, too, is a good neighbor. It was not, of course, the first contribution from a relative newcomer, and all the donors, newcomers and long-time residents alike, deserve the thanks of all of us. The size of the Burlington check, though, tended to dramatize what good neighbors, big and little, working together, can accomplish in a community.

"Whatsoever A Man Soweth, That Shall He Also Reap!"



LETTERS

Why He Likes Press

Editor, The Press:

I think The Press is the best paper published today, for this reason: It's clean, it's interesting, and it's truthful. Inside the front page are true facts instead of political slang and we people who are up in years have heard enough politics to do the remainder of our lives. So, I want to thank you, Mr. Editor.

HERMAN WILSON

Highlands.

Visitors Thank Folk Here

Dear Citizens of Franklin:

My husband and I wish to take this opportunity to thank you one and all for the wonderful time we had with you on our first visit to Franklin.

Everyone was so friendly and helpful and so very sincere in their efforts to show us a good time. And we did indeed enjoy every moment of our days there. The time went by too fast, though, and we are already looking forward to our flight to see you all next year and dig, dig, dig for more "jewels". The real "jewels" of our trip, though, were the many friends we made during our stay.

Should anyone in Franklin ever stray down Miami way, we extend an open invitation for them to visit us here. Hoping this message finds every citizen of Franklin in the best of health and also our best regards to Mr. Standley, the Baptist minister, who donated much of his time to seeing we had adequate transportation. Again, many thanks and hope to see you next Ruby Rendezvous.

MR. AND MRS. JACK A. GOUCHER

Miami, Fla.

For Training School

Dear Mr. Jones:

The State Bond Election on October 27 includes in Item 2 (for mental institutions) of the ballot \$4,500,000 for a Western Carolina training school.

You have the problem of the mentally retarded in your county just as it is in all other counties—three per cent or more of the population. The waiting lists of several hundred at existing institutions is mute but eloquent testimony to the need for an additional school. Many parents, discouraged by the prospect of waiting years for the admission of a child or wanting it nearer than Durham County, have not even made application. Even in cases where the family situation is desperate, it is frequently impossible to obtain admission—the space is simply not there.

Our present schools do a splendid job both in custodial care and training those who can be fitted for a useful, self-supporting life, but this additional school is urgently needed, and particularly needed in Western North Carolina.

I earnestly request you to publish this letter and to urge every one to vote for Item 2. Retarded children can be helped!

CHARLES E. WADDELL, President
North Carolina Association for
Retarded Children

Asheville, N. C.

Urges Vote For Education Bonds

Editor, The Press:

On Tuesday, October 27, the citizens of North Carolina will be called on to vote for or against a bond issue authorizing some \$34 million in capital improvement bonds for a great number of projects in nine different categories.

Being a student at the University of North Carolina I am thoroughly familiar with one of those categories—education. If this part of the bond issue passes, the University will get one new dormitory, three new classroom-laboratory buildings, two major additions to existing buildings, and some renovations.

There are nearly 8,000 students enrolled at Chapel Hill now, and conditions are excessively crowded. Even by putting extra men in dormitory rooms this fall there still weren't enough residence spaces alone. The situation in classrooms, laboratories, dining hall, and other facilities is equally acute. But it is even more shocking to take a look into the future—projections for the University of North Carolina in 1970 place enrollment at 13,500. Where can we put everybody, and how can all these students be adequately taught? We are all deeply concerned over this at Chapel Hill.

We think you should be deeply concerned, too, in Macon County for it is from the University that you have tradition-

If Papa (or Mamma) Wants To Put Himself In An Early Grave, At 80—

WHY SHOULDN'T HE?

The Rockingham Post-Dispatch notes that the physician writer of a newspaper health column suggests the foundation of a "Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Aged Parents by Their Loving and Over-solicitous Children."

And the Post-Dispatch continues: Do we hear applause from senior citizens throughout the land?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE SMELL?

I got real put out the other evening hearing an advertisement low rating the smell of corn beef and cabbage in the kitchen. The ad said to kill the nasty odor with some kind of spray deodorizer.

What's the matter with the honest smell of corn beef and cabbage, I ask you? Nothing whatsoever, just wish I smelled it more often around my house. And I'll bet most husbands will agree with me.

Next thing, they'll be advocating doing away with the tantalizing aroma of country ham frying. The scent of gardenias or pine forest is wonderful, but who wants to move the country ham smell out of the kitchen and substitute gardenia or piney woods odors for it?

This time, the advertising lads have gone too far. For bed rooms and bath rooms, the sprays are okay, but don't let's be fooling around those good cooking smells that whet up a man's appetite.

Who can smell ham or chicken or fish cooking, or a steak broiling or charcoaling, without getting just a bit hungry? But who can work up an appetite sniffing the essence of flowers and pine needles?—W. E. H. In Sanford Herald.

Every doctor, every writer on health has received hundreds of queries like these: "My 80-year-old father has had a slight stroke. Shouldn't he give up his evening highball?" "My elderly father has high blood pressure, but he won't give up his pipe." "I've tried to put my 75-year-old mother on a diet but she won't cooperate." "I want to buy my parents a retirement home in Florida, but Papa insists on staying in the old homestead where he strains his heart shoveling snow and chopping wood."

Papa may like to chop wood. He likes his pipe, his apple pie; even, perhaps, an occasional glass of beer. If he wants to chop or smoke or eat or drink himself into an early grave at the age of 80, who has a better right? But his children want to treat him like a child.

Elderly people will, of course, feel better, avoid minor illnesses,

and be able to do more if they follow the basic rules for healthy living. A regular checkup by the family doctor and reasonable attention to his suggestions is wise procedure. But no amount of fussing by the younger generation will help. It can do harm, by making healthy elders into burdensome hypochondriacs.

The young people would do better to think about their own old age. How they live, what they eat in the 40's and 50's will directly affect their health in later years. Let them prepare for a healthy old age, and maybe they can avoid the well-meant but unwelcome interference of their children.

IT'S MATTER OF THE COLOR

Length of life depends less on the star you were born under than the color of the traffic light when you cross the street.—Galley Proofs.

HENRY BELK

Sure And Certain Solution

In GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS

There is a sure and certain solution for most of the problems which beset North Carolina, its people, and its government.

And it is amazingly simple. And not costly.

It would automatically raise the per capita annual income to well above the national average. We are way down in the 40's among the states, you know.

This plan would immediately solve the problem of crowded classrooms and the question of money for building new schools and other educational facilities.

The plan would make it possible for the state to increase teacher pay to such a level that North Carolina would be in the top states in the amount paid.

The plan would answer the question of where the colleges are going to get dormitory and classroom space when the children, the bumper crop of children born soon after the end of World War II, arrive at college age. That is only a few years away. Educators have been getting gray just thinking of the matter.

The plan would also free the General Assembly from its every two years' headache of where to get the money for public schools. No. 1 rating?—Morganton News Herald.

finding of an additional \$15,000,000 a year just to keep the schools at their present levels.

All we have to do to solve these problems is to reduce our excessively high birth rate.

HUSBAND OR JOB, WHICH IS FIRST?

We wouldn't want to raise any doubts in the minds of husbands of working women when we ask the wives: "How important is your job?"

What prompted the question was a report from Tapel, Formosa, that the state-owned railroad decided that in the future no husband and wife may work for it.

Faced with what they regarded as a choice between husband or job, forty women employees applied for divorce (which, incidentally, weren't granted). They wanted to continue working for the railroad.

We'd be the last person in the world to try to raise a doubt, but if you are the husband of a working woman, can you be sure, if she had a choice between you or her two years' headache of where to get the money for public schools. No. 1 rating?—Morganton News Herald.

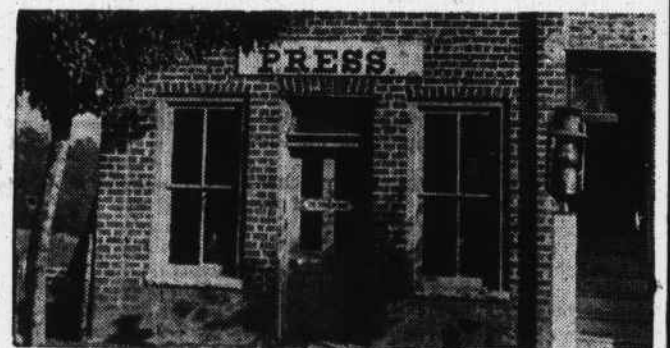
Extra Service

(Lisbon Falls, Me., Enterprise)

One of the finest functions of the Telephone Company is to provide wires on which birds may sit. After the nesting season is over, and the young birds have joined the elders as card-carrying members of the flock, the Maine scene includes great swarms of swallows perching on the telephone wires. Throughout the entire state, untold millions of swallows spend the month of August as guests of the Bell System, just sitting. Notice this, as you drive out the next time, and ponder on where all the birds would sit if we didn't have any telephone company.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Looking Backward Through the Files of The Press



65 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (1894)

J. Wiley Shook, in his report of the joint (political) discussion between Pearson and Crawford in Franklin last week, goes out of his way to make an attack on the character of one of our private citizens who is not a candidate for any political office. In the connection he speaks of a Tammany ring as being presided over by R. L. Porter. We know that J. Wiley simply lied about that matter. He further refers to Mr. Frank Ray as "the chief political skunk of the age." This is a downright reflection upon the good people of Macon County. Macon people are not in the habit of sending skunks to represent them in the Legislature.

35 YEARS AGO (1924)

Come to Slagle School, the new school house on Cartoogechaye, October 24 for a Halloween carnival.—Brandon Corpening and Carolyn Nolen, committee.

Major S. A. Harris has become editor of The Franklin Press, succeeding J. B. Lyle.

15 YEARS AGO (1944)

Paper bags are war-scarce—so scarce that merchants in Franklin are urging customers to bring their own shopping bags.

5 YEARS AGO (1954)

A "roughed in" gymnasium, to fit the \$105,000 now on hand, was authorized for Franklin High School by the Macon County Board of Education Monday night.

ally drawn lawyers, doctors, businessmen, journalists, teachers, and other people of vital importance to the community. A vote in favor of the education section of the bond issue will mean much to the prosperous and intelligent development of Macon County and the State of North Carolina.

NORMAN B. SMITH

Chapel Hill and Franklin.

Best Part Of The Day

(Eaton, Colo., Herald)

There's nothing like the clanging of an alarm clock to remind you that the best part of the day is over.

To A Dog's Nose

(Christian Science Monitor)

Society's efforts to protect itself from crime by deterring and detecting criminals are woven throughout its history. To primitive peoples, criminals and witches often were undistinguishable. And a "witch doctor" who would go through a village "smelling out" witches was sometimes an important if not widely loved functionary.

With a little more rationality came some reliance on "informers." Then were added methods of criminal recognition: Bertillon measurements, "rouges" galleries.

Society's efforts, in one respect, have been coming full circle. European police and now some American have been using trained dogs, not only to help officers seize suspects they may be trying to arrest but to detect malefactors whom police may not recognize.

Major Andrew T. Aylward of the St. Louis police force, which added canine "officers" four months ago, declared recently that a major crime has yet to be reported in dog-patrolled districts. He told of a test witnessed by his officers sent to London for courses in dog-handling in which a trained police dog passed up perhaps 8,000 persons and then pointed out a man with two marijuana cigarettes in his shirt pocket.

Human memory, photographic plates, anthropological measurement, make you bow to—a dog's nose.

A True World View

(Greensboro Daily News)

One of these days Senate seniority rule could put a man with a Japanese or Chinese name in the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee, speculates The Christian Science Monitor in an editorial about Congress's two new members of Asian ancestry.

The prospect does not worry The Monitor. Such a name, it comments, would in no sense keep this chairman from being a thorough American.

Indeed, not. We have just been reading about Hawaii's lone member of the Lower House, Rep. Daniel Inouye. Mr. Inouye is determined to do his share to make Hawaii a bridge of understanding and tolerance between the Western and the Asiatic worlds.

But the Honolulu Democrat and World War II hero had to admit that he was hardly an expert on Asia. More of a baseball-and-hot-dogs American, Representative Inouye has had to do some homework on Asia. "Several professors at the University of Hawaii have been selecting books for me," he told the A. P. with a smile.

If Hawaiians are going to try to make their state a bridge between East and West, they would do well to follow Mr. Inouye's example and turn to their university.

For the fact is that the University of Hawaii has long given thought to the possibilities of an East-West synthesis, or at least a meeting of minds. No better example of this effort can be found than the third annual East-West philosophers' conference which the university sponsored this Summer.

Acting on the premise that in the modern world narrow-mindedness is inexcusable and dangerous, the university has held three conferences with the objective of bringing about a more comprehensive perspective in philosophy, overcoming regional prejudice, and encouraging a greater mutual understanding of the peoples of Asia and the peoples of the West.

Taking up where the first two conferences left off, the third conference dealt with philosophy in practical affairs, covering such areas as law, economics and business, politics, international relations, aesthetics, and religion.

Our point is that Hawaii could well be the bridge of understanding between Orient and Occident. Over the past three decades the University of Hawaii has been laying the intellectual groundwork for that eventually.

So if the day arrived when the Senate had an Asian-American for its foreign relations chief, who in turn was guided by his state's dynamic and unusual university, he could be the apotheosis of the 20th century's need—a man with a truly world view.