

Editorial Views



A Valuable Educator

We have known Clive M. Whitt for more than 13 years and have been closely associated with him both in the school and out of school. We have seen the improvements he has made in the school rooms, the auditorium, the halls, the grounds — the Island. His untiring efforts and desires to make the Marshall school a better educational institution is attested by a tour through the school buildings.

Clive, with his ready smile and unusual refreshing wit, pointed out improvements and costs during the 1975-76 school year at Marshall School which included seeding grounds, \$334.25; lawn mower, \$686.64; Science Lab, \$7,000 (minimum estimate); cyclorama and curtains, \$2,398.20; piano, \$1,150.24; gym floor, \$200; bicentennial map, \$134.60; new record players, \$388.72; records, \$724.83. Total expenditures, \$13,017.48.

It was primarily through the desires of Clive that so many accomplishments have been realized. He is quick to say, however, that these improvements could not have been made without the help and assistance of many persons, in-

cluding the board of education, the superintendent, the commissioners and various state and federal agencies.

Outside the school, Clive has been a close friend and we look forward each Sunday to seeing him in the Marshall Baptist Church sanctuary. For years during football season he has been an inspiration as we sat together in the press box on the Island where his humorous quips would make things more pleasant.

He was also known for his keen interest in the students and his every action pointed to his love of children and, in turn, their love for him. He was kind to faculty members and spoke highly of them at all times.

We will always remember all these accomplishments and traits but in his 41 years of teaching at Ivy Ridge, Bright Hope, Foster Creek, Ebbs Chapel, Old Fort, Walnut, and Marshall, he has accumulated 67 days of sick leave, of which he has never used a day and has a perfect attendance record the last 23 years.

We wish for him and his fine wife and family, many years of happiness and good health.

Some questions about future

The news that several campuses of the University of North Carolina are turning away droves of qualified students raises some questions about the future course of public-supported higher education in North Carolina.

The 1975-76 state budget for higher education was based on a total enrollment at the 16 UNC campuses of 89,770; yet the actual enrollment this school year exceeds 92,000. To keep expenses under control, the UNC campuses have begun turning down an increasing number of potential students — N.C. State, for the first time in its history, is turning away applicants that meet admission standards; UNC-Chapel Hill reports it has rejected 60 percent of 10,000 applications received this year; and so the story goes throughout the state's University System.

And yet Tar Heel voters just last Tuesday responded favorably to a \$43-million state bond issue to finance capital improvements at a number of UNC campuses, presumably to expand the schools' capacity to educate more students.

These developments raise several tough questions:

How big should the University of North Carolina be allowed to grow?

Should we be headed toward a system of universal, public-supported higher education in North Carolina so that all bona fide applicants are admitted to UNC campuses?

Should the state continue to attract

more and more students to its institutions of higher learning at the expense of private colleges and universities?

Is the University System's expansion being closely coordinated with development of curricula at the state's community colleges and technical institutes?

Should our public high schools be providing more of the academic training now reserved for our colleges and universities?

The point of this questioning is not necessarily to encourage a moratorium on expanding the University of North Carolina. Certainly the state's growth and development culturally as well as economically is dependent upon a strong university system.

Instead, raising these questions is simply an attempt to encourage greater dialogue between university leaders and the taxpaying public of the state about the goals of public higher education as our society speeds toward the 21st century.

Without this free and open dialogue about higher education's future, public confidence in the University System stands to be eroded. After all, those UNC bonds approved at the polls last week received less than overwhelming endorsement — a vote of only 53 percent in favor of the bonds, to 47 percent against, is some indication that North Carolinians may be growing skeptical about the course of higher education's development in the state — *Smithfield Herald*

Government protects dogs

An inventor, annoyed by barking dogs, came up with a collar connected to a 6-volt battery, which applied an 1,800-volt shock to the barking canine.

Now the collars have been recalled, because in some cases, the animal was burned by the electrical shock.

The product was called "Sound-Off Bark Restraint and Training Collar." The unit worked with a small microphone and exposed electrodes. Each time the dog barked, the microphone set off the shock waves through the collar.

The federal agency said there was danger that a child playing with the dog could get burned.

One problem was that the microphone picked up sound six feet away and set off the shocking unit, which meant the dog was punished for barking to his friends. It was recalled.

dogs wearing the shock collar became apprehensive and retreated from their owners.

The government agency said barking was normal for a dog and decided the collar was not the answer to curb the noise.

Quotes

The trouble with senior management to an outsider is that there are too many one-ulcer men holding down two-ulcer jobs. — *Prince Phillip*.

Crime rarely fails to make the headlines. How one wishes there were some way to dramatize good living and high thinking. — *R. J. McCracken*.

Open doors are for open minds; closed doors are for all kinds. — *Dorothy B. Robbins*.



WHY MOTHERS TURN GREY
THE TRANSYLVANIA TIMES

Energy supplies key to future

The availability of energy, and its cost, have suddenly become critical to the future economic growth of North Carolina.

Speaking before the 15th annual meeting of the Southern Interstate Nuclear Board in Winston-Salem recently, George R. Herbert, president of the Research Triangle Institute, said energy costs and availability have shifted from "a position of relative insignificance in the industrial development equation to a dominant decisional factor...."

That equation generally contains cost and availability of labor, transportation, proximity to markets, raw materials and a host of other factors. Energy has become important to only a limited few, since it has been readily available and cheap.

North Carolina and the South, by reason of lower labor costs and population growth which meant expanding market opportunities has benefited greatly in past from the movement of industrial operations into the region.

FORMULA CHANGED
Herbert (pronounced er-bear) warned that the formula has now changed and "a return to the days of cheap and easy energy is most improbable. Development planners must go about their quest for increased per capita income fully aware of the energy constraints they face."

Herbert, whose research teams have carried out numerous development and growth policy studies for North Carolina and other states, predicted that the trend of late to combat labor costs by using more energy will reverse.

"The trend of the past, to substitute — whenever possible — what then was cheap energy for labor will slow and, in the case of some industries, be reversed."

"The South, with its relatively cheaper labor will be the beneficiary," he said, pointing to the strength of the other factors of the equation in the South.

But of particular concern to

North Carolinians is Herbert's contention that while higher priced energy will not derail progress in the region, it will "tend to direct job and income growth toward those states with domestic energy resources... Southern states without gas and oil will have to turn increasingly to electricity to provide the energy for future economic growth."

He predicted that continued clashes will occur involving the various interests — environmental, consumer, regulatory — until there emerges a clear definition of the linkages between plentiful electric power and economic growth.

SHIFT THINKING
Herbert warned that state and local industrial development experts had been largely caught off guard by the emergency of energy as a key factor in the equation, and must shift their thinking rapidly in order to cope with that condition.

Failure could mean trouble for the recent trend upward in per capita income. "Development planners must go about their quest for per capita income fully aware of the energy constraints they face," Herbert said.

"The South's energy future will affect employment and income," Herbert believes, "and could dictate which wage

strategy may be most effective."

North Carolina's lower wages, weighed against higher energy costs, means relocating firms will likely view her along with other southern states "as offering a comparatively advantageous location," Herbert said.

In the end, the assembly decided to give the same treatment to all state employees. Cooler heads than those in the teacher ranks prevailed among the other state employees, as legislators got the message that a raise of whatever size available would be appreciated, and the employees were loyal to the state and her citizens.

Future years will tell just how much that attitude will mean to state employees, and to the majority of teachers who behaved responsibly. Already there is considerable talk among lawmakers of methods whereby teacher training institutes can do a better job of screening and preparing "responsible" people for classroom duty, and especially of testing techniques which can be used at the state level before a teacher is hired.

The purpose, to seek to screen some of the so-called "young rebels" from the classrooms.

Additionally, it is certain that future pay raise work will go toward rewarding the experienced teacher at the top

Letter To The Editor

SAD LITTLE LEAGUER

Editor, the News Record:
Playing Little League baseball is a dream for most little boys. For my boy, Toby, this dream started but shortly ended. Toby played on the 8-10 year old Little League team which stated that all children will be able to play. Toby has played since the beginning. He's bought his shoes, his glove. Now, after both age teams say he's the wrong age, he's told he can sit on the bleachers and watch. Due to inconsideration of his coach he has been sent home crying three times. Sammy, one of his coaches, has a heart for children. He takes him back hoping somehow it can be that he can play. Now he's gone back for his last time. All get their uniforms but one or two. Toby is sent home without a uniform or a kind word for his last time. His dream has ended. I had to cry with him. Now all I wanted from the coaches for my son was a kind word or a pat on the back; something to make him understand life better. The coaches didn't think this was necessary.

I explained that Toby has a nervous problem. He worries about things he doesn't understand. "Toby," I said, "take his cap back that he gave



you." Toby answered, "No, mama, I don't want to hurt his feelings." But could they have feelings to hurt?

I pray each day that I can correct Toby as a child but still put no worries on him he can't handle. I want Toby to take his disappointments in life, but as a child, they should be fair disappointments.

"Mom, today I play ball." "No, son, today you can't play ball." Please don't trample on a child's heart.

MRS. RUTH GRIFFIN
(Mother of Toby)
Route 5, Marshall, N. C.

The pay battle

North Carolina legislators will not soon forget the pay-raise battle of 1976.

From the midst of the budget session, lawmakers were able to see more clearly which pressure groups were behaving responsibly, and which were not; which groups in future years will be accorded respect, and which will be viewed with suspicion.

The lessons learned will be drawn on in future years.

One glaring deficiency came to light in the teacher-pay debates, and a number of legislators intend to correct that: the dedicated, career teacher peaks out on the salary scale after 13 years and receives no further regular increases — only across-the-board pay raises granted by the assembly.

WRONG RESULT
The net result is a penalty at the top; higher rewards at the beginners' level.

Several efforts to correct the fault died because of limited time in the 1976 session, but future adjustments will likely be concentrated at the top, where about one-third of the teachers are "peaked out."

To the minds of some lawmakers, the solid, responsible teachers who refused to dignify threats of a "sick-in" or participate in pressure tactics against the General Assembly were not rewarded properly.

The young, militant teachers who marched, demonstrated, postured, and threatened wound up getting more — even though less than the demanded 16 percent.

It is widely accepted among many legislators that the teachers who turned up the heat by political threats, telegrams and demonstrations did little to help themselves in the long term.

Neither did the top officials and staff of the North Carolina Association of Educators. While privately the NCAE spokesmen sought to convince legislators that the teacher organization was not directing the pressure campaign, the fact remained that many messages came signed by representatives of that group, and the allied Political Action Committee for Educators.

Some legislators were irked that NCAE leaders declined to publicly divorce themselves from the teacher demonstration staged in Raleigh at which banners and tee-shirts carried militantly threatening messages, and the rhetoric did little to establish the demonstrators as actual leaders of the majority of North Carolina's responsible teachers. At the same time, however, some vote-seeking legislators urged the teachers to intensified lobbying activities.

LESS STRIDENT
Other state employees affiliated with the two organizations separate from the NCAE early in the maneuvering recognized the futility of making unmeetable demands.

Legislators largely responded positively to that position, and some teacher demands that additional money be used for teacher raises

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