

The News - Journal

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

North Carolina PRESS ASSOCIATION

Published Every Thursday at Raeford, N. C. 28376

Subscription Rates In Advance

Per Year - \$4.00 6 Months - \$2.25 3 Months - \$1.25

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Second-class postage paid at Raeford, N. C.

Your Award-Winning Community Newspaper

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1965

FEDERAL FUNDS

How To Spend The Money

Hoke County Schools stand to inherit huge sums of money from the state and federal governments to bolster their building program and provide educational opportunities for students from low income families.

The school board, currently faced with perplexing desegregation problems, will soon go into the matter of how the funds will be spent. We think they ought to wisely consider how our school system will best benefit from the extra money.

The county stands to receive some \$224,000 in federal funds from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act signed Sunday by President Johnson. This Act appropriated some \$1.3 billion to schools to provide educational opportunities to students from low-income families. Hoke County, which by other yardsticks is an impoverished county, will qualify for a huge sum because, by federal figures, about a third of its students come from families whose income is less than \$2,000 a year. Actually, according to school officials, the figure probably is closer to 50 per cent, but that is of no concern.

Federal guidelines as to how the money may be spent have not been handed down, and the local program will not be formulated until they are. However, when the time comes, the county board of education, with Gibson's guidance, will establish the plan and submit it for state and federal approval.

We are told now that the money may be spent for library facilities; books and other printed matter; classroom equipment; shop equipment; teachers in certain fields, and, in approved cases, the construction of classrooms.

It is doubtful, at this point, that \$224,000 can be wisely spent to provide these essentials unless the federal guidelines authorize the provision of certain physical comforts for the impoverished students need. Certainly, we feel that it ought to authorize the purchase of shoes and other clothing and ought to provide free lunches, and per-

haps breakfast, for many of the children.

The sum of \$224,000 will buy a lot of textbooks and equip a lot of classrooms and shops, but the impoverished children will benefit only indirectly from these improvements. In fact, they will benefit no more than all students, for the equipment would be placed in general use.

If the president's program is to have the desired effect of enabling poor children to attend school, it ought to provide some of the things they lack -- including clothing and food -- which would place them on something like a par with less unfortunate students. The opportunity to learn is available to rich and poor alike in our schools. It is the lack of incentive, and physical hardships, which thwart the education of our impoverished students.

Word from Washington is that this is the first of several doles and we are led to expect that similar appropriations will be made next year and the next. If they are of an amount equal to that we probably will receive this year, the board of education will be hard put to spend the money unless federal requirements allow us to alleviate the poverty, in a real way, that is the millstone around these students' necks.

Of course, that poverty is being attacked from other angles. The federal government already subsidizes our school lunch program, enabling us to provide free lunches for some students. The Economic Opportunity Act promises to underwrite 100 per cent of the county's \$303,663.43 community action program because the per capita income in the county is less than \$750.

As for the state bond money, of which our share is some \$400,000, the board of education ought to take a long look at what is likely to happen to our schools within the next few years before they spend the greater part of the funds to improve schools which may not exist as they are today two or three years from now.

Trouble Spot

A town employe was seriously stabbed Friday night at a well-known Negro "night club" just north of the town limits. Such incidents are not unusual in Hoke County where assault with a deadly weapon is a common offense, but we think authorities should take a long look at the number which have occurred at this particular club during the past 12 months.

Sheriff Dave Barrington says the club, operated by George Hollingsworth, is a "trouble spot." Seldom does a week end pass in which deputies are not summoned to the club, he said. Last week end, they made three trips there including that involving the stabbing.

"During the past year there has been one murder at the club, and I don't know how many serious assaults," Sheriff Barrington said. "There have been shootings, cuttings, and all sorts of affrays in which deadly weapons were used."

We would assume from the record of violence compiled at the club that it is rather loosely supervised. Hollingsworth, who is listed in police files as a "known bootlegger," has been convicted of bootlegging four times in the past two years. Each time, he escaped with a suspended sentence and fine.

Perhaps it is time the grand jury investigated the place. It has the authority to close it, if that action appears to be in the best interest of the community.

WHETHER YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH OUR STAND ON THIS, OR ANY OTHER ISSUE, WE INVITE YOU TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

"You're Really Rolling Up Quite A Record"



By Jim Taylor

What Color Is Her Hair?



There is an adage which says "gentlemen prefer blondes." Now comes scientific evidence which indicates they are perhaps wise in their choice.

"The dark-haired American girl of today is less passionate and far more cold-blooded and calculating than her fair-haired counterpart," states an article in the May issue of a popular magazine.

But the article goes on to assert -- with those cold brunette statistics from Blue Cross, Phi Beta Kappa and others -- that dark-haired girls are healthier, smarter, better drivers, more successful in business, have better figures and more children. Moreover, most of them catch the man of their choice.

But with all this array of virtue, says the article, there's still one warning for boys who marry brunettes. It comes from a well-known criminologist who has made a survey of murderers.

Look out for those dark-haired gals if you cross them! A blonde may blow her stack if you're cheating, but the brunette probably will slit your throat.

Oh, well. Who can tell the blondes from the brunettes these days?

Personally, I don't put much stock in such statistics. For instance, redheads are supposed to be easily angered, but I have never known one with a violent temper.

In fact, several redheads of my acquaintance are among the most docile people I know.

I have often wondered, though, why redheaded people resent being called "Red," while blond

men seldom balk at being called "Whitey."

And have you ever heard a dark-haired man object to being called "Blacky"?

I know that most people who are short in stature detest being called "Shorty" and other people with abnormal physical characteristics resent references to their abnormality.

Round people don't like to be called "Fatty" and people on the slim side don't appreciate "Skinny," or "Slim." And abnormally tall people surely must get tired of people asking "How's the weather up there?"

I read about one such fellow who made it a practice, at cocktail parties, of dumping his drink in the inquirer's face and replying, "Raining."

Several years ago there was a piece in one of the magazines about Wilson Mizner, who was an incurable gambler who'd bet on anything.

One day he and some of his cronies were taking in the sights at Atlantic City when they noticed a huge pair of feet sticking out of a window, as if the owner were inclining inside the house.

Immediately they began to wager huge sums on how tall the owner of the feet was. Guesses ranged up to six-feet-seven. Mizner, on the other hand, guessed four-feet-five.

They went inside the building and woke the man up. Mizner won the bet, for the man measured far less than five feet in height.

In truth, he was a midget Mizner had installed in the apartment house for the sole purpose of fleecing his pals.

This was the same Mizner

who went to Alaska during the gold boom and made and lost several fortunes.

One of his first ventures, as I recall, involved buying the first statewide newspaper as it arrived by ship and hurrying into town, there to assemble prospectors at 50 cents a head to read the news to them.

Mizner eventually got a job as a weigher of gold dust in an Alaskan barroom and he is said to have devised several ingenious means of stealing the gold.

First, he let his fingernails grow long, and every night he'd clean several dollars worth of dust from under them. Then he plastered his hair with grease, and by rubbing his hands through his hair while handling the gold dust, he would accumulate enough to provide a lucrative shampoo.

Mizner has a small rug, though, which was supposed to have yielded several thousand worth of spilled gold dust when he washed it.

The tale was rather far-fetched, because at the going rate of \$36 an ounce, the rug would have had to contain roughly a hundred pounds to have made Mizner as wealthy as the magazine article claimed.

CAMILLA, GA., ENTERPRISE: "It may just be the seasons--but it certainly does not indicate a healthy climate for free political action on the part of the people. When force is substituted for reason, we have a dictatorship. The first act of all dictatorial government is to seize the news media and jail all opposing thinkers. Mr. Castro has clearly demonstrated the technique for the zillionth time in this century for all to witness."

PUPPY CREEK PHILOSOPHER

Philosopher Finds World Geography Is Out Of Hand And Getting Worse

Dear editor:

I was talking with a man in town who keeps up with such things as Geography and the impending crisis in foreign countries, listening to him explain just what the situation in Viet Nam is, what North Viet Nam has done, what South Viet Nam has done, what our foreign policy there is and what it ought to be, etc., and to tell you the truth I was getting bored to death, so I broke in on the flow.

"Say," I said, "I see that Upper Volta is still on our side."

"What're you talking about?" he asked.

"Nothing, especially. It's

just good to know that Upper Volta is still on our side."

"Upper Volta? What's that?" I knew I had him, but I didn't press the point, and came on home and hunted up the newspaper. I'd read the name in it, to make sure I hadn't imagined it.

It's true. There is a country named Upper Volta, and its president, Maurice Yameogo, has just made a visit to Washington and been given the full red carpet treatment, with a 21-gun salute and a parade.

Now I haven't taken a survey, but I'll bet a subscription to The News-Journal against a subscription to the New York Times that until Mr. Yameogo showed up in Washington and got his name in the papers and on television, there weren't 100 people in the United States, including teachers, professors,

editors, politicians and owners of encyclopedias, who'd ever heard of Upper Volta.

What this proves is that regardless of how well posted a man is on world affairs, he can't know it all, there has to be a good part of the world he's ignorant of. In fact I doubt if there are a dozen people in the world who can sit down right now without any preparation and name all the countries on earth, and even among those who can it's about like memorizing the names of all the counties in the 50 states in the U. S. and knowing something about the internal politics of each.

Where geography got out of control was when we didn't stop with 13 colonies, and here we are about to take on outer space.

Yours faithfully,
J. A.

Week's Summary Of Legislature

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the ninth of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1965. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.

Early birds abounded last week in the Statehouse as well as in nature's wonderlands garbed with spring. On Tuesday a vital stage in the budget process was reached a week or so earlier than usual, when Chairman White and Zollicoffer announced the membership of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee. And on Thursday the second annual N. C. State name change fracas was concluded more than one full month ahead of the 1963 timetable. With few sharp controversies on stage or in the wings, with talk of a firm May 1 local bill deadline, and with little prospect of major tax legislation to complicate budgeteering, it begins to appear that there may be some hope for adjournment in time for this year's commencement season.

Last Wednesday evening, legislators and state officials were treated to a lively round of clogging at the annual fish-fry sponsored by the State Employees' Association.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCE: Although Santa's knee is getting a bit crowded, a few more hopefuls clambered aboard last week (and surely there are more to come) hoping to find their stockings filled when the appropriations committees open their bag later in the session. Requests included: \$27,527 for development of Pettigrew State Park partially as an historic site and partly for recreation; \$32,500 to C & D for a forest fire control airplane for the Rockingham District; \$205,000 for a library addition to Elizabeth City State College; \$850,000 for land acquisition at Western Carolina College; \$6,000 to restore Fort Butler in Cherokee County; and a Beaufort County request for \$2,675.22 in gasoline tax refunds lost due to tardy filing.

The Assembly's earlier action in raising its own subsistence allowance seems to have prompted a gold rush. Off for the Klondike this week are the General Assembly's employes (SB190), the trustees of the State Library (SB 208), and the

Dare County commissioners and board of education (HB 485 and 486). The last three noted bills would per substance allowances to the levels prescribed for state boards and commissions.

On the tax side, the week's take netted three new bills -- one to authorize sales tax refunds to sanitary districts (HB 418); another, to revise the inheritance tax laws affecting life insurance proceeds (HB 487); and a third to enlarge the list of oleomargarine ingredients not subject to the 10 cent per pound oleo tax (SB 211). Action on tax measures included an unfavorable report meted out by the Senate Finance Committee to the bill to allow taxpayers to credit overpayments of estimated income taxes against the following year's payments (SB 101).

MANUFACTURERS AND LABOR:

H. B. 100, Representative Henry Hill's bill to raise the state minimum wage from 85 cents to \$1 per hour, sailed through the House Thursday on a voice vote after encountering only scattered opposition and Friday cleared the Senate with equal ease.

In 1959 North Carolina became the first Southern state to adopt a minimum wage law, and the act has been expanded by each succeeding General Assembly. At present 33 other states have such laws, 21 of which provide for rates of \$1 per hour or more. In some of these jurisdictions, such as Alaska and New Jersey, the state act calls for higher wage than the \$1.25 an hour guaranteed by federal law for employes engaged in or producing goods for interstate commerce.

INDIAN TERRITORY:

Indian affairs, of little concern to most Eastern states, commanded unusual attention this week. On Tuesday a delegation of the Eastern Band of Cherokee appeared before a joint meeting of the wildlife committees, on the warpath against the Wildlife Resources Commission which seems to be asserting unwelcome jurisdiction over the hunting grounds. Their proposed bill, introduced earlier this session (SB 39), would vest jurisdiction over reservation hunting and fishing regulations in the federal government.

100 YEARS AGO

Lee's Line Breaks; Richmond Is Taken

Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia -- the thin, gray line that was the last hope of the Confederacy -- was broken wide open 100 years ago this month, never to be put back together again.

And when it broke, all that that the Confederacy had dreamed came to pass in swift succession: Petersburg, the last Confederate stronghold, fell to Ulysses S. Grant's assaults; Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, surrendered; and Lee's army reeled off in a stumbling march to the west as the fabric of the Confederacy unraveled.

The break came in a one-two-three attack by Grant's 120,000-man army in the closing days of March and the first days of April. Both presidents -- Jefferson Davis in Richmond and Abraham Lincoln at City Point just behind Grant's lines -- and a long roster of famous generals like Pickett, Longstreet, Meade and Sheridan were on hand for the kill.

Phil Sheridan with 13,000 cavalrymen opened the first part of the final Federal assault March 29 by wheeling behind Grant's lines at Petersburg to the southwest, turning and plunging into Lee's right flank toward Dinwiddie Court House.

Lee fought like a tiger to the last. He sent George Pickett -- the man who had led the famous charge at Gettysburg -- with 15,000 men to stop Sheridan's assault, leaving the rest of the Southern line dangerously weak.

Sheridan and Pickett tangled March 30 and 31 in the rain, and Lee's gamble began to pay off. Pickett stopped Sheridan, then began driving him back. But the odds were too great. A full corps re-enforced Sheridan, who renewed his assault next day, galloping down his line on his black horse, waving his hat in a manner that had made him famous. The men in blue went forward into the Battle of Five Forks, ripping Pickett's defenses to pieces. Suddenly Pickett's line was gone, 2,500 men having fallen in battle and another 4,500 gone as prisoners of war.

That was just the beginning. Grant knew Lee had weakened the rest of his line to stop

Sheridan, and now he, Grant, ordered his full army -- the whole mass of men that had been waiting for this day for nearly a year -- to sweep forward.

And forward they went all along the Petersburg line in the second part of the assault. The Confederates fought tooth and nail, but they were overwhelmed. First, the Federals broke through at a single point; then they broke through at another point, and then at another and another and another. Then they linked up, and the whole Petersburg line had caved in.

It was Sunday, April 2, and Jefferson Davis was in church in Richmond, when a messenger arrived with word of the disaster. Davis hurried from the church and that same afternoon left Richmond with his cabinet and the national archives on a special train for Danville, Va.

That afternoon, General Jubal Early's ragged army marched through the city to the west, and the word spread. Residents closed their doors and hurried from the city, bundles atop their heads. Smiling but bewildered Negroes came out onto the streets. Confederates set fire to factories to keep out the Federal hands, and the fire got out of hand; that night, the fire swept through the city destroying nearly half of it.

Beggars and bums and underworld characters appeared, as they always do in disaster, and looting began. Liquor was found and all that night riots and robbery continued, illuminated by the flames that ravaged the city.

Confederate Gen. Godfrey Wetzell surrendered the city to the Federals next day, and President Lincoln came in to see the place that he had been trying to capture these past four years. He visited Davis' home, sat in Davis' chair, and the North went wild with victory.

But Grant and Lee were not there. Lee stayed with his army, heading off to the west in hopes of getting provisions with which to keep the fight going. Grant was heading west too, hard on Lee's heels.

Next week: War Ends.