

# The News - Journal

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THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1969

"It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness"

## Fortas Commits A Foolish Error

Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas comes off looking bad in his relationship with the Wolfson Foundation, even though he returned \$20,000 that had come from the Foundation three months after his appointment to the court.

The Foundation is headed by Louis E. Wolfson, who was convicted of stock manipulation after the check was sent to Fortas. The sticky part of the whole business is that the \$20,000 apparently was deposited in Fortas' personal bank account and was not repaid until Wolfson had been indicted some 11 months later.

There is no evidence that Fortas offered legal advice to Wolfson or sought to intervene for him in the stock case. He says the money came to him "in the hope that I would find the time and could undertake consistent with my court obligations, research functions, studies and writings connected with the work of the Foundation."

Yet, five months or so after accepting the Wolfson Foundation check, Fortas visited Wolfson's horse farm in Florida. A former Wolfson associate said he was told that Fortas had been there to discuss the Securities and Exchange Commission's probe of Wolfson's stock dealings. Fortas says it was a meeting of the Wolfson Foundation.

Justice Fortas may be as pure as the

driven snow. But the best that can be said about the affair is that he did an extremely foolish thing. His acceptance last year of a \$15,000 American University lecture fee raised from a group of businessmen was in a gray ethical area, but there is hardly any way he can come out of the Wolfson business looking good.

Fortas evidently felt flattered by his Supreme Court appointment and took it in part to satisfy his own ego and to oblige an old political crony, President Lyndon B. Johnson. But the impression grows that he wasn't quite ready to give up all the income he was accustomed to getting from his lucrative law practice in Washington.

That conclusion may do an injustice to Fortas. It will have to do until there is a better explanation of why he held on to the fee until after the Wolfson indictment might have proved extremely embarrassing to him if revealed.

The incident reduces public confidence in Fortas and the court. Neither should have been placed in such a position.

Perhaps the time has come for him to resign from the bench and re-enter private practice, where he will not have to make such sharp accountability of his financial transactions.

-CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

## Youths Get The Message

The following remarks quote the statement made by a district judge to two youths convicted of a felony before passing sentence on them. The judge's lecture contains a message of such timeliness that we reprint it without additional editorial comment.

"You come from good homes, both of you. Yet now you have been convicted of a felony - a crime for which you may be sent to the penitentiary. In this case I do not have to send you to the penitentiary. I am permitted to give you a parole. But even if you never see the inside of a penitentiary or jail, you will not have escaped the penalties of your crime. The record of your conviction will be here as long as the courthouse stands. No amount of good conduct in the future can erase it.

"Next year, or 10 years from now or when you are old men if you are ever called to be a witness in any court of law, some lawyer will point his finger at you and ask: 'Have you ever been convicted of a felony?' You will hang your head and admit that you have, for if you deny it, the records of these proceedings will be asked for the sole purpose of casting doubt on your testimony. Convicted felons are not believed as readily as other persons.

"Someday you may have the chance to work in one of those expanding countries of South America, and you will apply for a passport. You may not get it. You might enter Canada for a fishing trip, but you would not be allowed to stay. No country will allow you to become a resident. Your world is much smaller than it was. Someday you may seek a position in the civil service of your state or nation. On the application blank you will find this question: 'Have you ever been convicted of a felony?' Your truthful answer will bar you from appointment. An untruthful answer will be detected because appointments are made only after investigation. The record is here to be found by anyone interested.

"In a few years you will be 21, and others your age will have the right to vote - but not you. You will be a citizen of your state and country, but you will have no voice in public affairs. Someday the governor may pardon you and restore your rights, but it is going to be

humiliating to ask him. He'll want to know your whole record. It is a bad one.

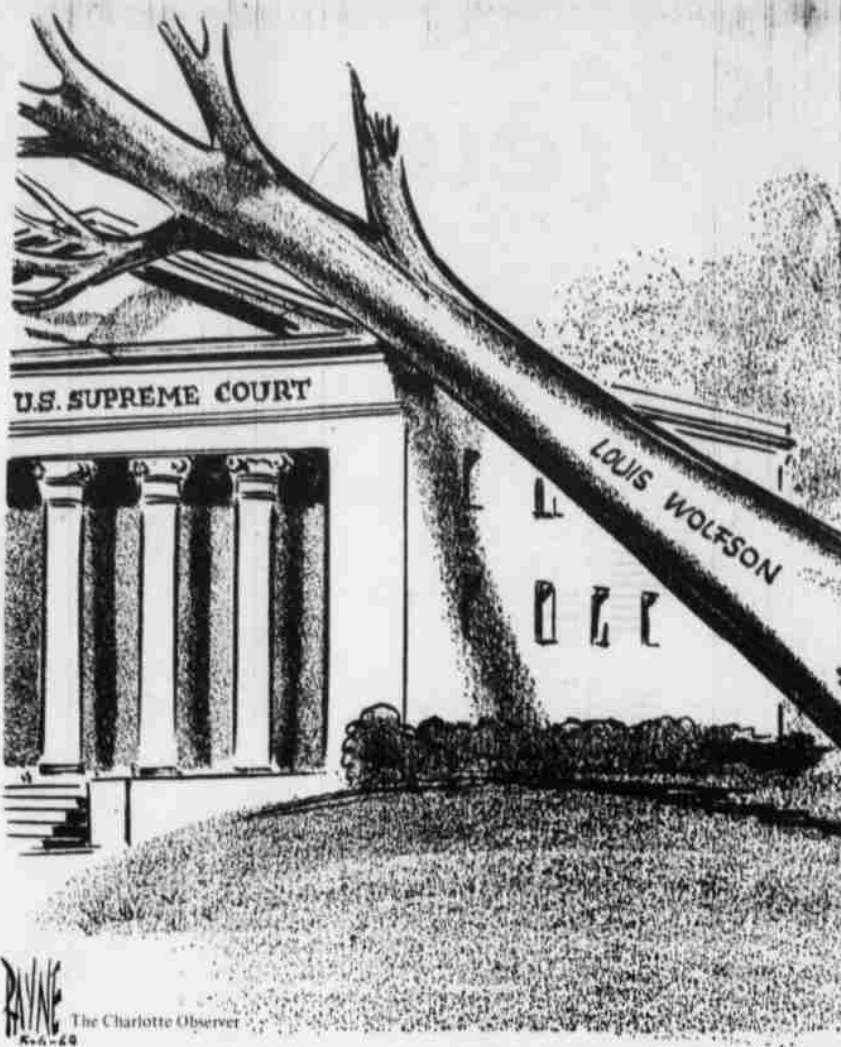
"I am granting you a parole. A parole is in no sense pardon. You will report to the men who have accepted your parole as often as they may ask. Your convenience is not a matter of importance. You will also obey your parents. If your parents send you to bed at nine o'clock, you will go without complaint. You will perform such tasks as are assigned to you. Your parole is a fragile thing. Should the slightest complaint of your conduct reach this court, your parole will be revoked immediately and you will begin serving your sentence. You will not be brought back here for questioning and/or explanations. You will be picked up and taken to prison - without notice to you and without delay."

-Fossil (Ore.) Journal as reprinted in The Christian Science Monitor

## What's Right?

Ross E. Harlan, utility executive, World War II Air Force veteran and an active leader in youth work, points out a few of the things that are right about America. Here are some of them: "For every Hell's Angels motorcycle gang, there are thousands of Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops and Camp Fire Girl groups. For every long-haired, uncouth, repulsive hoodlum, there are untold multitudes of decent, clean, upright young ladies and gentlemen who are the hope of the world. For every school dropout there are countless brilliant students who study infinitely harder than their parents did. For every crook in business, there are innumerable honorable and upright men who would go bankrupt before they would be dishonest. . . . For every draft card burner, there are thousands of young men . . . who are giving their last full measure of devotion in duty in far-off Viet Nam. This is what is right about America."

"Those who are demanding freedom from responsibility have yet to discover there is only freedom from the responsible." - Paul L. Fisher.



The Charlotte Observer

## YOU AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

By William Friday, President University of North Carolina



Within the next few weeks, the four campuses of the University of North Carolina will award degrees to a record-breaking group of 7,559 graduates.

Among the prospective graduates are 5,103 bachelor's degree candidates; 1,756 professional and master's candidates; 137 Ph.D. and other doctoral candidates; 67 doctors of medicine; 49 doctors of dental science; and 147 doctors of jurisprudence.

Included in the total of 7,559 degrees are 2,290 at N. C. State; 1,013 at the University at Chapel Hill; 930 at UNC-G; and 326 at the University at Charlotte.

N. C. State will award 1,701 bachelor's degrees, 451 master's and professional degrees, and 138 Ph.D. degrees.

The University at Chapel Hill will award 2,416 bachelor's degrees, 1,035 master's and professional degrees, and 299 Ph.D. and other doctoral degrees. In addition, there will be 67 doctors of medicine, 49 doctors of dental science, and 147 doctors of jurisprudence.

The University at Greensboro will award 660 bachelor's degrees and 270 master's degrees.

The University of Charlotte will award 326 bachelor's degrees and no graduate degrees.

### GRADUATION DATES

The dates of graduation for the campuses of the University are Saturday, May 31, for North Carolina State University at Raleigh; Monday, June 2, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Sunday, June 1, for the University of North Carolina campuses at Greensboro and Charlotte.

Among those participating in the commencement programs on our campuses will be Governor Robert W. Scott, Chancellor John T. Caldwell at Raleigh, Chancellor J. Carlyle Sitterson at Chapel Hill, Chancellor James T. Ferguson

at Greensboro, and Chancellor D. W. Colvard at Charlotte. I also look forward to participating in the graduation services on all four campuses and to extending my congratulations to the graduates.

The principal commencement speakers will be Republican Mark Hatfield of Oregon at North Carolina State; Dr. James Shannon of Washington, D. C., Special Adviser to the President of the National Academy, who will speak at Chapel Hill; Democratic Senator George McGovern of South Dakota at Greensboro; and Governor Scott, who will address the graduates at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

### GENERATES WEALTH

As I have said, the University is many things to this State, and particularly it is a generator of wealth. Its well trained graduates, its applied research, and its productive service all contribute to the economic growth of the State, region, and nation.

This impressive list of graduates in the spring of 1969 is another example of the endless procession of able young men and women who have gone from these campuses to creative and productive lives.

The first responsibility that institutions of higher learning, such as the University of North Carolina, have to the citizens of the State, has been and will continue to be the education of her men and women. We always remember that the overwhelming majority of students at State-supported colleges and universities are there to get a good undergraduate education. As this year's record demonstrates, the University intends to maintain and improve the strong undergraduate program it has always supported on its campuses and cooperatively to aid other institutions in strengthening their offerings.

### GRADUATE EDUCATION

Graduate and professional education are basic programs of the University, also. They are very expensive programs and in the future especially their necessity should be clearly demonstrated on educational grounds before they are instituted.

Within the University of North Carolina, graduate and professional programs must meet regular standards established by faculty committees on campuses before they are submitted to the Trustees of the University. This kind of analysis and this critical process are required to insure the quality of the program being proposed, that it is genuinely needed, and that the cost will not be prohibitive.

I know that you, as concerned citizens of North Carolina, join me in expressing pride in the fine young graduating students at the University's four campuses this year and look forward to their services in helping build an even greater State.

Since 1949 the Heart Association has channeled more than \$145 million into research. As a result of this research, it is estimated that 50,000 people live annually who would have otherwise died had not this research been carried on, states the North Carolina Heart Association.

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system accounted for over 1,010,812 deaths in 1966, the last year for which final figures are available, says the North Carolina Heart Association. Deaths from cancer for the same period were 303,736 or 16.3% of all deaths.

The overall death rate from cardiovascular disease has declined by 18.4% in the last 20 years for persons under age 65, states the North Carolina Heart Association.

## Just One Thing After Another

By Carl Goerch

By Carl Goerch

Miss Violet Alexander, former home demonstration agent for Beaufort County, tells this story:

Her old home is in Huntersville, North Carolina and that is where it all happened.

The pastor of the Baptist Church, conducting service one Sunday morning, saw a visiting minister, the Rev. Mr. Snipes, in the congregation. Following a time-honored custom, the pastor at the appropriate moment announced, "I will ask Brother Crane to lead us in prayer."

Heads bowed, but silence prevailed. L.H. Ranson, now living in Raleigh, but at that time resident in Huntersville, sensed the difficulty, leaned over and punched Mr. Snipes, whispering, "Go ahead, you're the bird he's talking about."

After service the pastor apologized to Brother Snipes for calling him Brother Crane. "I knew it was some sort of bird," he said.

At another time, though this was in Raleigh, I believe, there was a Mr. Crane in the congregation. Miss Alexander says, and E.B. Crow, who was teaching the Bible class, called on him to lead in prayer. Miss Crow was another teacher in the Sunday School, and Miss Alexander says her own teacher was Miss Birdsong.

But that's not all of it. Jimmy Ballentine, who was assistant county agent in Beaufort County at the same time Miss Alexander was there, was succeeded by Mr. Eagles. Miss Alexander went out to Old Ford school with him soon after he came, and introduced him to Mr. Sparrow, the principal of that school. Later she was at Aurora when Mr. Eagles went there, and she introduced him to Ned Hawks, teacher of agriculture. When he

went to Chocowinity school he met Miss Bird, who is on the faculty there. At Bath, Mr. Eagles met the principal, Gene Sipe - who just lacks one letter of making the story perfect.

Fifty years ago women wore hoopskirts, bustles, petticoats, corsets, cotton stockings, high button shoes; they did the cleaning, washing, ironing, mending, raised big families, went to church on Sundays, had never heard of appendicitis and were too busy to be sick.

Men wore whiskers, square hats, ascot ties, red flannel underwear, big watches and chains, chopped wood for the stove, bathed once a week, drank ten-cent whiskey and beer, rode bicycles, buggies and sleighs, went in for politics, worked twelve hours a day and lived to a ripe old age.

The store burned coal oil lamps, carried everything in stock from a needle to a plow, trusted everybody, never took an inventory and placed orders for years in advance.

But today women wear silk or no stockings, short skirts, no corsets an ounce of underwear, have bobbed hair, smoke, paint and powder, drink cocktails, play bridge, drive cars, have pet dogs and go in for politics.

Men have high blood pressure, wear no hats, are bald, play golf, bathe twice a day, drink poison, play the stock market, ride in airplanes, never go to bed the same day they get up, are misunderstood at home, work five hours a day and die young.

The stores have electric lights, cash registers and elevators, but never have in stock what the customer wants, trusts nobody, take inventory daily, never buy in advance, have overheard, mark down, mark up, quota, budget, advertise, control stock, have Annual, End-of-Month, Dollar-Day, Rummage, Founders' Day, Fire and Economy Day sales and never make any money.

## CLIFF BLUE . . . People & Issues



**SHORT BALLOT** - Thad Eure, longtime Secretary of State in North Carolina was 100 percent right last Thursday when he said before a legislative committee in opposing the proposed "short ballot" to cut down on the number of state officials to be elected by the people: "I may be deaf, but I don't think this proposal comes from the grassroots of this state."

Honest, plain-spoken Insurance Commissioner Ed Lanier had this to say about the "short ballot" proposal: "Bold, devious, selfish pressures are brought to bear on whoever occupies this office. For myself, I have trusted, I am trusting and will continue to trust the people's decision at the ballot box on whoever occupies this office."

Ed Lanier is a man who measures his words and when he says, "Bold, devious, selfish pressures are brought to bear on whoever occupies this office," you can bet your bottom dollar that it is not pressure from the people but pressure from "special interest" groups wanting to raise insurance rates. If the "short ballot" should be adopted as recommended by the study commission you can rest assured that automobile insurance - now high, will go much higher, and that the automobile owners in North Carolina will be paying millions upon millions of dollars more in auto liability and collision insurance.

When the people elect the commissioner of insurance - whether he be Edwin Lanier or someone else - he can look to the people to uphold him at the polls when he makes just decisions and does what is right for it is the people and not "special interest" groups who outnumber at the ballot box.

Those who would take away from the people their right to elect the Secretary of State, Secretary of Agriculture, Commissioner of Labor and the Commissioner of Insurance deserve a rebuff from the responsible members of the General Assembly.

**JIM GARDNER** - Jim Gardner says that he is through with politics, and we guess he means what he is saying. However, we remember that after Dick Nixon was defeated for governor of California in 1962 that he blasted the press saying that it was his last press conference.

## Puppy Creek Philosopher



Dear editor:

I found this newspaper on the floorboard of my car after I'd taken it in to have some repair work done - some people say they don't make cars like they used to but I don't know about that. My 1946 model can burn out a tail pipe just as fast as these new ones - and to get my mind off the repair bill I sat down and read it.

The thing that caught my eye was an article about how many new cars have been called back in on account of defective parts.

It's not just lower-priced or mass-produced models but all kinds, all the way up to Rolls-Royce. When the manufacturer discovers some models have gotten out to the public with defective parts, he

calls them back in for correction.

I have been thinking about this and it has suddenly occurred to me: why can't we use this system on people?

Right now there must be a good many parents all over the nation who'd like to call back their college kids to see if they can correct the defective parts. Obviously they weren't ready to come off the assembly line.

And it's not just college students. You run into people in all walks of life with defects clearly demanding a recall. There are even college presidents whose main springs seem to be understrength, and you'll find a college professor here and there whose muffler has fallen off and his motor hitting on only two cylinders, some even who have blown a

head gasket, as well as politicians needing new carburetors, not to mention others so antiquated they can no longer pass a safety inspection and ought to be taken off the road, but not stored in Congress.

Unfortunately, the car manufacturers have the edge on the rest of us. When they recall a car they have a place to fix it in. Where's the garage that can handle a college kid?

On the other hand, while I don't have the figures, I estimate there are more cars than kids with defects. The current models may not be improved much, but they're just as good as the ones produced over the last 1000 years.

Yours faithfully,  
J.A.