

The News - Journal



Published Every Thursday at Raeford, N. C. 28376
119 W. Elwood Avenue
Subscription Rates In Advance
Per Year - \$4.00 6 Months - \$2.25 3 Months - \$1.25

PAUL DICKSON Publisher-Editor
SAM C. MORRIS General Manager
LAURIE TELFAIR Reporter
MRS. PAUL DICKSON Society Editor

Second-Class Postage Paid at Raeford, N. C.
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"It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness"

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1970

Kent State: action needed here

The horror of the whole country at the waste of young life which occurred at Kent State University in Ohio this week is so great as to be almost numbing in its effect. Most of us are still in a state of shock that such a thing could happen here. We had thought this could only happen in the backward, relatively undeveloped, politically unstable countries of this world. How many times have we leaned back to read of violent student confrontations with militia and police in other parts of the world, (or watch them in news reports) and reflected that we are sure glad such cannot and does not happen here? Most of us at least once, certainly.

And now it has happened here. We need to realize, and quickly, that there is little difference between the students at Kent State and our own sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and cousins, and that Kent could just as easily have been Greenville, Raleigh, Boone, Fayetteville, or Chapel Hill.

We might also stop and realize that this shooting was done by no battle-hardened troops, but by boys generally the same age as the students, with generally the same points of view about things, with the same hopes and fears and morals and home backgrounds.

Under no circumstances, ever, can the shooting in any sense be justified, but if we will consider the ages of those involved, and the fact that the 500 students were aggressive and the 50 National Guardsmen had loaded weapons, we can imagine a cornered

animal state of mind developing, and we know that in a corner any animal will fight with whatever weapon is at hand.

Of course, we don't know just what happened, and with hundreds of accounts to be heard and reviewed it is probable we will never know, for each person saw it through a different set of eyes, and a little differently from anyone else.

The responsibility of public officials at all levels of our government to look deeply into this affair and to take steps to prevent more such confrontations is obvious to us all, and we are confident that all responsible officials in our country are giving the matter their deepest consideration at this very moment.

Our concern in this discussion, however, is not with the responsibility of our government and our officials in Washington and Raleigh and the courthouse, but with our individual responsibilities, here in Raeford and Hoke County, to our sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and cousins who may go off to Harvard or Pembroke or Sandhills or Buie's Creek.

Some way we must get them the message that what made this country great is the fact that we settle our issues at the ballot box and in our legislative halls, and with reason, and that men of reason do not resort to violence to settle issues. Issues violently resolved are never permanently settled, anyway.

We really need to get with it, here and now.

Hoke County politics

White politicians and candidates learned something long ago which may have come home to some non-white candidates in Hoke County in last Saturday's primary.

In a primary for a local office a few years ago one of the candidates for the several vacancies approached another with the proposition that they run and advertise together, asking all who voted for one to vote for the other. The second fellow would have no part of it, and he happened to win, and the other fellow lost.

The moral, apparently, would be to run on your own merits, and drag no one along on your coattails. The other fellow's enemies may be willing to vote for you unless they think you are too closely associated with him. . . . And so on; you can develop the idea for yourself.

We feel that some of the non-white candidates in last Saturday's voting were well qualified for the offices they sought, and we would say nothing better about the white candidates seeking the same offices. Faced with the fact that the non-whites ran as a group,

however, and with the fact that the general word to non-white voters was to vote for the non-whites and not for the whites, old Whitey found himself with little choice but to follow the same course.

We think this is bad, and hope that it goes no further. Black and Indian people don't have to be against white people to get the representation they should have, and we are not asking for Uncle Toms, either. We simply feel that if a person feels qualified to hold an office and wants to seek it, he or she should simply say just this to friends and public and ask for votes.

It is our conviction that the general public, the average voter, is fair-minded, perhaps more than he will freely admit, and that when the other considerations are eliminated the best qualified persons will get the votes, from blacks, whites and Indians, with race being a minor, and eventually non-existent consideration.

For the best interest of us all, this is the way we must go, and we have two years now to be thinking about it.

Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

30 years ago

May 2, 1940
Deaths reported in this issue included John A. McDiarmid, Angus Z. Currie, Senator Fumiford M. Simmons, and George Thompson.

Judge W.B. McQueen presided over an unusually long session of Hoke County recorder's court Tuesday, with most cases involving traffic and prohibition law violations.

James Gordon Currie, senior of Raeford, was one of twelve Davidson College campus leaders recently inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, national honorship fraternity.

J.B. Thomas, chairman of

the Hoke County Democratic Executive Committee, urged Democrats to attend precinct meetings on Saturday, May 4.

Mrs. Ina T. Lentz advertised two fresh young milch cows at \$60 each.

James Baker and John K. McNeill, Jr., students at Louisburg College, spent the weekend at home.

Nash Andrews of Charlotte spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D.P. Andrews.

Bob Covington reports that New York probably has more salesmen per square foot than any city in the world.

15 years ago

John McLaughlin of Raeford, son of Mrs. H.C. McLaughlin of Raeford, has been elected vice-president of the 1956 Senior Class at Davidson College.

285 of the town's 875 registered voters returned Mayor Alfred Cole and the entire board of commissioners to office in Monday's town election. Sam Morris, Frank Culbreth and Julian B. McKeithan also ran.

County commissioners accepted the resignation of H.M. Meeks as rural policeman at their meeting Monday and employed Lawrence Stanton to replace him.



THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

Children And Merchants Will Honor Mother Sunday

By Laurie Telfair

Sunday many of us will celebrate Mother's Day, with an array of candy, flowers, pins, necklaces and other articles of adornment and attire - often in the wrong size. A few of us won't celebrate Mother's Day and then feel guilty because we forgot it. And then there are some who

Mother's Day was first suggested in 1907 by a Miss Anna Jarvis at a public meeting in Philadelphia, Pa. She suggested honoring mothers on the second Sunday in May by the wearing of a carnation - pink for a living mother and white for a mother who has died.

The idea was adopted and the first Mother's Day was observed in Philadelphia on May 10, 1908. Six years later, Woodrow Wilson, showing perhaps a politician's traditional honor to motherhood, proclaimed the event as a national observance.

Other countries now celebrate Mother's Day. In Mexico it lasts for two days. Of course the holiday has come a long way from just the wearing of carnations to honor one's mother. As with George Washington's birthday and some of the religious holidays, the merchants knew a good thing when they saw it, and Mother's Day has become the occasion for another round of elaborate spending.

Mother's Day has always been rather low-key around our house. For one thing, I can think of at least two golf tournaments that were scheduled for the second Sunday of May, which, of course, left mother home to baby-sit two small children.

Perhaps the best Mother's Day I have had was last year when I dragged my unwilling family 250 miles to a dog show. They all hate dog shows but, out of respect for the holiday, went anyway. And our dog came through with his

first trophy, second place, and the finishing score needed for his obedience degree.

That is the last dog show I've gotten my family out to however.

In addition to Mother's Day, there are several other family holidays. Fathers come in for their share in June in an observance that originated in Spokane, Washington in the same year as Mother's Day, 1908. Fatherhood doesn't have quite the emotional appeal to politicians however that mothers do, so it was not until 1924 that Calvin Coolidge made it a national event. Roses are the Father's Day flower.

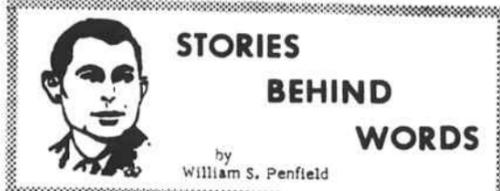
An old observance in the Church of England is Mothering Sunday, at which time children brought gifts to the church in which they were baptized. Children who were away from home were expected to visit their parents then and usually brought a gift of the traditional rich plum cake, called simnel cake. The day is still observed in some parts of England, so the Book of Knowledge says.

In Japan, they celebrate two days for the children, Feast of Dolls on March 3 and

Children's Day on May 5. The Feast of the Dolls features a display of heirloom dolls depicting the members of the emperor's court. The dolls are very valuable and are shown only on that one day. On Children's Day, which originally was for boys only, each boy child flies a banner shaped like a carp from a pole set in the garden. The fish has an open mouth so that the banner will puff up like a wind sock. The carp signifies determination and strength to the Japanese.

In India, brothers honor their sisters on Sister's Day, held in August. On that day, called Raksha Banham Day, brothers give gifts to their sisters. Raksha Banham means tie protection and on that day the sister ties a scarf made of silk, with pearls and threads of silver and gold through it, around her brother's waist for protection.

Perhaps, with the current concern over the population explosion, we'll be adding a new holiday to honor all women who have not become mothers that year. Would anyone like to suggest a name for the day?



STORIES BEHIND WORDS

by William S. Penfield

STOICAL

About 300 B.C., Zeno, a native of Cyprus, founded a school of philosophy in Athens, Greece.

The meeting place of Zeno and his students was a porch on the north side of the Athens market place. The porch was called a "stoa" in Greek, and because they met there, the members of the new school of philosophy were called "Stoics."

The basic teaching of Stoicism was that virtue is the supreme end in life.

Another of its teachings was that one should be free from passion, no matter what the circumstances. From the latter teaching came the word "stoical," meaning like a Stoic - showing no emotion.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear Editor:
I have long known that a farmer, needing a rain, has to be careful where he says so out loud. His neighbor may still be planting and get mad about it, which underscores a sort of unwritten belief that wishing has something to do with the weather.
Of course farmers are just going on, but, I have found out, this isn't true of economists.
According to an article I read in a newspaper last night, some of the nation's leading economists are trying to wish inflation away. One of them, lighting his pipe with a match from a penny box of matches now costing 2 cents, said "the economy should emerge from the current dip on a path of

sustainable growth, with inflation on the wane."
What this means is that if things pick up he was right and if they don't let's talk about something else.
But about the best statement came from another economist who said: "The peak of inflation is past and prices soon will be rising more slowly."
That's a statement worth picking up in your hand and rolling around and looking at more closely.
If inflation is ending because prices, while still rising, aren't rising as fast as they did yesterday, that's like saying we're getting closer to dry weather because it didn't rain as much this week as it did last week. It's like a fat man's

saying his diet is working because he gained two pounds less this month than the month before. It's like a lawyer's feeling good because he got his client 99 years instead of life. It's like a college student's teaching the administration a lesson in literature by burning down the library. It's like saying automobile pollution is lessening because we're having more wrecks.
I don't see why the economists don't abandon all their theories, get down to bedrock and state flat-footedly that rising prices cause inflation and that unarguably inflation produces rising prices and let's hope the weather is better tomorrow.
Yours faithfully,
J.A.

Just One Thing After Another

By Carl Goerch

There have been many unusual cases tried before the North Carolina Supreme Court, but how about the one tried in Vance County in 1900, when a man was put out of the church for having voted the Democratic ticket? He indicated the officials of the church for expelling him for violating the law against the intimidation of voters.

The Supreme Court upheld the action of the church and in its opinion stated that while the man may have felt mortified or humiliated, "he suffered no loss of property or gain, nor was he in any way restrained of his liberty or otherwise controlled in the exercise of his personal conduct."

Practically everyone who has ever visited Blowing Rock has heard - if not actually tested out - the legend that an article thrown over the "Rock" will be blown back. The famous rock, however, has been found to possess even more mysterious powers than formerly believed.

Jan Demies of Charleston, who was "summering" at the popular resort, threw a postcard addressed to himself from the rock to the 800-foot gulf below, to prove to two skeptics that the rock really does have magic powers.

The postcard came back, but in an unusual and unexpected manner. It first traveled to his home address in Charleston, then to a forwarding address in a North Carolina town and finally reaching him at his Blowing Rock Hotel.

horseraces, and in addition to that owned a string of horses. At the track one day he ran up with a rural friend from Tennessee and was so glad to see the fellow that he gave him a tip on one of his own horses that was to run that day. The Tennessean went off for a few minutes and when he came back to the grandstand he told Wilson he had bet every cent he had in the world on Wilson's horse. He had never bet on a race before and had never even seen a horse race, but he was keyed up over this one. He could hardly keep still.

The race started and Wilson's horse and another took the lead at once, neck to neck. They kept abreast of each other all the way. The Tennessee chap was in a cold sweat. His eyes bulged, his hands quivered, his breath came in short gasps. Neck and neck the two horses swung into the last lap. About eight feet from the goal the rival horse gave a convulsive leap and won by half a nose from the Wilson horse.

The Tennessean fell back in his seat, feeling of himself with his hands - first his neck, then his sides, then his head.

"Was it much of a shock to you?" asked Wilson, with concern.

"Shock?" exclaimed the loser. "I ain't been all over myself yet, but as far as I've gone here's what's happened to me: my watch is stopped, my suspenders is busted, and my glass eye is cracked right through the center!"

Somebody told us the other day about the elderly lady riding in a taxicab in New York. The driver was making turns on two wheels. Finally she couldn't stand it any longer and hollered out: "Quit that, driver; I'm so nervous I don't know what to do when you go around the corners so fast!" He yelled back at her: "Do as I do, lady; close your eyes."

CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues

NIXON & VIETNAM - President Johnson's handling of the Vietnam war created a great gap between the Texan and the people which caused Johnson to decline to run for another term rather than face a strong possibility of defeat at the polls.

We feel that up until last week the American people, a majority of them at least, have been behind Nixon and his plan to disengage and deescalate America's participation in the "uncivil" Vietnam war. We seriously doubt that his new move into Cambodia will have the support of the American people and we doubt that it will help the USA out of the Vietnam mess into which we should never have been led.

Vietnam may be Nixon's Waterloo just as it was for President Johnson.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY - We have long felt that North Carolina citizens should have a better system to express themselves in the selection of presidential nominees than the out-moded convention method too long in use.

We hope that the Democratic Study Commission will come up for either a presidential preferential primary or the direct election of the delegates by the people.

It might be that a combination of a state-wide presidential primary and the selection of delegates by both district and state conventions would be a good course to take - or at least to consider seriously.

TED KENNEDY - If Ted Kennedy can pull himself out of his questioned conduct during and after the drowning of Mary Jo Kopechne he will be staging about as big a comeback as Richard Nixon did after his defeat for governor of California which carried him to the white house. Judge James A. Boyle's comments on the episode following the release of the long delayed inquest will cause millions of people to question in their minds Ted Kennedy's conduct more than ever before.

After reading the inquest report and Judge Boyle's comments many people will feel that the Massachusetts United States Senator has gotten off much lighter than

had he been an average citizen. STOCK MARKET - During the "great depression" which started with the stock market crash in 1929 and which did not really fade out completely until World War II got underway, people were told time and again by government spokesmen in Washington that prosperity was "just around the corner."

Many people have been thinking that a rebound of the stock market was "just around the corner," but like the "great depression" of the 1930's it seems like some people may get a crick in their necks trying to see what is really "around the corner."

In recent years many of the experts have said that common stocks in the blue chip companies were a pretty solid hedge against inflation, and this seemed to make sound reasoning until recently. Now, however, the downward trend of the blue chips along with most all types of stocks has sent this type thinking to the corner.

It reminds us of the saying: All signs fail in dry weather.

JIM GARDNER - Some people keep saying that Jim Gardner will be the GOP candidate for governor in 1972. Word is that his inside supporters are laying plans for a 1972 "draft." We hear people talking about "drafts" but few real "drafts" take place without the blessing of the proposed draftee.

PRIMARY RESULTS - There were not many upsets in last Saturday's primary elections.

Congressman Alton Lennon won renomination over young Charlie Rose III by a comfortable lead in the seventh district. Judge Fred Hedrick of the State Court of Appeals also won renomination by a comfortable lead over Superior Court Judge Harry Martin of Asheville. The incumbency of both Lennon and Hedrick were powerful factors in the victories. Other things being equal, it helps a lot to be an incumbent!

Taxes were an issue in several House and Senate races, and it could have been a major factor where the incumbents lost out.