

# The News - Journal

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1970

## SALT's good savor

The high-level hopefulness of this summer continues. The Middle Eastern peace effort continues to inch forward, despite some late jabs over alleged cease-fire violations. Russia and West Germany have signed a historic peace-pointing pact. And now the American-Soviet Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) have completed their second phase with both sides agreeing that encouraging progress is being made.

Each of these events is highly important in and of itself. But more important still is the atmosphere which they reveal, and without which no such progress would be underway. True, the world is not about to step into the diplomatic millennium. Yet it is not

only justified, but actually helpful, that we recognize the good which is being achieved and the pathways to further improvement which are being opened.

There is perhaps nothing on earth which would bring a deeper or more heartfelt sigh of universal relief than to have the world's two mightiest military powers sign an arms limitation agreement. This would lift from mankind's mind part of the terrible, threatening shadow which has lain so heavily upon it. It could have especially beneficial effects among young people, part of whose present restlessness and discontent comes from living in a nuclearly uncertain world. When SALT reconvenes on November 2 in Helsinki this progress must go on.

## Disarming opportunists

An economist who has served the government in various capacities has developed a new concept of tabulating unemployment statistics. It starts with the fact that there is a sizeable group of persons, largely women and teen-agers, who move in and out of the labor force according to the availability of jobs. This "labor reserve", as it is called, is not officially looking for work and does not represent "hardship" unemployed for the most part. The statistics are adjusted for the movement of this

group, as well as for other factors such as the age and sex composition of the population.

Applied to the current jobless picture, this new procedure shows that unemployment is not as severe as the statistics show. Regardless of what method is used, more accurate unemployment information would go far toward disarming the opportunistic politician who seizes upon an exaggerated jobless rate to make political hay with the voters.

## Pitfalls of direct election

As proposals for change in the methods of electing a man to fill the highest office in the land come under closer scrutiny, the faults of the Electoral College diminish by comparison. For example upon investigation, the merits of direct election of a President as provided in the Bayh amendment now before Congress prove highly specious as numerous students of government and the law point out.

For one thing, direct election of a President could lead to numerous splinter parties and the weakening of the two-party system which has given stability to our Republic and its constitutional government ever since its founding. In addition to weakening the two-party system, direct election of a President could create massive problems of recounting close elections - problems that might prove disastrous to the

elective process.

In contrast to the Electoral College system, under which vote counting disputes are limited to individual states, direct national election of a President would open a Pandora's box of probable abuses that chill legal scholars method: "To enforce honest vote-counting in all the nation's 170,000 precincts, national policing becomes necessary. So, too, do uniform federal laws on voter qualifications. Residence requirements, too, must be made uniform in all states. The centralization required branches all American tradition."

The more one studies the alternatives for 200 years, the more the wisdom of our forefathers become apparent. There are many pitfalls in the path of liberty and self-government. Studies are showing that direct election of the President of the United States is one of them.

## Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

25 Years Ago

August 23, 1945

Mr. and Mrs. H.B. Nixon have received word that their son, Douglas, seaman first class of the Navy, has returned to the U.S. after several months in the South Pacific. They have also been notified of the safe arrival of another son, Pvt. James Nixon, somewhere in the Pacific.

Manager J.C. McKinnon of Edinburg Cotton Mills here said this week that the plant was starting to turn out yarn for civilian instead of military use. For most of the time since 1941 the plant's entire production has been for military use.

Once the high school football team from Red Oak high school, Wayne County, came here for a game, and the score was 84 to 0. It was a pretty good team, too, but they kept from scoring. Alfred Cole made a touchdown from the first kickoff. — Paragraph from "Poole's Medley."

Pvt. Otis Webb has been spending a furlough with his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Webb of Timberland.

15 Years Ago

August 18, 1955

The Rev. L.A. McClain, first pastor of Raeford Presbyterian Church, preached at the homecoming at Bethel Presbyterian Church last Sunday, as he did for the one 54 years ago. Mr. McClain, 85, was a guest of his old friend Wallace McLean, 83, while he was here. While Bethel Church is somewhere between 160 and 180 years old, the building is 100 this year.

A wage increase of five cents an hour has been announced for employees of Amerontron Corporation in this area by Frank Roberts, vice president.

Judge T.O. Moses this week sent a young defendant to the roads for a year for biting off his girl friend's ear. She bought the ear to court as evidence.



## Zane Grey's Western Tales Put Women In Their Place

By Laurie Telfair

I found an entire shelf of Zane Grey novels in the library and it was like meeting old friends from childhood.

Zane Grey wrote 58 Western novels, all with a similar plot and cast of characters, but all, to a true Grey fan, spellbinding in their tales of romance and triumph by the hero and smpiring worship by the heroine. It would probably turn the stomach of a modern feminist, as the women in Grey's books were definitely kept in their place. Usually they would have a try at dominating their men and then find out that they were much happier being dominated. Grey also took a few shots at the feminists of the 1920's and proved, in every instance, that woman's place was always one step behind the man.

It didn't matter though. His heroes were dashing, and always handsome in a rugged way; his heroines were beautiful; and good and truth always prevailed.

"It is difficult to imagine any writer having less merit in either style or substance than Grey and still maintaining an audience," a critic wrote. "He brought about the vicarious wish fulfillment of millions of sedentary workers in the office of warrens of cities and industrial towns."

He was a good story-teller, even if the story was always the same. And he had an eye for the beauty of the western scenery that he put in each book. That, alone, was sometimes worth more than anything else in the book. Grey began his career as a dentist in New York but after four years of working at a practice, he quit to try writing full-time.

His first book, which has always been my favorite, was a historical tale based on the life of his grandmother, Betty Zane. No publisher would print it, so in 1904, he turned to the vanity press and had it printed himself.

His next novel, "The Last of the Plainsmen," in 1908 was also turned down but two years later, a book, "The Heritage of the Desert," was accepted. In 1912, he published "Riders of the Purple Sage," which sold over a million copies in the first printing and another 800,000 in later printings.

He sold over 17 million copies of his Westerns, writing 25 novels in 20 years. After the success of his novels, he turned to non-fiction, writing five boy's books and eleven out-door books. He was an ardent fisherman, and many of his

stories, both fiction and non-fiction, featured fishing. His last book, in fact, was "An American Angler in Australia."

A few of his books were published after his death in 1939. While in the library, I found one that I haven't read - I've read most of his fiction, going down the list about five books a week until at last, unhappily, I had exhausted the supply and had to re-read some of my favorites while I cast about for another author from whom I would receive as much pleasure as I had from the Western romances of Zane Grey. I approach this latest book with some misgiving and a feeling that maybe I ought to return it to the library unread. Like going home again, going back to books of years ago may bring more disappointment than pleasure. Or worse than that, it may be boring.



### STORIES BEHIND WORDS

by William S. Penfield

CAVIAR TO THE GENERAL

"General" in the phrase "caviar to the general" does not refer to a military officer. In this sense it denotes the masses or multitude, the general public.

The phrase comes from Shakespeare's "Hamlet." Hamlet says of a play "twas caviar to the general." Caviar is the preserved and salted roe, or eggs, of the sturgeon and is eaten as a relish.

The generally has to acquire a taste for caviar. Since it is expensive, the common man doesn't have the opportunity to acquire the taste. Something that is "caviar to the general," therefore, is above the comprehension or taste of the ordinary person.

## Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

According to all the newspapers that have turned up out here on this Bermuda grass farm lately, the annual squabble is now going on in Congress over government payments to farmers, some people wanting to limit the payments more, others wanting to wipe them out completely.

Personally I have never objected to paying farmers for not growing anything, we pay Congressmen and Legislators for not passing bills, don't we, but since the idea rubs some city people the wrong way I have worked out a new idea that ought to satisfy everybody.

Instead of paying us farmers for not producing certain things the government would instead pay us for producing something every city man can't get enough of.

And what's that? It's OXYGEN. Everybody knows that oxygen is produced by plants,

crops, grass, weeds, brush, trees, etc.

Everybody knows that the average city doesn't produce a fraction of the oxygen it needs. Paved streets and crowded tall buildings just don't produce the stuff. Let the wind stop blowing and a mass of dead air settles over the city like New York say and in 30 minutes the people are choking for air. It gets so bad doctors urge the people not to exercise and parents, lest they use up more oxygen than the room has to spare, are afraid to shout at their children.

Where would the cities be without us oxygen-producing farmers? It's something they've never thought about.

Why I've had city people come out here to this Bermuda grass farm and criticize the amount of weeds on the place, little knowing in their ignorance that one acre of my weeds might be the margin between their breathing and kicking the bucket.

All right. Cut out all the subsidies to farmers, everybody knows food now comes from the supermarket anyhow, but pay them for supplying oxygen to a short-winded nation. I don't know how the Agriculture Department will figure the price, but I know this one Bermuda grass farm produces enough oxygen for at least 25 city blocks, and depending on the city, that's anywhere from 1000 people to 50,000. Call it 25,000 in round numbers. Any city man in his right mind would pay a dollar a year for his oxygen and that comes to, let's see, \$25,000 a year. In advance, of course. With their crime rate, too many of them aren't good credit risks.

And I'll guarantee to deliver this oxygen to them via upper air currents in its original pure, breathable state. What they do with it after it crosses their city limits is none of my affair.



Yours faithfully, J.A.

## Just One Thing After Another

By Carl Goerch

Some time ago we mentioned having read about an old hotel that was in operation in 1888 in Charleston, N.C. We expressed curiosity as to its location.

This curiosity was satisfied as the result of a card which was received from Francis B. Hays a few days ago. He said:

"Swain County was established in 1871, with Charleston as the county seat. Some years later the name of Charleston was changed to Bryson City, in honor of Col. Thad D. Bryson, one of the 'fathers' of the county."

What is the longest day of the year? A couple of weeks ago we said that it was June 22, but now comes the following comment from A. Andrews of Mount Olive.

"Some text books say that June 21 is the longest, and some say that June 22 is. However, if you will check with the Naval Observatory, I believe you will find that in this part of the United States the two days are exactly equal in length."

R. A. Deaton of Guilford County wants to know the longest "native" family name in North Carolina. So far as we know, it is either Laughinghouse or Skittlethorpe, both of which have 13 letters. Another one that comes to mind is Satterthwaite, which likewise has 13 letters.

A sign alleged to be hanging in the office of a Cleveland, Ohio, sales manager:

"Confucius say: 'Salesman who cover chair instead of territory always on bottom.'"  
And one more:  
"Anyone who thinks by the inch and talks by the yard should be moved by the foot."

There is a story about a lady and Lord Northcliffe, the famous newspaper man, which most of us would do well to commit to memory. The substance of it, at least. So many of us read about famous men and women and envy them their gifts, or their wealth, or whatever it is that makes them famous. Too often we fail to think of what lies behind the reputation.

At a formal dinner one-day a lady said to Lord Northcliffe, seated beside her:

"Thackeray awoke one morning and found himself basking in fame."

"When that morning dawned," Lord Northcliffe replied, "Thackeray had been writing eight hours a day for fifteen years. The man who wakes up and finds himself famous, madam, has not been asleep."

Of course, everybody knows that Virginia Dare was the first female white child born in North Carolina and in America but how many do you suppose know the name of the first male child born of white parents in the state?

His surname was Harvie though he had not received a given name when White left North Carolina on his second trip to England. He was the son of Dionis and Margery Harvie and born only a few months after Virginia Dare.

## CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues

LUAU...From a Democratic convention where the liberals appeared to be in the majority, the Governor's Luau at Wrightsville Beach on Sept. 5 will have as its keynote speaker a governor from the "Old South" - John J. McKeithen.

McKeithen has ties in North Carolina dating back to 1936-38 when he was a student at High Point College. Afterwards, the Louisiana chief received his A.B. and Law Degrees from Louisiana State University. McKeithen, who is now serving his second term as Governor of Louisiana, has hinted towards a Third Party in 1972, and he could be the successor to George Wallace as head of the American Party in 1972. A strong man in Louisiana when re-elected in 1968 he became the first man in this century to serve two consecutive terms as Governor of the State.

First a state representative for a couple of terms, he was an unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant governor in 1952, but in 1954 made a come-back to be elected to the Public Service Commission, a position to be held until his election as governor in 1964.

STUDY COMMISSION...The Democratic Party's Study Commission will hold its final meeting at the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh on Friday and Saturday, August 21-22. Chief topic for decision will be that of a Presidential Primary and Delegate Selection to the National Convention.

Chairman Jim Hunt says that he is personally convinced that the precinct meetings should be moved up into May and that they should be held on a Tuesday night throughout the State.

COURTS...We hear considerable talk reforming or modernizing the court system. North Carolina has recently revamped its court system with many of the counties already under the new plan and other slated to come into the system in December 1970.

We feel that long drawn-out trials with this questions being repeated again and again with the trials running into weeks and months in many instances is an abuse of the judicial system. We feel that many trials could well be shortened and at the same time serve justice just as well if not better. We are not thinking of containing any evidence necessary for a just verdict - we just have in mind getting along

in an orderly and expedient manner without necessary delays.

WELFARE...We are in agreement with Governor Scott about the public welfare program.

If the Federal Government is going to lay down the rules and have the final say about how the welfare program is to be run it seems that the best thing to do is to turn the whole program over to Washington. We have been hearing talk about giving more funds and responsibility to the states but we have long heard that the proof of the pudding was in the eating and the eating computer seems to grind out a different answer - that the grind is not towards more local authority.

With local control having slipped away why should the county commissioners and the state legislatures be saddled with the program when the authority is in Washington?

In a civilized and Christian nation like the United States we must provide proper food, shelter, clothing and medical services for the individuals who are unable to care for themselves - the aged, blind, disabled and the very young. However, we doubt that we can solve the social problems of this nation by guaranteeing able-bodied individuals a decent standard of living without work. It would seem that the chief trust of any reform should be directed towards providing job training for the unskilled individuals who are able to work.

On-the-job-training with the employer paying the major part, but less than the minimum wage with the government supplementing would probably come nearer ending up with the man having a job than any other way.

Yes, job-training and job-placement should be the main thrust in a program to help many who need helping who are well and able to work. For the unskilled and the untrained today the road is rocky and hard to travel. For these people, on-the-job-training could be and should be the answer.

Geared Powders

Metal powders of nickel and iron are used to make strong light and intricately shaped gears for small engines. The gears are formed by compression and heat.