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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1970

## A true alerting?

The Nixon administration's second inflation alert was an interesting exercise. It targeted the UAW-GM wage pact as the most inflationary action of recent weeks. It also singled out the 6.7 percent boost in auto prices, and unseemly increases in costs for gasoline, oil, coal and electric power.

Not much in it was news. Official monthly cost-of-living reports provide much the same statistical service. And the "alert" again has come after the fact. It seems sensible that if the administration wants to use its alerts to modify inflationary wage-price decisions, it should do so before such decisions are made.

But the real reason for the alert's failure to stir more response than a rebuff from organized labor, is that other economic events in the past week seem to be more decisive for the future.

The prime rate, for instance, was lowered again by the Federal Reserve Board. This, economists point out, was not so much a case of the government's leading interest rates lower as it was of following the money market conditions down. But the effect bears out hope for lower borrowing rates. Although auto loan rates and retail buying won't be helped much by the downtrend, housing and small business should benefit. Government housing loan rates, on Tuesday, also followed the rate trend downward.

At the same time, it was learned that the government had been expanding the money supply at a faster pace than had

been thought. The federal budgets for this year and next were estimated to carry deficits totaling perhaps \$30 billion. All this spells expansion. And the general view among economists is that this final quarter of 1970 will mark the end of the recession. Unemployment will still be getting worse next year, however, since it takes a while to catch up with economic growth.

The inflation alert has thus lost the stage to other areas of the administration's initiative. How expansionary will the President's budget proposal, now in the works, be next January? Will he increase five-fold, to \$25 billion, his plan for revenue sharing with the states? Will he listen to those advisers urging an 8 percent growth rate next year, to get the best economic picture possible for the 1972 election?

But this bypassing of the alert begs an important question. Is it so utterly naive to think it possible to get labor and business and government to agree to a range of acceptable wage and price increases? Must we try to bash the selfish inflationary impulses out of the heads of the labor-business-government antagonists with recessionary slowdowns and unemployment?

It is the administration's responsibility, and therefore the President's, to call openly for a temperate growth policy and hold all parties openly responsible. The nation has had enough of the subtle recessionary cudgel.

## The reward of courage

Release of British diplomat Richard Cross from the hands of his terrorist kidnapers should be viewed as a major victory for Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa. Their courage in refusing to accede to the kidnapers' demands and Mr. Trudeau's tough action in invoking the War Measures Act to fight the terrorist threat have now been justified, although the initial cost was high - the brutal murder of the other kidnapped man, Quebec Labor Minister Pierre Laporte.

The separatists of the Front de Liberation du Quebec (FLQ), who held Mr. Cross captive in a darkened room for 60 days, obtained only a minimum ransom - a safe conduct to Cuba for themselves and their families. For this they will pay the price of permanent exile from Canada.

The good news of Mr. Cross's release came soon after Parliament had voted Mr. Trudeau's new anti-terrorist legislation, intended to replace the War Measures Act in a peacetime emergency. This will give the government adequate powers

to fight the now outlawed FLQ and continue the hunt for Mr. Laporte's murderers without the distasteful curtailment of civil liberties which the War Measures Act involves.

We trust that the Trudeau government's bold action in dealing with the extremists will both encourage other governments to stand firm in similar circumstances and deter other would-be kidnapers. (At this writing the Uruguayan Government was still holding out against the demands of the Tupamaros urban guerrillas who seized American agricultural expert Dr. Claude Fly as a hostage last August.)

While the Canadian kidnapping crisis is over, the underlying problem of Quebec's constitutional relationship with English-speaking Canada remains. We cannot believe that separatism is the answer, even if achieved by constitutional means, as advocated by the moderate separatist political party of René Lévesque.

But the situation should not be allowed to drift on indefinitely, else the separatist movement will gain ground and the kind of discontent which has nurtured the FLQ will burgeon.

Editorials From The Christian Science Monitor

## Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

### 25 years ago

Thursday, December 13, 1945

The main auditorium at the Raeford Presbyterian Church, which has not been in use since it was damaged by fire in October, 1943, is finally complete and the first services will be conducted there on December 23, the Sunday preceding Christmas.

Arthur D. Gore of Raeford was elected vice-president of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Bar association at the annual meeting held Monday night at Lumberton.

The congregation of the Raeford Baptist Church met for its service last Sunday morning in the auditorium of the Raeford Graded school due to the fact that their old building is being wrecked to make way for a new one which is planned to be erected next spring.

John A. McGoogan, Hoke County auditor and tax

supervisor, is the new president of the North Carolina Tax Supervisors Institute.

T-5 Charles Odom landed in Newport News, Va., last Friday from the ETO and is expected home shortly.

T-5 Walter Howell returned from the ETO last week.

Tech. Sgt. Edwin McDuffie returned from the European Theatre last week and was discharged from the Army at Fort Bragg yesterday.

Lt. D.B. McFadyen, Jr. has been separated from the army after service in India and the Philippine Islands.

Sgt. Julian Love and Sgt. Raymond Love were discharged from the army this week and are at home.

Capt. Herbert McLean, Jr., arrived in Raeford this week. He has been separated from service after duty in the West Indies and the Philippine Islands.

Lt. (JG) Walter R. Barrington, Jr. of the United States Navy landed in Tacoma, Wash., last Saturday and expects to be at home for Christmas.

Pvt. Thomas G. Harrell has returned from the ETO and expects to be discharged from the army at Fort Bragg today.

Sgt. Alfred Guion Eubanks received his discharge from the army December 3, after 32 months of service. During the time he served in the ETO 12 months as a member of 104 Timbersolf division.

### 15 years ago

Thursday, December 8, 1955  
Herbert McKeithan of Raeford, Chief of the Delinquent Accounts and Returns Branch for the North Carolina District of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, will retire at the end of this month after 18 years of service.

Bernard Bray entered Moore County Hospital on Sunday for observation.

'Never mind him. Our job is to protect the yellow-tail flounder'



By LAURIE TELFAIR

## We Had Two Rats In Our Washer

We once had a mouse hanging around our house during the holiday season. In the spirit of Christmas, my mother named it Noteven, and tolerated it during the holidays.

In the true Yuletide tradition of brotherhood and peace on earth, Mother left Noteven a little saucer of goodies in the cabinet under the kitchen sink so that he could have a Christmas dinner without sharing ours.

Peace on earth between woman and mouse vanished with the Christmas tinsel, however, and Mother left a trap in the cabinet under the sink. That was the end of Noteven, a mouse.

We have had a wide variety of animals in and about the house at one time or another. The largest number of animals and the most species kept all at the same time was, as I recall, 14 animals of seven different species.

We had one baby wild rabbit, four puppies; two grown dogs; three kittens; one grown cat; two white rats and a grey fox - all in a two-bedroom apartment.

Most of the animals came there accidentally. The rabbit had been given to us to try to raise after a nest had been plowed up in a field. It had escaped and was free somewhere in the living room.

Therefore, we had to keep the dogs, cat and fox out of the living room for fear they would find the rabbit before we did. The kittens we had found abandoned and had brought them home to raise on a bottle. Fortunately, we had later found the mother cat and had installed the cat family in the dog house.

The puppies were an accident also. Our little dog had tired of confinement in the house and my mother had tired of keeping her there, so by mutual agreement, Cinder slipped out one day and came back when she had a mind to

... good and pregnant. The resulting puppies were bedded down under the washing machine, which was a semi-automatic with a tub and a separate spin-dry compartment both set atop a triangular arrangement of legs.

We kept the white rats inside the washing machine, as they were there only temporarily and we had no place to keep them. My mother, who was a school teacher, had used the beasts in a nutrition experiment in which one rat is fed well and thrives and the other is fed sweets and goodies and becomes a runt. The dairy council, who donated the rats and cages, gave the rats away at the end of the experiment, but kept the cages. So we were boarding the animals until the new owner could get more cages. Since they were both males, we had to keep them separated. We put one in the tub and one in the spin-dry compartment and didn't wash any clothes for awhile.

The fox, who had a large cage in the yard, only came into the house to visit and he didn't get much visiting done until we had cleared out part of the animal farm.

He was a great pet, though. We had gotten him as a baby and named him, for no good reason, Pogo, since the comic strip Pogo is clearly a possum.

He became tame. He would sit in our laps and sleep on the

end of the bed, curled up like a cat. He was fond of the two dogs and would pull seeds from their coats when they returned from roaming in the woods. The only person he ever bit was my father.

Although Pogo escaped several times, he never cared for the wilds and would always return, hungry and ready to go back to his cage. He relished chicken necks when they were fed to him, skinned, washed and dead, but he was terrified of live chickens. Our neighbors had a flock of fowl that would wander into the yard whenever Pogo was chained to the clothesline. They would cluck at him and he would retreat until he had reached the end of his chain. There he would be, tugging frantically to escape, until someone came to rescue him from the evil birds.

Pogo couldn't make it in the real world. We turned him loose in the woods when he was about 18 months old, planning to feed him and let him run free to find a mate. But he liked people too much, and within a day came into easy range of some neighborhood boys with a rifle.

We have had, at one time or another, horses in the garage, kittens in the shower and hamsters on the stereo. There is no accounting for taste, but it helps if you are a nut about animals.

## STORIES BEHIND WORDS

by William S. Penfield

### MAKE ONE'S MARK

A person who cannot write makes an "X" in the presence of a witness at the place where his signature is required.

An "X" as a signature was not always used by an illiterate person. In ancient times it was used by educated people, for the "X" - or cross - was a sacred symbol and indicated good faith on the part of the one who used it.

The peasantry looked with awe upon a person who was important enough to put his "X" or "make his mark," as they called it, upon a document.

A person who rose to such a position was said to have "made his mark" in the world.

## Puppy Creek

## Philosopher



Dear editor:  
According to an article I read in a newspaper last night scientists are making steady progress in converting the 48 billion bottles thrown away every year by Americans into something useful. They're making what they call "glassphalt" out of them.

They grind them up, mix them with other ingredients, and then make paved highways out of the stuff.

This is a fine idea but as usual scientists are going about it the hard way. Just as they've been spending years perfecting a computerized, automatic meter reader to eliminate somebody's having to come around every month to see how much water or gas or

electricity you've used, when what I'd like to see them do is eliminate the meter altogether.

Now in regard to grinding glass bottles up into paving material, that's fine, but under the system the scientists are working on the bottles have to be first used, thrown away, picked up, carried to a central plant, ground up, and then hauled back to wherever a highway is being paved.

This is a lot of wasted effort. Here we've all gone to the trouble of throwing the bottles along our own roads in the first place, so why can't the scientists figure out a machine that'll convert them into pavement right where they are? It seems unfair to have the bottles we throw out here in

Hoke County wind up maybe as pavement in Cumberland County. We're just as much entitled to good roads as they are.

If they get this newer, improved machine invented there's just one other thing that'd need to be done.

We'd need a vast, nationwide training program to improve people's aim.

Like it is, some people are such poor shots and care so little about good roads they miss the right - of - way altogether and their bottles wind up in my pasture. I don't need a paved road there. Too many people visit me like it is.  
Yours faithfully,  
J.A.

## Just One Thing After Another

By Carl Goerch

Marvin Godwin of Smithfield, a local gang foreman for the State Highway Department, is wondering if a terrapin could crawl by himself all the way from Fort Dodge, Iowa, to Johnston County in seven years.

Godwin found a 15-pound terrapin, "which could gun as fast as a three-year-old child," in lower Ingrams township when his gang was doing some road work there in 1946.

A hole had been drilled through the hull of the terrapin and a wire with a tag was fastened through the hole. The tag was inscribed with the following information:

"Rabies Vaccinated, Fort Dodge, Ia., 25264. Against Rabies, 1939."

Earliest Colonial churches still standing in North Carolina are St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chowan County, 1736; St. Thomas, oldest church building in the state, 1734, Bath in Beaufort County; Grove Church, Presbyterian, Duplin County, 1736; Sandy Creek, mother of Baptist churches in the state, Randolph County, 1755; MacPherson Presbyterian Church, Cumberland County, established by early Scotch settlers.

Mrs. Claire Boothe Luce tells this about an incident that occurred during her term in the U.S. Congress.

"One day I was wondering if I could put in one sentence all that I felt about America. Then I wrote the sentence. It was a rewrite of the first and last parts of the Declaration of Independence.

"I worded it in the form of a resolution and just for the fun of it, I dropped it quietly into the House hopper.

"In due time the resolution was read on the floor. It was then referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The following are three

## CLIFF BLUE ...

## People & Issues

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY** - We feel that the State Democratic Executive Committee moved in the right direction last Thursday when it endorsed the recommendations of the Governor Scott's Democratic Study Committee that the N.C. General Assembly pass legislation providing for a presidential primary in North Carolina.

We would like to see the Republicans come forward and endorse such a proposal as they need a presidential primary just as bad as do the Democrats.

Precinct meetings, county conventions, district conventions and state conventions have failed to attract the grass roots people as a presidential primary will.

However, before a Democratic primary becomes a reality in North Carolina it has a tremendous hurdle to overcome - the North Carolina General Assembly. Presidential primary bills have been enacted in many sessions of the General Assembly but have never secured "establishment" support. When Terry Sanford was a freshman State Senator he introduced a presidential primary bill, but when he became governor and could probably have pushed one through the General Assembly he said nothing about it.

**DELEGATES** - We feel that the Democrats acted in the interest of the people when they provided that 75 percent of the delegates would be selected at the district conventions. This should bring the selecting of the presidential nominees closer to the people, rather than leave it in the hands of the top party officials as has largely been the policy in the past.

**JUDGE BAILEY** - If more of our court judges started following the course set by Superior Court James H. Pou Bailey of Raleigh we feel that it would do much to promote highway safety and bring about greater respect for the courts. Judge Bailey, while holding court in Smithfield in Johnston County in October started

stories that the late John Bragaw liked to tell to prove that none of us is infallible.

Shortly after the death of the elder J.P. Morgan there were found in a locked drawer of his desk a large stack of stock certificates which were utterly worthless - representing investments which he made and which turned out to be no good. Yet the average man would, and probably did, buy those same stocks if assured that "Mr. Morgan is a stockholder."

The late W.C. Durant was a mighty power in the automobile world for a long time. One day he was quoted as predicting that there would come a time when 500,000 automobiles would be manufactured annually in the United States. The statement is said to have provoked George W. Perkins, partner in the great banking firm of J.P. Morgan and Company, to such an extent that he blurted out: "If Durant has any sense he'll keep those notions to himself when he tries to borrow money!"

In the early, early days of the motion picture business, when there was only one movie theatre in the city of Philadelphia, a well-to-do business man of London came over to this country and was in Philadelphia for several days on business. While there he heard about the movie and became much interested in it. Just before leaving to return to London he confided in his friend in Philadelphia that he was going to open a theatre in London.

Several months afterwards the man in Philadelphia, having occasion to write, asked the London friend how he was getting along with the motion picture business. Replying, the Britisher said, "I did not venture into the motion picture business. When I reached home I found that some one else had opened a picture theatre, and I knew there was not room in London for two of them."

giving priority to a backlog of drunken driving cases and has made remarkable progress towards breaking the log-jam and clearing up the dusty docket.

In recent years many people charged with drunken driving have been able to get off with lesser charges and sentences by having their cases continued time after time until witnesses or officers move away.

Judge Pou Bailey is to be commended for his business and judicial - like way in breaking up the log-jam on drunken driving cases. We hope that other judges will take note.

**ONE VOTE COUNTS** - With Rep. Arthur Williamson hanging on by one vote, and with Senator Ralph Scott hanging on by 13 votes, don't tell us that one vote doesn't count!

**POLITICALLY ORIENTED** - Most of our presidents have been politically-oriented, otherwise they would never have become occupants of the white house. An exception would be Dwight Eisenhower. Also Woodrow Wilson was a scholar and more oriented towards the college campus than the smoke-filled rooms where potential political decisions are made.

But our last two presidents, Nixon and Johnson are politically-oriented from A to Z.

In the recent congressional election campaign President Nixon went all-out in behalf of his fellow Republican candidates with little if any more to show for his efforts than had he remained behind the drawn curtains inside the iron and heavy-guarded fence at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

U.S. Senator Edward Brooks of Mass., was in North Carolina last week and spoke in Raleigh at St. Augustine's College. Brooks was quoted as saying that he hoped "the Republican Party will change directions for the 1972 campaign; I think it will."