

# The News - Journal

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1971

## A letter from the publisher

Dear News-Journal Reader:

A friend of mine commented this week that he had enjoyed my efforts in this column very much, and that he was particularly pleased to see signs that I was returning from the "far left."

Now I was not really aware that I had been "far left," and was even more unaware of any change in my attitude which might be considered a "return," so I have found a minute here and there to ponder this whole situation... this business of trying to label the way we think.

I do not feel that I must stick to a way of thinking or doing things just because this way was good enough for my father, or because it has got me by all right many times. I feel that when I am convinced a new way is better I am willing to adopt it, and even sometimes maybe to try it before being fully convinced. These feelings are enough, I am sure, to make one "far left" or liberal in the eyes of many. On the other hand, though, I am quite certain that many of the younger people with whom I occasionally associate consider me quite conservative, primarily because I don't jump at a new way quick enough. Of course, they don't yet know about the scars I might have from jumping too quickly, or anything about "the saddest words of tongue or pen," and thank God for it.

Anyway, right or left, liberal or conservative, it is my opinion that in the long run, honest and fearless thought and action, (and this includes conversation) will bring us close to the same path.

Did you see the article in the last week or two about Senator Sam J. Ervin and Congressman Richardson Preyer being the two members of the North Carolina Congressional delegation who had voted with President Nixon the most in the past years? Now that's really something, when you stop to remember that Senator Sam is and has been widely considered a staunch conservative and is widely popular because of it, and that Rich Preyer was the candidate for governor of what is called the liberal wing of "the Party" in North Carolina. He considers himself a liberal just as much as Sam Ervin considers himself a conservative. I believe.

This "honest and fearless thought and action" I referred to has often brought these two statesmen to the same conclusions about what was right and best for the people of North Carolina and the United States, that's all. Sen Ervin doesn't run around hollering about a lot of causes taken up by the American Civil Liberties Union, a group widely considered left and liberal, but he has found himself right with them in fighting the law granting government agents the right to enter a person's dwelling without knocking, day or night.

Of course, it's not too hard to see how frustrating it must be to agents to track down dope pushers and users and have them flush all the evidence away while the lawmen are knocking on the front door. One of the first times they tried this "no knock" entry after the law was passed, though, was into an apartment in which the tenants had been changed the afternoon before, or very recently, and the dope operators being sought were not there at all. The new occupant, completely unconnected, thought they were robbers breaking in and opened fire. He was killed and his wife killed one of the agents.

This was the kind of tragedy predicted by Senator Ervin, and there probably isn't enough dope to justify it. "A man's home is his castle" has been basic with us for a long time, and it must stay that way.

Anyway, who's in right field and who's in left? From day to day and subject by subject, the answer must change, but if you will look squarely and react honestly to what you see, I don't believe it will be a problem, and I reckon if I unintentionally move in to somewhere around shortstop, no damage will be done.

Sincerely,

Paul Dickson

Publisher

## Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

### 25 years ago

Thursday, February 7, 1946  
Ryan McBryde attended a meeting of the State Hospital Board of Control in Raleigh last Friday and Saturday.

The Hoke County Board of Commissioners in their regular meeting at the courthouse Monday voted to repair the baseball park at the Army here as soon as materials are available and lease the property to the local Ellis Williamson post of the American Legion.

From Poole's Medley:  
The United States has a population of one hundred and thirty million, mostly fools.

Sgt. Ken McNeill, who has been in Japan in the Army, landed at a West Coast port this week.

SI-C Luke Sanders, son of

W.R. Sanders, landed in San Francisco this week. He has been in Okinawa and expects to be discharged soon.

Riley Jordan was recently discharged from the Navy and has resumed his studies at Wake Forest College.

Lt. (j.g.) Hugh McLaughlin of the U.S. Navy is at home from the Pacific Theatre on a thirty day leave.

### 15 years ago

Thursday, February 2, 1956  
The State Highway Commission dropped 17 of its A-route numbers last Thursday but withheld action on 18 others, including US 15-A.

H.C. Gilliam, Jr. of Lee County began work on February 1 as assistant to Hoke County Farm agent W.C. Williford.

Dr. Alvis Barnes Dickson, 36, native of Raeford and legal resident since entering the United States Navy, died in the Philadelphia Naval Hospital shortly after 6:00 o'clock Saturday morning.

Dr. Riley M. Jordan left Wednesday for Statesville, where he has accepted a position on the staff at the Davis Hospital.

Entertaining the teams from Rockingham and Hamlet on Friday and Tuesday nights the Hoke High girls brought their season record to a perfect 12 victories. Scoring for Hoke High were Janet Guin, 33, Julia Morris, 15, and Virginia McNeill, 12.

From Rockfish News:  
Fayetteville Street was smoothed out by the road crew last week, but it is so sandy it will soon be rumpled up again.

## Year of the Greased Pig



By LAURIE TELFAIR

## Show Dogs Carry Many A Dream

We have a new puppy at our house: a six-week old German Shepherd girl.

Now she is not just any ordinary dog -- or even any ordinary German Shepherd, which is, in itself, not the same as an ordinary dog.

She is a Show Dog. I capitalize this term because in these two words lie the hopes and dreams of many people.

"Dog people" are probably like any other hobbyist -- that is to say they are not like people who are not enthralled with a sport or pastime.

They will cheerfully spend large sums of money for a specimen of their chosen breed and feel they have gotten a good deal at that. If that seems strange, reflect that many other people spend large sums for golf equipment, photography paraphernalia or expensive gadgets for their car.

The goal is all the same. Dog people are fairly easy to recognize. They tend to drive station wagons or vans. These vehicles are often filled with animal cages known as crates. Come a weekend, the crates are loaded into the car, filled with dogs and off our sportsman goes to a dog show in which he (or she) will spend several hours waiting, grooming his dog, waiting, walking his dog and waiting in order to go into the show ring for a few fleeting minutes.

The object of all this is points toward a championship, and while winners in each class receive ribbons and sometimes prizes, only one animal of each sex in the various breeds take home the points. This, then, dooms most of the hopefuls to disappointment. Why anyone would undertake a venture with these odds is unknown. Perhaps dog people are more masochistic than most.

For every dog that reaches

the show ring, there are probably many hundreds of the same breed who didn't. It is not uncommon for an owner to purchase several dogs and spend several years of hard efforts before he ever gets one in the show ring.

Most people bitten by the show bug become afflicted in a similar manner. They purchase an AKC-registered puppy and come to love him dearly. After awhile, they buy a book or two on the breed and meet some people who also love dogs and like to talk about them.

At this point, they either attend a dog show or they enter their dog "just to see what he can do." I know of one Labrador retriever who began his show career this way and went on, shown by his teen-aged master, to become a champion. But 99 times out of 100, Faithful Fido is ignored, or barely glanced at by the judge and his adoring owners go home hurt and puzzled that he didn't win.

They may let that be the end of it, in which case they can enjoy their pet and live in peace. Or they may notice that

their dog and the ones winning the ribbons are different. If this happens, before long they'll begin to talk of getting a "better" dog someday.

They are probably hooked by then and the only thing to do is to let the disease run its course. They will buy more books, subscribe to dog magazines and special breed magazines, join dog clubs, study pedigrees and talk, talk, talk about dogs to anyone who will listen. They lose many of their friends and make new ones among the doggy folk. Finally they will begin to buy show dogs and encounter all the hazards of trying to choose, develop and exhibit a near-perfect specimen against heartbreaking odds. Most likely, they will fail.

There is a fair chance of recovery, however. Statistics show that most exhibitors are active for only about five years before they drop by the wayside and stop showing. Some, of course, remain hooked for life and a few are curable to make a living at it.

There are, I suppose, worse things to be hooked on.

## STORIES BEHIND WORDS

by William S. Penfield

### FOX TROT

The short steps that a horse takes when changing from a trot to a walk used to be called a "fox trot." The term is almost never used with this meaning anymore.

The allusion was to the quick, short steps a fox takes in his normal gait or trot--when he is not chasing prey nor being preyed upon.

In the early part of the present century a new ballroom dance was developed in the United States. The dance was in two-two or two-four time with short, trotting steps.

The short, trotting steps of the dance were compared to a horse's "fox trot," and the name was given to the dance.

## Puppy Creek

Dear editor:

According to a lot of articles I've read lately a lot of people are arguing that the farm program is costing the country too much money, that not only should it be abolished but the Agriculture Department itself ought to be abolished or merged with some other department.

This is a serious matter. Now I know that the farm population is dwindling, is down to 8 percent of the total population and may go lower than that if we have a dry year and the price of hogs stays down, and I can see how city people could resent helping farmers out when cities are hard over heels in problems of their own, so much so in fact that lots of city people would move out now if their furniture

weren't mortgaged.

Before this gets out of hand, however, the farmers have got to fight back and I have figured out an idea that will save the day.

We've got to stop calling it a farm program. It's an environmental problem. If we can get the environmentalists interested in preserving the disappearing farmer, we've got it made.

Explain it to them. Farmers may not be worth much in themselves but you'll upset the balance of nature if they disappear. They're bound to feel a farmer is worth as much to the environment as a whooping crane.

Merge the farmer-preservation drive with the drive to save the Florida

alligator or the African leopard. What would this world be like with no farmers and no polar bears? What ecology-conscious woman wants a coat made out of leopard skins or a farmer's hide?

It's the only way. With only 8 percent of the total population, farmers aren't going to get very far with their voting power, but how many votes have the whooping cranes got? Alligators never elected anybody. I don't think, it's sometimes hard to tell, but they stopped a \$50,000,000 canal in Florida.

I call on every farmer in the country to get on board the environmental bandwagon. It's the only way to keep the species alive.

Yours faithfully,  
J.A.

## Just One Thing After Another

By Carl Goerch

A friend of ours in Charlotte told us a little story the other day that's worth passing along.

Once upon a time there were two Irishmen dynamiting stumps in a field, and while so engaged one of them set off a fuse that was rather short. Before he could gain a place of safety the charge exploded and blew him away.

Shortly thereafter, the superintendent of the job came upon the scene and inquired of Pat as to the whereabouts of Mike. Pat replied: "I don't know, but if he returns as fast as he went, he'll be back yesterday."

The other day I came across this scrap of philosophy that I thought appropriate for most of us: "I don't have time for quarreling. It takes one-half of my time for attending to my own affairs, and the other half for letting the affairs of other people alone."

Which reminds me of a school superintendent we used to have down in Washington, North Carolina. When others tried to draw him into their quarrels, or when some one would say to him, "Harry, what do you think about the way Thompson did?" Harry would reply:

"Did you ever hear about that fellow in Tennessee?"

And the other man would ask "what about him?"

"He made a lot of money minding his own business," Harry would say.

Add to your list of unusual place names in North Carolina -- these that were sent in recently by Mrs. Joseph Graham of Iron Station: Cat Square Pumpkin Center

Egypt Plateau Hog Hill All of them are located in Lincoln County.

From George A. Gray, Sr. of Gastonia:

"I notice in a recent issue your mention of queer names. I am sending herewith two names that are historically correct.

"When Oliver Cromwell had purged Parliament of all intelligent members, there were left only 154 under the leadership of a dealer in leather by the name of Praise God Barebone. Cromwell referred to him as a 'radical ignorant bigot.' This man had two brothers. The first of these was named 'Christ - came - into - the - world - to - save Barebone.' The second went by the name of 'If - Christ - had - not - died - thou - hadst - been - damned Barebone.'"

Thanks a lot, Mr. Gray. That just about tops anything we've ever heard in the way of unusual names.

By the way, did you ever hear the story of how Stonewall Jackson Training School at Concord came to be named?

When the bill to establish the school was up before the 1907 Legislature, the ten Confederate veterans who happened to be in the General Assembly at that time were vigorously opposed to it.

Someone wisely suggested that if Stonewall Jackson's name could be given the institution, the veterans might be won over. This was done and, sure enough, all ten of them voted for it.

## CLIFF BLUE ... People & Issues

PHIL GODWIN -- We hear via the grapevine that House Speaker Philip Godwin is being mentioned as a possible candidate for governor in some of the political gossip around Raleigh and elsewhere.

To add to this, Speaker Godwin was the honor guest Sunday at a stag barbecue given on Holly Shelter Creek in Pender County by State Senator John J. Burney of Wilmington and his brother Louis.

COURT APPOINTMENTS -- The last two House Speakers have been named to the State Court of Appeals -- David Britt by Governor Dan K. Moore and Earl Vaughn by Governor Bob Scott.

Some people feel that should the custom become established whereby governors would name House Speakers to major state offices that it would not be in the best interest of maintaining the separate and independent divisions of government -- legislative, executive and judicial. Of course a governor and the presiding officers of the legislative branch much prefer, and should be on good working relations with each other for the orderly dispatch of legislation and the general functions of government.

NEXT GOVERNOR -- With the primaries for governor in North Carolina only 15 months away, no one in either party -- Democratic or Republican has anything near locks on the nomination.

Four years ago at this time Bob Scott was clearly regarded as the front runner. Right now Lieut. Governor Pat Taylor and State Senator Hargrove Bowles are regarded as the most likely to run. Attorney General Bob Morgan, if he decides to run, might well be the man to beat, but he is not warming up to the idea like some of his friends feel that he should.

Nevertheless, there is still plenty of time; yes plenty of time even for a dark-horse to come in and win.

On the Republican side re-districting of the congressional districts may have right much to do with who the GOP candidate will be.

Should Earl Ruthand Wilmer Mizell wind up in the same district, the report is that Mizell will run for governor. Many Republicans would like to see Congressman Jim Broynhill run for governor, feeling that he would be the

strongest the party could offer. But most people seem to feel that should Broynhill decide not to seek re-election, that it will not be to seek the governorship but to try for B. Everett Jordan's seat in the U.S. Senate. Many feel that Jim Gardner is still lurking nearby and will be ready for another try come 1972. Then there is Rep. James E. Holshouser, Jr., State GOP Party Chairman who many feel is anxious to make the race.

GOING LIBERAL? -- Before he was nominated for vice president in 1960 Lyndon B. Johnson was regarded as a Southern conservative, and had voted that way in Congress. After he was nominated and elected vice president and became president he changed to be one of the most liberal political leaders in the nation.

Richard Nixon was nominated and elected as a fiscal conservative. Now that he is elected he wants to out-spend LBJ's liberal record. Nixon used to advocate fiscal integrity, now he is advocating huge deficit spending.

President Nixon says: "The full employment budget idea is in the nature of a self-fulfilling prophecy. By operating as if we were at full employment, we will help bring about full employment."

Well, maybe perpetual motion will be made to work after all!

If it is wise for the government to spend more than it takes in to bring about full employment we wonder if it would follow that people working on short time should do the same thing?

CHOOSING JUDGES -- A bill has been introduced in the General Assembly to take away from the people their constitutional right to elect judges in North Carolina, and instead, establish a judicial nominating commission, comprised of lawyers and laymen which would recommend names to the governor for judgeship vacancies. On this proposal we agree with Senator Tom Strickland and Rep. James Holshouser when they oppose taking away the right of the people to elect their public officials.

We also agree with Senator Strickland's proposal that judges should be nominated and elected on a district basis rather than the present system in which the judges are nominated on a district system