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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1971

Opinion and commentary

by Paul Dickson

Fall is just around the corner. One way you can tell is by the noise being made by some Hoke High School students about the hair and dress requirements set up by the principal, Raz Autry, for attendance there. As usual, some parents and other adults voice sympathy with the students and wonder if Autry can get away with it.

Well, it is my considered opinion that all the parents and other adults involved or in the neighborhood would be smart to back Principal Autry in this matter. Let the young folks gripe, sure, and even give them some sympathy, but join them in recognizing the fact that Mr. Autry is boss out at that high school, and a fine thing it is, too, in these days when there is so little authority and most of that is afraid to stand up and be counted.

Most people over thirty, and some lucky ones under, remember a strict teacher or Scout leader or some adult from their childhood, and just about always it is the ones who were the strictest who are remembered with the greatest affection, the ones who didn't explain why something had to be done but just said do it, and do it now, and we did.

We found security in this authority, knowing that this teacher or leader knew best what was right for us, and that we were learning to do something right for ourselves. We recognized that age knew more than youth, as eagles and wolves do, and as many more people than now used to, and that we could learn something if we did as we were told and applied ourselves.

I have no quarrel with long hair, Goodness knows, but the point I want to make here is that long hair is not the point at Hoke High School. The point there is the decision every parent who has any moral right to be one must make as to when a young person is old enough to decide for himself what is good for him. This is and has been generally accepted as through the age of high school, and good parents through this period try to be responsible for the comings and goings of their children, and up to 16 are held legally responsible for their being in school.

These same good parents have a right to know that their children (and as much as the older ones may resent it, the word must apply until they finish or leave) are in responsible hands while they are at school, that other students or teachers are not going to beat them up or otherwise put upon them, that their general welfare will be looked after along with their education, and that they will be made to behave properly.

Now any grown person with one eye and half sense knows that the only way these requirements can be properly met is by some standards of appearance, speech, and general behavior to which all involved must adhere, in other words, some discipline must be applied and learned, so that when they get that diploma and are adults and go off to Fayetteville or Berkeley or somewhere they can at least know how to behave properly. The only thing they'll have available then is the discipline they apply to themselves, so learning a little here before setting out can come in mighty handy, along with the many other lessons learned in the years in which one approaches becoming an adult.

So Principal Raz Autry is supervising the learning process for a large group of young people at a difficult and exciting period in their lives, and he and his staff and faculty are trying to equip them with self control and courage and respect for authority as well as with the academic qualifications and moral values necessary to successfully cope with the world outside of and after high school. This world is becoming more complex every day, and the lines between right and wrong and right and left are becoming almost invisible.

The temptation in this outside world, as now, will be to compromise, and then's when comfort and strength will come from a look backward at the days at Hoke High and Old Raz. What strength can come from a memory of a man who is not compromising with what he thinks is right. A man who doesn't sidestep the problems but looks them in the eye and makes the decisions which must be made and moves on. It really doesn't matter if all the decisions are right or not, does it? It's mainly that they have to be made and we are lucky enough to have someone present who can do it, and does.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

The paper for September 5, 1946 was missing from the file so we will just have 15 Years Ago this week.

15 years ago

Thursday, September 6, 1956

A Hoke County colored man driving a car without proper lights and without driver's license Saturday night rapidly progressed into something more serious when he met a State Highway Patrolman. Result was a wreck in which a passenger in the car received fatal injuries and caused the driver Leroy McLaughlin, 30, to be in jail facing serious charges.

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Raeford at their regular monthly meeting Monday night passed a resolution which would indicate that they plan to use foreclosure seizure, garnishment of wages and other methods provided by law for the collection of back taxes.

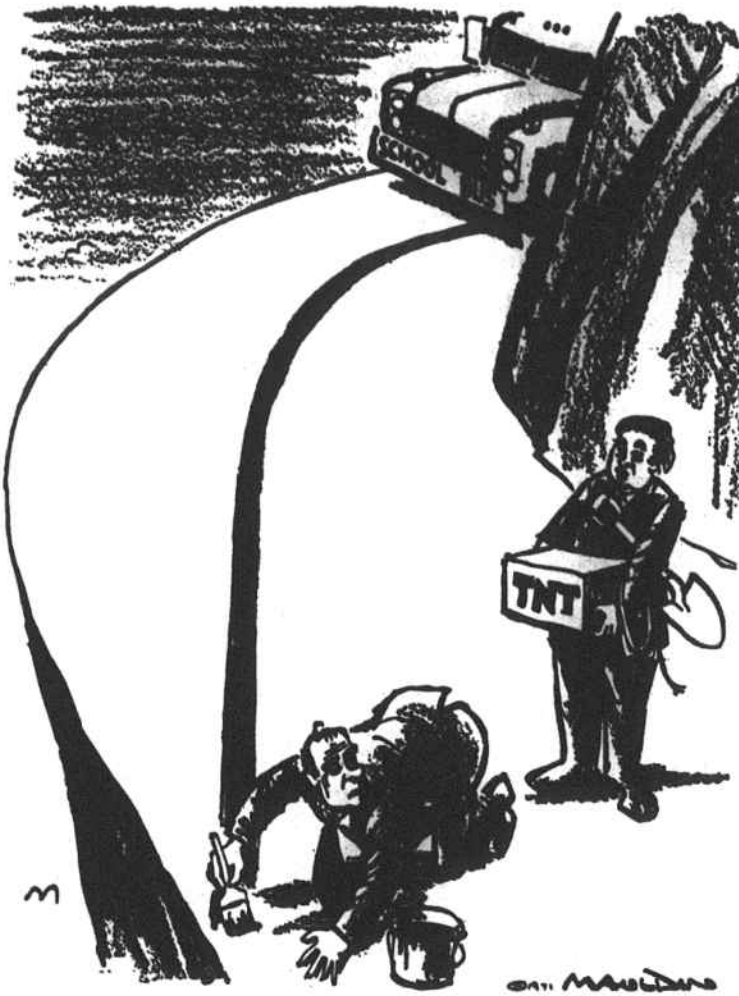
Commissioners Truman Austin, Marion Gatlin, John K. McNeill, Jr. and Tom Cameron were present, with Mayor Alfred Cole, presiding.

Harvey Warlick, proprietor of Hoke Exchange Co., local dealer agent for the Farmers Cooperative Exchange, this week announced the opening of his new Feed Mills for the custom grinding of grain, and a general feed and grain business.

Hoke County workers with the State Highway Commission and Eighth Division oil crews of the commission, all under the general supervision of Luther M. (Luke) Powell, State Highway Commission maintenance supervisor for Hoke County, completed the paving of the city streets of Raeford yesterday morning.

Dr. Riley M. Jordan, who has been doing hospital work in Statesville for the past year, returned on September 1, and has reopened his office on Campus Avenue for the practice of general medicine.

'The idea, Gov. Wallace, is to bend the law, not break it'



By LAURIE TELFAIR

It Surely Was A Short Summer

Mercy, it was a short summer. Here it is school time already.

I read a columnist in one of the papers just the other day noting that summer used to end, psychologically, on the last day of August but this was no longer so. Men no longer burn their straw hats on Aug. 31 and summer clothes after Labor Day aren't quite taboo anymore. Summer vegetables last through September usually and so does summer, he said.

I think he's wrong. Summer ends when school starts, just as it always has. Only school starts sooner than it used to. When I was a little kid, school began the day after Labor Day. About half way through grade school, that was changed to the last week in August.

This year Ft. Bragg schools, where my youngsters attend, began on Aug. 23, and since they didn't get out until the end of the first week in June, it was a short summer indeed. But they get many mid-year holidays to compensate so I guess it

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

Every time somebody gets taken advantage of, somebody wants to pass a law to stop it, and it was with amazement I read an article in a newspaper last night that Congress is considering a law to keep airlines and telephone companies from losing money by prohibiting them from extending unsecured credit to political candidates.

The reason is that the airlines are stuck with more than 2 million dollars in unpaid debts by political candidates and their campaign organizations, and the telephone companies have nearly \$400,000 in similar unpaid bills.

The article pointed out that the debts cross both political party lines, and in addition to the Democratic and Republican National Committees, debtors include Richard Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, the late Robert Kennedy, and Eugene McCarthy, the unpaid debts running into the thousands of dollars.

So, Congress is considering passing a law protecting the airlines and telephone companies by prohibiting them from extending credit to candidates.

We've got so many laws now I don't guess one more will hurt anything, but it's too bad the airlines and telephone companies aren't smart enough to catch on like newspapers did years ago.

It didn't take newspapers more than one political campaign 50 years ago to find out the most uncollectable debt on earth is one owed by a defeated candidate.

They sized up the situation, and instead of rushing to Congress to get a law passed preventing them from giving credit to political candidates, each newspaper just set up a simple rule: All Political Advertising Is Cash In Advance.

Of course, this eliminated a lot of jobs by bureaucrats combing the country to make sure no newspaper was risking losing money by letting candidates charge their advertising bills, but anybody with any confidence in Washington knows they probably got jobs with some other bureau.

In time, the big airlines and telephone companies may get as smart about human nature and bad debts as The News-Journal and The Fayetteville Observer.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

equals out. At least that's what I try to convince the kids.

There has been a lot of monkeying around with school openings in the last few years. Colleges used to begin about the end of September but many of them are now starting earlier so that the first semester can end right before Christmas. This is a good idea since the last three weeks of the semester are a loss anyway. With the semester ended before Christmas, no sadistic professor can assign a term paper due right after the vacation nor can a tardy student put off 14 term projects until then. Both things will spoil a Christmas vacation.

Getting the kids back in school means a lot of things, besides peace and quiet. Life has to get back to a routine. Supper must be prepared and served early enough to get the youngsters in bed at a decent hour -- no more waiting until dark, and maybe nine o'clock, before getting into the kitchen.

Bedtimes must be renegotiated. Like union contracts that expire, each school year brings a request for an increase in the bedtime hour. The older child feels that she should be allowed an extra half hour over her younger sister while the younger feels that this is unfair. A compromise is reached. They both go to bed at 9:30 and may read in bed until 10. The older one loves to read so she gets a thirty minute increase in bedtime. The younger doesn't read very often and she falls asleep as soon as she gets in bed so while she doesn't get the increase, she doesn't know it.

This was the first year we didn't have bright new lunch boxes to begin school. The girls are eating in the cafeteria or will take their lunch in paper sacks, they say. Lunch boxes, I believe, are a little beneath their more grown-up status.

So, despite protests to the contrary, there was a buzz of anticipation last week when the letters came out. Each year just before school, the teachers fill out a form letter of welcome, giving their name, room number, lunch information, school times and a months menu, and send them to each of the students assigned to their class. Somehow the word got out that day the letters were expected to arrive and the streets of the housing area were lined with youngsters that day waiting for the mail. After the letters arrived, they had to call all their friends to find what room they were in.

And so it begins again. No matter what the man said, summer's over now. It's school time.

STORIES BEHIND WORDS

By William S. Penfield

PUPIL

The round dark spot in the center of a person's eye reflects what is in front of it. When a person stands face to face with another, that spot in each of his eyes will reflect a tiny image of the person he is facing.

This was noticed as far back as Roman times. The Latin word for a little doll was "pupilla" or "pupillus," the diminutive forms of "pupa" (girl) and "pupus" (boy).

Because their reflections in the eyes of another looked like little dolls, the Romans called the round spot in the eye "pupilla." The word became "pupille" in French and "pupil" in English.

Just One Thing After Another

By Carl Goerch

Last week we mentioned the "North Carolina Guide" in this column. To our way of thinking this is one of the most valuable books in our collection of North Carolina literature.

It was the first gotten together by writers under a WPA project in 1939 and published by the University of North Carolina Press. It had been out of print for a long time until several years ago when it was revised and re-issued by a group of North Carolina historians. I believe. At any rate, the book is now available at most book stores and holds a wealth of material about North Carolina.

The recent discussion in the Raleigh newspapers about North Carolina really extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific under the old land grants to the lords proprietors. This quotation comes from the original guide:

When in 1629 Charles I granted to Sir Robert Heath the territory out of which later the State of North Carolina was formed, his vision of the rich resources of that land were embodied in the patent itself, for he gave to Sir Robert not only the land but "the ports & stations of shippes & the Creeks of the sea belonging to the Rivers, Islands & Lands aforesaid;

with the fishings of all sorts of fish, whales, sturgeons & of other Royal types in the sea or in the rivers moreover all veins, mines or pits either upon or concealed of Gold, Silver Jewells & precious stones & all other things whatsoever, whether of stones or metals or any other thing or matter found in the Region."

Other interesting statements: The forests of North Carolina contain more kinds of trees than grow in the whole of Europe.

One of the few tin deposits in the United States occurs in North Carolina in a belt extending from a point two miles northeast of Grover, through the town of Kings Mountain, and northeast to Beavertown Creek near Lincolnton.

Gold and silver have been mined in more than 400 localities in the State. In 1799 a 17 - pound nugget of gold was found on the Reed plantation in Cabarrus County and North Carolina was one of the chief gold - producing states until 1849.

Gem minerals of numerous varieties have been found scattered through the Piedmont and Mountain Region. However, most of the discoveries of precious or semiprecious stones have been accidental. A corundum mine, opened in 1871 on Corundum Hill, near Franklin, in Macon County, produced the largest crystal of corundum ever found. The gray - blue stone, weighing 312 pounds, is now in the Amherst College collection.

Of particular interest because it is native only to North Carolina is hiddenite, sometimes called lithia emerald, which was discovered near Stony Point, in Alexander County, in 1879. It is more brilliant than the true emerald, its color ranging from a pale yellow to a deep yellow green.

The first European known to have explored the coast of what is now North Carolina was Giovanni da Verrazzano, Florentine navigator in the service of the King of France. In 1524 he explored the Cape Fear coast, and on July 8 of that year sent to the King the earliest description known to exist of the Atlantic coast line north of the Cape Fear.

Sir Walter Raleigh has been called the "Father of English America" and Roanoke Island has frequently been referred to as "the birthplace of English America." On March 25, 1584, Raleigh obtained from Queen Elizabeth a patent granting to him, his heirs, and assigns, the title to any lands that he might discover "not actually possessed of any Christian prince, nor inhabited by Christian people."

Letter to the Editor

Defends Donny

I read your column in The News-Journal and it was very disgusting. Just what do you know about musical talent? Are you a producer or something? Donny Osmond and the Osmond brothers are the most talented group in rock singing today. You must have really cracked up when you said Donny couldn't call hogs to a hog trough. He has one of the nicest voices I have ever heard. Sure I like him for his looks but talent is important too, and believe me lady he's got it and that goes for the rest of his brothers. I'm sure many will agree with me whether you do or not.

Man, you were really dumb to write that article because every girl I know hates you for it, including me.

I went to Raleigh Thursday night to see them and they were just great. You better smarten up a lot lady because the Osmonds are here to stay.

A Faithful Fan
Cindy Burke

People & Issues

CLIFF BLUE ...

BOB SCOTT ... Bob Scott's cold-blooded talk to a group of ranking state officials in Raleigh last week in which he told them to follow his suggestions and recommendations or make way for others who would be very remindful of some of his dad's approach to government 20 years ago.

However Bob says he is not taking sides in the governor's race whereas his dad, the late Kerr Scott went all-out to elect his successor - Hubert Olive of Lexington, but failed. The late Kerr Scott tried to kick Dave Coltrane out as Assistant Director of the Budget. Coltrane wouldn't resign, so Kerr de-horned him by taking away all his authority and giving it to Dinty Moore, Coltrane's assistant.

Our feeling is that the people like for the top man to be boss. It was Kerr's outspoken approach to people and issues which carried him to the governor's mansion and later the U.S. Senate.

COUNCIL OF STATE ... State Treasurer Edwin Gill, who coined the phrase, "Good Government is a habit in North Carolina," has dispelled any doubts about his intention to seek reelection as has Big Jim Graham, Commissioner of Agriculture. Rumors have been making the rounds that Insurance Commissioner Edwin Lanier may not be a candidate to succeed himself so Commissioner Lanier can be expected to clear the air as to his intentions in the not too distant future.

EDUCATION LOANS ... We were talking with a man who had been in charge of college education loans a few days ago. We inquired as to how the students were responding in paying back the loans. He indicated that the situation was far from what it should be, particularly in the emergency loan department.

To our way of thinking, students should be taught responsibility as to debts and other obligations along with other standard courses in college. An honest sense of responsibility toward a just debt is more to be desired than a college degree.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT ... The private schools which have been springing up all over the Southland in recent years as a result of integration and busing students great distances to achieve a

certain ratio of integration are probably taking away from the public schools faster than the school population is growing.

Many people feel that although the curriculum is restricted the overall advantages in a small school are superior to the larger public institutions. However, but few of the low income people are able to pay taxes to support the public schools and in addition send their children to private school. However, it is well to have the two systems which provides a yardstick of a kind by which to measure educational institutions.

JOHN LANG ... John Lang who has returned to North Carolina as Vice President of External Affairs at ECU has asked and has been granted an opportunity to teach a class in political science. John, while Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the U.S. Air Force in Washington, taught a class at George Washington University. Lang says he feels that in teaching a class he can have a better rapport with the students. Wonder if it wouldn't be well for all college presidents to consider teaching a class?

NIXON ... It was the Democrats in Congress who enacted the law over President Nixon's protest giving him the authority which he has now exercised in an effort to bring the run-away inflation under control.

There is an old saying that "a wise man will change his mind but a fool will not." Nixon cannot be accused of refusing to change his mind.

As a young congressman he was very much against the communists. Now he is going to China to break bread with them.

As a candidate for president he ran as a conservative, now with his welfare program he has out-liberalized LBJ.

Nixon was going to balance the budget and the fiscal year 1970-71 ended up with one of the biggest deficits in history - over \$23 billion.

He opposed price and wage controls, but now he brings them into play.

People talk about the "Old Nixon" and the "New Nixon." He is certainly a versatile sort of man. Despite his sudden changes we feel that he should have the support of the people of all parties in his efforts to rescue the nation from the whirlwind of inflation.

U.S. Savings Bonds/
New Freedom Shares