

The News - Journal



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THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1973

Hesitation on clean air

It was deeply disappointing to hear the Environmental Protection Agency chief William D. Ruckelshaus back off from requiring automakers to meet the full 1975 auto emissions requirement.

We are sure Mr. Ruckelshaus anguished over his decision; we do not question his own basic commitment to securing a clean environment.

But we also do not question that the pressures on him to reverse or qualify his decision of a year ago, which was to hold the automakers to the 1975 standard, were severe. Detroit may or may not have had a technical case for the one year delay it won - we will take that point up in a moment. But Detroit does have a lot of political clout, historically as well as with the present administration. One has only to recall the favorable position Detroit has enjoyed at nearly every stage of the administration's economic planning - from a lifting of the auto excise tax to the advantage of the 1971 import surcharge - to note how favoring Detroit is an element of economic strategy. At the moment, a major portion of America's economic expansion is accounted for by boom auto sales and profits. It is largely unspoken but true that the administration would not want to hazard a recession - which some economists already see on the horizon a year hence - for the sake of what profit-minded men may consider merely abstract pollution percentage points.

It is hard to believe, however, that the 1975 standards could not have been met if the automakers had really wanted to meet them. True, they have invested millions of dollars in research, and serious research at that. But if Japanese and German auto manufacturers have produced autos that can meet the standards - and 1976 standards as well - the Americans should have been able to do so too.

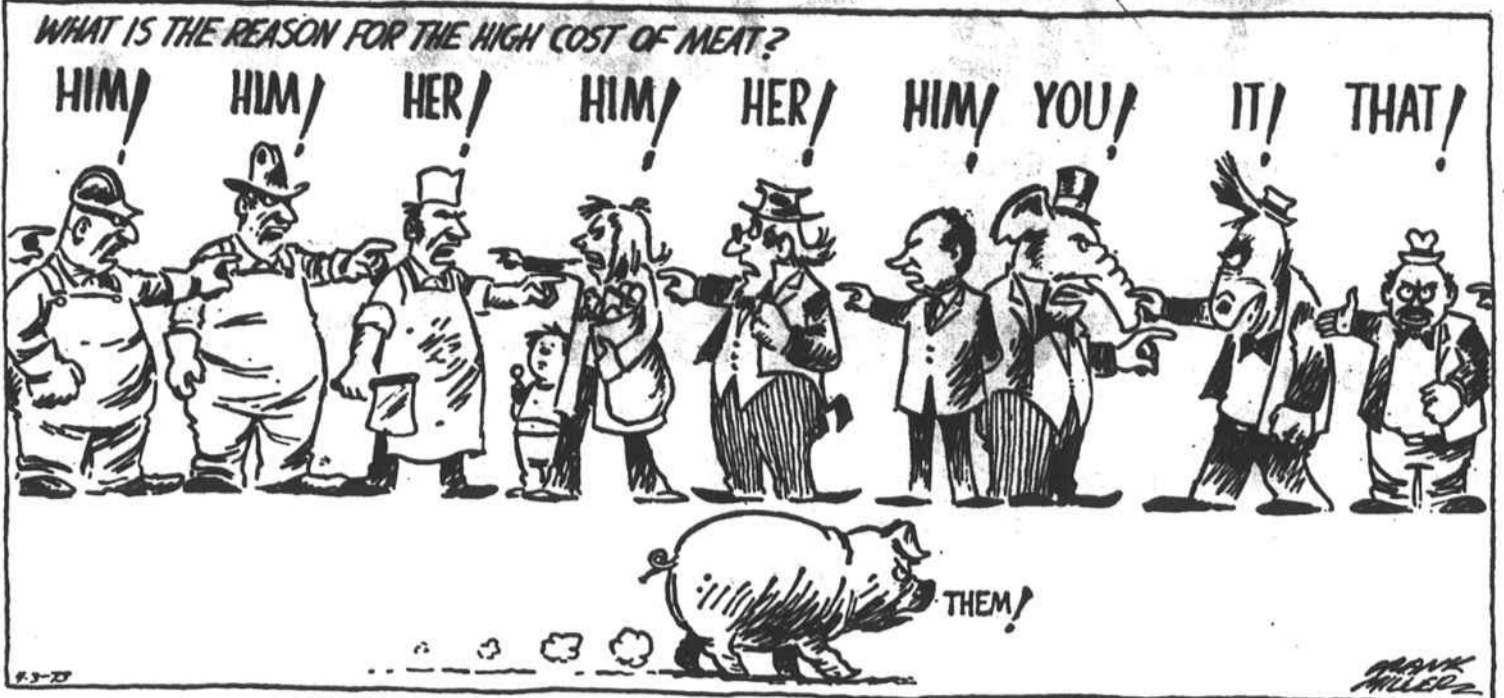
As a practical matter, forcing the automakers to meet the 1975 standards at least for California will provide a useful experiment. We will find out how the more advanced devices will work under mass-use conditions.

But also as a practical matter, the credibility of government environmental regulation has suffered a blow. Mr. Ruckelshaus could argue the opposite - that to have pressed for a standard he couldn't get would have undermined the credibility of the environmental movement. Judgment between these two views hangs on whether one thinks the 1975 standards were attainable.

In any event, looking beyond 1975 and 1976, the big auto revolution will not be in refinements on the present Detroit piston auto. There will have to be a revolution in engine design, automobile size, and auto use. The medium size car of today should be tomorrow's maxi-car. Even car pooling will be an intermediate step. Mass transit, clustering of new dwelling zones on transit lines, making living zones more self-contained, will be compelled.

This week's semi-victory of the auto industry, which along with government has locked America into an auto-dependent suburban life-style, shows how the logic of basic needed changes in transport and living patterns will be resisted every step of the way. But despite the delay, the goals of the 1970 Clean Air Act are still attainable. And the public should keep up its pressure to make sure they are attained. *The Christian Science Monitor*

IT IS WONDERFUL HOW WE GET SIMPLE ANSWERS TO COMPLICATED QUESTIONS



Reprinted from the Des Moines (Iowa) Register

Kay's Column

By KAY PIOTRZKOWSKI

Stoneybrook And Other Gems

Decided to do a little make believe betting at Stoneybrook races Saturday. In the first race, The Yarkin, there were ten horses. As they paraded onto the grassy turf number six was prancing like a young colt. I decided, "That's my horse."

The six-year old roan gelding named Native Berry was ridden by Larry Bates wearing blue and gold. The race began and tension mounted as they took the first hurdle on the far side of the track and momentarily dropped out of sight on low ground at the curve.

They pounded into sight and approached the second hurdle-over they went. And over went Bates - kerplunk onto the grass. But Native Berry, undaunted and relieved of the excess weight kept running.

Now that was an omen if I ever saw one and I placed no more bets - real or imaginary - the rest of the day.

We spent much time sightseeing between the rows of parked vehicles. That is where the show was anyway. The exquisitely attired gents and their ladies promenaded, rubbing elbows with the hip and blue jean crowd.

Station wagon tailgates groaned under the weight of booze bottles, ice and gourmet picnic lunches. The more

affluent among the spectators draped folding tables with snow linen cloths, set with the most fragile crystal and heavy silver.

Brightly colored fresh cut flowers were artistically arranged in expensive containers centered on many of the banquet tables. Some were flanked by candelabra. One table sported an elegant footed sterling silver champagne bucket.

One group who apparently were above mixing their own drinks brought their very own white-coated bartender to do the honors.

People sat on top their motor homes and cars. Some played cards while others sunbathed - a few even watched the races.

A radio announcer mispronounced fatality the other day. It came out "traffic utility" - he just may have accidentally hit on something.

The Raeford Water Department is handing out a booklet "The Story of Water Supply." The publication, in comic strip format, is filled with facts about water sources, treatment, history and use.

According to information in the booklet a slow drip from a home water faucet wastes 15 gallons of water a day. Instructions on checking for leaks of faucets, toilets and hidden pipes are also included in the booklet. So are instructions on how to read a water meter.

When you pay your water bill be sure to pick up a copy of "The Story of Water Supply."

An ambulance was needed in front of the Sheriff's Department recently. The jailer called Morrison Ambulance Service and it took only seven minutes for the ambulance to arrive. I consider that pretty good service.

Some fellow members of the news media are due a chastising for their rudeness at a recent party honoring Gen. Bruce Palmer. In order to take pictures the cameramen stood at full height, shoulder to shoulder, four abreast between the honoree at the podium and the audience.

Most of the shots could have been taken from a crouching position or with long lenses could have been taken from across the room.

If these men had to be between the audience and the speaker, they should have taken their pictures and then moved out of the way. Did they? No. They remained standing quietly until they became bored with the affair. By then one of the photographers had moved away but the others proceeded to carry on a three-way conversation - still standing between the podium and the audience.

Come on fellows, brush up on your good manners - this type of conduct is uncalled for and gives the rest of the news media a black eye.

Rural Fires
Call
875-4242

Yours faithfully,
J. A.

CLIFF BLUE ...

People & Issues



LIQUOR VOTE: ... After 25 years of debate and talk, it appears that a state-wide liquor vote will be forthcoming. During the quarter of century while the talk has been going on the worm has turned quite a bit, and the issue has changed quite a bit.

For years the "wets" opposed a state-wide vote on the legalization of liquor - the sale of liquor in state ABC stores. The "wets" felt, and with good reason, that they would lose in a state-wide vote. The "drys" felt with equal vigor that they could win.

But today the issue is not legalized liquor stores - the issue is the sale of liquor by the drink in Grade A restaurants. Generally speaking, the people have come to accept legalized liquor stores.

The "wets" would much prefer to follow the same route of legalizing liquor - by - the - drink that they followed in legalizing liquor stores, but thus far they have not been able to get a law through the General Assembly that would stand up in court to permit the legalization of liquor by the drink on an individual county vote on the sometimes touchy issue.

Now, it appears that the "drys" are willing to tag along but very unenthusiastically for a state-wide vote on the liquor - by - the - drink issue.

The outcome could be close. If the election is held on Tuesday, November 6, the day the municipal elections will be held this fall, the "wets" could well gain an advantage in that the rural people will not be voting in the municipal elections, and the towns and cities are expected to give a better percentage to the "wets" than the rural areas. Tied to the municipal elections could give the "wets" a better chance than on a day separate from the municipal elections.

However, the "drys" can't be discounted. When they become aroused they can organize and raise funds. This has been proven in the past. A big rural vote will likely be to the advantage of the "drys."

With the proposed election more than six months away most anything can happen, and probably will. We would not want to wager much more than a plug nickel on the outcome at this stage of the game.

HIGHWAYS ... Division Highway Commissioner Cecil Budd of Siler City, speaking to a Chamber of Commerce group in Southern Pines last week

indicated that the outlook for primary road improvements in Moore County was very bleak. Commissioner Budd told the Moore group that from seven to nine years of primary highway projects were on the drawing boards but that none of the primary roads in Moore had a very high priority which very much disappointed his listeners who have been working and hoping for years to see U. S. Highway 1 four-laned from north of Southern Pines to the Lee County line.

HERRING WINS ... With the passage by the Senate and House of the Teacher Certification Bill along the lines advocated by Chairman Dallas Herring of the State Board of Education, Herring scored a major victory over State Supt. of Public Instruction Craig Phillips. Phillips who is elected by the people and serves as secretary to the State Board of Education led the move last fall to change the method by which public school teachers are certified.

Herring opposed the change but the majority of the board members voted with Phillips. In a couple of later votes Herring gained ground. When Governor Holshouser appointed four new members to the State Board Herring's hand was strengthened as it is believed that when they are approved by the General Assembly most of the new members will side with Herring rather than with Phillips with Herring again having the upper hand over Phillips in school matters to be decided by the State Board of Education.

It is also believed that Governor Holshouser is more inclined to side with Herring than with Phillips. Herring who heads a casket (or coffin) manufacturing plant in Rose Hill in Duplin County has long been a top leader for better educational opportunities in the public schools, and also a leader in the movement which resulted in the establishment of community colleges and technical institutes in North Carolina.

NO-FAULT INSURANCE ... For four years the North Carolina General Assembly has been studying no-fault auto insurance. For two years opponents of the measure have simply been stalling on the issue, trying to kill it in some face-saving way. If this dilly-dallying goes on through this and the 1974 sessions of the General Assembly we predict that it will be the big issue which the candidates will have to face in the 1974 primaries and general election.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Sir:

I have a big complaint about the Raeford police, and would appreciate it if you would publish this.

On April 8 Sunday night, I had finished my 3-11 work at Samarkand Manor Eagle Springs, N. C. and was returning to my home in Red Springs, N. C. As I entered Raeford I saw a car with two men in it. They waited until I had driven over a block before starting to follow me. In the 8 years I have gone thru Raeford that was the first time I had even seen any cops. I knew I hadn't broken any law so I didn't worry. After we passed down Main St. to the edge of town where it was poorly lighted they stopped me.

One asked for my drivers license and registration card. Then I was ordered out of my car. I asked why? But was told he would tell me later, just to "get out." I was ordered then to walk while they both held lights on me. This happened just as the workers from Red Springs and Lumberton were going to work. Then they said they thought I was driving under the influence. This made me furious as I had an egg nog Xmas 1929. Everyone knows I do not drink.

I talked with the town manager and the Chief of Police and all I got was the

cops thought I was a man. Since when did men start wearing their hair in a bee hive, also wearing ear rings.

The cops knew all along I was a woman alone. They just didn't realize how old I was. They had to think up something quick about what they stopped me for.

All I can say is he is a lucky guy because I had signed a form saying I would not carry a gun on state property. If I had my gun as I usually do when alone at night I am sure I would have shot him. I didn't think he was a cop. He acted like Barney Fife on the Andy Griffith Show. We have been reading about two men dressed as cops stopping women etc.

I was harassed, embarrassed and furious, and treated rudely. The girls at the correctional school where I work have told me about cops. And I now believe them.

I thought they were to protect us, not to accuse one for being drinking just because while turning the radio I ran across the white line. I have been driving 55 years and have had only 1 ticket.

I feel sorry for the citizens of Raeford with this sort of police protection.

Mrs. George Ashford
Red Springs, N. C.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, April 15, 1948
John D. (Slu) McKeithan, who has been working in Raleigh for some time, started work in the hardware department of McLaughlin Co. this week.

Funeral services for Mrs. Colin Shaw were conducted at 11 o'clock at Galatia Presbyterian Church last Saturday morning.

Shag Epstein announces in an ad in this issue that he has leased the filling station of the old W&W Motor Company and will operate it.

From Poole's Medley:
Oh, yes, there will be plenty of time in which to make good crops if the rains cease and farmers work diligently for two or three weeks.

At present forty - five per cent of the members of the senior class have been accepted in various colleges for next year.

Josephine Hall, county home demonstration agent, announced this week that a pressure cooker clinic for the women of the county would be held at the Raeford cannery on Monday afternoon, April 19.

Tobacco blue mold has made its appearance on schedule.

15 years ago

Thursday, April 17, 1958
Another recreation program is planned for the young people of Hoke County this year.

Senator Kerr W. Scott died late Wednesday afternoon of a sudden rupture of the heart.

Two teams of the Future Farmers of America won first place in judging contests at West End Monday afternoon.

The first sanatorium in the state for the treatment of tuberculosis was founded in 1908 in Cumberland County, now Hoke County.

Paul D. Dezerne, President of the Raeford Shrine Club, announced today that officers of Oasis Shrine Temple and two hundred members of the Temple's colorful uniformed units will visit Raeford on Saturday, April 26.

Twenty-four merchants attended the Chamber of Commerce Merchants Division dinner at the Elk Restaurant Tuesday night.