

The News - Journal



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THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1975

As We See It..... By Laurie Telfair

Of course you haven't driven up Elwood Avenue the wrong way since it became one-way last Monday. But did you know that for the first week at least hoards of people did?

As a matter of fact, it looked like drivers for miles around came to town to go the wrong way. Police were stationed along the street most of the week, turning motorists around.

By the end of the week, however, things had begun to settle down and reports were that the usual traffic congestion along Elwood was greatly eliminated.

The state is still scheduled to paint correct lane markings on Elwood and Main Street and that should help to clear up any lingering confusion.

But it's a safe bet that Raeford police don't want to see another one-way street anytime soon.

A drive by Raeford Elementary School the other day showed the dirt all smoothed and leveled and waiting for pavement. In another couple of weeks, as soon as the area is paved, there will be no hint that six dogwood trees grew and bloomed there for nearly forty years.

School officials say they hated to cut the trees and tried to avoid the action, but that more parking space had to be provided for school buses.

No doubt the space is needed, and I'm sure some other spot for the parking lot was sought. Perhaps the public might have had some suggestions that would have proved workable, had they been consulted before it was too late.

It takes a long time to grow a tree. And it's so easy to destroy one.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, March 23, 1950

W.E. Horner, publisher of the Sanford Herald and former member of the North Carolina General Assembly, is a candidate for the Congress from the Eighth District, and will oppose Congressman Charles B. Deane of Rockingham, who is a candidate for another term.

The great Atlantic and Pacific Tea company has made only slightly more than a penny a pound profit before taxes on its coffee sales the past two years, a senate subcommittee investigating coffee prices was told.

From Rockfish News:

Capt. W.J. Clark brought a wire recording machine to the school house last week and made recordings for a number of the children and then let them hear their own voices.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Upchurch moved this week to Indian Camp Park near Hoffman, N.C., where Mr. Upchurch has a position with the Sandhills Wildlife Commission.

Kenneth McNeill, son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. McNeill of Raeford has finished his work at North Carolina State College for his degree of B.S. in agriculture.

In an advertisement in this issue the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company reports on its progress in 1949 and concludes that it is "catching up."

15 years ago

Thursday, March 24, 1960

In a surprise visit to the Bank of Raeford Monday J.J. Hubbard, chairman of the Raeford Trade Committee of the Raeford Chamber of

Commerce, presented Robert L. Conoly with the "Clerk of the Month" award for March.

Duncan G. McFadyen lost his long battle with cancer on Friday afternoon at Moore Memorial Hospital, and funeral service was held on Sunday.

Mrs. Angus M. McBryde of the Dundarrach community died early Monday morning after being ill about an hour.

Mayor Alfred Cole found a ledger of minutes of the Town Board for the year 1901 through 1904, and some of the entries gave a real insight into life of the times.

Town Clerk Charlie Morrison reports that there was no objection to the requested rezoning of the property owned by Mrs. Carl Morris on Harris Avenue from "Residential" to "Residential or Business."

Mrs. A.D. McGirt, 83, of Hoke County, died Saturday in Scotland Memorial Hospital.

Jack Bray, a salesman of Raeford Auto Co., Raeford, was presented Ford Motor Company's 300-500 Club award at a banquet in Charlotte.

In an advertisement A & P was offering Bacon 3 1-lb pkgs for \$1.00.



A pitcher that goes too often to the well . . .



by Marty Vega

Can You Deduct Starvation?

Nobody wants to be reminded of that unpleasant date April 15 is approaching, but misery loves company, right?

And come to think of it, it's no accident they made the tax deadline April 15. No, in their wisdom, our forefathers decided on that because they knew, years later, modern police science would make it possible for college boys to spend thousands of dollars on research just to report to us homicides are most likely to occur when the temperature is 91 degrees. (Who'd have guessed) And where is it going to be 91 degrees anywhere in the country on April 15 except maybe Palm Springs, and who in Palm Springs is troubled with income taxes? (Agnew?)

So the whole business is very clear to me and the last thing I needed Sunday was Franny F. barging in on me when I'm trying to finish the thing.

"Are you still on that? I finished mine in January," she said with that smug air of hers.

I held my tongue until she started picking up papers and rifling them.

"What's this? Dependent children:

Tweety, Stinky, Vietnamese, and Policecat?"

"Give me that. That's just scratch paper."

"Look, if you're trying to cheat on your tax, remember you don't look good in stripes, you're too skinny."

"You fool, I'm not trying to cheat. If I reported my actual earnings, the computer would throw it out and call for an audit."

"Why?"

"Because on my income, I wouldn't just be skinny, they'd have to know this was filed by a corpse. According to their calculations, I wasn't able to afford to eat at all in 1974."

"Maybe you can take a deduction for being dead?"

"You'll be dead if you don't get out of here."

"Say, what's this," she said, grabbing another paper off the kitchen table. "Employee business expenses: '1,991 steno notebooks @49c ea.'"

"That's legitimate. I'm a journalist, right?"

"1,991 though?"

"So, I've got big writing. Anyway, I never use the back of a page."

"Hmmm. Okay, what about this? 2,021 ball point pens @39c each?"

"You lost 2,000 pens last year?"

"Er, no, let me change my statement. See, they weren't really lost. They were stolen, ah, professionals, probably."

"Yes...."

"You've got me all confused. That goes under form 464, 'Casualties and Theft's Losses' and it is not subject to the limitation."

"Look, I can't figure you. According to all this, you made so little last year you'll be getting a nice fat check."

"I know, and I can't stand it. I can't live with it."

"What?"

"Look, don't you realize that when the government owes YOU, it's official that you're a low income crumb like me. When YOU owe them, you've made it in life. You're a success, see? So now get out of here and leave me alone."

"I'm going."

Puppy Creek

Philosopher

Dear editor:

I was alternately reading a newspaper and wondering if I could interest the CIA in finding a garden plow I lost somewhere around this place a few years ago. I know it's somewhere out there in the weeds and if the CIA has a few thousand dollars left over from its submarine job and can't think of anything else to do it's welcome to start looking - I won't tell anybody - when I ran into an article on the latest dope on the tax rebate Congress is fiddling around with.

According to it, some members of Congress are objecting to a tax refund for everybody on the grounds it wouldn't stimulate the economy because too many people would just take the money and pay off some debts or sock it away in the bank. "You can't stimulate the economy that way," they argue. "The money ought to go to people who'll spend it."

This argument is a slander on the American people. If there's one thing you can trust the people to do it's to spend whatever handout they can get their hands on, from a \$200 rebate to an average citizen to \$200,000,000 to an average railroad. It's pretty clear those Congressmen must come from some part of the country nobody else has ever heard of.

Speaking of Congress, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said the other day that he wouldn't have arranged the Paris peace agreement that stopped the fighting in South Vietnam a couple of minutes at least two years ago if he'd thought Congress wouldn't continue to appropriate money for that beleaguered country.

This is puzzling. You'd think that a man who has taught at Harvard and has been Secretary of State for several years and living right there in Washington would have learned you can't predict what Congress will do even tomorrow, not to mention two years hence.

Say, back to the rebates, there's a guy not far from here who has owed me \$21.50 for four years and I was just thinking, you reckon he has refused to pay me because he thought I'd slow down the economy by socking it in a bank?

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

Bicentennial Notes

Old Church Remembered

Last June 30, as they do each year, descendants from the congregation of Long Street Church gathered for a reunion at the old church, now tucked away within the bounds of Fort Bragg. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Edward McLeod, son of the last pastor of Long Street, the Rev. R.A. McLeod, who served from 1913 until the church was taken over by the Government in 1923.

In the final days of the church, the elder Rev. Mr. McLeod published a history of Long Street Presbyterian Church.

The church dates its founding to 1756, when the Rev. Hugh McAden rode into the community and stopped overnight at the home of Alexander McKay. He preached to the Highlanders of the community the next night, Jan. 20, 1756 and "the fires have never gone out on that altar. For one hundred and sixty-seven years the Highlanders of this community have continued to gather around this altar for the public worship of the Lord."

However McAden did not stay in the community but instead arranged for a Scotsman to come from Pennsylvania to take over the spiritual leadership of the community. The Rev. James Campbell arrived and formed three churches, the Bluff church, sometimes called Roger's meeting house; Barbecue, called Clark's and Long Street, called McKay's.

The first elders of Long Street were Malcolm Smith, Archibald Ray and Archibald McKay, son of Alexander McKay.

The Rev. Mr. Campbell, being a sympathizer of the colonists, left the church in 1776. As the church historian writes "Mr. Campbell had come to America 16 years before this battle (the battle of Culloden). He was therefore free from his oath and on account of his longer residence here was more familiar with the conditions here. He championed the cause of the colonists. In his zeal for their cause, he prayed for their success in his public prayers."

Mr. Campbell returned to the region following the war and died in 1780.

His duties during the war were taken by the Rev. John McLeod, who was jailed by the colonists as a sympathizer with England. The Rev. Mr. Campbell went to his aid before the Provincial Congress and secured his release. Soon after, the minister left for England and is presumed to have been lost at sea.

Other pastors of the old church include the Revs. Dougal Crawford (1783-1791); Angus McDiarmid (1793-1803) the only pastor buried at the church cemetery; Colin Lindsay; Colin McIver; Evander McNaair, 1832; Neill McKay; D.D. McBryde, (1853-1854); James McQueen, 1856; David Fairley and R.A. McLeod, 1913.

Long Street had three houses of worship. The first was built in 1765. It was probably a plain log structure. It stood just north of the present site and about four hundred yards away. The second house was erected in the early part of the 19th century and was a frame structure. It stood on the west side of the present building and near the corner of the cemetery. It was a rather plain and unattractive house but commodious and furnished accommodation for very large congregations. The present house was erected between 1845 and 1848, probably finished in 1847. At that time the community was in a prosperous condition and the attractive and substantial house of worship erected bears testimony to the gratitude of the people to a kind and beneficent Providence."

Long Street was the mother of churches, the Rev. Mr. McLeod writes. Members from the church established Galatia, Cypress and Sandy Grove, he wrote, and contributed to the founding of McPherson, China Grove, Bethel, Bethesda, Union and Buffalo.

CLIFF BLUE . . .

People & Issues



PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY -- There is more behind the move to repeal the presidential primary in North Carolina than meets the eye. Some of those in the General Assembly working for its repeal say it was a failure in 1972.

How could it have been a failure when the people of North Carolina participated in the presidential primary to a greater extent than they did in the gubernatorial primary. 10,621 more people voted in the presidential primary than did in the races for governor. In the Democratic presidential primary 989,899 voted with the votes being scattered this way: Wallace 413,518; Sanford 306,014; Muskie 30,739; Chisholm 61,723; Jackson 9,416. In the Republican primary the vote stood: Nixon 159,167; McCloskey 8,732.

Some of the opponents of the presidential primary say that some of the major candidates did not enter the North Carolina primary - particularly, George McGovern.

It appears to me that the reason is quite obvious why McGovern did not enter the North Carolina primary: His

support was scant in North Carolina and no candidate wants to enter a primary when he realizes that the results will likely be embarrassing.

The North Carolina presidential primary was held in May. The Florida primary was held in March, and George McGovern had entered it because Florida was regarded as more liberal than other Southern states, but when the Florida votes were counted McGovern had only 6 percent! George Wallace led the field with 42 percent. Hubert Humphrey had 18 percent, Scoop Jackson 13 percent, Muskie who had run ahead in New Hampshire had only 9 percent. Mayor Lindsay of New York had 7 percent. Shirley Chisholm 4 percent, Eugene McCarthy 4 percent and Wilbur Mills 3 percent.

Florida's vote showed that George McGovern had but little strength in the South so you can give him credit for staying out of North Carolina.

Another reason that some candidates may have stayed out of North Carolina was because our own Terry Sanford was a candidate and in deference to Terry,

The Long Street Academy was a preparatory school there that flourished several years before the Civil War and closed when the teacher, Maj. Murdock McLaughlin, and his students marched off to join Lee's army in Virginia.

Another member, Capt. John McKellar and other contingents left the community to join the Confederate forces. "So depleted was the population of the community that there was not a child presented for baptism for 16 years after the war. Long Street never recovered from the death toll of that war."

A small marble shaft in the cemetery at Long Street, marked Confederate Soldiers, marks the grave of some unknown Confederate soldiers who fell in the Monroe Battle - a small skirmish between Wheeler's cavalry and a detachment of Sherman's men under command of Kilpatrick six miles west of the church. The monument was raised in 1870.

Men from Long Street also fought in World War I, including the pastor who served for 10 months as chaplain.

The end of the active life of the church came in 1923. "The present condition of Long Street church and community in the matter of its organized life is a precarious one. In 1918 the Government decided to take over this entire community along with other adjoining communities for the purpose of establishing an Artillery School of Fire. Naturally this action worked a real hardship on most of the people of the community. There were hallowed associations in the families, the community and the church life that no appraiser could value and no purchaser could buy. These ties had to be broken. The love scenes of youth and the homes that represented a lifetime of toil must be left behind, and eventually the altar fires that have burned for one hundred and sixty-seven years must go out. The record of this old church has been long and honorable, but the day of its activity has passed; it will soon cease to function. Let no one imagine that this fact is recorded in criticism of the Government. It is not. If the fort is a military necessity - a fact that no one in the community attempted to disprove, the needs of the whole country abundantly justifies the hardship imposed upon this small section. It is a pleasure to record that the relationship between the church and the Government has been most cordial. They have manifested an active interest in the care of the church and the upkeep of the cemetery. The congregation has been assured that both the church building and cemetery will be preserved. So while the active life of the church must soon cease, it is very gratifying to know that this hallowed spot will not be disturbed. It is even hoped that the Government will someday make a small appropriation to beautify and preserve it as a Colonial Centre.

"The surrender of the legal title to the church and cemetery property was perhaps the most trying experience of all in connection with the matter of taking over property by the Government. The memories that clustered around that spot were too sacred and the care of the last resting place of five generations of parents and grandparents was too vital to willingly surrender the control of the property to strange hands. But national law forbids private ownership of property within a Government Reservation and so the courts ordered the church to surrender the title to the property."

Long Street received \$5,000 for the property, which was donated to Davidson College for the "Long Street Church Ministerial Student Fund."

The last elders were N.D.M. Clark, Jeff D. Monroe and John F. McFadyen.

The Army continues to maintain the church building and cemetery and once a year a reunion is held there.

Hubert Humphrey probably stayed out of North Carolina. Sanford was expected to carry the state but Wallace's strength continued to be strong until he was shot in Maryland some weeks later.

OTHER STATES -- North Carolina had more candidates in its primary than did a number of other important states. In this state there were five candidates running in the Democratic primary.

We point out the situation in the other states to show that while in a number of them no more candidates entered than did in North Carolina, but they are not taling about dropping the primary for the out-moded convention system!

If any member of the General Assembly has serious doubts as to whether the people are in favor of continuing the presidential primary, I suggest that they submit the matter to the people in a state-wide referendum at the 1976 May primary or 1976 General Election and if it is not approved by at least a two-to-one vote I will be greatly surprised.