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THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1975

The Economy Edges Up

Signs of American economic recovery grow stronger: The dollar is regaining stature in European money markets. Auto sales and housing construction, the heavyweights of American industry, have started to turn around. Personal income climbed last month, even after discounting increases in social security and other benefit payments. Inflation has collapsed to 5 percent.

Thus the economy has embarked on the upward course which the Ford administration trusts will continue through the next 15 months of presidential campaigning.

The White House is meeting many of its key policy goals. Treasury Secretary Simon notes with pleasure that Congress is holding the deficit nearer to the \$60 billion "noninflationary" level the White House Advocated than the \$100 billion Mr. Simon feared. The administration has helped stave off a gasoline tax, and is boosting arms and grain sales abroad to bolster U.S. trade, economic recovery, and agri-business profits.

This is not to suggest that the upward trending economy, and the White House itself, do not face difficulties ahead. Though Mr. Ford's party draws little support from among those bearing the brunt of the recession—the jobless—the projected 7 or 8 percent unemployment level at election time will impress many crucial working-class voters as a sign of flawed economic leadership.

The recovery also is expected to be inchingly slow. Consumer studies show public confidence still severely depressed after enduring more than a year and a half of recession. Unless consumer optimism takes firmer hold, and monetary policy remains sufficiently relaxed, the recovery could be slowed.

And there are signs that inflationary impulses in the U.S. economy were not totally quelled by the recession, even though it was the worst recession since World War II. The administration has just had to jawbone the aluminum industry out of raising prices at a time when the industry is operating at only three-fourths capacity and sales are down. On the labor side, wage increases have been running over 12 percent this year, and West Coast construction workers have pushed for an alarmingly inflationary 20 percent hike in their new contracts.

For the moment, however, the main trend of the economy is up. And that is a good deal to be thankful for.

—The Christian Science Monitor

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, July 20, 1950

The summer recreation program for children sponsored by the Raeford Kiwanis Club through its public affairs Committee had its last session yesterday with games in the morning and supervised swimming at the creek yesterday afternoon.

Officials approval has been given for the final link of a new all-paved road which will connect Fayetteville and Charlotte and will cut the distance from about 140 miles to about 120 miles.

From Poole's Medley:
 When the weather is real hot you fully believe it is the hottest weather you have ever seen, but it so happens every summer.

Archie Byrne, president of the Raeford Lions club, announced this week that the club was sponsoring the appearances here tonight of "Diamond Jim's Circus," and he invited the public to attend.

The Raeford Rebels coasted behind the effective two-hit pitching of Clyde Upchurch, Jr. here Tuesday night to trim the Red Springs All-Stars 7-1. J.B. McLeod, Bill Upchurch, Jimmy Conoly and George Wood led the Rebels' 12-hit attack.

15 years ago

Thursday, July 21, 1960

Reminders of the squabble caused by the proposed consolidation of three county schools were brought up Monday night when the Board of

Education granted a petition from parents of students in the 7th grade at Rockfish school asking that the students be accepted into the schools in Raeford.

Dr. Clifton Davenport will take the post of clinician for the County Health department, Dr. Julius Jordan, chairman of the Hoke County Board of Commissioners has announced.

Younger Sneed of Hoke Auto Company, Raeford, has been appointed an area chairman of the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association.

From Rockfish News:
 As this is being written on Tuesday Rockfish is a dry place in the true sense of the word.

Watermelon growers who joined the marketing cooperative set up this spring are busily shipping their crop to market.

A meeting will be held for the members of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss and vote on the proposed change in the name of the group on Thursday, July 28, at 8:00 p.m. in the Hoke High School lunchroom.

The McLaughlin School Boys' Chorus returned tired but happy after several singing engagements in Raleigh during the meeting of the N.C. Home Demonstration women.

...Decisions...decisions...



by Marty Vega

Everything You Always Wanted To Know

The many days of constant rain here are becoming a matter of great concern, particularly for those who don't own umbrellas. (I don't recommend the use of umbrellas, as it is easy for a mugger to come up behind you and rob you this way, but it is okay to carry one, I guess, if you don't unfold it. More on this subject later.)

Before you rush out and buy umbrellas, you really should know more about the rain if you are going to fight this problem.

Commonly regarded as associated with the condensation of atmospheric vapor, and the subsequent condescension, albeit dilatory, too often we view the phenomenon as contemptuous, refusing to acknowledge inchoate incertitude, and there we let it rest, pondering the conundrum, which is hardly salubrious, now is it?

My own opinion is we may be experiencing a variation of the usual nimbus stratus cloud formations and what we have here is a manifestation of the rare nacreous, or even possibly the noctilucent, which was observed in Hampshire, England on June 30, 1950, and not easily forgotten.

Then again, it might not. The only way to be sure is to get yourself a raindrop spectrometer. Believe it or not, scientists spent five years at the University of Illinois developing the raindrop spectrometer. One is already in use in St. Louis.

Made out of some kind of Plexiglas, the device electronically counts the number of drops and records their sizes.

Each raindrop that hits it creates its very own pressure impact, which is then converted into an electrical signal and tape recorded.

The tape of the rain falling is then fed to a computer, which prints out information on when the rainfall began and ended, the total amount, and believe it or not, the effect on the pollution at the time, which is figured by weighing the amounts of pollutants in the raindrops.

How we got along without this wonderful invention before I don't know, but after five years it is really here. It's exhilarating to think about it, isn't it?

So start putting it down on your Christmas lists. No home should be without one.

CLIFF BLUE ... People & Issues



CAMPBELL COLLEGE - While it has taken years to get a medical school approved for East Carolina University, in one swoop action the board of trustees of Campbell College gave the "go-ahead" authority for the institution to establish a law school at this Baptist institution of high learning located at Bues Creek in Harnett County.

JENKINS & ECU - Dr. Leo Jenkins, Chancellor of East Carolina University says: "We remain confident that we will be able to develop the medical school on schedule. We will not be deterred by whatever obstacles we encounter. Our new Dean, Dr. William Laupus, agrees that the job can be done." While the funds have been voted to insure the Med School for East Carolina University, it sometimes appears that the opponents of the school are still fighting a rear-guard action against the project.

UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations is located in New York City, several hundred miles from North Carolina. We have long been a strong defender of this world confederation of nations, but now feel that what is done and said there is little more than children beating on tin pans thinking they compose a band. The American participation in the Vietnam war lasted years without any armistice or peaceful solutions being adopted as a result of influence by the UN.

As a debating society where ideas can be freely discussed, the UN may be alright, but we feel that Uncle Sam is having to pay too large a proportion to the fiddler.

STUDY COMMITTEES - A large number of study committees were authorized by the 1975 General Assembly. In general, "Study Committees" become the graveyard for ideas that the legislature just doesn't want to face up and say "no" to.

V.P. ROCKEFELLER - Up until a few days ago Vice President Rockefeller indicated that he would leave it entirely to President Ford as to whether or not he would be on the GOP national ticket for VP in 1976. Now, we understand that an organization is being brought together to work for the nomination of Mr. Rockefeller as vice president in 1976. Rockefeller seems to be realizing that it may take more than "lip service" from President Ford to make sure his place on the ticket.

Say what you please but our opinion is that Reagan would be glad to take second place on the GOP ticket if first place is ruled out, which now seems to be the case. But instead of running for vice president

you run for president and hope to be tapped for second place. This holds true for Democrats as well as Republicans.

However, 1972 was an exception for the Democrats when Senator Eagleton was asked to withdraw as the vice presidential candidate after he had been nominated. Senator McGovern tried to get Ted Kennedy to take second place before and after Eagleton's nomination, but he declined both times. Then he was turned down by several others before Sergeant Shriver eagerly accepted in the second go-around.

The reason McGovern had such a hard time getting someone to take second place was because he was regarded as such a weak candidate and substantial senators did not relish going down to a smashing defeat with the liberal and starry-eyed senator from South Dakota.

FORD & RED TAPE - President Ford has been lashing out at the growing bureaucracy and red tape involved in Federal government. We agree with President Ford and his predecessors before him - Presidents Johnson and Nixon.

It seems to us that President Ford is in a mighty good place to do something effective about the red tape in government, now while he is in the White House. Sanford, Wallace, Bentzen, Udall, Carter, Harris and Jackson soon may be lashing out at the same red tape and bureaucracy, but they are not now in the White House where orders and decrees are given and carried out.

Yes, Mr. President, we are with you but someone has said: "What you do speaks so loud I can't hear what you say."

What about a little action now, Mr. President?

SOUTHERNER FOR PRESIDENT - Recently we have had the feeling that being a Southerner was no longer a barrier to being elected president of the United States, so we were not surprised to read that former Gov. Jimmy Carter of Georgia in a poll which was made for him found a slim majority in the nation would prefer a Southerner in every section of the country except

California and New England. It looks like 1976 might be the year when the Democrats turn to a Southerner to lead the party since six of the seven candidates now in the running are from the South, they being, Jimmy Carter of Georgia, Lloyd Bentsen of Texas, Fred Harris of Oklahoma, Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona, Terry Sanford of North Carolina and Gov. Wallace of Alabama. The lonely outsider is Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington state.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:
 For some time now I've been studying the part of the lie in national and world affairs and the way it looks to me lying has just about been ruined.

It used to be that one of the worst things you could call a man was a liar, but nowadays let one politician call another a liar and people just shrug: so what, they're probably both right.

You read a headline: Editor Harold Smith Denies CIA Role, and people's reaction is, You know he's guilty.

Admit something is true about what you're accused of and people will say "Yeah, he's just admitting that to cover up something he's done that's worse."

Nothing seems to work any more. Not even No Comment. Ask a politician a sharp question and if he says "No comment," people say, "Ah-hah, he's guilty as sin." If he says, "I neither deny or confirm it," people say he's just confirmed it.

It has got to the point where if somebody accuses you of something, the best thing to do is get out of sight. If you hang around to deny it, you're a goner. No use issuing a statement through your campaign manager. He's already under indictment for accepting illegal contributions to your last campaign.

Understand, this isn't just a national condition. Lying has become such a habit among the world leaders that a nation caught telling the truth will be accused of just trying to befuddle the others. "What're they up to this time?" the others will say. "Something's going on there we don't understand. Better have our undercover people look into it."

In other words, lying as an instrument of personal, national and international policy has been ruined. It's like sleeping pills. The more you take the more you need, till finally nothing works.

You think I'm telling the truth? No comment.

Yours faithfully,
 J.A.



Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

The National School Lunch Act was adopted in 1946 and at that time Congress stated that the legislation was needed "to safeguard the health and welfare of the Nation's children and to encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious agricultural commodities and other food." Over the past 30 years the Act has assisted millions of families in insuring adequate nutrition for their children.

Recently the Senate extended the Act and passed some amendments to it. At that time I was able to have an amendment adopted which I feel will discourage cheating by those who are really not eligible to participate in the school lunch program.

In the past, school officials were forced to accept, without question, affidavits signed by parents stating that their children were eligible for free meals due to the parents inability to pay. Simply stated, my amendment says that school officials may seek verification of the data set forth in the application for participation in the program.

If school officials have reason to believe that a person can afford to pay for his child's meals, my amendment would give them the right to question the claims a parent might have concerning his income. I think this is important because I feel that by forcing school officials to accept the word of a parent, without having the right to check it, we have been encouraging dishonesty.

We get hundreds of letters in Washington and Raleigh from people who complain that others are cheating on welfare or are abusing the food stamp program. I am certain that there is much of this going on, and I would like to see it stopped wherever it is practiced.

For this reason, when the Senate was debating the School Lunch Act amendments, I told my colleagues that we should "either give every child in school a free lunch or provide lunches for those who are not able to provide for themselves." I have supported the school lunch program because I believe it is a necessary one. Many boys and girls get their only substantial, balanced meal of the day at the school lunch counter.

But the practice of accepting a parent's statement with no means of verification and no authority to check it is simply an invitation to dishonesty. Also, when the cheating occurs it not only involves the adult, but the child as well, because his classmates are generally aware of whose father is able to pay and whose is not.

I realize this is but a small step in controlling abuse of the public treasury, but it is a step that should have been taken sooner. Perhaps it will help foster an attitude that will make those of us in Congress look more critically at suspicious practices in many government programs we establish and review.

Stories Behind Words

by William S. Penfield

Pasquinade

Early in the 16th century an ancient statue that had been dug up near the palace of a cardinal was set up on a square in Rome.

The statue was situated on a spot opposite the house of Pasquino, a tailor noted for his acid wit. The statue was unidentified, and many jestingly called it Pasquino, after the tailor.

Eventually anonymous persons used the statue as a place to hang notes satirizing the government and important persons of the city. The caustic writings were called "pasquinata", from the name of the statue. "Pasquinata" became "pasquinade" in English, a name given to any vicious satire.

Slothful

The sloth is a tree-dwelling animal of Central and South America.

During the day this shaggy-haired animal sleeps, hanging by its four feet from a limb. Algae, or tiny green plants, grow in its shaggy coat. This gives the sloth a great deal of protection, for he blends with the foliage as he hangs motionless.

At night the sloth moves about the tree eating leaves. Its movements are very slow and sluggish. In fact, it is the slowest of all four-footed animals. It is for this reason that the sloth got its name, for the word is derived from "slow".

A slothful person is like a sloth - sluggish, lazy, slow.

Sail Under False Colors

"To sail under false colors," meaning to pretend to be what one is not, is a nautical expression that arose during the 16th century, the heyday of piracy.

Ships were required to fly the flags, or colors, of the nations they represented, so that any ship might be easily recognized as friend or foe.

Crews of pirate ships, however, upon spotting a likely prey, hoisted the colors of a nation friendly to the country that the other ship represented. The pirate ship then was able to make a surprise attack on the other ship.

