

The News - Journal



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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1976

Editorial

A new beginning

"Not even the beginning" of a cause to remove Hoke County Sheriff David M. Barrington from office, is substantially what Superior Court Judge James H. Pou Bailey said here last week in dismissing a petition brought by Elisha Dial, a former deputy sheriff, and others. We agree with the finding of the judge, and believe the overwhelming sentiment among the people of Hoke County to be the same.

The judge also noted the incident in this action to be the only such error charged against the sheriff in some 18 years of law enforcement and added the comment that he wished he had that good a record.

Taking into account Dial's action to accumulate evidence on the sheriff which he didn't see fit to use until after his discharge as deputy more than a year later, Bailey took note of the fact that the Hoke County commissioners had been told of the matter by Dial and had heard Sheriff Barrington admit his part in it and that this board had not seen fit to take action.

Judge Bailey added after court and after he had taxed Dial with part of the costs, that he felt this law should be changed so that such matters should first be heard before a local governing board, in this case the county commissioners, before being taken to court. He said if this case had been handled this way the county would have saved in the neighborhood of \$1000 in attorneys' fees.

Former Solicitor Doran Berry testified as to Barrington's character with great eloquence and said things about the sheriff which are usually heard only by a person's survivors.

Sheriff Barrington, after the finding and still apparently feeling some apprehension about either saying the wrong thing or having it quoted wrongly, would only say that he was "gratified".

While we would characterize this as probably the understatement of the year, we would say that the people of the county certainly share the sheriff's gratification.

He has shown some signs in recent months of laboring under the burden of his example of bad judgment, as evidenced by his statements to the commissioners and the press and by his threats to resign, or not run again. His constituents and friends who elected him have certainly shared this pressure, and all these certainly share his gratification in having the whole thing handled officially, prosecuted vigorously — as the county attorney and district attorney were obligated to do — and finally dismissed by one of the State's most respected judges.

Now, with what is officially "not even the beginning" of a cause for his removal, we can share with Sheriff David Barrington the hope that we do have a good beginning for him to serve the people of Hoke County for 18 or so more years. He has been, is, and will continue to be, a good sheriff, and there is none among us who has not also made an error of judgment, although he has paid for his error as many of us don't.



Read Matthew 6:25-34

"Do not be anxious about tomorrow; tomorrow will look after itself. Each day has troubles enough of its own." (Matthew 6:34, NEB)

Jesus' words about today and tomorrow are applicable in the stewardship of God's good earth. The distant future seems irrelevant for most of us. Living today, we can hardly be responsible for the twenty-first century. We can, however be good managers of the present hour. After that the future arrives well prepared for.

My father poured most of his eighty-five years into building up a small hillside farm until it would grow anything he wanted to plant. But he did not labor to give his children a good farm to cultivate. Each day he worked so that the family would have enough to eat

and to wear. Today his sons are living fruit of his soil conservation.

Perhaps that is what we all need to see, whether in terms of air pollution, soil conservation, or energy use. Along with our portion of His good earth, God gives us the present moment. We need to put the two together to be good stewards; then tomorrow will look after itself.

PRAYER: Father, make us able to respond to Your love today, so that our responsibility for tomorrow will not be overlooked. Then may the earth with all its fullness truly be Yours. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: We give to God what He gives us - the present moment.

--copyright--THE UPPER ROOM --Joseph M. Reeves (Charlotte, North Carolina)

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, June 7, 1951

The new board of commissioners of the town of Raeford held their first meeting Monday night and were sworn into office along with Mayor W.L. Poole who succeeds himself. The new board, none of whom served last term, include R.B. Lewis, J.H. Blue, J.W. McPhaul, A.V. Sanders and Marion Gatlin.

California, became manager of Colonial Frozen Foods of Raeford, Inc. last week.

Among the 61 graduates of Bowman Gray School of Medicine at commencement exercises June 10 and 11 is Riley Moore Jordan, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Jordan.

The State Highway Commission has recently completed seven miles of road work in Hoke County.

"I don't care what we prove. I still believe in the monster and also the Abominable Snowman"



by Marty Vega

Feel Tired, Rundown

Ever feel you're getting the run-around from the landlord when re-painting and other improvements are needed, but you are too meek about it? Feel that you don't speak up strongly enough about what you are entitled to? Don't assert yourself enough? Have that tired, rundown feeling when crossing the street?

Is the pen still mightier than the sword? Or at least stronger than a small penknife?

L.V. of Norfolk, Va. offers us this poetic message to bolster our sagging spirits and our peeling walls.

There's a man called -----
Down here at Ft. Bragg,
Who rents and sells houses
To protectors of our Flag.

His houses are filled
With furniture nondescript
It's cozy and modern,
But some of it's ripped.

The tables are wobbly,
The chairs are-well...loose.
If you sit on them,
It might cook your goose.

There's always a room
In need of redecorating.
He says he will do it
It's naught but procrastinating.

His backyards are fenced
Partially, that is....
He promises completion
In answer to our quiz.

His curtain rods are supported
By a nail in the center.
It's tacky and ugly
For owner or renter.

On the first of each month
He drops in to visit,
He's come for his money,
When you ask "Who is it?"

We ask ourselves why
This man is all business,
Why can't he think of us,
Drifting in dizziness.

If he doesn't fix up
And move soon to act,
We'll say "Adios"
And cancel our pact.



Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

Recently, I voted to sustain the President's veto of a bill that would have added \$125 million this year to enforce the standards of the Child Day Care Act. The bill provided for authority to spend \$250 million more for the next four years.

The Sunday newspapers, in the column on how your members of Congress voted the previous week, dutifully recorded that I voted to uphold the veto of the Day Care appropriation.

There was some mail which was critical of the vote and even my own son wanted to know why I had voted against day care for children.

It wasn't quite that simple. The Federal Government is now spending over \$725 million annually for Day Care, to help working parents have a place to leave their children while they go off to their jobs.

And because the Government is spending this sum, it has insisted upon setting up standards which apply to centers in all of the 50 states. These went into effect June 1st of this year.

The extra \$125 million would have increased the bureaucracy to enforce those standards. It is extremely doubtful that many members who voted for the appropriation know just what standards are.

The standards mandate that for every four children between six weeks and three years old in a center there shall be an adult. There shall also be one adult for every five children between the ages of three and four years. And so on.

There has been no evidence that these standards, which were set by an all-knowing Congress, are necessary in every state or in every center. Rather there is a feeling that if there are problems with Day Care Centers, more money will make them go away.

There have been some problems. In New York City, a Mayor's task force found day care incompetent and extremely costly. High rents paid to slum landlords were called a major problem and it was discovered that a student could be sent to Harvard University for less than it cost to keep one child in a Day Care Center. And, of course,

the taxpayer is the one who is footing the bill.

Throwing extra money into the pot to pay more bureaucrats doesn't seem to be the way to help the day care situation.

There was no proof offered that the staffing ratios which are mandated in the standards have had any beneficial effect on day care for children. In fact, no one has made clear just how the ratios were arrived at.

This is currently something that should be left to the state governments, rather than attempting to handle the matter by increasing the federal bureaucracy. Each state should know its own needs and should be accorded the privilege of setting its own rules, rather than having Washington, in its wisdom, mandate the same standards for Winston-Salem and Wilmington that it does for Chicago and New York.

So the issue wasn't as simple as it appeared and the vote was not against children, but against an increased bureaucracy and higher spending for what appeared to be no answer to the problem at all.

15 years ago

Thursday, June 8, 1961

A proposed budget for the town of Raeford was approved Monday night shortly after the five board members and the mayor took their oath of office. Sworn in were Mayor H.R. (Hootch) McLean and Board members J.D. McMillian, Fred Culbreth, W.L. Alexander, C.P. Kinlaw and John K. McNeill, Jr.

A delegation of Hoke County

CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues



OUT FRONT -- Jimmy Carter is way out front in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination and as usual it's the man in front who gets shot at and in recent days Jimmy has been getting it right and left.

Udall has been after the peanut grower from Georgia for weeks but has never been able to make a solid hit. As the race nears the end Senator Church and Governor Brown have been able to slow the Georgia boy down as he tires in the final laps of the primary campaign. Hubert has been throwing a rock whenever the opportunity has arisen and Minnesota orator is no slough in finding an opportunity.

Carter has been quite canny in being able to "run the ridges" on major issues which will certainly come up in the general election even if he is able to get by the primary without taking a hard stand.

Carter is so far ahead now for the nomination that it will be mighty hard to deny the prize to him. Governor Brown and Senator Church are building up recognition for themselves in an attempt to be ready for a real run for the White House in 1980 or 1984. While Church has been in the Senate for several years and has a liberal record to his credit or discredit, depending on how you view the situation, very little is known about Brown who seems to be quite popular in California but to size him up as a serious presidential contender would be something like buying a "pig in the poke."

CANDIDATES CHANGE -- It must be remembered that candidates have been known quite frequently to change from their original views once they start running for president, and sometimes after making it to the white house. Lyndon Johnson was elected to the House of Representatives and later to the U.S. Senate as a regular Southern conservative but when he started eyeing the white house he started moving from his old conservative stance. After making it to the White House upon the death of President Kennedy he adopted an all-out liberal position on domestic issues.

CARTER CHANGES -- Jimmy Carter, back in 1971 when he was

governor of Georgia, assured the National Right-to-Work Committee that he was "not in favor of doing away with" right to work laws. But what he is saying now is quite different. In Roanoke, Virginia, he recently said: "If Congress repeals 14-B and it is placed on my desk I will be glad to sign it. But I'm not going to take this on as a crusade."

WASHINGTON -- Two of the most potent Democrats in Congress have brought a cloud of disrespect over their party and Congress in general -- Wilbur Mills who headed the powerful Ways and Means Committee and Wayne Hayes who chaired the potent House Administration Committee and the Democratic National Congressional Committee. When the Democrats point the finger and holler "Water-gate," the Republicans can shout back, "Hayes, Mills and Chappquiddick!"

FORD & BUSING -- President Ford will likely find many backers if he devises and promotes legislation which would avoid court-ordered busing. When the courts -- Federal or State attempt to run the schools as is the case in Boston and elsewhere it reminds many of a bull in a china closet. The furor over busing out of a home neighborhood into another may not have caused many to go without a high school diploma but something has caused hundreds and thousands to go without a proper high school education -- being able to read and write a comprehensive sentence!

AIRING THE ISSUES -- Coy C. Privette for the Republicans and Senator Tom Strickland for the Democrats have challenged their opponents in their respective parties for an open discussion on the issues facing the state. Strickland said that the special interests had been receiving the candidates to hear how they stood on issues and he thought it time for the general public to have the same opportunity. Strickland suggested that the Democratic gubernatorial candidates hold the discussions over the state in the several congressional districts which seems fair and democratic. We hope that the debates takes place and that they be televised so the public in general can see and hear the questions and answers.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:
Some men I understand won't leave work in the afternoon till their desk is cleared off, some clean their desk off once a week, some once a month, some every spring. I have never been bound by such rigid rules. I clean mine off when it won't hold any more.

It reached that peak yesterday and here are a few items I picked up after they fell on the floor:

(1) It seems to me that while it might be asking too much of human nature to expect to have politicians who won't lie, it looks like some of the more notorious ones would learn to at least stop lying about their lying. It makes you wonder about a politician's intelligence when he looks into the TV camera and says "I never was in her apartment," only to have it come out that actually he was there twice a week for two years. It looks like Congress has to do either one of two things: straighten up, or ban investigative reporting.

(2) As Mark Twain said, some people will lie on credit when they could tell the truth for cash.

(3) I understand the big New York City University has closed down because it's broke. Congress ought to do something about that immediately. You start closing down public outfits because they're broke and what do you think will happen to Washington?

(4) According to a statistical firm, what a person earns from January 1 to May 1 goes for taxes, and it's not until May 2 that he actually starts working for himself. It has taken us 200 years to go from No Taxation Without Representation to No Representation without Taxation.

(5) Washington has a hard time learning. It has been denouncing Cuba for sending troops to Angola, when it ought to be sitting back grinning. If Cuba hasn't learned from us what it can cost a nation to send troops to a country half-way around the world, it ought to be her worry, not ours.

My desk is now cleaned off. I didn't know it was that color.
Yours faithfully,
J.A.