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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1976

The Carter Presidency

It goes without saying that Jimmy Carter's presidential victory is one of the most remarkable political achievements of the century. Since that victory was not at all certain after his faltering campaign, it suggests that Americans, for all their qualms about this unknown newcomer from Plains, Georgia, are ready for a change and fresh start.

Clearly Mr. Carter has not been handed a mandate for extremism. The closeness of the vote indicates that the American electorate as a whole remains in the moderate middle of the road (where the President-Elect in fact places himself). Moreover, the Democratic victory represents more a return to traditional voting instincts in the South and the industrial North than an overwhelming enthusiasm for Mr. Carter. The latter the new President-Elect will have to earn.

The big question ahead is how the former Georgia Governor will translate his brilliant campaign organizational ability into the use of political power in the White House. His responsibility is all the greater because he has promised to restore the trust in government. Not just trust in the personal integrity of the president and those around him -- Gerald Ford has certainly done that. But in the capacity of government to respond effectively, efficiently, and morally to national and world problems. Public confidence in America's institutions has sadly declined in recent years. If Mr. Carter fails to strive creditably to fulfill his own vision for the nation he will only fuel public skepticism.

While the challenge is awesome, the opportunities are great. For the first time in eight years there will be a unified government in Washington, with a Democratic President, a Democratic Congress, and new leadership in both houses of Congress. Here is a chance to build a constructive partnership between the executive and legislative branches of government. This will not be automatic, as John Kennedy learned. Mr. Carter is inexperienced in the ways of Washington and will undoubtedly encounter tough resistance from many quarters, including the federal bureaucracy. It will be a measure of his ability to lead -- and to compromise -- if he can develop a relationship which, while healthily competitive, is not confrontational to the point of stalemate.

Mr. Carter will also have the opportunity to move across party lines and restore that old Vandenberg spirit of bipartisanship in foreign policy. This has been absent all too long. It is right that there be a national consensus on America's policies abroad and Mr. Carter can begin early to build such a consensus by seeking the advice and support not only of the Democratic "outs" but of Republican insiders who have exerted so much influence on diplomacy these past eight years.

Now that Americans have conclusively put the debacle of Watergate behind them and asked for a change, what kind of change will it be? Naturally it will be some time before the new President can spell out his intentions and programs but the broad thrust of his ideas is compelling. There is no quarrel that the government bureaucracy needs reorganization, that a fresh approach to budgeting is worth trying, that reforms are needed in the bloated welfare system and in the complicated, often inequitable tax system.

Among the new President's highest priorities will of course be the economy and here we trust that Mr. Carter's profession of fiscal conservatism proves a reliable one. Americans are visibly concerned about putting the jobless back to work -- the labor vote obviously helped put Mr. Carter over the top -- and about meeting certain social needs. But they are also acutely conscious of the dangers of inflation and of the imperative that government operate within its means.

No one foresees an easy road ahead, nor expects easy solutions. Mr. Carter will enter office with a baggage of promises that will be hard to keep. But he brings with him, too, a keen intelligence, a capacity for growth, and a strong religious faith.

Above all, as he sets out to unify the country and give it new purpose and direction, he has the goodwill of the American people. There is no doubt they are deeply grateful to President Ford for lifting the country out of the disgrace of Watergate and leading it during a difficult time of economic stagnation. But they now are willing to risk a change in the hopes of giving the nation vigorous leadership.

It is our fervent hope and prayer the man from the South will not let them down. -- *The Christian Science Monitor*

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, November 8, 1951

The town board got busy at their meeting Monday night and officially set the tax rate this year at \$1.50 per \$100 valuation.

Hoke High School's Bucks defeated a good Erwin team here last Friday afternoon 13-12 in a game that was played in the rain and mud and in which C.J. Benner's true toe turned out again to be the margin between the teams.

The Hoke Oil and Fertilizer Co. Gin, Thomas Bros. and Oakdale Gin have announced that they will close at 6:00 p.m. daily starting next Monday, due to the advanced season and high cost of remaining open at night.

Mrs. Mary D. Stubbs, 78-year-old Raeford resident, fell in a store here last Saturday afternoon and died in a Fayetteville hospital Sunday afternoon from injuries sustained in the fall.

New broom



by Marty Vega Virginia Correspondent Makes Urgent Appeal

Last week we heard from our good friend Richard Crockett in Salem, Va., who won't mind if his letter is shared with the other readers:

Mr., Mrs., Ms. Marty Vega
 Dear Sir,

My name is Richard Crockett. I had to retire because I had high blood. I moved here from North Carolina to work on the N.W. Railroad. Now I want to find a small farm with a windmill on it. You see I would like to buy the windmill to bring back here and put it up. I am just a farm boy. In your travel for news, please look out for a place rundown that I may buy the windmill. If you take a picture of it, I will pay you for your troubles. God Bless You.

P.S. When do my subscription run out.

Glad to hear from you Mr., Mrs., Ms. Crockett. We always enjoy hearing from our many friends outside of Hoke County. Sorry to hear of your retirement -- we, too, have had problems with high blood on the job, but we just found another job after the boss caught us and fired us.

About the windmill. We will do our best to find you one, but don't get too optimistic. You may be looking in the wrong places. Have you tried the Netherlands? We once read somewhere that there were a good number of windmills in Holland. If you have any contacts over there, you may find a Dutchman who would swap you one for a pair of leather shoes. If you send a really good pair of shoes, he might throw in a few tulip bulbs to sweeten the pot.

Now we do know of one windmill here in Hoke County. It's out yonder by the peach orchard going towards Aberdeen. We haven't inspected it yet, but we are told that the owner isn't interested in selling. (Told second hand, that is.) If you



Read Isaiah 52:1-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings.
 Isaiah 52:7 (RSV)

Not long ago a young man working in our home described his employer and wife: "They are beautiful people." The Book of Isaiah speaks of the feet of God's messenger as being beautiful, because he brings good tidings of peace.

This is an age when physical beauty in people is highly prized and praised, but there is a beauty in human beings that goes beyond the symmetry and contours of their physical bodies. One poet has said, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty." There is a certain lasting beauty in the character and personality of people whose lives reflect the grace and goodness of God.

Although she was reproached by others, Jesus praised the woman who sacrificed costly ointment to honor Him, saying, "She has done a beautiful thing for me." Her beautiful deed was motivated by love and admiration for her Master.

Truly beautiful people are those who have about them a radiance that comes from having God's spirit within them.

want us to act as your agent, respond in writing and we will begin negotiations immediately.

If you want us to find a rundown place, it may not be easy to acquire the windmill or anything else off it because if it's that rundown, the tax liens over the years might make it prohibitively expensive.

We will do our best to help you indulge your desire, but you must do a favor for us, too. We are just a farmperson. We moved here from Michigan to work on the N.J. News. Now we want to find a place with a white birch tree growing on it. We want to buy the birch tree and put it up in the living room. We have a picture of birch trees hanging on the wall, but it's just not the same. You know it wouldn't be the same for you to have just a picture of the windmill, right, so you will surely understand.

There is nothing more lovely and pleasing to the senses than woods filled with white birch bark. Except a windmill.

P.S. Your subscription runs out May 1, 1977.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

Some random notes on the election:

I asked a friend, "Well, did the election go to suit you?" and he said: "No election ever goes to suit me."

If he wasn't a farmer, I figure he'd make a good newspaper columnist.

-O-

Some people are always speculating on what influence television commentators and big syndicated newspaper columnists have on an election.

Well, for one thing this time they taught us the meaning of the word apathy: a large voter turn-out.

I wouldn't be surprised to see some young person running for his first office the next election tell his supporters: "Let's go out and get people stirred up. If we can get an apathetic turn-out, we'll win."

-O-

You see, big-time reporters work on the domino theory. If one of them finds a small pocket of people saying they don't intend to vote and reports on it, other reporters start looking for similar pockets and before you know it they're all reporting the country is apathetic. The public opinion polls take it up and for the next few months it's the theme song of the media. This may explain why the Mayor of New York, kidding some reporters, said media is the Latin plural for mediocre.

-O-

As for the public opinion polls, I don't know how much they spend sampling the voters but they could have saved their money by going off by themselves and figuring that when you've got two ordinarily decent, likeable men running for President, neither one of whom can raise or lower taxes himself -- that's done by Congress -- you're likely to have a fairly close vote.

Yours faithfully,
 J.A.

CLIFF BLUE ... People & Issues



ELECTION POST - MORTEM ... Well, the campaign and election is over and we believe the citizenship in general is well-prepared to accept the results and move on to other topics while the vanished move out and the victors move in.

Here in North Carolina Jim Hunt won a tremendous victory and will have a great opportunity to lead the state forward. We believe he will measure up to the expectations of reasonable people, and like the late William Jennings Bryan at Chicago in 1896, will make the most of the opportunity.

In Macartney's Illustrations, Dr. Clarence E. Macartney, the noted pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania tells this story:

"Some years before his death I was driving across Chicago with William Jennings Bryan. On our way we passed near the coliseum where he delivered the great speech at the Democratic Convention of 1896, the speech which made him three times the candidate of his party for the presidency, and which concluded with the famous peroration, 'You shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorn. You shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold.' I said to him, 'Mr. Bryan, I suppose many times before you have made just as able a speech as that, and it was never heard of.' 'Yes,' he said, 'I suppose that is true. But that convention was my opportunity, and I made the most of it.' Then he was silent for a moment, as his great head rested against the cushion of the taxicab, and the light of reminiscence and retrospection came into his eyes. After a moment he broke the silence with these words: 'And that's about all we do in this world -- lose or use our opportunity.'"

We expect Jim Hunt and Jimmy Carter to make the most of their opportunities. Both are smart and capable men, and eight years from now, Jim Hunt, taking advantage of his opportunities as he has in the past could well find himself studying presidential responsibilities as Jimmy Carter is now doing.

BOB SCOTT...With Carter



Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

One measure which I strongly supported during the last session of Congress was the extension of the revenue sharing program through 1980.

The extension authorizes a total of over \$25 billion to be distributed to the states during a 45-month period, ending September 30, 1980. This money will be sent to the state and local governments to spend on their problems and programs, about which they know more than people in Washington.

North Carolina will receive \$124 million in fiscal 1977, which will be only a part of a year, from January 1 to September 30. During the next three full fiscal years, the state and local governments will get \$170 million, an increase over the \$154 million received in previous years.

This continuation of the concept of striking a better balance between the federal and local governments is a healthy sign. Since World War II, the federal government has grown and grown until it was getting far larger and more powerful than the framers of our Constitution intended. In fact, the Constitution explicitly delegates to the states all powers not specifically granted the Federal Government.

When the bill to extend revenue sharing came up in the Senate, I was surprised that many members felt that local governments couldn't be trusted. Of course, in a nation that has over 3,100 county governments and many times that number of city governments, there are bound to be some abuses. But not more, I imagine, than at the federal level.

What some of us wanted to do, and were partially successful in achieving, was to do away with some of the red tape that had plagued the program since 1972. It was not easy to do, and the House-Senate conference restored some of the red tape and cut the total funding slightly, but the final bill was an improvement over previous ones.

The new law requires that the public be kept better informed as to how the money will be used, by advance notice in newspapers and

public hearings. elected it would appear that former Governor Bob Scott might well have a chance for a place in the Carter cabinet as Secretary of Agriculture or some other high position in the Carter Administration. As mentioned in this column last week, Scott became a Carter supporter when Terry Sanford dropped out of the presidential race early this year.

HELICOPTER...The helicopter trip made by top officials of the Holshouser administration made a very bad impression on the people that will not soon be forgotten. It was about three years ago that the helicopter scooped down at numerous places throughout the state and long-time state employees were fired without any previous word that their service was not satisfactory. Miss Reva Mitchell, long-time Supt. of Samarcand Manor in Moore County was a typical example, and since that time the institution for girls has often been in turmoil.

It is refreshing to note that Jim Hunt will not permit any such uncouth dismissals.

NAMES...Names are already being mentioned for governor among the Democrats and it is three years before any announcements should be made. Many feel that Lieut. Governor-Elect Jim Green who gave serious consideration to running for governor this year will likely be a contender for the position, come 1980. Some are saying that if Luther H. Hodges, Jr. doesn't try for Jesse's Helms' seat in the U.S. Senate in 1978 he will attempt to follow in his dad's footsteps to the governor's mansion in 1980. And too, there is Carl Stewart who appears almost sure to be the Speaker of the 1977 House, who his friends say may well run for governor in 1980.

From the national standpoint we can scent the feeling that Governor-Elect Thompson of Illinois who walked over the Daley machine to be elected governor of Illinois by a margin of almost two to one, will be a governor to keep your eyes on as a possible GOP nominee for president in 1980.

But it cuts down on the number of reports governments must make and drops the prohibition on using the funds as a community's share of matching grants.

Bringing state and local governments back into partnership with the federal government is a step back toward states rights, a phrase that was much maligned during the past 20 years. Vilified by some who said it really meant self interest and abused by some as a means of promoting segregation, the doctrine of states rights has been there in the Constitution all along.

To continue the trend, I would like to see more of the federal education funds distributed to localities in order that they might meet needs that are peculiar to their communities.

To another, unrelated action, some counties will get federal funds, because of government land holdings within their boundaries. Since federal parks are not on county tax rolls, it was deemed fair to reimburse the counties for the loss of revenue.

Some counties which will benefit among the 30 North Carolina counties are Macon, \$68,000; Transylvania, \$52,000; Graham, \$51,000; McDowell, \$41,000; Haywood, \$43,000 and Clay, \$27,000.

Counties with military bases were not included, but there will probably be a move to include them during the next session.

