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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1977

## Keep cool with Carter

From his new home in the White House, President Carter is paraphrasing an old song to say, "Baby, it's cold inside." Well, not really cold — just 65 degrees. This is what Mr. Carter has asked his fellow Americans to lower their thermostats to. We are glad to know he realizes that conservation begins at home. To have kept the White House toasty might have had a chilling effect on the fuel-saving zeal he expects of others in the current cold-weather fuel crisis.

But it must have been Mr. Carter's warm Southern assumptions that made him ask that thermostats be turned down to 65 (and lower at night). Fuel prices and general abstemiousness had already given many Americans an almost British receptivity to discomfort, with thermostats long held down all the way to — as sure as we say 62 degrees, someone will say, "We never let ours get above 58!"

Maybe not every household comes out with 60 as the answer to its equation of clothing, comfort, and necessity. But 65 is certainly not too low — especially if, as estimated, it could save half the volume of the present natural gas shortage. Try it, you'll like it. —*Christian Science Monitor*

## Attorney General Bell

Following the stormy confirmation of President Carter's most controversial Cabinet appointee, Griffin Bell, the question is: will Mr. Bell make a good Attorney General? The chances today are improved that he will. Having run the hard gauntlet of the Senate advice-and-consent process, he is now sensitively educated to what is expected of him. Surely he will make every effort to prove that he can enforce the nation's laws with independence, toughness, and impartiality.

Legitimate questions were aired about Mr. Bell's record, including whether he delayed school desegregation in Georgia, whether he showed poor judgment in supporting G. Harrold Carswell's unsuccessful nomination to the Supreme Court, and whether his membership in private clubs showed an insensitivity to minorities. All these suggested Mr. Bell was not the "best qualified" man for this office. But throughout the long hearings Judge Bell responded forthrightly and with what struck us as sincerity. He seemed genuinely baffled that his civil-rights record, which he deemed moderate for the times, came under such strong attack. Especially when his nomination had won the endorsement of such prominent figures as Congressman Andrew Young and former special prosecutor Leon Jaworski.

In any case, believing as we do that every individual has the capacity to learn and grow, we think Mr. Bell could astonish even his detractors by his future performance. He has his own worthy pledges to live up to: to enforce civil-rights and antitrust laws strictly, to place a tight rein on the FBI, to continue criminal investigations of intelligence abuses, to keep detailed logs of any contacts he has with the White House.

It was in fact Mr. Bell's close personal association with Mr. Carter that disturbed us most, for we felt that after the still-fresh lesson of Watergate it was singularly important to have an attorney general whose independence was indisputable. But the President, like some other predecessors, clearly wanted someone familiar in that post and he was entitled to such a preference. While the Senate thus had justifiable misgivings, it nonetheless could not logically turn down a nominee of proven legal and judicial competence.

The furor is now over. Wiser than he was a few shorts weeks ago, Attorney General Bell begins his tenure more fully aware not only of the political climate in Congress but of those ideals and rights which the nation expects him vigorously to protect. —*Christian Science Monitor*

## Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

### 25 years ago

Thursday, January 31, 1952

The third annual presentation of the Raeford Kiwanis Club's "Man of the Year" award to the man of the community considered most outstanding was made to J. Lawrence McNeill for the year 1951 at the Kiwanis Club's "Ladies Night" last Thursday.

The Hoke County High School girls basketball team, with an impressive record for the season of 14 victories and no defeats, will participate in the third annual All-Girl Basketball Revue in the William Neal Reynolds Coliseum at State College in Raleigh February 6.

Mr. and Mrs. D.J. Dalton lost their home about two miles south of Raeford on the Laurinburg road by fire of undetermined origin on

Monday night.

From Poole's Medley:

Have you ever gotten into a yellowjacket nest? If you haven't do not get into that trouble without having plenty of running lined up in you.

Last weekend was warm and sunny, with the temperatures in the seventies at times.

District Wildlife Protector H.R. McLean this week reminded all hunters of the fact that the hunting season ends today, January 31.

Hoke High's varsity boys and girls and the boys junior varsity all won their basketball games against Red Springs High School here Tuesday night.

'Yoo hoo, Mr. President ... speaking of pardons ...



by Marty Vega

## Weigh Facts Carefully

Along with the cold, the controversy over ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment has been front page news for days. The proponents and opponents would seem to hold equally persuasive arguments for this important question. As always, there are pros and cons to be weighed carefully.

It has always been the tradition of this column to present the significant issues in the news in succinct terms—to peel away all of the passionate rhetoric and diatribes and get at the real meat, much like peeling away the skin of a jumbo Florida navel orange or a plump pink grapefruit, which we won't be seeing for a while. So let's examine the ERA proposal.

Amid all of the talk of drafting women into combat, taking a widow's Social Security away, and requiring wives to support their husbands, most thinking women have another genuine concern: Would truck drivers be prohibited from changing a flat tire for a woman? Or stopping and pushing a woman's car out of mud? Or providing water for radiators and batteries and other mysterious

accessories which seem to demand it without notice? This must be resolved before proceeding with any of it.

ERA MEANS CO-ED Bathrooms! Another emotional argument being used. Actually, the real issue here is that women would no longer politely ask their dates for change while excusing themselves to go to the powder room. This is a knotty question. If a man and his date make the trip together, who tips the attendant?

ERA WILL DESTROY Families! Some say the law will wreck the family unit by taking away rights of wives and mothers. This is not the case. ERA would no doubt enhance family life as television stations would probably be barred from showing nothing but wrestling all day Saturday and football all day Sunday. Wives would then get out of the kitchen and into the living room. Husbands, however, would then get out of the living room and out of the house.

If you think these perplexing questions deserve more attention, write or wire your representatives right away and tell them just that. Just be sure to sign your own name.

### Puppy Creek

## Philosopher

Dear editor:

Some weather scientists are predicting another Ice Age may be on its way across the earth. Apparently they haven't been outside this winter as most of us thought it was already here.

According to them an Ice Age hits every 10,000 years and it's now been 12,000 years since the last one. This is about average for weather predictors; they missed it by 2,000 years. I have always contended that weathermen are excellent when it comes to telling us what happened yesterday, but a little slipshod about what's going to happen tomorrow.

When a forecaster says it's going to be fair tomorrow and it turns out

rain comes down in torrents, he wasn't wrong, the weather was. The first requirement of a weatherman or a Congressman is to be able to ignore today what you said yesterday. I suspect when weathermen retire they become economists who predict the economic index is going to take a turn upward in the next quarter.

Speaking of this winter, I'm sure the suggestion that we should turn down our thermostats to conserve energy ought to be endorsed by everybody. It's already been endorsed by the makers of sweaters, overcoats and long-handle underwear. Makers of cold remedies will be next. And as soon as they hear about it, people who sell firewood at \$75 a cord will come out for it too.

Back to the possibility of another Ice Age. Opinion is divided. One group of scientists says it's coming. Glaciers will creep slowly over the earth and we'd better get ready to do something about it. Another group says no, the weather isn't turning colder, it's turning warmer and there's danger of that permanent ice at the North Pole and other places melting and sending the oceans flooding over the coastal cities of the world.

This leaves us where we've always been. We don't know what the weather next week is going to be.

Yours faithfully,  
J.A.

## Upper Room

"A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way." (Isaiah 35: 8 RSV)

A highway lies on a bank, twenty feet above the level fields of Flanders. One freezing Sunday morning we were driving fast when we hit "black ice." The ice that lies invisible and dangerous beneath a film of water.

Instantly our small army car commenced to skate; and now we were skidding sideways, traveling broadside down the road. The twenty-foot drop was very near, and we felt close to death.



## Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

The inaugural has come and gone, a new President sits in the White House and his new Cabinet appointees are going about the task of organizing their departments.

Although there was debate on a few of the persons President Carter nominated for Cabinet level positions, only one failed to get approval from the Senate. That was Theodore Sorenson, selected to serve as director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Sorenson nomination was never turned down, because Mr. Sorenson, himself, withdrew his name from consideration just as committee hearings on his background and qualifications were about to start. It was probably just as well, as it is almost certain that he would have received an adverse vote from the committee.

There were several things in Mr. Sorenson's record that troubled members of the Senate, including me.

During the 1960's, he was in an extremely important post at the White House, and certainly knew what was going on in the Executive Department. It was during this period, according to facts that were revealed by the Select Committee on Intelligence Operations, that the CIA was involved in assassination attempts on the lives of some foreign government leaders who were not considered friendly to the United States.

As a member of the Select Committee, I joined in condemning the use of the CIA to promote assassinations and I certainly wanted to question Mr. Sorenson

### CLIFF BLUE ...

## People & Issues



PRESS MEETINGS ... I look forward to the N.C. Press meeting twice each year—in the winter at Chapel Hill and Durham and in the summer elsewhere in the state. Last week it was the 52nd Annual Newspaper Institute in Chapel Hill and Durham. Awards featured the Thursday night dinner meeting with Jim Hunt making remarks along with Bill Friday and others at the Carolina Inn at Chapel Hill.

Meetings were held throughout the day Friday in Chapel Hill followed by the annual dinner at Duke University Friday night. Preceding the dinner a visit was made to the Duke Chapel where the new \$500,000 Flentrop organ was demonstrated by Fenner Douglas, organist. Katharine Graham, publisher of the Washington Post was the guest speaker at the Duke dinner. Jim High, publisher of the Whiteville News-Reporter is serving as NCPA president this year.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear People:

I write to you to express my thoughts so that many others who are affected by what I will say may become enlightened. In June 1976, the N.C. Cable T.V. Company of Raeford was granted a rate increase of fifty cents (50 cents) per month (from \$5.50 to \$6.00) on the condition that they provide a weather and information service on Ch. 12, as well as FM radio reception capabilities. As we all know, the price has gone up, but where are the additional services and channels we were promised? The weather channel was operational approximately three weeks and was never functioning properly. Now I believe in paying for a job well done, but I like to think of myself as a consumer's rights activist also. Also I DON'T believe in paying for something I'm not getting, nor do I believe there are many who do. As we all know also, the quality of this cable system is not up to par. Channel 7 (28) stays

DON HALL ... I had a nice chat with Don Hall, publisher of the Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald. Don is pretty strong and outspoken in favor of the "veto" authority for the governor. He was pretty much unconcerned about the proposed constitutional amendment to permit the governor to succeed himself but seemed to think that if it passed it would do so without applying to the incumbent governor.

Don gave some pretty good reasons for the "veto" authority. He pointed to a number of appointments which had been made by past governors to the highway commission, judges and other positions, which he felt were "political appointments" because past governors needed the support of certain legislators to get desired legislation enacted into law.

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snowy more than clear, and the various other ones come and go. This was attributed to "getting the bugs out" of a new system, but nearly 2 years old no longer is "new".

To conclude this letter on a personal note, I was called by this company Friday and asked when I was going to pay my bill. They informed me that I owed them \$7.00 from last July. I have the canceled check for that month and last September. I informed them of these facts. As I was not billed any more after that conversation, I assumed all was squared away. Now, I owe it again all of a sudden. Well, I admit that I had paid my monthly rate near the end of the month, but I wanted to make sure it stayed on the whole month before paying for it. I guess also it was a form of mild protest against the sorrowfulness of the cable. But it WAS paid for every month nonetheless. Apparently my protest to this company Friday irked someone, since I was cut off Saturday. It's just as well; I am in the process of installing a system capable of receiving Ch. 36 and many other UHF stations. The only reason I subscribed to begin with was to get Ch. 36 for the price of a year or two of cable rent, or the equivalent of the price of a high quality C.B. antenna and tower, most Raeford residents could modify existing antennas at their houses to receive UHF also. It may seem a large investment at first, but just add up those months — you get more stations, and most important, you'd get what you paid for.

Thank you  
Respectfully,  
Graham Niven