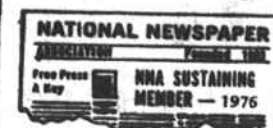


The News - Journal



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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1977

Tightening the water tap

This is a time when water — or the lack of it — is very much in the public eye. On the Pacific Coast, the Northwest is concerned about drastic water shortages, stemming from the snow and rain deficits, which affect the great rivers that provide electric power. Farther south, some areas have faced water reductions, and even rationing.

West of the Mississippi, in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain regions, a severe drought cycle may also be in the offing. Even in the East and Midwest, where flooding had been expected when the heavy snows melted, earlier prolonged dryness and low river levels have reduced the threat from thaws.

All of which signals to a United States that already is learning hard lessons about its gas and oil shortages that another once-abundant resource can no longer be taken for granted. The water problem is no longer a peripheral one; Americans as a whole are going to have to give more thought to water conservation.

Against this background, the forthcoming United Nations Water Conference, which convenes next month in Mar del Plata, Argentina, with planners and policymakers from 135 countries expected, becomes all the more pertinent to global needs. The experts there will confront a wide range of challenges, but the basic one is how to allocate the earth's fixed supply of water to the soaring needs of growing population, agriculture, and industry.

Those accustomed to seemingly inexhaustible supplies of pure water at the turn of a faucet would do well to remember the millions in Africa, Asia, and South America who must walk long distances for their water — and carry it home in a container on their backs. A UN report points out that today 20 percent of the world's city dwellers and 75 percent of its rural population are without reliable supplies of drinking water. Such a situation surely merits urgent attention.

Much can be done, however, to improve the situation. The UN conference should at least chart a long-range program of action at regional, national, and international levels. Water experts also can draw on modern technology for information about related topics, such as weather modification, desalination, pollution control, and recycling water. The U.S. delegation to the conference, for example, should be able to supply a significant input of ideas; an imposing array of 18 American papers on water management problems already has been submitted to the conference secretariat.

This is no time for complacency about water resources, not if adequate supplies are to be available for the future, and a full-scale conference such as that soon to convene is, if anything, overdue. As international economist Barbara Ward put it in a recent book, "The Home of Man," one high priority is "simply to ensure to every village and city safe drinking water and reasonable sewage disposal. If there can be an immediate commitment, let it be there." *Christian Science Monitor*

Take time for the family

It may be a reckless hope in an administration charged with carrying out all of Jimmy Carter's campaign promises, but the President has told his aides he wants them to spend an "adequate amount of time" with their families. That ain't easy, as Pa used to say, even for those far from the corridors of power. But it is worth the struggle.

One of candidate Carter's most attractive and necessary promises was to seek to improve the stability of the American family. He was no doubt fortified in this by candidate Mondale, who was known for his legislative initiatives in behalf of the family. And now the President seems to be following through with the most effective kind of start — setting an example of concern for the families within his immediate responsibility at the very outset of his administration.

It may seem like a small thing, to remind — and allow — high-powered careerists to spend some time with their spouses and children. But a new study of corporate executives finds some of them realizing that in their narrow devotion to one kind of achievement they rob themselves as well as their families of the richness of a sense of devotion to other human beings. And one does not need to be a corporate head or a Cabinet officer to know that it is the quality of that devotion — not merely the number of hours spent together — which builds the family bonds.

So it would not be such a small thing after all if every American were to listen when the President tells those around him to be sure they do not neglect their family life. Too many American families are broken. All the essential governmental aids to the social and economic security of families will not be sufficient to put them back together again unless individuals care enough about each other to give something of themselves to the job. *Christian Science Monitor*

Long-range weather

There have been many long-range weather forecasters, including some in Indiana, but Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland has come up with a plan for predicting such natural disasters as drought, floods and cold spells.

Bergland . . . would utilize all weather data available, going back for more than a century. Then he would feed this material to a computer. . . .

Bergland believes that this information would help farmers plan for the future and possibly assist them in avoiding heavy losses.

Even though a fairly reliable long-range forecast might be available, it would not mean that drought or flood or prolonged cold could be prevented. It would mean, however, that advance preparation could be made and conservation methods devised. — *The Indianapolis News*

'It says negotiations between Israelites, Egyptians and Philistines are proceeding slowly'



by Marty Vega

Test Your Knowledge

In this complex world of fast-breaking events it is important to keep up with national and international news. Here is your chance to test your knowledge of current events. Choose only one answer.

Q. America is caught in the throes of a severe gas shortage. What is the principal cause for it?

(a) The cold weather has kept the ground frozen so long it has been hard to dig for gas.

(b) Several large ocean-going vessels have had accidents and spilled millions of gallons of gas into the seas.

(c) Congress recessed, which had an immediate effect on the amount of gas being given out daily.

Q. Disclosures were made recently that the CIA had been making secret payments of many thousands of dollars without the public's knowledge. Who were these payments made to?

(a) Heads of foreign governments.

(b) Jackie Onassis.

(c) The Bionic Woman.

Puppy Creek

Philosopher

Dear editor:

I don't know of anybody who'd get a warmer welcome in Washington or Raleigh than somebody who has figured out a new source of tax revenue, not just a modification of an old one but a brand new tax source nobody has ever thought of before. In Washington he'd probably be given a Congressional medal and in Raleigh the Legislature might declare a state holiday in his honor.

I haven't tried for this honor as I'm like the man who said he was against all new taxes and most of the old ones.

But according to an article in the newspaper the other day a doctor in New York thinks he has hit on a new source of taxation. He wants a special tax on people who "smoke, drink or otherwise follow a lifestyle that harms their health." He'd have this money applied against the high cost of medical care which, he says, has been bought on by just such people.

I'm afraid the reporter who interviewed that doctor was a little slipshod. For example, he didn't say what the doctor weighed. Was he over-weight? Shouldn't over-eating, about as harmful as anything you can do, be taxed the same as smoking and drinking? How much exercise does he get? Shouldn't a sedentary man be taxed for every mile he doesn't walk or jog?

Also, every once in a while don't you read about some man keeling over from shoveling too much snow? Shouldn't the doctor have said how much snow a man should shovel before he violates a proper lifestyle? There are a lot of snow-bound people in the country needing to know.

In fact, to make this bad-health tax fair for everybody, the doctor ought to get Congress to enact a Lifestyle Law which says that if a man follows the prescribed health rules he ought to live to a certain age, say 75, and if he falls short tax him on prima facie evidence of having lived the wrong way. Any doctor who fails to qualify could be taxed double.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

Q. President Carter recently hosted a state dinner for the President of Mexico and his wife and the White House broke with custom by not serving hard liquor. What else was unusual about the dinner.

(a) The heat in the dining room was turned down to 62 degrees.

(b) Amy Carter threw the rolls at the guests.

(c) The potatoes ran out before they went around the table.

Q. Anthropologists have concluded an exhaustive study on human behavior and have pinpointed one single factor as the most powerful cultural force to emerge during the '70's. What is it?

(a) Breakdown of the family unit and changing social roles.

(b) Television and its influence as a dominant process.

(c) Yard sales.

Q. Former president Richard Nixon will appear on television later this year to be interviewed by David Frost. What has the ex-president agreed to talk about for an undisclosed sum?

(a) Which brand is really the softest bathroom tissue.

(b) His lifelong dedication to honor, justice and truth.

(c) The behind the scenes planning for Tricia's rose garden wedding.

Q. Consumer prices at the supermarket have risen at an astounding rate in the past year on certain items and boycotts are being called to force a rollback on one particular commodity? What is it?

(a) Coffee

(b) Tootsie-Rolls

(c) Jackie Onassis

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

I have something on my mind I would like to let the people of Raeford know. There isn't but one eye doctor in Raeford. Some of the people don't have good eyes. They shouldn't have to drive to Red



Read Romans 12: 9-19

"Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor." (Romans 12: 10 RSV)

An excellent writer in our all-new radio station consistently does a first-rate job at turning in stories. On her way out one day I thanked her for her good work.

The director of the bureau walked out at the same time and said in all seriousness, "Why are you thanking her? She is paid for doing that." I responded that I thanked her because of the spirit in which she did her work, which was far beyond the demand of the job. Without comment he left the office.

A few days later, I was leaving the bureau and the director was there. On my way out the door after a rather hectic day, I said, "See you tomorrow." He responded with a twinkle of depth in his voice, "Thank you."

The utterance of those two words I counted a victory, and it was spread to others, helping to create a more positive, pleasant, and meaningful place to work.

CLIFF BLUE . . .

People & Issues



ERA . . . With the North Carolina House of Representatives having approved ERA and the U.S. constitutional amendment now before the Senate, it appears that the vote will likely be closer in the State chamber, with possibly a tie-vote with Lieut. Governor Green breaking the tie, and in that case Green's background would hardly indicate a "pro" vote. Opponents of ERA would like to see it put to a state-wide popular vote with the thought being that it would be decisively defeated in a state-wide referendum.

TOM DAVIS . . . Tom I. Davis, publisher of The Johnstorian-Sun says that "The Four-Day Week is the best thing that has happened to us since the late Wilbur Wiggs used to sell three cups of coffee for a dime." Continuing, Tom Says: "Due to the energy crisis state employees now work ten hours a day four days a week, which makes for a long week-end Saturday through Monday." Tom's talk makes some sense but if it were summertime it would be easier to work ten hours than now when the days are shorter.

MARSHVILLE . . . In Marshville in Union County the two newspapers -- The Marshville Home and The Regional News have been merged into one semi-weekly newspaper with James W. Lewis, editor and publisher of "The Union News and Home."

SMALL TOWNS . . . Liberty is a small town in Randolph County but David Metz of that village who is a teacher in the Greensboro Public School System has been named the Outstanding Young Educator for North Carolina.

Our feeling is that a person can make his way in the world just as good or better from a small town or rural community as can a person from a big city.

Come to think of it, Plains, Georgia has something less than 700 people when all are at home, and with Jimmy and his family living in government housing in Washington, the village can draw up its belt a few notches, unless Billy can fetch in a few.

LAURINBURG . . . February 12 - Lincoln's birthday - was a big day for Laurinburg in Scotland County, but for another reason. It was the town's 100th birthday and

former State Treasurer Edwin Gill, a Laurinburg native was chosen to receive the town's "Distinguished Citizens Award." Gill, the grandson of the town's first mayor has had a most distinguished career in state government and leadership in the field of arts and culture. Another Laurinburg native who participated in the town centennial celebration was Terry Sanford, a former North Carolina governor and now President of Duke University. Laurinburg and Scotland County has given to the State and nation many outstanding citizens, in addition to Gill and Sanford, John Charles McNeill, a great poet, Edwin Pate, Halbert Jones, the late Herley Evans, Gerald Johnson, a native of Wagram and retired editor of the Baltimore Sun not to mention some of the more youthful leaders.

AFTER THEM! . . . In Raleigh it appears that the press is hot after Sheriff Pleasants; and in Dunn Hoover Adams through his Dunn Daily Record is hot after Carolina Power & Light Company over the latter's charge for pole use which the town may not be using.

LEO JENKINS . . . Tuesday evening, Feb. 15 was a big night for Dr. Leo Jenkins when the chancellor of East Carolina University was awarded the North Carolina Public Service Award under the auspices of The North Carolina Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Dr. Jenkins for seventeen years as president and chancellor of East Carolina University has made the institution a powerful force for progress and service in Eastern North Carolina, in particular, and throughout the state in general.

Milestones under the Jenkins leadership included changing the name from College to University -- and now adding the much needed medical school to the institution, with a student body in excess of 12,000. Speakers at the awards banquet included Governor Hunt, Senators Jesse Helms and Morgan, John W. Wallington, Jr., Troy W. Pate, Cong. Walter B. Jones and Dr. William C. Friday. Governor Hunt summed up the feeling of many people when he said: "Few people have done more for North Carolina than Leo Jenkins."

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, February 21, 1952
Raeford's seventh annual invitational high school basketball tournament will be played in the local high school gymnasium from March 3 through March 10, W.L. Poole announced.

Eugene P. Smith, son of Mrs. Lucy Wilkes Smith, and the late W.L. Smith of this county, last

week joined the staff of The News-Journal.

A monkey was running around loose at Bowmore colored school Tuesday afternoon of this week and Principal W.C. Campbell reported it to the sheriff.

From Rockfish News:
Some of the population on Fayetteville Street change so often it doesn't pay to mention when they come and go.

Alex Norton says the meanest man or woman is somewhere in or near Bowmore for who else would come in his yard and poison his bulldog that had been kept tied all her life.

From Poole's Medley:
When I was a young lad, going to Fayetteville was a great trip, and not only we boys, but the older men and a number of the women, like to go. (the same today -- Ed.)

15 years ago

Thursday, February 22, 1962
The tangle business history of Priebe Poultry went through another change this week as word was received here that the big inter-state corporation was placed in receivership.

The U.S. Army this week requested "full maneuver rights" on a one year basis beginning May 1 in a "corridor" connecting Fort Bragg with Camp Mackall.

Henry H. Gordon, 76, veteran Quewhille farmer, was buried Monday in the Bethel Presbyterian Church cemetery.

Alfred Tenneyson Jones of Parkton died last Friday at the Veterans Hospital in Durham.