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THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1977

Energy: Congress's ball

Now that Congress has shown that it can move on ethics, it ought to pull itself together on energy and deal swiftly with President Carter's proposal for a department of energy. There is a word to the wise in a current Broadway comedy about parliamentary peccadilloes. A character wryly suggests that she would rather have an investigation of what legislators do during their working day than during their own time. Congress now has an opportunity to show that it can work efficiently to serve the public need rather than preserve personal power centers.

The Senate made a start in this direction, though not nearly what had been hoped for, in the reorganization of its committees. But a reorganization and consolidation of energy matters will demand forbearance by many in both houses who have enjoyed a piece of the action under the present fragmentation of energy in various agencies with opportunities for leverage by congressional barons.

This does not mean that Congress need accept wholesale and unrefined the legislation Mr. Carter proposes, nor would it be expected to. There seems obvious good sense in having the new department absorb whatever nonduplicating functions should be preserved from the Federal Energy Agency, Energy Research and Development Administration, Federal Power Commission, and other agencies slated for extinction. But special care will have to be exercised in carving out just what functions should be removed from the Interior Department, say, and shifted to the new department.

In the negotiating there may be a mixed blessing in Mr. Carter's making James Schlesinger a part of the package as Secretary of Energy. Mr. Schlesinger's demonstrated toughness and ability in other posts recommend him for the job but cause apprehension in some quarters over the possibility of his turning the post into too much of a czardom. The fact that Mr. Carter is proposing a Republican from the Nixon-Ford days for such a powerful position is not the best news in the world to Congress's Democratic majority.

But Mr. Schlesinger got off on the right foot, as it looks from here, when he emphasized that administrative reorganization is no answer to the nation's energy problem. It is the policy to be administered which is the key. In the realm of policy he can be expected to make informed judgments on forms of energy, to be firm on the conservation he rightly stresses, and not to override environmental concerns.

However, the administration energy policy as a whole is not scheduled before April 20 — fast enough for a new administration. We hope it takes full account of the watershed choices between forms of energy — oil, nuclear, coal, solar, etc. — which mean that going thoughtlessly in one direction could hamper the later choice of another. Here the wisdom of Congress as well as the White House will be tested. *Christian Science Monitor*

Business without bribery

The perennial excuse for American business bribery abroad has been that it is necessary to meet the competition. But former Treasury Secretary Simon said that most United States firms were able to get along without bribing; present Treasury Secretary Blumenthal insisted on firm ethical standards in the highly successful company he formerly headed; and now the *Wall Street Journal* has found that businesses can give up bribing without suffering losses.

It seems to be the old story that has to be repeatedly relearned: morality is good for you. The Journal surveyed 25 large corporations that had made big questionable payments abroad and then said they had forbidden their employees to make any more of them. Some refused to comment but none reported significant damage to foreign sales.

Lockheed, which got so many headlines for paying some \$25 million overseas, lost one contract for refusing to buy a Mercedes for a foreign agent, said its chairman. But its 1976 foreign orders reached a new high.

According to opinions cited in the Journal, some overseas payments by American companies were not to meet foreign competition but to undercut other U.S. firms. Some reflected a misguided lack of faith in ability to compete even when in a superior position to do so. (In a later story the Journal reported on government investigative data implying that not all the payments to foreign officials were commercial bribes: "Government investigators are assembling 'strong indications' that the Central Intelligence Agency knew about and probably encouraged the flow of under-the-table cash from leading American corporations to certain political figures abroad.")

"I think you'll find the economic impact is minuscule — some but small," said an executive referring to the government's crackdown on the kind of payments his firm had been making. "I'm afraid there will be some effect, but the country will be better off without that business." Exactly. *Christian Science Monitor*

The humblest citizen of all the land, when clad in the armor of a righteous cause, is stronger than all the hosts of error.

William Jennings Bryan

You've been eating too much candy



The Christian Science Monitor

by Marty Vega

Windmill Search On

It is time to remind everyone once more of the windmill search for Richard Crockett.

Mr. Crockett, you will recall, is the gentleman from Salem, Va., who wrote some weeks ago about his passion for a windmill. He is interested in finding a rundown looking farm with a windmill on it so he can buy the windmill and take it back to Salem with him.

In these energy crisis days it is commendable to know of someone who is interested in conserving fuel and intends to make use of wind power. So, if you know of a suitable

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

How to interpret statistics is an art a lot of people haven't mastered, and the best way for a scientist for example to get his name in the paper is to announce that his experiments show that something we've all been consuming for years is harmful to rats in his laboratory, although it doesn't seem to bother rats on the outside; they keep right on multiplying and thriving on our leftovers.

What bought this to mind were some statistics I read on the use of hand guns in crime. According to the figures, only 16 per cent of guns confiscated by the police when they apprehended criminals were the cheap "Saturday Night Specials," the rest were expensive models, like Colt and Smith & Wesson.

This, an analysis by experts concluded, proves that banning the manufacture and sale of Saturday Night Specials would have rather small effect in curbing crime.

The expert who figured that out may not be able to see the facts for the statistics. He may not understand the American way of crime. He may not know you have to crawl before you walk.

I mean, starting out in crime may be like starting out in business. Most of the time, unless your father owns the plant or, in the case of crime, runs the gang, you have to start on a shoestring.

Sure, it's nice, in the case of business, to start out as a vice president of the company, and, in crime, with a brand new Smith & Wesson revolver, but the ordinary American youngster has no such headstart.

Therefore, if you've chosen crime as your profession, about the best you can manage at the start is a cheap Saturday Night Special, and then gradually work your way up to the better pistols. Oh, you can start with a butcher knife, but you've got to be mighty ambitious to try it.

Now as everybody knows, about two-thirds of the criminals practicing their profession these days have already been convicted a time or two and are out on bond, or parole, or were declared rehabilitated and released from prison. Gary Gilmore was out on parole.

So to go further into those statistics showing only 16 per cent of the crimes were committed with cheap guns, those experts ought to find out how many first crimes were pulled off with them. As a man advances in his professions and accumulates capital, naturally he acquires better and better equipment.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

25 years ago

Thursday, March 6, 1952

Hoke County's National Guard unit, Battery A of the 130th Anti-aircraft artillery automatic weapons battalion is planning to have a dinner of its members on its fifth birthday next birthday next March.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Currie have bought the house recently vacated

Letters To The Editor

I am writing in regard to last week's front page story "Ruling Clears City in School Suit."

If I had been reading *The News-Journal* and was unfamiliar with the motorcycle accident at Hoke High School on October 13, 1975 (Please note how long it took to reach the courtroom) I would have assumed a boy was riding down Bethel Rd. around 10:30 p.m. and wrecked on his motorcycle, bumped his head, scratched himself slightly and then walked home.

As the mother of Steve Wilburn here is what actually happened. Steve left Gentry Tire Center at 10:30 p.m. He walked into our home at 11:05 p.m. very bloody and completely incoherent. During this lapse of time Steve had been lying unconscious in Bethel Road bleeding profusely from severe cuts. He regained consciousness when a passerby stopped around 11 p.m. Steve walked home unaided but the paper failed to say he lived one block away. I took Steve to the hospital where it took twenty-two stitches to close the scratches on his face and arms that were referred to in the N.J. Steve also had a concussion and was unable to tell what had happened until six hours later. He was hospitalized for this dazed, scratched condition for two days.

Citizens of Raeford and Hoke County, do you think we are getting unbiased coverage from our local press?

Sincerely,
Norma H. Connell

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER SPEAKS OUT

In reference to the trip by some of the Hoke County Board of Education members of the National Association of School Administrators in Las Vegas, I wish to use this media to express why I was not among those making the trip.

I want it known by all the concerned parents in Hoke County that I was under the impression I was not to be a representative of our Board at the Las Vegas meeting. The Las Vegas trip was to be made by the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent and two Board members invited by them. I do not know how a third Board member was allowed to make the trip under the condition of having only two invitations to extend.

Two of us were chosen to make the trip to Houston and some were to go to Las Vegas. With this in mind, I gave no further thought to the Las Vegas trip. This trip now concerns me very much after the way it has been handled and under these conditions, I feel I should not go to Houston.

The letter that has come from the Superintendent as an apology is to me not an apology at all but an attempt to explain how this third Board member made the Las Vegas trip. I would have paid my own way to Las Vegas. The Superintendent's letter falls short of even making an explanation.

As far as this incident causing a split among the Board members, I do not wish this to happen and I will work in harmony with the Board in every way possible except making the trip to Houston.

As to all the questions that have come up about why this or why that about the Las Vegas trip, I do not have the answer. I hope this trip does not cause any confusion among concerned parents in Hoke County, and I also hope that incidents of this nature will not happen again.

Mrs. Ruth S. McNair

Dear Hoke County Citizens:

A few months ago, I was elected to the Board of Education in Hoke County. I wanted to learn as much as I could as soon as I could to be the best board member I could be.

One week before the December meeting, we received the monthly agenda. It announced the A.A.S.A. meeting in Las Vegas to be attended by part of the School Board, and the N.S.B.A. meeting in Houston to be attended by another part of the School Board. I called Mr. Autry, and asked if it was possible for me to attend both meetings, at my own expense, of course. He said he would find out. In a few days, he called and said I could attend. About a month later, Mr. Autry and Mr. Gibson told me

Browsing in the files

of The News-Journal

by Mr. and Mrs. E.M. Stallings in Sunset Hills, and moved into last week.

The Raeford Boy Scout troop will conduct a rat extermination campaign in the Town of Raeford next week.

From Poole's Medley:

they felt my expenses should be paid, because even though I could afford to pay my way, a person on the Board now, or in the future may not be able to do so, and a qualified person may not run for the School Board in the future, if it was too costly to attend the educational functions. I agreed. I feel truly grateful for the opportunity to attend the A.A.S.A. meeting with the superintendent, assistant superintendent, and experienced School Board members. I learned from them in a way I could not, if I had not been there, and I also learned from the meetings and speakers. I am glad I did not have to attend my first national meeting alone as a new School Board member. I went there to learn. It was a serious business for me, and I am grateful to all who helped to make this trip possible.

Dr. Townsend and I are going to Las Vegas in November. We have had our November trip planned for almost two years. This time, he will be the one in meetings all day.

I've read of the trips the Board of Education has taken and I've always wondered what they learned, (if anything). I thought some of you might be interested in a comment or two about some of the speakers I heard and the classes I attended.

Frank Zarb, President Carter's appointee for Atomic Energy: He said "if we do everything everybody suggests to conserve fuel and reduce the rate of growth and consumption, it will take ten years to fall back, one percentage point in usage of fuel. We can expect serious brown-outs in certain parts of the country.

Ernest Bouyer, President Carter's designated appointee as Commissioner of Education: He is committed to speak out aggressively for schools in the area of (1) emergency support (2) equal opportunity and (3) further intellectual growth. If approved, his two top assistants will come from superintendents with experience in elementary and high schools.

Reverend Jesse Jackson, founder and President of P.U.S.H. People United to Save Humanity. He said ignorance costs more than intelligence. We the people did not create the mess the world is in. It was created for us. We are the victims. The victim is not responsible for the mess, but he must be responsible for getting out of the mess.

Jack Anderson writes The Washington Merry Go Round. He said, Government is supporting Poor people through Social Services (welfare); Farmers with subsidies and don't be fooled, our government supports big business through tax incentives. Mr. Anderson is a Mormon, and father of eight.

William Glasser - author of "Schools Without Failure". This internationally known educator and author spent about thirty minutes of his two hour lecture on the ways T.V. is affecting our society. Reverend Jackson also devoted part of his speech to the way mass media is bringing moral decay. (I sincerely hope our community hears more about this later).

PL 94-142. Implications of this law for public schools in the education of the handicapped. The extent of the schools responsibility was a shock to me. A valuable 1½ hour session.

All of these topics fit in with local problems I've heard discussed just since I've been a Board member. There were other classes and speakers, but these are names and titles most everyone would recognize. I have at least a full page of notes for each speaker. I would be glad to share what I learned with anyone over the phone or with your civic group.

Once again, may I express my gratitude for this learning experience. I feel that is some way every child in Hoke County can benefit.

Sincerely,

MINA TOWNSEND
P.S. On Wednesday, March 9, McNair and I plan to attend a meeting with the N.C. State Legislators. We expect to hear about the Community Schools Act, The Graduation Competency Test Act, and the Competency Test Commission.

Either vocal or instrument music is produced by a harmony of sounds. There is no guess work. It is not an accidental performance. Music is harmonious sounds.

Hal Gore and his orchestra will play for a dance at Flora MacDonald College on Friday night of this week and at Duke University on Saturday night.