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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1977

Winter: a stitch in time

With hints of autumn in the air, many North Americans wonder if another harsh winter lies ahead. All that U.S. National Weather Service forecasters can say is that it is too early to try to foretell. But of one thing meteorologists do feel certain. Lack of foreknowledge of the coming winter is no excuse to neglect contingency planning this fall.

When Buffalo was buried by blizzards and many hundreds of thousands of people were out of work, there was much hand wringing about lack of precaution for winter's extremes. With that kind of warning, it is imperative that communities throughout the United States east of the Rockies use the next three months to prepare wisely for the worst that winter can offer.

At the federal level, energy officials have already given thought to national energy supplies. But winter's problems are largely manifested locally. Now is the time to ensure there will be adequate facilities for snow plowing. Now is the time to identify the parts of communities likely to be isolated by extreme weather and plan how to keep their residents adequately supplied with necessities. Now is the time for local utilities and industries to look to their own energy supplies, to make sure to the extent they can that they are not caught out again by frozen coal piles or ice-locked fuel barges. And it is time for individual households to look to their emergency supplies, too.

To judge from climatological records, the coming winter is unlikely to be as harsh as the 1976-77 big freeze. Long-range weather forecaster Don Gilman puts the odds against such a repeat at 30 to 1. However, he warns that his group will not have a meaningful forecast for the winter until the end of November. By that time, it would be too late to make timely preparation should the outlook be bitter. Under the circumstances the wise will prepare now.

-Christian Science Monitor

Push the teamsters probe

The Labor Department has confirmed that trustees of the \$1.4 billion Teamsters' Central States Pension Fund loaned money to crime figures.

Because of the volume of questionable, high-risk transactions, the giant pension fund may now be actually losing money, according to Eamon Kelly, the Labor Department's investment consultant.

One \$4 million loan to the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas was partially secured by uncollected gambling debts. These gambling IOUs had a gross value of \$9 million. But as Kelly said in the understatement of the week: "It is not common practice in financial management."

Earlier in the year, the Labor Department forced the resignations of several fund trustees, including Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons. The fund is now managed professionally by Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, a large insurance firm.

Labor Secretary Ray Marshall said the U.S. will turn over to the Justice Department evidence of fund raiding. Legal action will be started to recover losses.

But prospects aren't encouraging to get much money back. Paper corporations and dummy businesses all provide a protective umbrella for the borrowers.

The fund carries the pension hopes of 450,000 Teamsters in 22 states.

A serious probe of the fund is long overdue. The investigation should be pushed to a quick conclusion. And criminal charges should be pressed when evidence of wrong-doing is found.

-Omaha World-Herald

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, September 18, 1952
 The merchants of Raeford this week made public their plans for a series of promotional trade days to be known as the "Raeford Bonus Days" during which they will give away to the lucky winner trade certificates equal in value to money.

The Mildouson Ruritan has issued an invitation to the public to come to the Mildouson schoolhouse next Wednesday at 8:00 to hear W. Kerr Scott, the governor of North Carolina make an address.

From Poole's Meclay:
 I do not believe anyone can truthfully predict a windstorm. Weather predictions may be more accurately guessed.

With about 60 members present the Presbyterian men of the church held their monthly supper meeting Tuesday night and had as their guest speaker Hugh Q. Alexander from Kannapolis.

15 years ago

Thursday, September 20, 1962
 The biggest and the best County Fair opened Tuesday to good crowds, easy parking and an exciting midway.

The Hoke Democratic Woman - of - Year is Mrs. Arthur D. Gore, county chairman Sam Morris announced this week.

Services were held at Raeford Baptist Sunday afternoon for Mrs. Ida Gunter Austin, 87, who died Thursday at a rest home in Pinehurst after several years of declining health.

In a savage defensive battle that will be long remembered by local fans, the Rockingham Pirates went into orbit with three 4th period scores to maintain their jinx on the Bucks with an 18-0 victory.

'We'd like to ask you a few questions on how you got so dirty'



by Marty Vega

Nothing Fishy About This



This Week's Fishing Tip... Our recommended method (illustrated above) is to roll up your pants legs and wade right into the water. Be sure and remove shoes and hose first.

The south side of W. Elwood Ave. in front of the newspaper office is a pretty good spot, especially between the hours of 7-10 a.m. on Thursdays after a little rain has fallen. You'll love it, sports fans.

Try to be perfectly still and remain quiet while in the water. If you feel something nibble at your toes, you have got a fish, probably.

Now just go ahead and catch it. A word of caution. Be sure to strictly observe all applicable federal, state and local regulations. There is no legal limit imposed on fishing on W. Elwood Ave., but any frogs you catch you are required to surrender to city hall.

To the People of Hoke County,

This letter is in regards to the Air Force's proposal to use the Raeford area for low flying jet exercises. Just who are they doing this big favor for? Certainly not the people of Raeford and Hoke County.

I don't know how many people realize just what these jets will be carrying. Not "toy" bombs, but the real McKoy. All at a low of 500 feet! Do you know what a bomb accidentally dropped can do? It can flatten a house a quarter of a mile away. Imagine what it can do to the thing it hits! These jets are going to be loaded with napalm also. This is a jellied gas that splatters when dropped. If a person accidentally gets splattered, he will most definitely be burned to death. If you think this could never happen, think again. It can and has.

The people in the Puppy Creek Wayside area will get it much worse. They will be in the jets' low diving path right before the bombs

are dropped.

How many of you have felt the impact of the exercises already going on at Ft. Bragg? The noise and vibration have been so bad at times that I think I'll have to replace the glass in my windows. Sometimes it seems that my house is being vibrated off its foundation. This goes on even at 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning. Just imagine what the noise will be like if jets are allowed to fly at 500 feet!

How about this free package the Air Force is offering in return? It's supposed to help promote tourism and commerce. Bunk! Who wants to trade, much less live in, an area that is both noisy and dangerous. Isn't the overabundance of houses in Raeford that are for sale a major problem? I for one will consider leaving and moving back to Montgomery County.

How many of you know that this "great" proposal was presented to Fayetteville first and they turned it

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

Have you noticed how the newspapers and television networks concentrate on about one story a week? One week it'll be the Panama Canal, the next maybe Andrew Young, the next the late Elvis Presley, and last week it was check-writing.

Some people in Washington were outraged because Bert Lance had written a check for \$100,000 or so when on that very day he had only \$27,000 in his account. However, when a few days later the check had made its rounds and gotten back to his bank, it was good because in the mean time he'd deposited enough to cover it.

This underscores a fundamental, Constitutional principle: All checks are presumed good until proven bad.

You see, if one man has \$5 in his bank account and another has \$1,000, and each writes a check for \$2.50, one check is just as good as the other. Rockefeller couldn't write a sounder one. It's when the first one writes a check for \$6 or the other for \$1,001, that trouble starts.

I said that all checks are

presumed good until proven bad but that doesn't always hold, not if the store you're giving a check to is holding one of yours that bounced. The principle then turns over and all your checks are presumed bad until proven good. It's the surest way on earth to get on a cash basis.

Some people may not know it, but one of the greatest threats to check writers on a tight budget is the prospect of completely computerized, electronic, instant banking, the kind where every financial transaction is done in split seconds.

Like it is now, with the Postal Service on his side, a man can mail a check to pay a bill, even if he doesn't have quite enough money in his account to cover it, and know that by the time it finally reaches the bank he'll have had another pay check deposited and his credit stays intact. People cuss the post office without realizing that sometimes it's on their side. They're going to be in trouble if the Postal Service ever improves, which it will just as soon as the Middle East problem is solved, or certainly by the time we solve the energy problem.

Yours faithfully, J.A.

CLIFF BLUE ... People & Issues



SAINT ANDREWS... Something big happened at Saint Andrews College in Laurinburg when it was announced at the Synod of North Carolina meeting a few days ago that the receipt of a gift of \$1,000,000 had been donated to the college by an anonymous Presbyterian layman living outside of North Carolina. It was also announced that another gift of \$100,000 had been made by another Presbyterian layman living outside of North Carolina.

JAMES W. MASON... While speaking of higher education in Laurinburg, we are pleased to note that a longtime friend, Attorney James W. Mason of Laurinburg has been elected chairman of the board of trustees of Wake Forest University by his fellow board members. Mason is a former State Senator and also a former member of the State Highway Commission during the Hodges Administration.

NOV. 8 VOTING... Tar Heel voters will be asked to pass on several issues of prime importance in the November 8, 1977 election, five North Carolina Constitutional Amendments and two State-wide bond issues.

We will briefly explain the two bond issues in this article with comments on the Constitutional Amendments in a later column.

The Highway Bond issue will be for \$300,000,000 with the proceeds of the bonds divided this way: \$175,000,000 for the primary highway system, \$75,000,000 for the secondary highway system or rural roads, \$50,000,000 for the urban system to be allocated by the Board of Transportation. The one cent gasoline tax voted by the people in 1949 when Kerr Scott was governor of North Carolina will be retained and used exclusively to pay off the Highway Bond Issue, if passed, upon the retirement of the 1965 bond issue which took place during the Dan Moore Administration in 1965.

The Second Bond issue for \$230,000,000 is referred to as "Clean Water Bonds." The proceeds of the bond will be divided this way:

\$112,500,000 for wastewater treatment and collection facilities grants (75,000,000 for treatment and \$37,500,000 for collection).

\$110,000,000 for water supply facility grants (\$79,000,000 allocated to county area and \$31,000,000 unallocated).

\$7,500,000 for administration and contingency grants.

BERT LANCE... While many people seem to be down on Bert Lance, and his days in Washington still could be numbered, despite the many charges of which he was able to deflect quite a few last week, he still might have something that Washington needs. Yes, despite his sloppy way of helping himself and friends in the Calhoun, Georgia National Bank.

In a column "Review of Currents and Trends in Business and Finance" in the Wall Street Journal last week Washington bureaucrats were de-crying the fact about "The Great Spending Shortfall."

It was pointed out that last year at the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, that "government expenditures ran \$11.1 billion under budget projections," and that for the fiscal year 1977 which ends Sept. 30 that "spending is likely to be \$11 billion to \$13 billion less than estimated in February."

While the top bureaucrats were bemoaning the unspent money, Director of Budget Bert Lance saw a bright side. He even courageously spoke out saying, "I don't think it (the spending gap) is bad," noting that "it lowers the deficit."

Come to think of it, maybe Mr. Lance is in the wrong place! Just think for a minute: A man in a top position in Washington who can see a bright side to spending less and saving tax-payers' money to help keep the deficit down!

Yes, a week ago we thought Mr. Lance should go back to Georgia, but we are wondering, with the washing and scrubbing which he has been getting, if he himself would not be a pretty good man to keep in the capital city for awhile, particularly so since we note that budget writers in the House and Senate are preparing for a meeting on October 1 following Senate passage of a wider deficit projection than set in a House resolution!

FORD AND HELMS... In the contest between Gerald R. Ford and Ronald Reagan last year for the Republican presidential nomination, Helms was outspoken in his support for Reagan. Now, it is interesting to note that former President Ford is sending out letters asking for support and contributions for Senator Helms.

Letters To The Editor

down because it was too dangerous? So the FCC is trying to sucker Hoke County into accepting. Are we that gullible? At least we have Congressman Rose on our side. Are we willing to be forced into being guinea pigs for these practice sessions. We shouldn't have to stand for the military and FCC trying to make our decisions for us. They could care less. Why should they. The don't have to live here.

Sincerely,
 Mrs. Bob Williams

Editor's Note: The writer's mention of the "free package the Air Force is offering in return to promote tourism and commerce" should be clarified. This originated in Marty Vega's column of humor which appears on this page every week. It has no basis in fact and was a satirical story only.

Dear Editor,

I am a former football player at Hoke High. I believe that the press plays a major part in the game of football. When a team loses a game no matter what the score is they should not be praised for their game, but should be praised for their effort. I play games in which the team did lousy and *The News-Journal* would praise them for their excellent play but for a losing battle.

I am not saying it is the Journal's fault but the sports writer fault. And I am not saying that could be a better sports writer than the one now doing the job. For instance, it (the writer) says that the Bucks defense held the Falcons to 50 yards in the second half. The reason was probably because the Falcons use second and third string players. I know each of the defensive linemen and linebackers. They can hit and are fast and strong.

The Bucks rely on too few of people to do the job. They use Mark Wood too much at quarterback when they should use David Horne. So he can get use to playing quarterback. And he can play when Wood is injured or unable to play. They should play players at other positions to give them playing time.

Your sportswriter says at one place in the paper "71st scored quickly to take 14-3 lead at half. In 1976 that was the beginning of the end for the Bucks." What he was saying is that we (1976) team give up. But we didn't. At Sanford we didn't give up. (We lost 42-0). We outplayed the Yellow Jackets that game, the total offense was almost equal. In some games it was useless to try (Pine Forest 60-6). When we started the game we wanted to win. But when it was useless to try any harder with 5 minutes to play. But try to stop them from scoring again.

Hoke County football is on a decline not because of the players or the coaches. They are both doing the best with what they got. Ever since the last football camp, football has been on a decline. Some may know and some may not know what happened at football camp that year.

Some of you are wondering what I am trying to say. Well, what I am trying to say is that the press shouldn't praise a team when they lose but only when they win. But not to criticize their playing abilities by saying that they didn't try to win. And I am saying that some of these so-called young men get off of their cans and come play football. Some say "I can't because my mother won't let me". If you want to play, play. Tell your mother you want to play and she might even encourage you to play hard.

Yours truly,
 J.B. McNeill

We're counting on you.

