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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1977

Freedom In Our Hands

By James E. Olson
President, Wisconsin Newspaper Assn.
Publisher, Richland Observer,
Richland Center

Every time you pick up your newspaper at your doorstep or take it out of your mailbox, freedom is in your hands.

Your newspaper is a living, everyday illustration of the freedom that is embodied in the very first amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America. The Founding Fathers of this nation, who wrote the blueprint for the greatest experiment in government the world had ever seen, felt so strongly about freedom that they themselves annexed the Bill of Rights amendments before the Constitution could be submitted to the several sovereign states for formal ratification.

Through its free choice to present the news, to interpret the news, and to make comment on the news, your newspaper in every edition relies upon those basic rights and freedoms. In the process of pursuing its every day duties and obligations to you, your newspaper stands as the first line of defense against any action or any effort that may tend to infringe upon those rights and freedoms.

What is the newspaper's freedom is your freedom. One is dependent upon the other. One cannot be free without the other.

Every newspaper reader has the freedom of his or her choice in selecting the newspaper, the stories, the features, or the editorials he or she may want to read. Every reader has the freedom to respond to any of those articles or to any of the commentaries. As long as choice is readily available and the avenue of response is open, your freedom is secured.

When you have no choice or you cannot take issue, the freedom of the press is imperiled and your freedoms are consequently restricted.

Certainly newspapers are different.
Certainly they reflect opposing views.
Certainly they support conflicting ideas.

Certainly they espouse different programs and policies.
As surely as there are different types of readers, there are different types of newspapers. This in itself is the guarantee that freedom belongs to both the press and the public. That fact is important and essential to our system.

As surely as there are differences, both in the press and in the public, there will be those who are critical of the press. That, too, ensures a basic freedom.

Think back to the years and the circumstances that produced the totalitarian regimes in Europe. Did any Italian newspaper endure under Mussolini? Was any German newspaper permitted to take issue with Hitler?

Essential to their control and power was a press that presented only what they wanted presented. There was no choice or freedom, either for the press or for the public.

They could not afford to permit the press to be free because they could not allow the people the freedom of thought, choice and expression.

Freedom is basic and essential to all of us.
When you have your newspaper in your hand, you have freedom in your hand.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, October 9, 1952

A fire Tuesday morning at Oakdale Gin that could have resulted in thousands of dollars of damage was quickly averted by fast work on the gin personnel and volunteer firemen.

One of the worst traffic hazards in these parts has been eliminated with the competition of a new bridge at Antioch on the Red Springs highway.

Tuesday morning around 9:30 an army helicopter made a sudden visit to Raeford and landed on the edge of an auto car lot at Sunset Hills.

The Union Revival services will begin Sunday night at the Raeford Methodist Church and will continue nightly throughout the week. Dr. Julian Lake will be the speaker.

The Hoke County commissioners requested that the sheriff and the health sanitation officer investigate the reports that fish are being peddled from trucks in the county.

15 years ago

Thursday, October 11, 1962

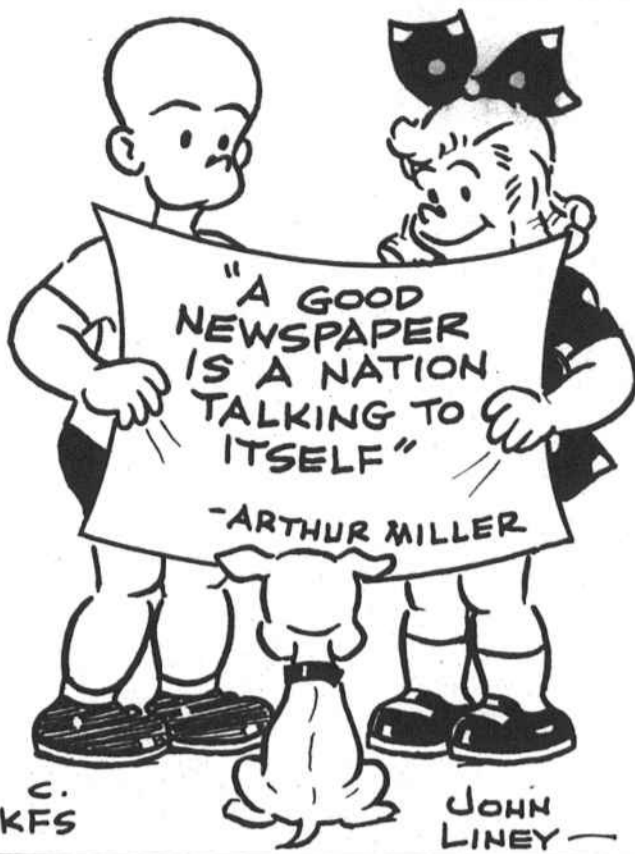
Less than 30 persons turned out Tuesday night at the courthouse for an important public meeting that agreed to form a "Raeford Development Corporation."

Registraton books in 10 of the county's 12 precincts open this Saturday, and Board of Elections chairman Col. William L. Poole said that all citizens in the affected precincts who wish to vote this November and in future elections must sign up.

United Fund directors have approved a \$17,900 budget for the next fiscal year, and it will be the responsibility of the annual fund-raising campaign to dig up that amount.

Bucks hold Scots in 4th to gain 6-0 victory.

At a national meeting of the veterans of World War I and II held at Fontana Dam last month, Mrs. R.L. Murray was elected to serve as a national vice president of the ladies auxiliary.



by Marty Vega

Think Of It This Way

There are nine candidates running for the city council this week. Last week there were five.

There were really five when the filing period closed last Friday at noon, only it didn't really close Friday. They got it extended to Monday at noon, which is the way it was all along, only it wasn't really, people just thought it was. Understand?

With only five people running, it was easy to keep them straight. Having nine is a lot to remember. Since this is a non-partisan race, you can't get them fixed in your mind as Democrats and Republicans.

The only way to keep them all straight without getting confused is to employ a little trick we use when we have trouble remembering names.

Think of them as the Good, the Bad and the Ugly.

Cablevision is causing quite a stir. The company says it will need a rate increase soon.

Everyone understands that Cablevision is entitled to make a decent profit, like any other business, but it has occurred to some of us that the company is not utilizing its full resources.

Three of the channels are blank with no programming. This seems a waste. If they can't install the time and weather station for technical reasons, maybe they can install a closed circuit channel for local stuff. Public service programming.

They can start with shows featuring the candidates. A different one each night.

Then if the company doesn't get its rate increase, it can threaten to put them on all of the stations.

People will be glad to pay the extra \$1.

The following letter was received after we made inquiries about starting up some clean, wholesome recreation around here. It came from the Recreation Department.

Dear Marty Vega,
In order to try to please the most important public, I called C. English about the horseback riding. At this time he has only one horse he can rent out. Hardly enough for a Recreation - sponsored ride.

See, this department does follow through for each and every individual.

Sincerely,
A public servant

Letters To The Editor

To The Citizens and Residents of Hoke County:

Are we the citizens of Hoke County victims of Circumstance? In July of 1977 our car was parked on our personal property better known as Harrell's Antiques in the Blue Springs township. We noticed thousands of spots on the car, as though flies had lighted. When we washed our car the spots could not be removed. We then took the car to a body shop and a car wash. We were informed it was caused by insecticide. We then called Farm Chemical whose plane had been spraying in the surrounding areas with insecticide. Two men from the chemical company took the car and polished on it the entire day. The specks were still there except the ones they removed which left pits in the paint.

Should this spray which is so powerful be allowed to be sprayed on residential and business areas affecting peoples' gardens, homes, cars, livestock, pets and the people themselves?

After contacting the insurance company, we got a large settlement of \$400.00 to have a new car which cost \$10,300.00 repainted. How many citizens of Hoke County have had their vehicles ruined in this matter and did not realize what happened? Should we not be able to have our property protected better than this? Another car in the county was also sprayed about the same time and reported in *The News-Journal*. What about all those that were not reported?
Mr. & Mrs. Willie E. Harrell

Dear Sir,

I noticed in the October 6 *News-Journal* where they are talking about asking for a rate increase in cable TV. I myself already know of many customers having their cable TV discontinued due to the present price rate being too high. I myself, as many more, were thinking about having cable TV extended out here so we could be connected on to cable TV but it will never happen now. Not under any

higher rate. I know of many customers who are now hooked up on it saying that if the rates increase this fall to \$7 they will surely have theirs disconnected. So, instead of Mr. James F. Collins and Jim Payton asking for a rate increase they better be asking for a new rate decrease, or they will be losing money and many customers, to my own opinion.

We do want cablevision but will not accept it under a new rate increase.

Cesary Jacobs
Rt. 2, Box 67
Raeford

Dear Sir:

I have been a resident of Hoke County for over twenty-two years. During this period of time, I have been a regular subscriber to *The News-Journal*.

I have seen nothing in your paper that pleased me more than to see in today's edition that the Hoke County Board of Education is designating that the older portion of the Hoke County High School shall bear the name of K.A. MacDonald as a memorial to that distinguished gentleman.

I knew him and loved him as did many of the older residents of this County.

There is no question but that his foresight in the field of education enhanced education for all the people of this County who passed through the public school system during his life and since his passing.

His family and his friends should be, and I am sure that they are, pleased that this fine man is finally receiving lasting public recognition for services rendered to this community.

Sincerely yours,
Joe Dupree

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Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

After several days of delay and filibuster, the Senate debate over natural gas price deregulation has ended, and a somewhat compromised bill deregulating gas has been passed. It must now go to conference with members of the House, which voted to continue regulated, although increased, prices.

In the end, I voted against the bill, the so-called Pearson-Bentsen substitute, because I feel that it will have too much of a sudden impact on the economy. I favor eventual deregulation, but the Pearson-Bentsen bill goes too far too fast -- it does it now. In fact, the Senate bill allows a gas deregulation retroactive to January 1, 1977.

There are good arguments for slowly phasing out government price controls, which have almost never benefited consumers. For years, regulation kept the price of gas sold in interstate commerce artificially high. It was much higher than gas sold in the states where it was produced, and thus unregulated. Once the energy crisis had changed all that, regulation created market conditions which caused the price of unregulated gas sold at the wellhead in Louisiana and Texas to soar. It would be better in the long run, for the government to stay out of it as much as possible.

But such a change should not come too abruptly. The impact of such steep and sudden price increases could be powerfully inflationary.

During the long debate, some concessions were wrung from those

favoring Pearson-Bentsen.

First, an "incremental pricing" arrangement was accepted which would prevent the home owner from bearing the full impact of the price increases. These will be borne by business and industry at first. No one argues that the increase will be passed on to all consumers -- it will. But the effect will be far less concentrated, and less likely to cause as much suffering among the sick, the poor, and the elderly, many of whom were hard hit last winter.

Second, the filibuster forced imposition of a \$2.48 ceiling price per thousand cubic feet for two years, although all other regulatory provisions were removed.

Third, we were able to strike out a section which would have prevented "old" intrastate gas from being sold across state lines. This was the only gas supply that many North Carolina plants could turn to last winter to keep operating. My office worked too hard on insuring that supply to have it endangered.

The Bill now goes to conference with the House, where the President got his wish to continue gas regulation, with the price increase. The issue is not settled. The House and Senate are far apart and further debate seems guaranteed.

In the long run, I am ready to see deregulation in the entire oil and gas area; but again, I am not willing to vote for immediate deregulation. Because of the parliamentary situation, I had no opportunity to vote for any type of phased deregulation.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

At first, when I read that there are now 970 satellites circling the earth and more on the way, I said they're going to do to space what they've done to cities with traffic, although I guess if man puts his mind to it and gets a big enough appropriation he can produce parking meters for outer space and maybe even stop lights.

But then I read another article saying Russia has perfected a satellite that can shoot down another satellite, and we're working on the same thing too.

This may be the answer mankind has been looking for ever since one group of cavemen got in a war with the cavemen on the other side of the mountain, on down through better organized tribal wars, the fall of Jericho, the 100-years War, the Peloponnesian War, the Roman Wars, the Battle of Bull Run, the Boer War, all the European wars so numerous nobody can name them all, right on down through World War I, World War II, Vietnam, and World War III, whenever it's scheduled.

Clearly, the place to fight the next war is in outer space, and you

do it with satellites. We send up say 10,000 satellites, Russia sends up 10,000 (we'll need international referees to see that nobody cheats) and the whole shebang starts shooting at each other. It'll be like playing marbles for keeps, only you don't get to keep your opponent's marble, you shatter it. The side that winds up with the most satellites still orbiting wins. If the side that loses is dissatisfied and in the spirit of warring man since time immemorial abandons the rules and sends up additional snarling satellites, the other side retaliates, and the war goes on till one side runs out of money.

Since it seems impossible for man to eliminate war, using outer space for a battleground and unmanned satellites for soldiers appears to be the perfect solution. Nobody gets hurt and no buildings are destroyed. Just be sure to duck if you see a piece of falling satellite headed in your direction. The stuff is supposed to burn up in the atmosphere before it reaches the earth but you know how modern industry is, always installing some parts that're faulty.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
Sam C. Morris, General Manager