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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1977

## Protecting right-to-work

If the right-to-work issue resurfaces in the next Legislature, expect a good fight.

It was, after all, a good fight back in 1965 when the state's seven-year-old law was repealed. Something about freedom of choice and union membership makes Hoosier blood boil.

Right-to-work, by simplest definition, is a law which protects the right of individuals in a state not to have to join a union as a condition of employment if they don't want to. This element of choice in union membership was protected in 1947 by Section 14B of the Taft-Hartley law which allows for right-to-work in the states.

Obviously, states without right-to-work laws are favored by labor unions. In fact, unions try perennially in Congress for repeal of Section 14B, so they can be done with the matter altogether. And why not? In theory, union membership swells without right-to-work laws, dues pour in, wages are set at union scales and non-union members are prevented from reaping the bargaining benefits negotiated by unions.

All of which sounds fine except that first, it is not necessarily true, and second, it denies an individual the fundamental freedom to decide for himself whether to join a union.

Union membership, which includes about 25 percent of all non-farm workers, declined in 1976. This does not, however, appear to be related to right-to-work laws. Twenty states have such laws on the books according to Department of Labor statistics they have more than 3.2 million voluntary union and 3 million non-union employees working in them.

A National Right-to-Work Committee study, compiled from Labor statistics, showed that states permitting forced unionism had a net loss of 726,400 manufacturing jobs from 1965-1975, while right-to-work states gained nearly a million new manufacturing jobs. While gains and losses are not entirely attributable to such legislation, clearly companies prefer states in which they must not deal exclusively with unions. Indiana, which repealed its law in 1965, is shown with a 29,500 or 4 percent net loss in such jobs. Further, the committee reports, unemployment is 1 percent lower in right-to-work states.

Indiana's own experience offers further proof. Unions did not decline in Indiana under the right-to-work law. Membership in the state AFL-CIO jumped from 323,123 in 1958 to 350,000 in 1962 while hourly wages increased on the average of 50 cents an hour. Unemployment dropped from a rate of 8.1 percent in 1958 to 3.1 percent in 1965, and that was below the national average.

Surely Indiana stands to benefit from any legislation which protects the individual's right to freedom of choice. --*The Indianapolis News*

## Lumber goes up

Last April in Miami, lumber dealers were paying \$6.40 for a sheet of half-inch plywood. The price today is \$8.83 and climbing.

This is driving the cost of housing beyond the ability of most South Florida families to pay. And nationally the picture is the same.

Sen. William Proxmire will hold hearings to find out why this is happening with lumber prices because he says the increases are threatening one of the healthiest industries.

Nothing stimulates a local economy faster than homebuilding and remodeling. But with a 35 percent increase in lumber prices in the last six months, fewer people can afford a new house or afford to fix up the old one. --*The Miami Herald*

## Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

### 25 years ago

Thursday, October 30, 1952

Turkalin Farms, Inc. the brainchild of Bonner Thompson, Sr., and J. Scott McFadyen, both of Fayetteville, has at last become a reality and their new plant located on the edge of Raeford on the Fayetteville highway is already in full production and is expected to continue that way indefinitely.

As a public service Raeford Auto Co., Hoke Auto Co., and Morgan Motor Co., Raeford new car dealers, will offer transportation to the polls on election day, November 4, to anyone in Raeford who does not have a rig.

The sheriff's department has been rather active in the last week as they apprehended four men and destroyed five stills.

The second gin fire in several weeks took place last Thursday morning when the local fire department answered a call to the Dundarrach Gin at Dundarrach.

### 15 years ago

Thursday, November 1, 1962

Under the pressure of the still-continuing Cuban crisis, Civil Defense work in Hoke County moved ahead last week in a number of areas.

Sale of stock in the Raeford Development Corporation went into high gear this week. Lawrence McNeill reported.

The long arm of the Raeford Police Department will soon be reaching out for parking violations. Mayor H. R. (Hooch) McLean warned this week.

A sluggish Buck team (the adjective is from Coach Floyd Wilson) crunched out a game, but out-manned Dunn team, 13-0, Friday night at Dunn.

The annual "Powder Puff Bowl" will be held today (Thursday) at Armory Park at 4:30 in the afternoon.

'Unfortunately, I'm beginning to understand how you feel'



by Marty Vega

## Put Thinking Cap On

Next Tuesday is a very important date. Nov. 8 is the first Tuesday after the first Monday and you know what that means.

There will be only 41 shopping days left until Christmas.

But there is something else important, too. It is election day and every voter must make his choices.

There are nine candidates on the ballot for city council, so people will have to make up their minds. There is only one candidate on the ballot for mayor so it won't be nearly so hard there. Or will it?

Some of you voters may still be undecided about it. Some of you may be thinking of casting a write-in vote for someone else for mayor.

(For those of you who are thinking now, stop thinking and go on reading. You can think anytime.)

Who would make a good candidate for mayor?

It should be somebody who lives here, of course. Somebody who is not too old, but not too young.

Somebody who is loyal. Somebody who is trustworthy. Somebody thrifty and clean.

It should be somebody who has attended lots and lots of city council meetings. Somebody who isn't overly concerned with Monday night football, but very concerned about the price of cable TV and things like that.

It should be somebody who doesn't make a great deal of money

but isn't living on welfare, either.

It should be somebody who is accustomed to writing down lots of things, taking notes, etc. Somebody who is used to working with a typewriter to write things.

It should be somebody with a name that is non-discriminatory, a name that could be either masculine or feminine when it was put on official proclamations.

(When this mayor signs stuff to go off to Raleigh and other places, the officials there won't know if the mayor is a man or a woman and this will catch them off guard and they won't be able to make sexist assumptions.)

It should be somebody who gets around the restaurants frequently to keep in touch with the people to hear what they're saying. (And see what they're eating.)

It should be somebody who lives and works right in the downtown area, say in the Elwood and Harris Ave. general vicinity, in case she was needed right away for official ceremonies and stuff like that.

It should be somebody who, if elected, would turn back the salary to the city treasury and keep only enough for carfare to go to the meetings.

If this is your kind of candidate for mayor, then vote according to your convictions next Tuesday.

The name of somebody who fits the bill may pop right into your mind.

## Letter To The Editor

To the Editor:

Imagine how exciting the early days of exploration of North Carolina were. The early settlers here found a good climate, a relatively fertile soil, abundant forest, wild game, fowl and fish in great abundance. To these first settlers our water and other resources must have seemed limitless.

Today the quantity and quality of our waters can no longer be taken for granted. Careful planning is necessary if we are to continue to have enough water to meet our needs and preserve the quality of our environment.

On November 8, we have the opportunity to vote on a \$230 million clean water bond referendum. This needs to be passed so we can develop an adequate, clean water supply system and provide for water pollution control. Such projects would provide cleaner streams, safe water supplies, and improvement in fish and wild life values. Of this, 112.5 million would go toward municipal, community, and county water pollution control projects...110 million for the improvement of municipal, community and county water supply systems...7.5 million would go in a contingency fund for special community and county water projects.

All 100 counties would benefit from issuance of the \$230 million clean water bonds. No new taxes would be required.

The dread of a water shortage, the fear of water pollution, and the loss of time and money when treatment facilities break down -- we have faced these situations many times in recent years. The \$230 million bond issue offers us the opportunity to see that it doesn't happen in the future.

We in North Carolina can meet this great challenge of preserving our environment while continuing our industrial expansion.

Bobby Simpson  
 Newton Grove



## Report To The People

by Senator Robert Morgan

A bill which will raise the mandatory retirement age from 65 to 70 has passed both houses of Congress and will soon be signed into law.

I supported the bill, although I had some reservations about just what its effect on the economy will be. For one thing, no one can predict just what percent of those who reach 65 will elect to keep on working. The number has been estimated as low as five percent and as high as twenty percent.

However, it can be argued that a capable person who is told he must go sit in the corner at age 65 is being discriminated against and certainly it is interfering with a person's freedom of choice to take away all his options just because the calendar says so.

Probably every member who voted for the bill was influenced to some extent because he had known persons who were perfectly capable of doing their jobs but who were sent kicking and screaming into retirement simply because they reached the age of 65.

But there are still some questions that must be answered before we know what effect this bill is going to have on the nation's economy. It could be that young people will find fewer jobs available because the rate of attrition among older workers will slow down, especially if twenty percent, or one out of five, decide to keep working an extra five years.

Corporate pension plans, now geared to a retirement age of 65, will probably have to be reappraised, and it could be that some pensions may be improved so that the earlier retirement will be made more palatable to seniors.

## CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues



N.C. TOPS...According to a report issued by the U.S. Dept. of Labor North Carolina's work incentive program (WIN) had the best over-all performance in the nation between Oct. 1, 1976 and July 1, 1977. During the period, welfare payments were terminated for 1,985 recipients of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) and the monthly payments of another 2,756 were reduced. The savings do not include corresponding reductions in expenditures for these recipients in the Medicaid and Food Stamp Programs.

SEPARATION OF POWERS...Under the U.S. Constitution we are supposed to have separation of powers. We have the legislative, executive and the judiciary. With Federal Judge James McMillan of Charlotte making noises like he is going to direct the administration of the welfare and poverty programs in a number of Tar Heel counties we suspect many will feel that the social services boards in the various counties are much better able to determine those eligible and needing assistance than a Federal Judge from afar off.

NAZI UPSERGE...From time to time we read about the Nazi group in North Carolina and other parts of the nation. Why any reasonable people would want to take up with any group accepting the "nazi" tag after what Hitler and his followers did to the Jews and others in World War II is hard to swallow. However, we must remember that this is a free country and a democracy allows and tolerates many organizations and other minor groups like

the Nazis. Lest we forget, Hitler and his followers ran rough shod over millions of Jews after his rise to power in Germany. Hitler's rise to power in Germany followed runaway inflation, followed by a depression which weakened the German people to the extent of turning to Hitler who offered to lead them to become a great nation again, but who instead led them to the greatest down-fall in history!

WASHINGTON...While President Carter gives voice to a desire to restrain inflation, it appears that most everything that is taking place in Washington today is building a little more fire to the flames of inflation, raising salaries, social security benefits and increasing the national debt for future generations to wrestle with!

In fact we can't think of a single program which has been enacted in Washington which, would tend to hold back inflation. The Labor Bill which President Carter supported would give more stimulus to inflation.

MOREHEAD SCHOLARSHIPS...In the public (and private) schools over North Carolina nominees are being named to compete for the prestigious and coveted Morehead Scholarships which the late John Motley Morehead established in 1945 before his death some years later. While there are hundreds of scholarships offered at the various institutions of higher learning over the State, the Morehead Scholarships are among the top in the nation. To be a Morehead Scholar is a distinction -- something that both boys and girls covet as well as the \$3,000 per year which goes with each of the scholarships for four years.

SUBSIDIES FOR CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGNS...Many people feel that the Federal government already has its hands in far more projects than is healthy and good for the nation and that should not start using taxpayers money to support congressional campaigns.

Commenting on the subject, former U.S. Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr. of North Carolina says: "I fear my former colleagues in the United States Congress, anxious to rid politics of the last remnants of Watergate-type scandals, may be close to damaging the very institution they hope to strengthen... What they fail to recognize in their zeal to remove any taint of 'special interest' money, is not only the potentially terrible financial burden they may be laying on the taxpayer's shoulders but the damage they may be doing to the election system itself."

Sam Ervin is a wise senior statesman and due consideration should be given to his thoughts.



Only in the newspaper does the news, entertainment and features "keep" until work or chores are done -- a fact important to the nation's 23 million working women alone, who might otherwise miss the news and advertising messages of local businesses.