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THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1981

Sunday beer sales

The Hoke County commissioners are due to consider on August 17 whether to allow the sale of beer in Hoke County on Sundays.

The sales would be for off-premises consumption and would be permitted by stores which already have permits to sell beer.

County Commissioner Danny DeVane in proposing that Sunday sales be permitted said the present situation is unfair to Hoke County stores, since neighboring Moore County, within a 30-minute drive of most Hoke people, permits Sunday sales. He also added, however, he is against Sunday sales but believed they should be permitted for the reason he stated.

The setting of the date for possible action by the commissioners on a formal resolution allowing the sales gives time for Hoke County people to organize both protests against and support for the proposal.

One resident raised an objection to Sunday sales as soon as they were proposed at the commissioners' July 20 meeting: he lived in a neighborhood which has stores which have beer sales permits, and he didn't want to seem them selling on Sunday.

Other questions the commissioners will have to decide before acting on the proposal include these. Will the expanded sales create more problems for law enforcement officers?

Should alcoholic beverages be made more available in the county than they already are?

Should the Hoke County government maintain the present status in traditional Christian reverence for the Sabbath?

The answer to the first question can be obtained by checking the law enforcement agencies of Moore County, with its area and population far greater than Hoke's, which has allowed beer sales on Sunday by town and county ordinance for many years.

As for the second question: Hoke people who enjoy having a beer on Sundays merely stock up at their favorite stores before Sunday, or drive to a neighboring county on Sunday if they run out.

The answer to the third question is a matter of personal religious conviction. If expressed by many, the convictions naturally would be considered by the commissioners as seriously as they would the possible enlargement of the law enforcement problem.

There is plenty of time for the commissioners to get the necessary information and the sentiments of Hoke County people before they take up the subject of Sunday beer sales on August 17.

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CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues



PRESS CONVENTION -- The N.C. Press Association, which includes the dailies and non-dailies, held its 108th annual convention in Pinehurst last Thursday, Friday and Saturday until noon.

Lee Weathers of Shelby succeeded Frank Daniels of the *Raleigh News and Observer* as president of the N.C. Press Association. The Association meets twice a year. The winter meetings are at Chapel Hill in January. The summer meetings are rotated between Asheville, Pinehurst and Wilmington.

Newspaper conventions, like other trade associations, are a time when people in the same trade get together and swap ideas and problems, in addition to holding formal sessions.

U.S. Senator John East was the guest speaker for the Friday evening banquet. The freshman senator discussed the many duties of being a U.S. Senator, which included the consumed time in answering roll-calls in the august body. He said a majority of the roll-calls were not of significance, but, if you didn't go on record then it was a point an opposing candidate could make a big issue of.

PINEHURST, INCORPORATED -- Pinehurst, Incorporated and the Village of Pinehurst of Pinehurst adopted some zoning laws that Pinehurst, Inc. did not like at all, after a lengthy hearing.

After the adoption of the Zoning that Pinehurst, Inc. did not like, Village Town Manager Suggs said: "We received a letter in which we were instructed to remove all city vehicles from the property they were on and turn in all keys at the close of the day."

TAXES -- Taxes is one of the oldest issues in government. In Washington taxes is a prime issue and has to do with any issue to provide an additional service. Taxes were the paramount issue in the recent General Assembly. And

everytime an additional service is advocated it hits the nerve point of taxes. In fact the chief issue in our war for Independence was taxes -- "Taxes without Representation."

TOBACCO SEASON -- Tobacco harvesting in 1981 is a far cry from what it was in past years when everything was done by hand from setting it out in the springtime to making it in the fall.

Back in the early days of tobacco curing you didn't think of marketing it until all was cured and placed in the pack barn and allowed to age.

Now you start marketing the golden leaf soon after the first barn is taken to the pack house.

In the early days of harvesting tobacco, a sled, drawn with a mule carried the tobacco which had been primed by the men to the barn where mostly women-folks strung it up in the shade, and the men-folks hung it up in the barn at the close of the day.

Modern mechanism has taken much of the toil and sweat from this method of 50 years ago.

Tobacco this year appears to be selling higher than ever before, \$159.95 on opening day in the Sandhills markets.

WASHINGTON STAR -- The *Washington Star*, once Washington's leading newspaper, announced last week that it would cease publication on August 7th. Owned by Time, Inc., the *Star* announced that it had been losing \$20 million a year for the past three years. The *Washington Post*, in recent years, has surpassed the *Star* in circulation and advertising.

MOORE DEMOCRATS -- Moore County Democrats Executive Committee has decided against taking the issue to Federal court regarding the General Assembly's dividing the county between the Sixth and Eight congressional districts, the first and only county to be divided in North Carolina.

Gone with the wind?



It's a Small World

By Bill Lindau

Sign in a downtown Southern Pines shop which offers service to coin collectors:

"If coins are outlawed, only outlaws will have coins."

John Hurt, a British actor, got very favorable publicity from the movie critics who saw the preview of "The Elephant Man," in which he played the deformed hero. Articles reported his background in drama.

But, oddly enough, the articles I read did not mention his superb performances as the degenerate Roman emperor, Caligula, in the British "I, Claudius" series which has been shown, twice, on educational television (Channel 4, UNC-TV, in this area); and as Raskalnikov, the tragic student, in the dramatization of Fyodor Dostoevsky's "Crime and Punishment," also a British production shown on Channel 4.

Speaking of Channel 4 (the Center for public Television-CPT in the TV guides), it's a good idea to check that one for good fiction and nonfiction. A couple of weeks ago, for example, the outlook on the commercial stations was dull so I turned to CPT's channel in the belief that anything would be more interesting than what ABC, NBC and CBS was offering at the time.

What I saw was the beginning of a piece about Cecil Rhodes, Britain's empire-builder in Africa. The first scenes didn't look very promising, but I hung in there, and was rewarded for my persistence.

The work was one of the rare ones in entertainment. At times you see excellence in form, but not in substance, and at other times, the other way around. Rarely do we see what is excellent in both. The story of Rhodes was one of the rare ones.

In a nut shell, it is a portrait of the man of the latter quarter of the 1800s dedicated to expanding personally the British Empire. To carry out his plan; he accumulated tremendous wealth, not for his personal profit, but to buy the power he needed, as well as money, to reach his goal.

He also was one who wouldn't let principles interfere with his quest. The televised story brings this out. Yet, it also shows Rhodes wasn't all cold-blooded zealot. The narrator, Kenneth(?) Griffin, an actor and writer, shows in one touching example that Rhodes was capable of feeling tremendous love, and the suffering that sometimes goes with it.

Rhodes, Griffin tells us, was a bit of Churchill and a bit of Hitler.

Fortunately for the United States, Rhodes' dream and his life ended some time after his private army conquered the land that was to be named in his honor, Rhodesia, and before he could go to work on another part of his dream: namely, dragging the American "Colonies" back into the British Empire.

And here's an idea that seems to make sense:

"The world cannot continue to wage war like physical giants and to seek peace like intellectual pygmies." -- Basil O'Connor, speaking to the National Conference of Christians and Jews in 1945.

Sometimes, your phone rings, and it turns out the party calling has dialed the wrong number, and sometimes you dial the wrong number.

When you dial the wrong Area Code you get interesting results.

At home in Southern Pines, every now and then we get people who are dialing our home, 692-2246, but it turns out they want to talk with somebody in Hendersonville. Somebody in Hendersonville has the same number, but the Area Code is 704, and ours is 919.

I also got to talk to some lady with a French accent twice in one day a few years ago.

I was trying to call Hamlet, which has the 919 Area Code.

When I got the lady with the French accent the second time, I asked what city she was in. She said, "Quebec."

The Area Code for the province of Quebec which is in Canada, is 819.

I finally got my Hamlet call through simply by watching what I was doing with the dial.

You do get to meet interesting new people by dialing wrong numbers, though.

The English language, I was told many years ago, is a language of position.

Sometimes you get funny-looking results when you get careless with the position of the words you use for making a sentence.

One common to newspaper is the sad story of the man who got shot "Tuesday in his back porch."

Then I read this one published in last week's edition of a Piedmont area newspaper:

"A former kindergarten teacher was found guilty of shoplifting two jars of coffee in District Court Tuesday." Now that took a lot of sheer gall: shoplifting right in District Court.

Of course, we're all for freedom of the press, but we also believe in freedom from the press on occasion.

For examples, there was the case of the Asheville television reporter of a while back who came barging into a coroner's inquest with a TV cameraman on his heels just as a witness was testifying about a homicide.

All business promptly stopped, and the witness went into shock.

Immediately, the coroner ordered the TV team to get out. "Freedom of the press!" the reporter hollered.

Nevertheless the dismal duo was ejected.

Then there was the reporter-photographer who charged into the emergency room of North Carolina Memorial Hospital. He was out to get a picture of the victim of a shooting.

A surgeon was just about to start work on the victim, who had just been rendered unconscious with ether.

The photographer was using a camera which fired a flash bulb, which he intended to use. Ether, however, is highly inflammable, and the whole room would have been engulfed in flame if the bulb had been fired.

Immediately, the doctor ordered the photographer to get out. The cameraman, however, started to give him an argument and raised his camera again. After a struggle, the cameraman and his camera were removed from the emergency room to a place of safety, the patients' and doctors' as well as his.

This incident didn't interfere with his career. He wound up with a good reporting job on a large Midwestern daily. I don't know whether they let him take any pictures, though.

Letters To The Editor

Editor, *The News-Journal*

For 750,000 North Carolina handicapped citizens, the designation of 1981 as the International Year of the Disabled Person is of special significance as they strive to become fully integrated into society and the economy of this state.

North Carolina, through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services of the Department of Human Resources, supports programs designed to aid handicapped persons in achieving these goals. Through the intervention of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) programs, thousands of disabled persons are given the opportunity to overcome or reduce their vocational handicap and to obtain the skills necessary to enter the labor force. VR focuses on handicapped persons of working age who have work potential. It also aids 20,000 youths under age 21 and nearly 1,000 individuals over age 60.

The state helps to support 51 sheltered workshops where handicapped persons are individually evaluated as to their skill level and work potential and placed into a suitable program designed to assist them to employment. Many are hired to work at the workshop while some are able to secure work in competitive employment.

The Adult Developmental Activity Program, along with the Vocational Work Adjustment program of the sheltered workshops, seeks to increase the level of independent living by providing the mentally retarded and the physically disabled with access to job skill training and competitive employment.

These programs also seek to remove society's stereotyping attitudes that prevent disabled persons from participating fully in the many physical, social, and creative activities that North Carolina has to offer.

The International Year of the Disabled Person provides a unique opportunity to increase recognition of these barriers and help find ways to overcome them.

Sincerely yours,
Tom Gilmore
Deputy Secretary
N.C. Department of
Human Resources

Editor, *The News Journal*

I am a Governor's School-East student, and I am writing this letter as an assignment for my Self and Society class. In this class we, as students, examine the relationships among peers and in society. The purpose of this letter is to make a stand on some issue that we feel strongly about. The issue may be of any nature as long as we are honest in our opinions.

I have chosen the educational system of Hoke County High School. Throughout my years in high school, I felt that my learning capacity was being filled in each course that I undertook. For the majority it was. So I felt before coming to Governor's School-East. My emphasized subject here is natural science, and for the first

three weeks I have studied organic chemistry of which I knew nothing of upon entering the class. I chose this subject to build onto my knowledge of chemistry, but I did not realize that there was so little foundation to build on; although I have had a year of chemistry. I was completely lost the first few days, and it was really discouraging. It is difficult to comprehend when you do not have the basics to back you.

The course was very enlightening in the sense that I discovered that for the specific course my capacity was not filled to an adequate level. Teachers should stress the need for basics before going into higher levels. Without these a student does not truly learn. He may know how to work a particular activity, but he does not know why he does it. In many cases it is rote.

The question "Why?" should be asked more often. If students were to ask this question they would graduate with a greater feeling of fulfillment and self confidence to go out into society and be productive members.

Thank you,
Rose Parish

Editor, *The News-Journal*

I have observed with interest, the reactions of many individuals concerning the appointment of Mrs. O'Connor to the United States Supreme Court. Of particular interest was the statement attributed to New Hanover County Commissioner Karen Gottovi. As a fellow Democrat, I believe it is possible to comment without being accused of being partisan.

The Wilmington Star quoted Mrs. Gottovi as follows: "Her (Mrs. O'Connor's) political philosophy is not of paramount importance to me." Well, political philosophies notwithstanding, when the justices abandon the traditional practice of a strict interpretation of the Constitution and law, as they have for years, then ideology is the only thing left and becomes extremely important. Not to recognize this fact is quite naive.

Franklin Roosevelt's "packing the court" was clearly recognized as a means of obtaining favorable decisions in order to carry out his socialist reforms for America. Let's be honest and admit that he and subsequent presidents were and have been successful in doing just that. NRA and a host of other socialist programs were simply replaced with similar programs under difficult titles by both Democratic and Republican administrations.

While Congress, charged with the responsibility of checking the excesses of the judicial and executive branches of our government has consistently closed its eyes, the Court has been converting our Republic into an unbridled, mobocratic democracy, leading inevitably to tyranny.

Lynn Batson
5521 Wrightsville Avenue
Wilmington, N.C. 28403

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, July 26, 1956

County Farm Agent W.C. Williford said this week that the increase in boll weevil in the cotton fields of the county in the last week had been tremendous.

Following arrangements by the county department of Public Health and the Hoke County Medical Society a clinic for administering the Salk vaccine for the prevention of infantile paralysis will be held in the county health department, Dr. J.W. Wilcox, county health officer announced yesterday.

Norman McLeod McDiarmid, farmer, businessman, and retired funeral director died Saturday morning in Highsmith Hospital in Fayetteville.

Bill Hodgin pitched the Raeford Pony League team to a 13-0 victory over the Gibson team there yesterday afternoon, and didn't allow a single hit in the process.

Hoke County farmers have agreed to remove 247.54 acres of cropland from production under the 1956 Soil Bank program, and it is expected that there will be more before the time for signing up expires on Friday, Miss Louise Blue, secretary of the Hoke County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee reported yesterday.

15 years ago

Thursday, July 28, 1966

Hoke County farm crops continue to suffer from drought, but the economic picture is not as bad as some people paint it, a survey of the situation reveals.

N.H.G. Balfour, 75, former chairman of the board of county commissioners, farmer, and a director of Lumber River Credit Association died Monday at his home near Lumber Bridge.

Hoke County suffered its second drowning within 24 hours last Wednesday when Jimmy McLean, 25-year-old farmhand, drowned in an irrigation pond near the Hoke-Moore County line.

Walter Pressly Baker, 67 long-time Raeford druggist, died at his home here early Monday night the apparent victim of a heart attack.

Raeford Lions Club will stage a 36-hole open golf tournament Aug. 20 and 21 at Arabia Golf Course six miles southeast of Raeford in the Arabia Community.

Lonnie S. Brock, 59, ruling elder in Raeford Presbyterian Church, died Saturday morning at Highsmith - Rainey Hospital in Fayetteville.