

The News - Journal



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1981

Good idea

The Hoke County PTA had a good idea, and it's too bad it didn't work out, but it ought to try again a month or two before next year's primaries.

The idea was to have a meeting for Raeford voters to get to know the candidates in the November 3 election of members of the City Council. The meeting was held the night of October 19 at J.W. Turlington School.

The eight candidates and Mayor John K. McNeill, Jr., appeared. The mayor came even though he's not opposed for reelection, consequently could have skipped it for all practical purposes, but paid the PTA the courtesy of coming just the same.

It turned out, though, that the candidates outnumbered the people in the audience.

True, the PTA is a school-system affiliated organization, and the Raeford mayor and City Council have nothing officially to do with the school system. Also, the PTA is a countywide organization, and, consequently, most of its members are not eligible to vote in a town election since they're not town residents.

Still, the town members and the town voters who aren't members had an opportunity to hear the candidates express their intentions if elected, and their views of what the council ought to do. They also had the opportunity to question the candidates, for one thing, about why they believe they should be elected.

Few came to take the opportunity, but it wasn't the PTA's fault, and the PTA deserves praise for trying to perform a valuable public service.

Let's hope the lack of public interest shown in the meeting to meet the candidates is no clue to the number of people who will vote in next Tuesday's election. In the 1979 election, less than 10 per cent of the city's registered voters turned out, but this lack of interest could be excused by the lack of opposition candidates to the incumbents for reelection.

In this year's election, however, eight are running for the five council seats, including the five incumbents. Every registered voter should go to the polls if at all possible to decide who will be running the town's government for the next two years, not let a handful of conscientious citizens make the decision for all.

--BL

Removal proper

The removal of Maj. Gen. Robert Schweitzer from his National Security Council job was a proper move, not merely for disciplinary reasons, but to assure the governments of the rest of the world that Schweitzer wasn't speaking for the United States government when he expressed his opinion about the Soviet military.

Schweitzer was fired October 20 after the *Washington Post* quoted him as saying the Soviets have nuclear weapons superiority over the United States and are going to strike.

He made his remarks to "Army buddies," without clearing his comments in advance with Richard Allen, President Reagan's national security adviser, as the rule requires. The fact that he was talking to "buddies" and didn't know a newspaper reporter was present didn't mitigate his offense in the eyes of the administration.

The danger of his freewheeling, however, was that the Soviet Union and others could have interpreted his comments as expressions of official American government attitude and reacted accordingly, to the further detriment to international relations.

American government representatives abroad already are having a difficult time trying to clear up confusion created by officials' remarks, including Reagan's, without having an unofficial voice adding to it with an expression of an opinion, and not even fact.

The opinion, furthermore, "does not reflect the president's thinking with regard to the state of world affairs," said an official.

That, incidentally, is a difference between views we can be extremely thankful for.

--BL



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1981

Read Isaiah 65:17-25

In some dimensions this text quoted above is future, but God's time is not so easily divided. Whenever we discover God active in our midst, life is renewed and transformed.

Tom had been taken to Sunday school and church by neighbors during boyhood years, but during his youth, associates turned his attention to other activities. Several years later as father and husband, Tom had a new encounter with Christ. He realized God's new creation transforming his interests and attitudes after a decade of separation from the church. He reminded the congregation that had nurtured him as a boy, "Your

concern for me and your faithful nurture of my life in Christ was not wasted; it was that foundation which enabled me to recognize God calling me to renewal."

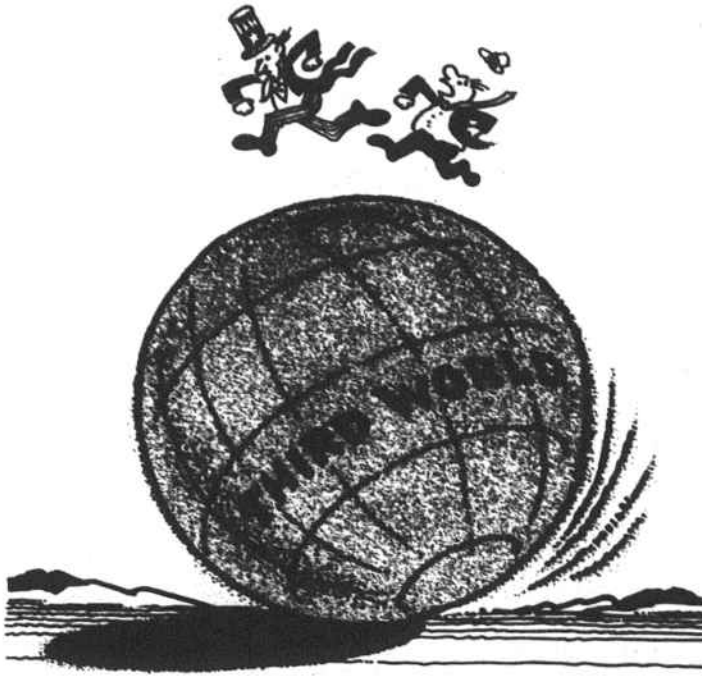
Our God is ever making things new -- in our world, in our lives. We are called to trust God's creating power and rejoice in it always.

PRAYER: God of the now, may we be aware of Your completeness surrounding our inadequacies. May we grow in understanding of Your direction for our destiny as Your people. To the glory of Jesus, our Christ. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: With whom am I participating in God's new creation?

--copyright-- THE UPPER ROOM
--Robert William Schumm (Illinois)

'Let's keep the economic ball rolling'



It's a Small World

By Bill Lindau

This dog story came to the office last week too late for last week's paper.

Violet Antuna gave it to us. This beautiful German shepherd who seems to belong to nobody has been around the neighborhood around U.S. 401 north for about two years now.

About seven weeks ago she gave birth to pups. But she wouldn't let anyone know where they were.

But on the morning of October 20 they showed up, fat and healthy -- all seven of them -- at the front of Herbert Crumpler's home, which is on U.S. 401 north and near The Hitching Post and Second Baptist Church. They'd been born and nursed out in the woods about a mile away.

Their mother, Mrs. Antuna figures, led them late the night before or early that morning from their home in the woods to the Crumpler home, even safely crossing 401.

Mrs. Crumpler, who is Mrs. Antuna's sister, told us that maybe the dog left her puppies with her because she'd left four at the Crumpler home last year. Then, too, the dog drinks every now and then from the Crumpler bird bath and Mrs. Crumpler feeds her scraps when she appears.

Last week, for the first time in their lives, the pups had a roof over their heads and plenty to eat, at the Crumpler home. Mrs. Crumpler is looking for permanent homes for them. So anybody who wants a German shepherd (well, mostly, German shepherd), should call the Crumpler home, 875-8274.

Incidentally, the Crumplers found homes for all four, the pups' mother left with them last year.

Mrs. Antuna says the mother dog is so beautiful she'd keep her if she could catch her and persuade her to stay.

You think photographers don't have problems?

Take June Glenn, for instance. First he had to shoot pictures of Andy Nesbitt's dairy cows in their stable in Buncombe County. Then he didn't have time to change, as he had to be in the Battery Park Hotel downtown in Asheville in 15 minutes to shoot pictures of a charity ball.

He'd played it smart in advance: got into his charity-ball suit before going to the dairy farm. Only catch was he'd forgotten what life was like in a stable full of dairy cows, even registered Holsteins.

Then there was the time I spent a day r among the hills in the back countr, of the Cherokee Indian reservation, taking pictures with an oldtime Speed Graphic camera. The Speed Graphic was equipped with a focal plane shutter, mainly for taking pictures of people and things going real fast.

After my dozen or so negatives had been developed, I found out every one of them was blank -- just clear as a window pane. My focal plane shutter had been engaged all the time I was shooting.

The late Nathan Yelton, who was Mitchell County schools superintendent about 1930, is being succeeded as head of the State Division on Aging by another man with public school experience. State Rep. Ernest Messer of Haywood County, has been appointed to the

job that Yelton was working in when he died in September.

Messer, now 67, was a teacher and basketball coach in the Haywood County school system from 1935 through 1939. He left school work to go into wood procurement for Champion International, the paper manufacturer with a plant at Canton, in Messer's home county.

Messer also has served on the state legislative committee on aging.

Yelton was lured out of retirement in 1978, when he was 76, by Gov. Jim Hunt to take over the states new program for the elderly. His job subsequently was upgraded to assist secretary in the State Department of Human Resources. He had retired after years of state of service starting in the 1930s.

Despite his age, Yelton worked out regularly at the Raleigh YMCA, every other day after work, jogging or swimming mostly, till shortly before his death. What took his life was cancer.

He was a living model of what he believed: the abilities of senior citizens are underestimated by the public generally, and that mandatory retirement at 65 ought to be abolished.

That car Connie Martz, Miss Extended Day, was riding on in the October 16 Homecoming Parade is a 1975 Bricklin, made in Canada, not a DeLorean, made in Northern Ireland.

I was corrected last week after the paper containing the picture of Miss Martz came off the press. The Bricklin's owner is her father, Bert Martz. Her mother indicated it was easy to make the mistake as there's little difference between the Bricklin and the DeLorean. She also said they quit making Bricklins in 1975 but, could see a DeLorean at dealer's in Fayetteville (she told me the name but I am withholding it from publication as the dealer isn't one of our advertisers. If you want to know, though, call me at *The News-Journal*).

Like everybody else, I hate to make a mistake, but at least I did learn something from this one: they make cars in Northern Ireland and Canada (I'll stick my neck out and assume they make cars other than Bricklins in Canada).

To The Editor

Editor, *The News-Journal*. After recently attending the NAACP state convention representing my local branch in Greenville, N.C., I am moved to comment on the life of former national director of the NAACP, Roy Wilkins.

I sincerely regret not having the chance to meet Mr. Wilkins to say thank you. While I was in diapers and adolescence Mr. Wilkins was working hard within the system to protest discriminatory laws and getting them changed so Blacks like me throughout the United States can be beneficiaries of the sweat of his brow. As it is said in II Timothy 4th chapter 7th verse, Paul commented on his own life: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." I believe these words can best summarize Mr. Wilkins' dedication to his people.

The NAACP under the directorship of Benjamin Hooks is stronger than ever and, by the way, I had the chance to say thank you to Mr. Hooks.

Charlotte R. Kelly
Secretary Hoke County Branch
NAACP

CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues



WAKE UP! . . . Looks like Tobacco and Peanut Farmers need to wake up or find all Federal support gone which has made many farmers prosperous in recent years, with but little cost to the Federal government. Sometimes we take things for granted and then find it hard to get back. While farmers make up only a small part of the population, in recent years they have outgrown the "one gallus" status and have nice farms and homes, with a pick-up truck to boot!

WIGGINS . . . Dr. Norman Wiggins, President of Campbell College said last week concerning his chances of running for governor: "I am certainly going to give it very careful consideration." He was also quoted as saying: "I have not been talking solely to Republicans."

Wiggins is a fine man and appears to have done an excellent job in building up Campbell University.

But Wiggins will soon have to pick either the Democratic or the Republican ticket on which to run.

Already, it is beginning to look as if three or four, or more, may be lining up with the Democratic Party, they being Attorney General Edmisten, Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green and Commissioner of Insurance John Ingram. Another University President, Bill Friday is being mentioned as a possible candidate on the Democratic side.

It might be possible for Dr. Friday to enter from the Democratic side, and Dr. Wiggins from the Republican side. And it wouldn't be impossible to have a slate of "Education Candidates" running

from the two parties next spring. Back in 1910 Woodrow Wilson was President of Princeton University when he stepped down to make the race for governor of New Jersey. After World War II, General Dwight Eisenhower stepped down as Princeton University President to run for President of the United States.

IT'S AN IDEA! . . . It won't happen, but it's an idea.

The General Assembly could select a group of level headed laypersons with little interest in politics, to come up with unofficial recommendations for state legislative re-districting.

Legislators, naturally would have a vital interest in drawing the legislative lines to their selfish likings. Just a thought. We don't expect it to happen but just could be worth considering.

When the General Assembly did it themselves, their personal interests were involved. Now the public is paying at State expense, to re-do drawing the lines again.

But, so goes the way of normal politicians!

REP. CHARLIE ROSE . . . Rep. Charlie Rose of Fayetteville led the tobacco people to victory last week, following a defeat for the peanut and sugar programs the week before. Rose, in winning the tobacco fight 231 to 184, said the "only blessing" of the fight was that Congress gave the tobacco industry an opportunity to make changes gradually. "If we dilly dally with the good will, we're in trouble," said the chairman of the House tobacco and peanut committee.

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

Because it beats working, I like to read newspapers.

And over the years a newspaper reader naturally develops certain skills, like how to read between the lines, when to believe or not believe, or how to tell when a politician is telling the truth or just going on.

Some news stories you know off-hand are made up, like the report of a prehistoric monster in some lake just as the tourist season arrives. An interview with a prehistoric Congressman on the steps of the Capitol is always good for a paragraph or two, but it doesn't attract many tourists.

I got to thinking about the truth in news when I read an article in a newspaper last night. It read:

A county clerk in Elizabeth, N.J. has asked for a 22 percent out in his \$19,260 annual salary, saying his job is getting easier. The clerk said there is no reason why he should receive so much money. He recommended it be cut to \$15,000. He said several techniques used to streamline operations in the clerk's staff have reduced the amount of time needed for the job."

Although the Associated Press

reported this story with a straight face, it's bound to be spoofing.

You mean to say that a great news gathering organization like the Associated Press really expects the public to believe an office holder has asked that his salary be cut? It's un-heard-of. It's unbelievable. It's un-congressional. It's un-state-ish. It's un-county-ish.

Moreover, AP wants us to believe that county clerk says automation and computerization have made his job easier, he's got less to do and therefore he ought to cost the tax payers less money. Makes every office-holder across the land point his index finger toward the side of his head and twirl it in a circle.

When it runs out of regular news, the Associated Press ought to stick to lake monsters and giant footprints found in some creek bed. However, if that story is true, we ought to capture that and televise him on the Capitol steps in Washington. The steps will be as far as he gets. You know Congress won't let him inside.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, October 25, 1956

Over 200 Hoke County Democrats turned out at the High School Thursday night for the first rally in Hoke County in more than a dozen years.

15 years ago

Thursday, October 27, 1966

Ashmont, a frequent winner of community laurels, has been declared winner of first prize of \$100 in the annual community development contest in Hoke County.

William Thomas Walters died in Moore County Hospital at about six o'clock Sunday morning after having been a patient there for one week.

Robert Ree (Bobby) McFadyen, 22, a senior at Wofford College, was killed early Friday in an automobile accident in Spartanburg, S.C.

Coach Floyd Wilson's Hoke County High School football team, rejuvenated by their first victory at Tabor City, charged to a sparkling win over Hamlet before a delighted crowd of home town fans here Friday night, 12-6.

Jane Barnes of Rockfish Junior 4-H Club, made a jumper out of yellow 100 percent wool material given to her by the local plant of Pacific Mills. She modeled it at Hudson Belk in Raleigh last Saturday.

Retiring Representative Harry A. Greene of Hoke County and Charles Hostetter, nominee for the same job, appeared with representatives of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co., the Sandhill Telephone Co., and the Pinebluff Telephone Co., before the North Carolina Utilities Commission Thursday at an informal conference on the question of whether local telephone service should be provided to McCain from Raeford or Aberdeen or both and by that company.

For rescuing four wounded men from a minefield, Staff Sergeant Moody J. Cromartie has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal in Vietnam.

Hoke County Commissioners voted Thursday night to establish a planning and development commission, but left hanging the proposed development office.