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THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1982

New shopping center

The start of construction of the new shopping center in Raeford is good news and bad news.

It's good news for Hoke County shoppers, particularly those who have been going -- or have to go -- to Lumberton, Red Springs, Fayetteville and Aberdeen; and bad news to some downtown merchants.

Some of the stores which will be established in the new shopping center -- expected to be ready for occupancy in mid-November -- will be competitors of downtown Raeford stores. But this should provide a healthy atmosphere, especially for shoppers.

This is the American free enterprise system in action.

--BL

Too many law suits

From The Boston Herald American

Forty years ago, hardly anybody thought about going to court to sue somebody.

A person could bump a pedestrian with his Chrysler Airflow and the victim would say something like, "No, harm done," and walk away. Ipso facto. No filing of codicils, taking of depositions or polling the jury. Attorneys need not apply.

Unfortunately, times have changed.

Witness the case handled by San Diego, Calif., Superior Court Judge Edward T. Butler recently.

Standing before the judge was a man who has filed more than 50 Superior Court lawsuits in two years.

"The courts of the land are and ought to be open to all citizens," the judge told the hyperactive litigant, "but the courts have an obligation to protect persons from continued attacks."

Then Judge Butler declared the man before him a "vexatious litigant" -- a person who files cases chiefly to cause annoyance -- and ruled hereafter he would have to post a \$5,000 bond for each defendant named in his lawsuits.

Good for Judge Butler.

Israel in Lebanon

From The Christian Science Monitor

The peacemakers were racing the warmakers as the once-flourishing land of Lebanon continued to be sacrificed to others' battles this week. As the tragedy mounted, the need for widespread prayerful support of the cease-fire efforts was poignantly clear. Indeed, in view of Israel's central role -- and its leaders' frequent invocation of the Bible -- a prayer of David's could be seen in a 20th-century light: "Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles."

For today's Israel is the political result of an international process to meet the long-accumulated troubles of the Jews. Its redemption, according to many Israelis as well as outsiders, lies in maintaining the moral force of its beginnings as a haven, a refuge, a land of freedom.

Israel cannot be blamed for being supersensitive to security -- having seen the security of the Jews violated so often throughout history. But when it appears to be less a haven than an expansive power, it risks its underlying strength. It undertakes that risk when it invades Lebanon in the name of self-defense and then goes beyond its own stated goals to strike farther and farther with greater and greater loss of life.

At this writing, Israel remained defiant of the United Nations' Security Council Resolution calling on it to withdraw its forces and return to the internationally recognized boundaries of Lebanon. It remained defiant, too, of the similar call by its main friend, the United States. Many voices were raised for the US to use leverage beyond exhortation, such as holding up the massive military and economic aid Israel has come to expect no matter what it does. But a land with Israel's basic traditions should not have to be pressured into showing the mercy of a cease-fire until more fundamental peace can be gained.

Israel joined in such a cease-fire last year under US auspices. The longer its current violation of that cease-fire lasts, the more threatening the possible consequences. By broadening the war beyond deterring Palestinian attacks across the border, it embarrasses and alienates its Camp David partner, Egypt. And the Soviet Union, always ready to exploit an opportunity, may see ways to use the whole disturbed situation.

The root causes of Israeli-Arab strife require long-term solutions: the Israelis' conviction that they are at last secure in their independence; the Palestinians, conviction that they have at last received justice. The Lebanon war cruelly dramatizes the need for these solutions. But it cannot be allowed to run on by itself in their absence. A great burden falls on those Palestinians and other Arabs who have refused to accept the fact of Israel in their midst. But right now the onus is on Israel to help the peacemakers and prove it is not an expansionist state bent on eradicating the Palestinians.

Operation 'Peace for Galilee'?



It's a Small World

by Bill Lindau

Being a Yankee sometimes causes communications problems.

Like one day, a native and lifelong resident of Hoke County telephoned some information. I asked him, in getting more, where he lived. "Timmnn," he replied.

"What?" I asked.

"Timmnn," he said again. I asked again what it was, and he replied the same way, sounding a bit testy. Finally I got a bright idea.

"How do you spell it?" I asked.

"T-I-M-B-E-R-L-A-N-D," he said.

Then there was the mortician up in Mitchell County giving me some names of survivors. We did all right till he got to "Hard," as he pronounced it.

"Hard?" I asked in my profound stupidity. "H-A-R-D?"

"No," he said, "it's 'HARD.'"

"Hart?" I asked.

"No," he said nearly snarling this time.

"HARD. H-O-W-A-R-D-I?"

Then there's a Yankee in Moore

County who must be just as baffling to the natives. He says "NARK". That's the way he says "New York."

Speaking of names reminds me of something funny I heard in the Philippines in World War II.

A messenger from division headquarters showed up at the division artillery base looking for the commanding officer. The officer was Col. Massad. Of course, everybody had a fox hole, which was the "in" thing in a combat zone at the time, and the colonel had one, of course.

So when the division manager asked, "Where's Colonel Massad?" one of the boys just couldn't resist. Pointing a finger to a place a few yards away, he replied in his best bass voice: "Massad's in de cole, cole groun."

To appreciate that you have to be old enough to remember the folk song of the 1920s that was going around with a line resembling that one.

Letter To The Editor

Editor, The News-Journal

As a career State employee now in my 17th year of service to the citizens of this State, I find it both unfortunate and unforgivable that other State Agencies and the news media, by half-truths, untruths, and the slanted reporting sometimes referred to as "yellow journalism" have in a most insidious and vicious manner continued to attack, harass, and malign dedicated, hard-working State employees in a constant political effort to "get" John Ingram.

The dozens of hours that I have personally spent responding to the so-called "errors" publically reported by the State Auditor in his most recent audit of the Department of Insurance, politically fueled by certain legislators, is appalling and should be resented by the taxpaying public of this State.

A vast majority of the errors were computer errors, initiated by an employee of the State Auditor's Office.

The books and records pertaining to securities and cash maintained in my Division of the Department of Insurance have always been balanced with the Office of the State Treasurer and the State Auditor knows this by giving us his annual written certifi-

cation.

During the ten years that Commissioner Ingram has been in Office I have personally supervised the collection of, accounting for, and placement for safekeeping of over Six Hundred Thirty Million Dollars (\$630,000,000) in taxes and fees collected for insurance companies. In handling all this money not one penny was lost, short or any books unbalanced as corroborated by the Office of the State Treasurer and the Office of State Auditor.

Anyone - editors, auditors, reporters or others - who states that my records are in shambles is misrepresenting the truth. The State Auditor, himself, said, "I want to make it very clear that we've not detected any improprieties, or any funds missing, or any unlawful act." This direct quote from the State Auditor should be reported in every future story about this audit.

This constant harassment and maligning frequently makes me wonder if being a State employee is worth it all - but, when I consider how many taxpaying citizens count on us everyday, then I know that it is.

Respectfully yours,
Bobby W. Gray
Deputy Commissioner
Technical Operations Division

Puppy Creek Philosopher

Dear editor:

The difference between a big city columnist and somebody like me is that they have to write a column three times a week even when they don't have anything to say and I have to do it only once a week.

For example, when President Reagan left for his economic conference with European leaders, columnists began saying he was going to be under an embarrassing handicap because Congress hadn't voted a budget. "It's going to be difficult to explain to those leaders," one wrote.

Why would it be hard to explain to a European leader that we don't have a budget when he hasn't got one?

Or if he's got one, how come he doesn't live within it?

Unless it's Switzerland, which does very well storing money in undisclosed bank accounts for

people around the world who don't want their own government's tax collectors knowing about it, I doubt if you can find a major nation that isn't deep in debt and operating on borrowed money, whether they have a budget or not.

A national budget, I understand, is a basic economic tool, or would be if it weren't amended every time something unforeseen comes up. It's like the national debt ceiling, sternly passed in 1941 and raised every time the government finds it needs more money, which has happened 43 times since 1955. If it were as easy to get the votes to pass a budget as it is to raise the debt ceiling, we'd had one a year ago.

As for a personal budget, most people have lived for years without one, and a lot of those with one haven't lived within it.

Yours faithfully,
J.A.

CLIFF BLUE... People & Issues



STATES RIGHT'S... We can remember some years ago when States Right's was a campaign issue. People felt that what suited one state didn't suit all states.

Now, many states seem to favor ERA and others do not. The fundamental principle of "States Rights" might better serve the several states.

The 10th amendment to the U.S. Constitution says: "The powers not delegates to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

We feel like individual laws, or amendments to the State Constitution would do the same thing as ERA in states which have been asking for the ERA Amendment to the Federal Constitution.

MENNONITES... A day last week a heading in the *Charlotte Observer* caught my attention. It was captioned: "Friends in Need," and was an interesting article by Larry Green of the *Los Angeles Times*. I had heard about how the "Mennonites" worked quietly and in an unpretentious way to help people. In checking up on the "Mennonites," I find in the *World Book Encyclopedia* that they belong to a protestant sect organized in 1525 at Zurich, Switzerland. Mennonites base their beliefs on the teachings of the New Testament, especially the Sermon on the Mount. They are loyal to civil government, but will not bear arms or take oaths. Each Mennonite congregation elects its own minister. Most congregations have united in area conferences. Mennonites dress and live simply. They contribute heavily to relief work, missions and schools.

There are about 400,000 Mennonites scattered in various parts of the world. More Mennonites live in the United States than in any other country. The work of the Mennonites reminds me of how farmers did things many years ago during the horse and buggy days when they were "work-horses" on the farm.

Corn shuckings were common back into the early 1930's. Hog killings and "barn-raising" were

quite common before World War II.

These get-togethers created good fellowship and brought neighbors close together.

ILLINOIS... Now to get back to the Mennonites in Marion, Illinois where a tornado struck with disastrous results on May 29.

"They came to the chaos like angels in work clothes. Arriving early, the quiet strangers began to remove the mountain of debris that covered the lawn and small vegetable garden behind Bonnie Newcomb's tornado battered house.

They cut the giant trees the powerful storm had ripped from the ground. They gathered splintered lumber, broken furniture, the twisted metal and chunks of shattered roofs. They raked jagged pieces of glass and wind-torn shingles. They worked continuously, spoke little and rested only for lunch.

NORTH CAROLINA... In North Carolina, and elsewhere, where the unemployed rolls are high, we don't think that taxes should be raised unless it becomes absolutely necessary. With a number of industries running part time, and others closed down altogether, we question whether teachers or other government employees should be given a salary increase.

We should let things cool down a little. People lose their jobs because the wages are too high for companies to make a profit or even make ends meet.

If the U.S. Government had followed this admonition, the country would be in much better shape today. The nation has long been running in the red and now the U.S. debt is more than a trillion dollars. Our government has to pay a very high rate of interest and that has much to do with what private people have to pay.

Not many young people are able to build or buy a house unless they can find a house where somebody is moving and manage to take over the mortgage and interest which is much lower than that of a house built recently.

Browsing in the files of The News-Journal

25 years ago

Thursday, June 13, 1957

The Hoke County Recreational Program with its budget expenses already raised, will begin Monday morning and continue through August 14. By Wednesday of this week \$2680 had been raised for the budget.

Fifty-one Hoke County farmers have entered the Farm Income Contest sponsored by the *Raleigh News and Observer*.

Company A, 130th Tank Battalion, Hoke County's National Guard unit which went to Ft. Stewart, Ga. Sunday for summer camp is receiving many excellent inspection reports on the various types of training.

Jimmy Riley, Tom Cameron, Jr., Jimmy Guin, Dick Tickle and Mack McBryde are attending the Basketball School for Boys at Campbell College this week. Coach Bones McKinny is their instructor.

W.C. Williford, county farm agent, reported last week that black shank is showing up in tobacco fields in practically every section of the county.

From Rockfish News: Monday afternoon after all the big rain Saturday and Sunday, the Nail Keg group had an interesting session outside the Wood's store.

The Budget Estimates of the Town of Raeford for the 1957-58 fiscal year show an increase of \$4,504 over the previous budget.

15 years ago

Thursday, June 15, 1967

Raeford town board met Monday night to review requests totaling \$319,654 - up some \$20,000 from a year ago.

Donald D. Abernethy, principal of Hoke County High School, has resigned to accept an administrative post at Pembroke State College.

Hoke County families suffering from low mentality and poverty and consequently low morality have shown marked improvement in their living conditions, according to J.R. Attaway, director of the Hoke Community Action Program office.

Today is the deadline for cutting weeds on vacant lots in town. Town Manager Ed Williams announced this week.

A trio who allegedly took a moonlight swim in the nude Tuesday night at Raeford Swimming Pool will go before the judge next Wednesday morning to answer to charges of forcible trespass.

Weather conditions have reduced North Carolina's peach crop but not to the extent that was feared early in the season.

They're ready to roll again, and when the sun peeks above the pine trees on the morning of June 25, the annual Hoke Wagon Train will take to the trail.



Give a hoot! Don't pollute!