



# SON OF A GUN

by Joe Lanier

Here is an editorial out of the Wilmington Star I found to be interesting, so I am passing it on...

### House Bows to Extremists

The effort to improve North Carolina public schools has slipped on a banana peel tossed by zealots. Among the bills under consideration is the Basic Education Plan. It is aimed at giving every child in North Carolina the chance at a reasonably good education, no matter whether he lives in Duplin County or New Hanover. The educators who wrote the plan have polluted it with the usual pompous and impenetrable jargon, but the goal is plain: to make sure at various points along the way that every pupil knows certain things and has mastered basic skills. Obviously, adoption of the plan would not overnight turn every public school into a pipeline to Harvard. But it might help give the schools goals to strive for and a greater degree of uniformity between rich districts and poor ones. There are, as you may have noticed, a handful of folks among us who perceive threats to the nation, the family and God Himself behind every bookcase. They have testified long and loud in Raleigh, warning against the teaching of evolution, or that the world is a place in which people and countries depend on each other, or that rapid population growth might cause problems. Instead of being taught such dangerous notions, these people say, children should be indoctrinated to listen to parents and preachers and not ask questions that adults would rather not answer. The House seems to be frightened of these people. To placate them, the House has decided that the Basic Education Plan should have all sorts of specific requirements written into it — the upshot of them being that kids should be taught how to live in the early 19th century. The N.C. Senate — notorious as a hotbed of heathens and humanists — does not presume to tell educators how specifically to do their jobs. Instead, it would set broad goals and let the educators meet them as best they can. After the legislative arm wrestling is over, the plan may include some silly specifics and solemn language urging teachers to help preserve the family and the nation, as if they wouldn't. Fortunately, it really won't matter much what the plan says. Plans are just plans. They are misunderstood, ignored and forgotten. What matters is the kind of people we attract to teach our children and administer our schools. And it is not plans that attract them, but decent salaries and facilities. Unquote.

\*\*\*\*\*  
We are hearing a lot about rankings of school systems. According to the Duplin County school administration, it ranks 138th out of 142 systems in funds allotted by the county commissioners to the school system for current expenses. Current expenses pays salaries the state says are not necessary and refuses to fund. Giving rankings is like giving percents. Unless you know what went into them, they are meaningless. I will get into this further next week.

\*\*\*\*\*  
I am sure most of you have heard of the monkey wrench. It is a knuckle skinner, for sure. Well, it was not named for an animal. It was named for its inventor, Charles Moncke. Moncke was a blacksmith in London.

## Murphy Honored

Rep. Wendell H. Murphy of Rose Hill was honored when the Alliance for Public Education met at the Raleigh Civic Center, by the Duplin County Education Foundation.

Murphy is one of five people in Duplin County awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by former Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. His award resulted from long years of service and support to public schools especially in vocational education and particularly for the part he has played leading to the origination of the Duplin County Education Foundation. His wife, Linda, is on the 18-member board.

Superintendent L.S. Guy commented: "Duplin County is proud of the role Rep. Murphy has played in the development of a strong partnership between the employing community (business and industry), the community college and public schools. This partnership did not happen by accident. It occurred

because of the dedication of sincere leaders within our community. Our schools and the education of our children have been improved as a result of the giving of self on the part of Mr. Murphy. On behalf of the Duplin County Board of Education, we are pleased to announce this special award made by former Gov. Hunt."

Meeting at the Civic Center, the N.C. Alliance for Public Education included educators and friends of education throughout the state. Agenda included a study of legislative priorities for appropriations to education services; compensation and benefits which include salary and benefits; other fiscal priorities dealing with centralized automatic payroll, allocation of personnel and other matters.

Non-appropriations legislative priorities included changes in state governance of public elementary and secondary education.

## Overcoming Shakesfear

North Carolina Shakespeare Festival is inviting teachers throughout North Carolina to visit High Point this summer and participate in "Teaching Shakespeare in the School," the festival's first teacher workshop. The purpose is to refresh educators on the teaching of Shakespeare and to provide them with new techniques that will make the Bard's world and works come alive in the classroom.

"Teaching Shakespeare in the School" is intended primarily for secondary English drama and literature teachers, although anyone is invited to attend. The workshop will carry 1.5 CEU credits and offer up to 15 hours of activities, including attendance at two NCSF productions. A program director and a staff

of teachers and theatre professionals will conduct the workshop sessions.

The workshop will be held Aug. 10 through 11 at various locations in High Point. Accommodations will be at the Radisson Hotel for those staying overnight. CEU credit is being provided by Guilford Technical Community College. Registration is \$50 and includes Sunday brunch. Accommodations will be \$38 for occupancy of up to four individuals.

NCSF has mailed a special announcement on this workshop to teachers throughout the state. Those wanting further information can call 919-889-1544.

"Teaching Shakespeare in the Schools" is being made possible by a special grant from the Cannon Foundation.

## QUINN'S

KENANSVILLE, N.C.

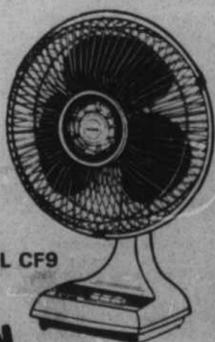
## True Value

HARDWARE STORES

## Crosley

HOT!

- 2 speed oscillating fan
- Oscillation stop/start switch for complete room coverage
- Push button controls
- Tilting neck for vertical setting
- Non-marring base protects furniture
- Long power cord for far reach
- Power cord storage



MODEL CF9

REGULAR RETAIL \$19.95

NOW ONLY \$14.99

## STATE INSPECTED

To Cut, Grind & Wrap Meats

STORE HOURS

8 till 7

6 DAYS A WEEK



We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantity

HOUSE OF RAEFORD MIXED

## FRYER PARTS

48¢ LB. LIMITED 3 PACKS

BANQUET BUFFET SUPPERS \$1.59

TURKEY & SALISBURY STEAK



## GROUND CHUCK

\$1.69 LB.

BONELESS

STEW BEEF \$1.79 LB.

COLONY

TURKEY BREAST \$1.39 LB.

JOHN MORRELL

BACON 12 OZ. \$1.09

OLD HICKORY

BAR-B-QUE \$1.69 LB.



## LUNDY'S SMOKED PICNICS

WHOLE 69¢ LB.



HUNT'S

## CATSUP

88¢ 32 OZ.

SHAWNEE

## FLOUR

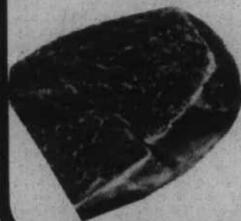
79¢

LIMITED 1 WITH FOOD ORDER



BONELESS CHUCK

ROAST \$1.39 LB.



BONELESS SHOULDER

## ROAST

\$1.49 LB.

ORE - IDA HASH BROWN

## POTATOES

24 OZ. 99¢



MAZOLA

## CORN OIL

\$2.69 1 1/2 QT.

ALMOND JOY AND

MOUNDS 6 PAK. \$1.59

PARKAY

MARGARINE 59¢

LB. STICK

MERICO BUTTER-ME-NOT

BISCUIT 9 OZ. 3/\$1.00

DEL-MONTE SLICED

PEACHES 303 CAN 69¢

DELTA TOILET

TISSUE 4 ROLL PAK. 79¢

RINSO

DETERGENT GT. SIZE 99¢

TEXIZE PINE

CLEANER 28 OZ. 99¢

LETTUCE HEAD 39¢



PEPPER/CUCUMBERS 2/25¢

FRESH

BROCOLLI BUNCH 69¢