

Beating The Courts

The U. S. Supreme Court recently emphasized again that it means business with its "one-man, one vote" doctrine.

The high court forbids the election of local government officials from districts of disparate size. In a decision handed down on April 1.

This puts counties like Cherokee on notice that the days of electing county commissioners from districts of variable populations are drawing to a close.

The status quo can not be maintained much longer.

Under the present statute governing the election of commissioners in this county, two are elected from each of three districts.

Figures from the 1966 election show that almost as many votes were cast in District Two as in Districts One and Three combined.

In other words, almost half of the population of Cherokee County elected two commissioners while slightly over half of the county

picked four.

No one can doubt that the present statute governing the election of commissioners in Cherokee County is seriously out of step with the rulings of the highest court in the land.

The General Assembly and the Congressional Districts in North Carolina have been made equal in accordance with the "one-man, one-vote" doctrine and it is only a matter of time until this county will be required to get in step.

Change is inevitable.

We believe it would be better for the local leadership to support legislation in the next General Assembly which would provide for the election of Cherokee County commissioners either from equal districts or at large.

Beating the courts is the name of the game, if we don't change our present unequal set-up, they will.

It's A Disgrace

The Cherokee County Grand Jury has reported that both the Courthouse and Jail are "filthy." We think this is a disgrace.

Many small, rural counties have rundown courthouses and jails and, it seems sometimes, they wear these like a badge of honor. The situation is different here. Cherokee County has a marble courthouse that we should be proud of. Apparently we aren't.

The County Commissioners are called upon to make decisions on major spending proposals and determine whether the county can afford them. The Commissioners could surely see that sufficient money is spent for cleaning materials without wrecking the financial structure of the county.

Equally disturbing is the disrepair noted at several schools by the Grand Jury.

It would be impossible to come up with an immediate solution to a major problem such as the suggestion that the Andrews Elementary School be condemned, but it seems to us that some minor repairs noted at the schools should be taken care of as the need for this work becomes apparent.

Grand Jury reports are often treated as routine things that must be done. The Grand Jury inspection this time was something more than routine.

We urge the County Commissioners to insist upon a clean courthouse and a clean jail.

We urge the school boards to make necessary repairs to the school buildings.

Cherokee County may be a relatively poor county, but that is no excuse for public buildings that are called filthy.



Answering The Mail

By Dove Bruce

It is not my custom to reply to letters in this column. I have always felt that if I express a viewpoint and a reader responds with an opposite view, he should let the matter rest there.

Last week, however, two letters were printed in which the writers ask me to answer a few questions and I shall comply with their wishes.

The letters were written by Mrs. Jean Deaver of Rt. 2, Murphy and Mrs. Carrie Kephart of Rt. 3, Murphy in response to my column "The Night When Grown Men Cried" which was printed in the April 4 issue of this newspaper.

Both writers seemed to be under the impression that I have no idea what military life is like.

To Mrs. Deaver I would say I know what it is like to catch that early morning bus to the recruiting station in Knoxville. I also know what it's like to board a bus in Knoxville and ride all night to Ft. Jackson, S.C. with no idea what the new world

Letters To The Editor

Dear Mr. Bruce:

I had thought of letting my subscription to Scout lapse, but after reading your article, "The Night When Grown Men Cried" I am sending a check for another year.

Last month I had trouble getting my paper on time but if I get one article like yours it is worth the \$6.00.

Our President has been crucified to further the candidacy of others - but when a man is big enough to put his country before his own ambition - He is a man and stands tall.

Keep up your good writing.

Mrs. Garland Posey
Montevallo, Ala.

P. S. I am a native of Cherokee County but living in Alabama at present.

Dear Editor:

As I sit here on my bunk my mind starts wondering back to the days when I first came into the Army. I thought that life was going to be a graveyard but later I found out it was all hard work and not very much play. In basic training which I took at Fort Benning, Georgia, I took a long look at this Army of ours and tried to see what it was doing in Viet-Nam, and Thailand, and I couldn't see at first what we were doing there but then after a little thinking this is the conclusion I came to: Many people say "pull out of Viet-Nam." Well, the way these VC fight today, I'd hate to see them 10 years or 20 years from now landing on the United States or some other free country. Communism is like cancer, if you don't stop it early, its cells attack healthy ones and overtake them.

The first time I came home on leave which wasn't until after 4 months of service, my parents found out that they had raised a son instead of a vegetable, which had grown in size, mind and maturity.

This Saturday, I'll remember for quite a while, because you see, right now we're on a national alert which was issued by the Secretary of Defense last night. They have all the gates leading off-post closed and the MPs are in town get-

ting the guys back on base, in case we're needed, because my unit and one more are the only riot control squads on Fort Devens. We're not even allowed to leave the company area because we may have to convoy or be airlifted to Washington to help out.

Well, I guess I've preached enough but if the Citizens of Murphy could see like I have seen, you would understand more about communism and its effects on the free-world.

I can see what I'm fighting for. I have two of the nicest parents in the world, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Burrell and my two sisters, and five brothers, who go to Murphy schools, and also for the wonderful people of Murphy, my home town, which I'm so glad to be a part of.

These draft-card burners make me sick, because you see I wasn't drafted and wouldn't have been for at least two or three years. But I could see that I was needed so I volunteered. While my buddies and friends of Murphy, got to school each day, I'm on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They're taking my buddies and sending them to Viet-Nam just as soon as they can cut orders for them.

I'll be glad when I can come home and see all the beautiful people of Murphy, whom I love and miss very much. Right now I'm awaiting orders assigning me to Fort Benning for Airborne Jump school. After that I'll go where I'm sent and needed. I say to the people of Murphy, get the most out of your freedom that you can because your son and daughter alike, are paying a high-price for it in their young American blood. I'm proud I have the honor of fighting for my country, and the fact that I am an American fighting for my country.

All the guys here say they would appreciate it if you'd please print this letter in your newspaper which I get each Saturday.

May God bless and protect the wonderful people of Murphy.

Your loving Servant,
PFC. Thomas Ronnie Burrell
Ft. Devens, Mass.

Constitutional Revamp Is Overdue

(From the Asheville Citizen)

Although it has been often a ted, North Carolina's 100 year old constitution has never been completely rewritten. Consequently, it has many sections that are outmoded, vague, and even contradictory.

Thus Governor Dan Moore's appointment of a special commission to study constitutional revision is a wise move.

Most of the 25 members of the group are well-known for their records of public service. They represent long experience in their respective fields and a broad variety of interests.

Among the constitutional weaknesses is the provision making posts on the Council of State - the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Attorney General, Secretary of State, etc. - these officials are independently elected, they exercise a potential block on an incumbent Governor's program by their

unwillingness to cooperate.

There are many other features of the N.C. constitution that deserve the commission's careful scrutiny.

For example, should the Governor's term be lengthened from four to six years? Should he be eligible to succeed himself? Should the Governor have the veto power?

Should the legislature meet annually instead of every other year as at present? Would it be better if the General Assembly relinquished its power over local legislation and turned local bills back to municipal governments?

These are important questions, and they should be studied with care.

In recent years a number of other states have revised their antiquated constitutions in order to meet today's needs. The commission's report should provide a basis for sound constitutional change in N.C. It will be awaited with interest.

Too Many People Poke Fun At Mountaineers

(From the Waynesville Mountaineer)

Some people have found it an unusual type "hobby" to "poke fun" at the people who live in the mountains. For the most part, those trying to ridicule the mountaineers are ignorant of the facts and don't care to find the truth.

We were amused at the recent letter in the Magazine, sent us by Mrs. Mildred C. re. The letter writer from Augusta certainly put things plain enough, and there is that can be added to her comments. By and far, the average mountaineer is superior to the average city dweller. He more resourceful, law-abiding, generous and understanding. By nature, the average mountaineer is suspicious of strangers, but as

many have learned through the years, this is just good business. Many take the attitude of letting the stranger first prove himself. Not bad logic.

Certainly, we mountain people have been the brunt of many a joke, cartoon, and story, but we are a proud people.

We know many a city dweller - whether a slicker or not - would have given all they owned to be in the mountains when certain conflicts of interest break out in the cities.

As Mrs. Osborne said, "the mountain people ain't beholden to nobody" and implied if there's any traveling to be done, let the rest of the world come up to our level and standards of living - we ain't going down to theirs.

The CHEROKEE SCOUT

and Clay County Progress

POST OFFICE BOX 150
28906
MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICES IN MURPHY, N.C. PHONE AREA CODE 784 837-5123

ESTABLISHED JULY, 1869

Jack Owens EDITOR AND PUBLISHER	Thomasine Almond BOOKKEEPER
Bob Sloan EDITOR IN CHIEF	
Dave Bruce MANAGING EDITOR	Barbara Waldrup TYPESETTER
Red Schuyler ADVERTISING MANAGER	Hugh Carringer COMPOSITOR
Jim Morgan PRODUCTION MANAGER	
Weaver Carringer STUDIO MANAGER	

Published every Thursday at Church Street, Murphy North Carolina, 28906

Second Class Postage Paid At Murphy, North Carolina

\$3.09 One (1) Year in Cherokee, Clay and Graham Counties, N.C., and Nantahala, N.C.; Towns, Union and Fannin Counties, Ga., and Palk County, Tenn.

ALL OTHER AREAS

1 Year \$6.00 - 6 Months \$3.50

All subscriptions delivered in North Carolina include the state's three per cent sales tax.

WINSTON SALEM - A new book documenting events of North Carolina's last Democratic gubernatorial primary will be published this week by John F. Blair, Publisher, of Winston-Salem.

The book, entitled "The Making of A Governor: The Moore - Preyer - Lake Primaries of 1964," was written by James R. Spence of High Point. Spence, an attorney, is vice-president of High Point Bank and Trust Co. and has long been active in Democratic party affairs in this state.

Blair said he expects the book to appeal both to the layman and to those who actively participate in politics. For the former, he said, "The Making of A Governor" will be informative as a study of how political campaigns are run. For the latter group, he feels it will be valuable as a "detailed, impartial record of events."

The beginning sections of the book describe the search by the state's "Old Guard" for a new leader, who was the winning candidate, Dan K. Moore; the backing the forces of Gov. Terry Sanford gave the most liberal of the three candidates, L. Richardson Preyer; and the natural candidate the ultra-conservative element had in I. Beverly Lake.

Spence details the stand each candidate took on a wide variety of issues, using, in many instances, newspaper reports of speeches and including a wealth of background information to reinforce his material. He describes in detail the high rally staged in the Greensboro Coliseum by the Preyer forces, the part Raleigh station WRAL-TV had in defeating Preyer in the second primary, and the effect the "smoking and health" controversy had on the campaign. Through the book runs the element of the race issue and the public and private utterances of the candidates on this pervading question.

"The Making of A Governor" is one of the few paperback books to be published by Blair. It contains close to 500 names of campaign insiders, plus a county-by-county tabulation of the vote in both first and second primaries.

Spence is a graduate of Campbell College and UNC Law School. He practiced law in his home town of Lillington and in Fayetteville, was in the insurance business in Greensboro for two years and entered the banking field in 1961.

He has headed Young Democrat Clubs in Harnett County and in High Point, was State Organizer for the YDC in 1956 and was state-wide chairman of the "Dollars for Democrats" fund campaign in 1959, the year he was named one of the state's 10 outstanding young democrats.

Spence is currently a member of Gov. Moore's Study Commission on the Public School System and is vice-president of the Piedmont Area Development Council.

William R.D. King, Vice President elected with President Franklin Pierce, never performed any of the duties of his office. He died shortly after being inaugurated.

NEW!

Elastic Back and Straps

PLAYTEX Soft-line PADDED BRA

Now—Playtex combines all the fit and comfort features you could wish for in a padded bra. Adjustable stretch straps and sheer elastic back with all-way stretch—won't ride up. Elastic cross-over area between the cups lifts and separates, shapes you as you've always wanted.

Cups are made with amazing new fiberfill padding—they stay soft... can't shift... can't bunch up. Machine washable, this new Playtex Soft-line Padded Bra keeps its life month after month.

White. 32A—36B. \$5.00

And, for those women who prefer cotton backs, there is a Playtex Soft-line Padded Bra with cotton back and stretch straps—\$4.00; with semi-stretch straps—\$3.50. White. 32A-36B.

COLLINS - GRAIN DEPARTMENT STORE

As Seen On TV
Murphy, N.C.

Clip this COUPON!
It's Worth \$10.00
ON PURCHASE OF HOMKO TILLER

PLOWS!
CULTIVATES!
WEEDS!
FURROWS!

WORKS OTHER TILLEKS
RIGHT TO THE GROUND!

HOMKO

New 28" — 5 H.P.
DELUXE REVERSING
ROTARY TILLER

Model 1347

with SELF-PROPELLING BOLO-TYPE TINES

EASY-PULL RECOIL START

EXCLUSIVE ULTRAGEAR TRANSMISSION—DRIVE CONTROL ON ADJUSTABLE HANDLE—SINGLE SPEED FORWARD, REVERSE, NEUTRAL

PLUS

- Easy maneuvering with 10" heavy duty transport wheels. Tractor tread tires
- Heavy gauge, reinforced steel.
- Exclusive Ultragear transmission with manganese bronze gear, micro-finish worm and Timken bearings to reduce engine wear. Operates at 40 to 1 ratio.
- Shielded Bolo-type 14" diameter tines, adjustable from 14" to 40", removable for cultivating.
- Direct belt drive—no clutch adjustments.
- Powerful AMF 5 H.P., 4-cycle engine.
- Reverse-safety control for easy backing out of corners.

NOW ONLY \$189⁹⁵

MURPHY TIRE & APPLIANCE

Phone 837-2821 Murphy, N. C.