

'He Ought to See a Good Psychiatrist'



EDITORIALS

*Never Forget That These Editorials Are The Opinion Of One Man
And He May Be Wrong*

Most Frequent Promise

In North Carolina politics the most frequent promise has been to "take the highway department out of politics."

Every governor, or candidate for governor since the state took over the road system has made this promise. None to date has kept the promise, and most have not even made a passing lick at trying to keep the promise.

We have had slide-rule formulae, which proved to be more political than a greedy ward heeler. We have had high level policy making highway commissions, who were going to put service above self. And currently we have a broadened highway commission, aimed at bringing the building of roads closer to the people who pay for them and ride on them.

The highway department is a government within a government, or perhaps, more correctly a government over a government; since its size, its simple inertia and its ob-

stinate determination make it the perfect implement for political maneuvering.

Kinston, for instance, now has been handed the dirty end of a political stick insofar as the routing of two of its major highways are concerned.

In spite of the fact that the routing preferred by Kinston officials and the overwhelming majority of its citizens was originally recommended by the present chief administrative officer of the highway department politics has intervened and a second-best, and much more expensive routing is being jammed down Kinston's clogged throat.

Getting the most of what's best for the least money is a very simple but very correct principle that should be engraved in the minds of every person who is charged with spending the taxpayer's money.

Yet the highway department in its current efforts in Lenoir County has insisted on reversing this desire.

To Messrs. Belk And Sharpe

Henry Belk of the Goldsboro News-Argus and Bill Sharpe of The State Magazine agree that an east-west toll road would be nice, and they point out that if a fellow doesn't want to ride on a toll road, he doesn't have to.

But the major factor that Belk and Sharpe ignore is that the people, whose major travel demands carry them eastwardly and westwardly in North Carolina have chipped in hundreds of millions of dollars of their money to help build north-south highways in North Carolina that are toll free.

If they want to be fair about it, they should suggest now that tolls be charged on the north-south, as well as the east-west roads.

But, this, of course cannot be done because the north-south roads were built with federal and state money and the federal bureaucrats will not permit tolls to be charged on the roads built with money collected by the federal tax collector. (Which is one more little contradiction to those people

who insist that federal aid does not mean federal control.)

The vast area of the North Carolina coastal plain has with a minimum of complaint made its multi-million dollar contribution to the building of the Piedmont thoroughways, super-highways and downtown boulevards. We say again that it is adding a gross financial insult to the huge road building injury that has already been done to Eastern Carolina to suggest that the east-west superhighways our development needs be made toll roads.

Since they have used up all the federal money available to North Carolina, which actually represented about one-fourth the amount the state should have gotten, the only equitable way left to build the east-west roads is with a bond issue, patterned after Kerr Scott's secondary road bond issue and tied directly to an increase gas tax (if necessary) so that those we have helped with their roads could help us with the roads we so badly need.

Almost Persuaded

Although we haven't quite "crossed over" we are almost persuaded that all of the undemocratic decisions of the United States Supreme Court cannot be based on ignorance, but must have some design.

And we don't like the design.

Monday these nine highest judges in the land called a 22 word prayer used to open classes in a public school "unconstitutional" and with hardly the batting of a learned eyebrow they then voted to return three pornographic magazines to the mails, over the protest of the Post Office Department.

Downgrading or denying religious activities in public life, while at the same time upgrading and giving widest distribution to salacious pornography in print surely seems designed to lower the moral tone of the nation.

The decline and fall of the Roman Empire resulted from just such reasoning.

It could be argued with some success that the Romans didn't design their decline and fall, and that it came about as the result of excessive abuses of the good Roman life.

Today supporters of the supreme court might also attempt to excuse the excesses to which the highest court has gone with the same logic, or illogic, since it would basically follow that no group of leaders would want to deliberately aid and abet the termination of their own way of life.

But, a supposition cannot be avoided when so much is done to warp our way of life out of round that perhaps a majority of these jurists is dedicated to changing the American Way of Life.

Of course, change is inevitable, and it is easy for a judge, an editor or a general to decide to goose history along by pushing events in the direction they prefer.

It simply follows; so far as we're concerned that the supreme court is pushing our nation in what we think is the wrong direction.

Entirely Justified

The criticism of last week's panel of Lenoir County jurors, by Judge William J. Bundy was entirely justified by the cynical way in which three jury panels found three men not guilty of drunken driving.

Judge Bundy's entire comment is included in this week's paper, and every citizen who believes in law enforcement ought to read it carefully and remember it well, because law can be enforced no better than the people in a community wish it to be.

Since the criticisms of Judge Bundy were addressed only to those jurors who served in the three cases involved, we also along with the judge's remarks include the jury panel for each of the three cases in which not guilty verdicts were rendered.

Too Often Forgotten

Next week as citizens of the United States celebrate the Fourth of July, or Independence Day as some prefer to call it, there is one point that is too often forgotten,

And that very simply is the long, bloody, difficult interim between July 4, 1776 and September 3, 1783 when the treaty of peace was signed in Paris between the United States and Great Britain.

Not until that date — more than seven years later, was the independence of these United States recognized formally.

Thus, seven years of war and negotiation lay between the declaration and the realization of those principles which too many of us take for granted today.

And even more true today than then, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

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JACK RIDER, Publisher

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PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY
JACK RIDER

Nothing irritates me more quickly than a pompous spender of the taxpayers' money, who ignores — if he ever knew, that he is the servant of the public, rather than the public being his vassals.

I have found that the easiest way to deflate these self-inflated types is with a pinprick of humor, rather than with a broadsword. I am working on such a project at the moment, and the score is about even — steven but this is my turn at bat.

Back in May I got a long questionnaire from the high and mighty clerk of the United States District Court for Eastern North Carolina. I don't know what his name is, but there isn't but one of them, I hope. This questionnaire had to do with my fitness to serve as a juror in the federal courts. The Constitution says every man "shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and District wherein the crime shall have been committed."

But the administrative flunkies who run the courts have preempted to themselves the selection of jurors, and by this questionnaire they select and eliminate who shall try you if you are hauled into federal court.

Well this questionnaire, so far as I was concerned, was just one more in the long line of junk mail that floats across my desk from assorted tax paid bureaucrats who have their snouts stuck in the federal trough. But it had the saving grace of being just a little more absurd than most federal questionnaires, and more sloppily drawn insofar as its specific questions were concerned:

Example: "Married or, Single?" I thought that a silly question deserved a silly answer, so my answer was "Yes". That's a pretty fair sample of the way I answered the questions on that little old questionnaire. Another instance: What education do you have?—Not, mind you, what schools you have attended, but grossly: What education do you have?

Well, to shorten a stupid story; after I returned my questionnaire with my silly answers to its silly questions I got a lordly command from none other than The Chief Judge, one Algernon L. Butler, a Sampson County Republican, who Eisenhower eased onto the public payroll for the rest of his natural life at \$22,500 per annum, plus \$3,000 per year expenses, plus, plus, plus plus.

You wouldn't expect a man named Algernon to have a sense of humor and he does not. In choice legalese, he informed Wilbur Jackson Rider that the questionnaire was "not acceptable", and enclosed another for me to fill out under "penalty of perjury". How a lawyer can so loosely toss the perjury threat at other people is another silly question that comes to mind at about this point.

I sat down in my most austere frame of mind, and under "penalty of perjury" filled out The Chief Judge's form 1492½ and sent it back to him, but not without a few choice words of my own, on the general subject of people who have no sense of humor, sense of balance and little realization of the fact that they are servants, not lords.

You may have guessed the answer, which by now should be pretty obvious. It reads, in part — "Mr. Rider states in the questionnaire dated May 1, 1962 that he has a disability impairing his capacity to serve as a juror. On the basis of the questionnaire submitted by him, I concur in his opinion. I do not consider him qualified for jury service in the federal court."

And for those of you, who would like to borrow my "disability" to get out of jury duty when you are called here it is: A distinct bias against federal interference in public and private affairs in which the federal authority has no legal right to interfere.