

**'But We Won't Go Near The Water!'**



**EDITORIALS**

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

**Sincere Thanks**

The 1962 baseball season for the Kinston Eagles ended last Friday night on a story-book note, as the Eagles won the deciding game in the championship playoff against the Durham Bulls.

A lot of people had a lot of fun watching the Eagles in Kinston this year and a lot of people did a lot of hard work to make all

of this fun possible. Space does not permit saying "thanks" to all who took part in this work, or who joined in the fun.

But we don't want to let the season close without this brief note of sincere thanks, to the fans, to the players, to the directors, to the city officials and to the school officials, whose cooperation made the success it was.

**Court Reforms**

In November the voters of North Carolina will be asked to pass a far-reaching constitutional amendment that would permit major changes in the court structure of our state.

The changes all are aimed at the lower courts, and the supreme and superior courts have the same functions, and the same authorities that they now have.

The magistrate courts are the major target of this court reform program, and this constitutional amendment if it is passed would make all magistrates appointive, rather than elective. These appointments would be by the resident superior court judge, from lists prepared by the clerks of superior court.

The number of magistrates would be fixed for each county by the general assembly and they would be placed on salaries, rather than operating on fees as at present.

We favor putting magistrates on salary, but we oppose making them appointive. Magistrate courts handle thousands more cases than all the other courts of the state combined, and removing the magistrate from the reach of the voter is dangerous, and cannot be supported in logic under our system of government.

The next major goal of the court reform program is to set up district courts that would replace the hodge-podge of recorder, county and mayor courts that exist today. Some heavily populated districts might under this new plan have more than one district court, and more sparsely populated areas would have perhaps one court to serve several counties, but terms of court would have to be held in each of the 100 counties.

The operating costs of these courts would all be paid from state funds, but fines col-

lected would still go to each county school fund.

No where in the vast amount of information that has poured forth on this proposed court reform have we seen any estimate of the increased cost to the taxpayer that would be represented in this plan.

But one can suppose logically on the basis of all past performances that the price tag for such court improvements is going to be higher than the present cost. Improvements generally are expensive, and court improvements will be no exception.

But much more important than the cost factor is the removal of those judges who serve the most people from all practical political contact with the people.

The superior court judge is already laboring under the most staggering load, and the most awesome authority of any servant in the public domain. It would not be fair to impose upon the superior court judge the further heavy political duty of selecting men for magistratical posts.

Unfortunately in this constitutional vote one has to accept the entire package, and cannot take part and leave out part.

Faced with that we can do nothing but oppose the entire plan, and hope for a much more simple amendment to the constitution that would give to the general assembly the power to create the supreme court and such other courts as may be found needed.

The present difficulty in correcting the wrongs of the magistratical system is that they are constitutional courts and as such are above and beyond corrective measures of the general assembly.

But making magistrates appointive is not a step in the right direction so far as we are concerned.

**Who Struck The Match?**

As much as we deplore the burning of churches, in Georgia or anywhere else, we cannot avoid asking, "Who struck the match?"

Was it some fanatical racist in Georgia, or some venal politician in Washington?

Who is responsible for a wound being sore? The person upon whom the wound is inflicted or the person who inflicted the wound?

Men of cold-blooded deliberation sit in executive and judicial safety in the mahogany-lined places of Washington and use their office to rub even more sore the age-old scars that had begun to heal between the races in the South.

Who makes the bull gore the toreador? The bull might prefer to rest peacefully in his pasture but when the picadors wound and anger him he charges blindly at every moving object.

The Earl Warrens, the Hugh Brownells, the Bobby Kennedys are the picadors in this great spectacle. They deliberately set about to inflame the bulls of Southern habit and prejudice in order to swing blocs of votes in the ghettos of the north. They couldn't care less about the bloody bull, or the civil rights toreador in the political arena below.

**About Face**

There was a day, when government employees were referred to as "servants of the people." It would appear that this day, if it ever existed, has ended.

Now it is the people who are servants of the employees of government.

The average non-government worker in this part of the woods has to dig hard six and sometimes seven days to the week to manage to get enough money together to pay all the taxes that are levied upon him.

And with the exception of people who work in monopoly industries the government worker is the only worker in this area who generally enjoys the five-day week.

We are in favor of organized loafing, disorganized loafing and any other kinds of loafing that there may be, but we find it awfully difficult to appreciate somebody else doing the loafing when we are having to borrow money to pay their loafing bill.

**Brazil Nuts**

Even a glance at the affairs of South America's largest nation tends to indicate that all Brazil nuts don't grow on trees.

Every slick-paper magazine published in our country has carried lavish layouts on the amazing construction of Brazil's new capital, Brasilia, which has been located in the hinterland, away from the trade routes and the more basic parts of the country's sagging economy.

Some political Brazil nut decided that what his country needed was a new seat of government. Perhaps the stench of the poverty in the hills around Rio de Janeiro caused him to want to go to a higher climate.

The same kind of illogic would see our nation pull its capital out of Washington because of the slums that corrupt its beauty and go out into the hills of Wyoming and build from scratch a new capital, in an area that had no roads, no water supply, no electricity, no people.

Before Brasilia was nearly completed it was already surrounded by the same kind of slums that make a public health nightmare of the coastal cities in Brazil.

On top of all this building nuttiness the Brazilians also cannot decide who is going to be president. They elect one hored looking fellow, who serves for a few months and decides that he doesn't like the job. He quits, and another steps up to take the job. Now he has been kicked out, perhaps because he like the job too well.

Oh well; as we said at the beginning, all Brazil nuts don't grow on trees.

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JACK RIDER, Publisher

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**PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS**

BY JACK RIDER

Schools in America have gotten a lot of amateurish attention from people in all walks of life, and especially from editors who were shook by the accomplishments of Soviet science when it launched the first Sputnik back in 1957. Although a lot of this interest has been hardly worth the effort, and has contributed more noise than good, the sum of all the interest is working toward great improvements in the overall anatomy of our entire schooling system.

Perhaps the most difficult aspect of the education story is the almost impossible task of selling parents on the fact that all children cannot be nuclear physicists. And even in some areas of the professional side of education there is lingering resistance to vocational training for more and more students whose academic capabilities rule out higher education.

People today are being born with roughly the same amounts of intelligence that they always have been. Take a group of 100 people and you'll find that they break down in about the same percentages of IQ levels that they always have. Or saying it another way, people today are still being born in the same patterns of a century ago, but the work requirements of our time are completely changed.

Today there is a diminishing demand for strong backs and weak minds. For all the milleniums of history there was always a demand for more of this kind of coarse labor than there was available. But today this is not so, and tomorrow there will be even less need for that worker in modern industry.

We have two courses open, since no amount of schooling or vocational training can qualify a worker beyond his limits. The first alternative is to handfeed these types, and the second is to find or create work of a kind that is within the capability of these types, and a work that is also constructively needed by society.

An experiment in that direction is working beautifully so far at the Caswell Rehabilitation Center here in Kinston. This is a kind of work that has to be touched to be appreciated. Hearing, or reading about it is not enough. Those boys and girls who simply cannot move beyond the 5th, 6th, or 7th grade are being trained to do those types of work that their aptitudes and attitudes indicate they can best do.

This is a tiny program at present, but it is a program that will be expanded — for it has to be, and although the program is now geared to making productive citizens out of children in the IQ range from 50 to 80, it will have to be expanded as the demands of our civilization become more severe. In another decade, or generation, the person with an IQ of less than 100 may have an extremely difficult time finding work, or completing academic courses in our schools.

The vast majority of our population has IQ's of less than 100, but these people have the emotional and physical needs of the genius. Their bellies get empty and their hearts grow weary. All of which is to say, that although we cannot do enough to cultivate the rich minds among us, we must not forget the cultivation of those who through no fault of their own are less fortunate mentally.

We accept this premise for the physically handicapped, and happily a growing number of our leaders are recognizing that our society cannot survive if it fails in this realm. And far aside from the humanitarian aspects of this problem, are the economics involved. Permitting a person to spend his life in a custodial institution when he could work outside is terribly expensive to the taxpayer as well as to the person.