

'How Offensive Can I Get?'



EDITORIALS

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

Thank Goodness

At least for the current session of congress federal aid to education has been killed.

The hoggish determination of some religious groups to be "included in" this political pie-cutting was the hammer that killed the bill.

In legislation there is a great deal of indirection. Legislative leaders have learned long ago that the "shortest distance between two points is not necessarily a straight line."

For instance, because of home pressures there possibly were many members of congress who would have found it embarrassing to vote against federal aid to schools, although that same congressman might have been bitterly opposed personally to such

steps.

But by standing on a high constitutional mountain and voting against state and church collaboration the congressman just as effectively kills the bill, and is able to escape the slings and arrows of outraged professional educators who are anxious to expand their incomes from whatever source, and no matter the consequences.

Who is to say that in the secret nooks of the capitol a deal was not contrived to include just such an escape valve in the federal aid to education bill?

Whether it was included deliberately or accidentally it has served the nation well because there is not a single school district in the nation that is in such bad financial condition as the federal government.

Fishing Port

The construction of a "fishing port" by Russians in Cuba seems to us to be as much threat to this hemisphere as is needed to invoke the Monroe Doctrine.

Hitler sent his troops into the Rhineland with orders to march out if there was any kind of resistance. Mussolini marched his jackals into Ethiopia because the League of Nations had not guts. The Japs took over North China in the early 30's because of the same kind of cowardice.

Some will say, "Russia has as much right to bases in Cuba as the United States has

to bases in Turkey. Those who make such statements fail to accept the known fact that the United States would remove any and all of its forces from every nation in the world if they were asked to do so.

The Russians, as Hungary has proven, are much more reluctant to release their hold. There is no parallel between Budapest and Guantanamo.

But aside from these diplomatic apologies and justifications the most basic issue is whether we are going to permit all of Latin America to be converted into a Soviet camp.

Judicial Paradox

One of the great judicial paradoxes of our time is the humble subservience of federal district judges to the pressures of venal politics.

Theoretically, the federal judge is given a life tenure to remove him from the pressures of partisan politics. But in practice it has worked in reverse.

Each judge takes an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States. He neither swears allegiance to the president, the senate nor to the supreme court. His oath is to the constitution alone.

Yet when the constitution is abused by the temporary mortals who practice politics

from the high court bench the district judges without exception practice allegiance to the mortal judges, rather than to the immortal principles of the constitution.

This accents the danger of appointed officers, whose acts and tenure are beyond the reach of the voter. Not a single federal district judge in the entire south today could hold his office if he served — as most have served — as the rubberstamp to the executive branch of government or to the supreme political court of the nation.

At present in Mississippi and Louisiana we see coveys of federal judges meekly affixing their signatures to the mandates that

We Vote No

Because the so-called court reform amendment to the North Carolina Constitution is a "package deal" we are forced to vote No. Although there are some desirable reforms in the judicial set up of our state, this proposal goes too far, and since it is not possible to take part of the plan without accepting all of it, our vote has to be No.

Firstly we want no part of appointive judges, and under this proposal the overwhelming majority of the state judges would become appointive rather than elective.

Secondly, we are opposed to increasing the tax burden and this proposal would conservatively cost six to nine million more dollars per year than the present court system.

But thirdly, and perhaps most importantly there is no need for this sweeping and expensive overhaul of our courts since the General Assembly already has the power to correct many of the faults that are most often held up to ridicule.

The court reformists point to the wide spread in court costs from one county to another. All court costs are fixed by the General Assembly, and not by the Constitution so a simple legislative enactment could heal this admitted wrong of the present system.

The same thing could be said for the method of paying justices of peace. The constitution is absolutely silent on the manner of how justices of peace shall be paid. At present all fees collected by justices of peace are fixed by the General Assembly, so a legislative enactment is all that is needed to change JP's from fee officers to salaried officers of the court.

So in summary; we vote No, because we want no part of appointive judges, because it would be much more expensive than the present court system and because those major faults with the present system can be cured by legislative enactment.

Pot Says To Kettle

Last week Attorney-General Bobby Kennedy was reported as saying that he would not put Mississippi Governor Ross Barnett in jail because that was what Barnett wanted, since Barnett was playing politics with the race issue.

If there ever was a perfect example of the pot talking to the kettle; this is it. The Kennedys principal political magic has been the cold-blooded deliberation with which they have gone about using the negro.

It's rather refreshing that our astronauts have gotten in a mild tizzy over who was getting the most gravy out of the publicity that has surrounded this use of the taxpayers' journey. We have always taken an extremely dim view of anybody on the government payroll — from the President on down — giving, or selling exclusive interviews to any news media.

Reports that some warehousemen feel a cut should be made in next year's fluecured tobacco crop raises the inevitable question: What business is it of any warehouseman to make such a recommendation?

are whipped together in the attorney general's office. Principles be damned, actual physical dangers to great masses of the population be damned; Washington prescribes and the federal district judge is the pharmacist who fills the bottle.

This in full contradiction of the fact that not a single federal judge beneath the Potomac subscribes to the medicine that he is helping to jam down the throats of unwilling patients.

JONES JOURNAL
JACK RIDER, Publisher

Published Every Thursday by The Lenoir County News Company, Inc., 403 West Vernon Ave., Kinston, N. C., Phone JA 3-2375. Entered as Second Class Matter May 5, 1949, at the Post Office at Trenton, North Carolina, under the Act of March 3, 1879. By Mail in First Zone — \$3.00 Per Year. Subscription Rates Payable in Advance. Second Class Postage Paid at Trenton, N. C.

PERSONAL
PARAGRAPHS
BY
JACK RIDER

I've said it several times before, but it is the kind of thing that needs to be repeated from time to time because the emotional factors involved in the segregation-integration hassle force many of us to lose sight of the real issue. This is exactly what the northern leaders want us to do: Lose sight of the "pea" in this great political "shell game."

Since 1850 the burning issue north of the Potomac has been the economic rise and the political stability of the South, and in that order. So long as the New England "puritans" could grow rich off the slave trade there was nothing wrong with that sinful road to wealth. So long as the north could process the raw materials of the South and sell them back at exorbitant profits, it was all right for the South to progress agriculturally.

But when the slave trade became unprofitable the scions of New England families who had grown wealthy from this traffic in human bodies rose in righteous indignation. When the South began to inch into industrialization the owners of New England sweat shops began to panic in fear of sweat shops that were springing up in the South.

Atop this greed for dollars and cents was the galling knowledge that the South maintained a political dominance that could not be defeated by legal parliamentary procedure. Of the first 16 presidents, 10 were southerners, and in congress the sway was even more dominantly Southern. The westward expansion of the nation saw a continuing fight to see which political elements would control the new states that were coming into the nation. This was the first use of the negro as a political catspaw. New states comprised of 100 per cent white populations were frightened with the bugaboo of slavery and they wound up almost solidly in the political camp of the north.

Once the north had gained preponderance in the congress by this "packing process" they began to apply economic sanctions against the agricultural south in the form of discriminatory tariffs that benefitted the manufacturer and penalized the farmer. The pressure of the dollar was applied to extract compliance with newly found anti-slavery sentiments among those whose ancestors had created the slave trade.

Today we see the same dollar pressure. Towns such as Goldsboro and New Bern knuckle under to racially integrated schools because they don't want to lose their military bases. Great companies such as Du Pont, which have the power, but lack the will; knuckle under to illegal usurpations of power because they don't want to lose government contracts.

And through this all the negro has been used, and abused by the extremists on both sides. The northern bigot has promised "Green Pastures" to the negro, and the Southern bigot has frightened his constituencies to the polls, using the other side of the coin.

The bleeding heart societies of the north and the pseudo-intellectuals of the South have contrived a socio-economic myth which says in substance: One is backward if one opposes racial integration. The snobbism that lies just beneath the surface in most of us has been fertile soil for the cultivation of such weeds.

But the negro never has been, and never will be the real issue. The real issue is just for economic and political power in the north.

This is the family reunion and the church homecoming season, when diets are forgotten, old ties are renewed and a "good time was had by all."