

'If They Don't Watch Out They're Gonna Ruin It'



The Poverty Fund

The first seven areas to be "attacked" in the war on poverty have now been announced, and it is somehow ironically fitting that among the counties chosen is the richest county in North Carolina: Mecklenburg.

Then there are the "poor counties" of Forsyth and Durham. Which seems to indicate that it is more fashionable to fight poverty in areas where they have a lot of executive secretaries.

In every listing of per capita income these three counties; Mecklenburg, Forsyth and Durham, rank near or on the top in North Carolina. Each has a rapidly expanding economy and great wealth.

It may be coincidence that the president of the North Carolina fund is a Charlottean, another high official is a Salemite and still a prominent third is a Duke disciple. All of us should do what we can to brighten the corner where we are.

To us it would seem that the best place to attack poverty is where it exists in its worst and most concentrated form. True, in any metropolitan area there are the slum-type poor who are drawn like iron filings to the magnet of big city wealth, but the basic poverty of North Carolina is not of this variety, but is one that has been generated by the amazing revolution in agriculture.

Teaching mountaineers to weave baskets and city dwellers to more effectively milk the welfare cow will not reach the root of the North Carolina problem.

North Carolina in general and East Carolina in particular are basically agricultural and it will remain so for several generations yet to come. Our wealth is in the soil and not in the asphalt jungles of Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Durham.

**PERSONAL
PARAGRAPHS
BY
JACK RIDER**

"To thine ownself be true . . ." is a lot easier quoted than lived. In the long, frustrating political battle that has gone on for the past decade in the name of the negro, and for his vote, I have frequently found myself pondering this simple admonition. "To thine ownself be true."

I have to measure my own sincerity, for no one else possibly can, and for all of my thinking years I have hated repression and people who could exercise repression over either the bodies or minds of others.

Then, am I true to this concept when I oppose racial integration? Perhaps, I have qualified my position at least in my own mind and to my own satisfaction, however the process came about it is strongly and sincerely held.

I have never viewed the negro as an inferior person, but I have always respected him as a different person. I sincerely believe that for his own good, as well as what I believe to be the good of the white men it is best for the races to remain separate and different, rather than together and "equal."

Of course, there is no equality of individuals. No two identical twins are equal. There is equality before the law, but there never has been and never will be anything such as equality in employment, equality in education.

Politicians are using the negro as a convenient scapegoat for their own greed and lust for power. They have convinced the negro that any and all hungers he may have are the result of white prejudice against him. They have not tried to tell the negro that "Operation Bootstrap" is a far better way to lift ones self than "Operation Sit-In."

Jews were treated far worse in this country than negroes ever have been — even under slavery. But Jews did not seek laws to raise themselves. When they were denied access to Miami Beach hotels they solved the problem in the oldest possible fashion. They bought the hotels.

American negroes have a far greater potential economic bloc of power than the Jews simply because they outnumber American Jews about four-to-one. This is the language that is understood universally. No where in the world is there a more respected negro minority than in Durham, North Carolina and this respect stems directly from the fact that the world's largest negro insurance company and one of the world's largest negro banks are in Durham.

Neither of these institutions reached its position of wealth by whining for a bone from the white politician's table. But today every white politician who aspires to election in Durham County beats a path to their door, and not on any condescending basis, either, but on the basis of hard-headed businessmen sitting down to go over the good reasons why or why not any particular candidate or issue should be supported or fought.

I hold that the negro has reached his greatest levels of accomplishment in the South not despite, but because of segregated societies. The constant stimuli of competition has caused the best elements of Southern negro society to shine like a beacon throughout the entire world.

But even into paradise temptation crept, and today those sordid segments of negro society are being told that the only reason they do not have fine homes, handsome wardrobes, big cars and money in their pockets is because of white exploitation.

This is a lie, but it is an easy lie for a bum to accept, because bums are human to the extent that they each believe all their troubles were caused by somebody other than themselves.

EDITORIALS

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

The Unbridled Press

In a supine exhibition aimed at protecting the inflammatory northern press the United States supreme court recently ruled that any media could libel any public official in its news, editorial or advertising so long as the libel was "not done in malice."

Nothing this court does ought to surprise anyone, but this is a new and dangerously low gutter to which it has escorted the "objective" news media of our nation.

We were asked by an extremely short-sighted friend how we could be so critical of a court that had held so strongly in favor of all news media in this particular case. Of course, to understand one has to realize that the court was seeking ways and means of throwing out a huge damage to an Alabama official against the New York Times. Obviously the ruling would have been in the exact opposite direction if it had been an Alabama newspaper and a New York official.

But for whatever the reason might have

been, the danger in this ruling is that it gives the fanatic fringes of the news trade license to slur and slander to its venal heart's content.

This is legal application of the old axiom: Give them enough rope and they'll hang themselves.

No freedom we enjoy in this country is an absolute; they are all qualified to the extent that they infringe upon the rights of others. Justice Holmes in a saner court reminded, "Freedom of speech doesn't give one the right to holler, 'fire' in a crowded theater."

This court has said that absence of "malice" removes the odor of libel from any statement about a public official. In truth, in logic and in law there can only be one defense against libel; and that is that the allegedly libelous statement be the truth.

This court wants other American traditions to sink along with it, so it has invited news media onto the sinking ship of principles.

Getting Into College

Statistics flood the land on the frightening difficulty students have getting into college, and undoubtedly it is a bit more difficult now than 30 years ago, when money was less plentiful for scholarly pursuits and the employment standards of the nation were much lower.

But up until now we have to meet the first serious student who has been unable to get into a college. Perhaps, not THE college of first or even second choice, but the student who is determined to further his education obviously does find some place to quench his intellectual thirst.

This does not mean that we are not in need of more colleges and universities. It only means that there is no need for crash programs of wasteful extravagance in this realm.

The hired hands around college campuses, building contractors and architects all envision multi-billion dollar building needs, but the facts will not support such a sudden expansion.

The first need of higher education is to lower the cost to both the student and to the supporters of such institutions, whether they are privately supported or government supported.

The simplest way to do this is to bring the college to the student so that the terribly costly appendages of boarding school education can be eliminated.

By bringing the college to the student we will over a period of a few years need greatly improved universities where the community college graduate may move on to pursue his specialties, but this improvement is more basically administrative than architectural in nature.

The community college offers a much less expensive "weeding-out" ground, where the lazy, indifferent, inept student can be eliminated at less cost to parents and to taxpayers.

Please, let us not enlist the federal government in a "crash" program for higher education.

As this is written it can be truthfully said that April has never been nicer, warmer or more beautiful, but Eastern Carolina is the staging area for a great deal of weather and it is quite possible before April has marched off into history that blankets, sweaters, and a bit of heat in the house after supper may be highly in order.

We Still Wonder

We find it impossible to dismiss from our mind Earl Warren's statement that for reasons of national security the whole story of President Kennedy's murder might not be told in this generation.

Even after discounting the natural flamboyance and imprudence of this man's character, and after weighing his words over and over again we cannot avoid even the wildest kind of speculation upon his statement.

Now, a hundred years after Lincoln's murder we are finding that his own cabinet was involved in his murder. Evidence that in earlier times there were people in Warren's position who decided what to let the public know and what NOT to let the public know.

This statement by Warren slanders inferentially everyone in this nation from President Johnson down.

It raises the supposition that Johnson or some of his colleagues might have decided that Johnson's chance of being president was none at the ballot box, but 100 per cent from a sniper's bullet.

It raises the appalling supposition that the American public lacks the courage and wisdom to assimilate even the hardest truths.

It raises the supposition that Kennedy's murder may have been a Russian plot, or a Cuban plot, or an inverted rightist plot.

Warren's ill-advised, even if true, statement raises every possible kind of speculation except the most likely. That President Kennedy was murdered by an egomaniac, who had neither rhyme nor reason, nor aid, nor plot, nor plan, nor motive.

Now, after Warren's statement, even if later the whole truth is told we will all have a perfectly reasonable right to still ask, "Did they really tell the whole story?"

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