



EDITORIALS

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

Sir Winston Churchill

Nothing anyone can say will add now to the stature of Sir Winston Churchill, whose immortality is insured so long as men cherish freedom, courage and intelligence.

But we feel the duty to add this tiny footnote to the tremendous volume of words pouring forth now on his death at the age of 90.

We feel privileged to have lived in these momentous times on the same

shrinking plant with so great a man. To have been in the remotest possible sense a fellow at arms with him in the terrible, and most important of wars.

As an enlisted man, far down the ranks from such imperial personages as prime ministers, we felt safer and in better hands with "Winnie" at the helm.

He was brilliant, impatient, courageous, but the most human of the great men up until this date in the short history of man's dominance in this realm.

A Timely Suggestion

In his talk Friday night to the annual Press Institute Duke University President Dr. Douglas Knight reminded that the South now has a second chance for greatness if we can heal up the ancient wounds and avoid the terrible mistakes of the past.

Dr. Knight, a New Englander, referred to many facets of this dream, but one most timely was the need now to avoid the industrial blight which has the Great Lakes and industrial east unhappy and unhealthy places to live and work in.

With an ever-accelerated arrival of heavy industry in the South every community — big or little — needs to insist upon long-range planning that will prevent the pollution of its air, its water and its landscape.

Fortunate a majority of the major companies who are coming to the South

understand this need better than the communities to which they are coming, and largely because they are leaving behind the kind of environment Dr. Knight warns us about.

DuPont did not need a square mile to build its Dacron plant in Lenoir County, but it has beautiful square mile of neatly clipped fields and handsomely designed buildings.

But there are companies who either cannot or will not appreciate the profitable application of such esthetics, and it is against this kind of "cannot" or "will not" thinking that each community must be on guard.

Not the least, but perhaps the most immediate need of any county in North Carolina is a county-wide zoning plan which will protect the things we already have and make better the things that are yet to come.

How to Raise Taxes

An old master such as President Johnson obviously needs no tutoring on how to raise taxes. In his budget message this week he does it in the most political fashion — by cutting taxes.

The tax cut happens to fall in a very limited field and includes the so-called excise taxes on "luxury items" such as jewelry, furs, cosmetics and luggage. At present this rich man's tax takes in about \$500 million per year. This over-the-counter tax which hits a small percentage of the national expenditure will be eliminated if LBJ has his way, which all expect.

But to take up the slack caused by

this the President is asking congress to raise taxes on all wage-earners with extra payroll deductions that would begin next year.

So what he is doing, to use a fishy simile, is exchanging a big mesh net for a fine mesh net. The old excise net caught the big fish but the little fish swam on through. Now the president is recommending the use of a net that will catch all the fish.

Which is as it should be, because the majority of us fish swallowed his "line," along with the sinker and the hook. All he is doing now is snatching lightly on the line to "set the hook."

A Political Certainty

Political observers long ago pointed to the basic defect in a democracy: That the have-less majority will destroy the system once it learns to vote into office the kind of people who are willing to take from the have-more to give to the have-less.

Once this process grinds into motion the democracy is ended and state socialism takes over. And from the faceless tyranny of this bureaucratic system any basically free and intelligent people will soon revolt.

Revolt leads to military dictatorship and finally back again to some kind of representative government — the kind our country is rapidly running from at present.

We are told of the democracy of the Greeks, but there slaves were not permitted to vote, nor women, nor people without property.

We know of the "democracy" of the Soviets where everyone is permitted to vote — for a single slate of officers.

Lenin called religion the opiate of the people, and there was some crude truth in his hypothesis 50 years ago.

Today a more accurate paraphrase would be that "democracy" is the opiate of the people.

Millions of people feel better about the explosion of state socialism in our country because they are permitted to vote for it, and perhaps more importantly, because they are promised a few crumbs from the state socialist table.

The same congressmen who so nobly stand and fight for Medicare for the "poor old folks" have recently voted themselves a \$144.23 per week pay raise and a pension plan that permits them to retire on up to \$365.57 per week. The president's poor widow gets a tiny check of \$480.76 per week to keep the wolf away from her door.

What kind of a private fortune would one have to amass to permit his own retirement at such a figure, or to leave his widow so secure?

The Arts Council

The newly chartered Kinston Arts Council has many things going for it, and not the least is a corps of hard-working, hardheaded women whose presence assures its success.

Every community needs, and eventually will have a rallying point for those who have some talent in any of the very many fields that make up our culture.

Any effort to permit, and to encourage the greater flowering of these universal talents is a giant's step toward a happier, more beautiful community.

This is a step toward a better society that is homegrown, and we hope home nourished; a step that will do more than a thousand government programs to bring about this being called "The Great Society."

There is nothing "sissy" about cultivation of the arts, so we urge the men to pitch in and help the women in this very fine undertaking.

There seems to be some slight degree of shock among our local "liberals" who are just now learning that "token integration" is not enough to keep them, or our area in good standing in "The Great Society." Many of this breed will have to learn a few new "gliberal phrases." "Some of my best friends are Negroes"; will no longer suffice. Something a trifle more intimate and broader will have to be found. Is there anyone for tennis?

JONES JOURNAL

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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 figure I'm such an old dog there's not much danger of me learning new tricks, so when I attend press meetings I don't spend too much time sitting around listening to some fat publisher tell how he got rich, or to some skinny professor tell me how to quit splitting infinitives.

Last week's visit to Chapel Hill and Durham fitted this pattern. I spent my time being amazed by the population explosion at Chapel Hill where on and off the campus there is tens of millions of dollars worth of construction going on . . . and a quick look at some of the awesome things already going on in the infant "Research Triangle." There is less going on in Durham, which is to be expected because no private school — not even fabulously rich Duke, can hope to compete with public schools who have a firm grip on the taxpayer's dollar.

But this seems to fit a pattern too few of us are really willing to admit, even after we have seen it written again and again on the wall. Our civilization, because of automation and new products is rapidly switching from a productive society into a leisure society. Already we know our most basic industry — farming — needs only seven workers to feed another 93. Other industries have not progressed so rapidly as farming but the changes are going on, and today we see industry after industry in which half as many people are producing twice as much goods.

So we must not resist this trend but learn to live with it and enjoy it. Of first importance is education — not quantity but quality education — that takes this switch into consideration and persuades more people to accept some very hard facts of life. Not the least of these being the fact that more and more people are going to have to enter the service fields.

Service has come to be an ugly word in the egalitarian patois of our political dreamers who somehow equate service with servility, which any reasonably intelligent person recognizes as not only absurd, but impossibly absurd.

But service covers a very wide and utterly important multitude of occupations. From the upstairs maid to the manager of the swankiest resort hotel. They all have one common chore: to make pleasant the leisure and sometimes working hours of other people — many of whom are themselves upstairs maids and hotel managers taking a break in their busy life.

More and more people are getting more and more time to spend the expanding incomes they are getting. DuPont has recently extended its already liberal personnel plan to provide up to five-week vacation, which can be accumulated for even longer sojourns on trips around the world and for more sedentary spells of "rest".

And DuPont Board Chairman Crawford Greenewalt has recently said some words on the overall subject of education that are peculiarly and particular apt on this subject: "I suppose that at any given time there would be a more or less constant percentage of outstanding able people in our population. If we press too hard for more scientists, it seems to me that there will be either one of two results — scientific quality will suffer, or we'll rob some other area of its creative people. Creativity simply cannot be forced. Two men will not have twice as many good ideas as one, and if manpower is multiplied on a given problem, one may simply be adding pairs of hands with no increase in creative performance."