

THE GREEKS NOT ONLY HAD A WORD, BUT GENERALLY A BETTER WORD FOR IT

By Jack Rider

This week as we celebrate in our many different fashions, or ignore with our apathy the 192nd anniversary of The Declaration of Independence it is rather chilling, inspite of the summer heat, to contemplate the words of that brilliant Grecian philosopher, Plato, who died 2315 years ago.

In his frighteningly prophetic work The Republic, Plato has this commentary on the life cycle of governments:

"All forms of government destroy themselves by carrying their basic principles to excess. The first form is monarchy, whose principle is unity of rule. Carried to excess, the rule is too unified. A monarch takes too much power. The aristocracy rebel and establish an aristocracy whose main principle is that selected families rule. Carried to an excess, somewhat

large numbers of able men are left out, the middle classes join them in rebellion and they establish a democracy, whose principal is liberty. That principle, too, is carried to excess in the course of time. The democracies become too free, in politics, and economics, in morals, even in literature and art, until at last even the puppy dogs in our homes rise on their hind legs and demanded their rights. Disorder grows to such a point that a society will abandon all its liberty to anyone who can restore order.

But with this Platonic warning so concise and so accurate before us we see our nation plodding zombie-like down the exact path described nearly 2500 years ago by this wise greek, who did not have to live in but one generation to understand the nature of man is eternal and he can no more shed this nature than

a bird can change the color of his feathers.

In this week of the Fourth of July, in which we celebrate the birth of the American Aristocratic government, which was called a republic, we now see the landslide our society is caught in as we speed through the mobocracy into anarchy and once again toward that monarchy from which our ancestors fled so shortly ago, as history is recorded.

When the 16th and 17th amendments to the United States Constitution were adopted the basic road blocks to mobocracy were destroyed and there is little likelihood that the greedy tide this unleashed will be restrained within the framework of existing government.

The 16th Amendment was ratified February 15, 1913, just slightly more than 55 years ago, and it is one of the shortest but

most damaging blows ever suffered by our nation. It says very simply:

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

Only 29 words, but with their ratification the federal establishment was given the power to buy voters with their own money. Not even the most bitter opponent of this Amendment dreamed to what extent this abuse would reach, nor how quickly.

When this terrible taxing camel first got his head under the public tent it nibbled away a modest two per cent of the income an individual had above \$10,000 per year. But it has grown, and not slightly.

The individual today whose taxable income is just \$1,000 only pays \$14 federal income tax, or 1.4 per cent. If he earns \$2,000 the tax jumps to \$161, which is just over eight per cent. At \$3,000 income the tax is \$329, or 10.9 per cent. At \$10,000 income the tax has risen to \$1,742, or 17.42 per cent. For that lucky few who reach the \$100,000 income plateau the tax is \$48,182, which, of course, is 48.18 per cent.

But the blow to the individual tax payer is not the worst aspect of this kind of tyranny. The worst face of it is that this money which is taken from all who

have an income is used to bribe voters into even worse excesses than they had revelled in before.

But as bad as the 16th Amendment was for the ultimate fate of our country it could not have worked its worst evil on the nation if the 17th Amendment had not been ratified on May 13, 1913; so 1913 was an evil, unlucky year, indeed, for these United States.

The 17th Amendment is somewhat longer than the 17th, but its net effect was just as bad. The 17th Amendment, in effect, took the election of United States Senators out of the hands of the "aristocracy"; that is the several state legislatures and put the election in the hands of the voters.

The Constitution originally placed the election of the House of Representatives in the hands of the qualified voters of each congressional district, but it was the expressed sentiment of the majority of the members of the Constitutional Convention that the "senior house" of the National Congress should be one step removed from the hot breath of the voter, and further insulated with six-year tenure rather than the two-year term of the house most responsive to the voter.

This was not done casually, nor without careful thought and long debate, and it was done to protect the new republic from that single governmental entity most feared by the members of that convention, which was democracy.

But as time passed it became easy for the demagogues to prey upon the ignorance and greeds of the voters by insisting that they, the voters, should also directly elect senators as well as representatives. This, of course, was the "democratic thing to do."

So, in 1913 the ratification of these two Amendments gave the mob the key to its own pocket, which is always carefully camouflaged in the language of the demagogue with such sugar-coating as is found to be necessary to get the patient to swallow it without thought or resistance.

The "graduated income tax" is one of the more popular sugar-coated pills that has poisoned the American body politic, because all taxes of every kind are ultimately consumer taxes, and hence the mob is the overwhelming consumer.

It follows very simply that the mob is feeding off itself, when it is deluded with the simple notion that only the rich, or the middle-class citizen is paying the freight. Nothing could be further from the truth, and it is axiomatic that the higher the tax rate goes the more the lowest economic brackets suffer. It cannot be any other way.

So, in this summer of our nation's discontent we see anarchy in the schools, in the streets, in the home, in art, in morals and as Plato cautioned, even the puppy dogs are demanding their rights through the militant minority faction called the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Canines.

And instead of trying to correct the errant dash into anarchy we see the President of these United States naming a pair of lackluster cronies to the nation's highest court; where it is assured they will continue the permissive, libertine socio-economic adjudication that has corrupted our constitution and brought our country to that point now where, again, as Plato warned, "Society will abandon all its liberty to anyone who can restore order."

Even, possibly, to anyone they hope can restore order.

THE JONES COUNTY

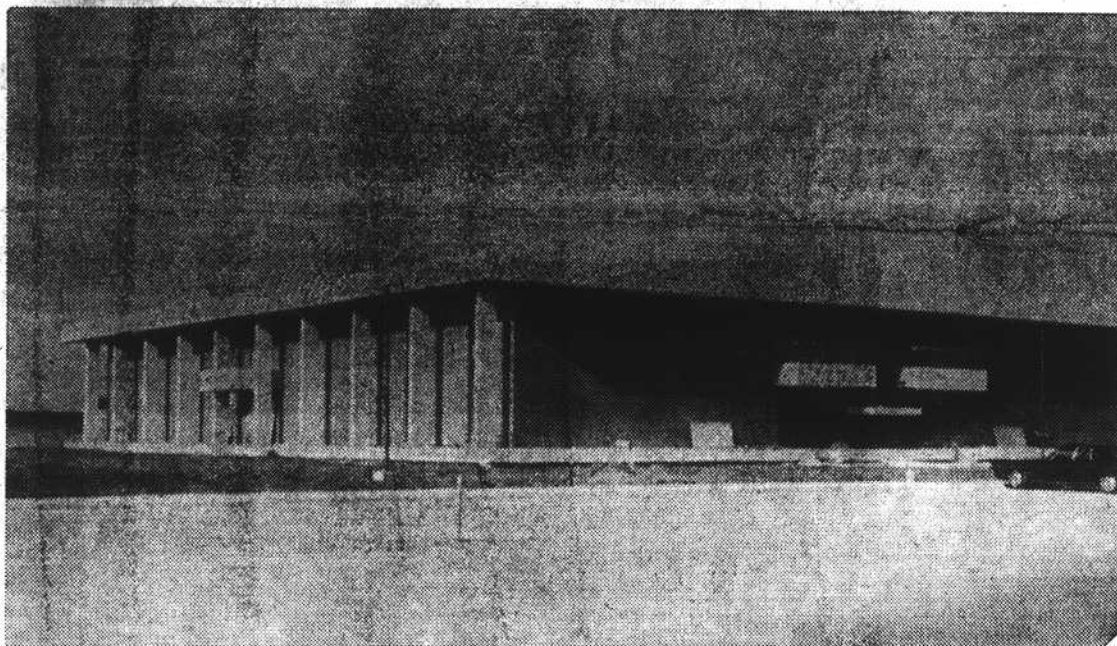
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July Occupancy Planned for Newest Building on Campus of Lenoir County Community College



This handsome structure is the newest, and by far the largest addition to the campus of Lenoir County Community College and school officials plan to move in this month and begin enjoying the many services it offers.

The building will house the college business offices, including that of President Fountain. Also on the ground floor the college library, a 180-seat auditorium and students' lounge is provided.

The second floor includes space for biology, chemistry and physics laboratories, for 10 classrooms and for six smaller seminar rooms.

The overall dimensions of the two-story structure are 150 feet by 164 feet.

This building along with a smaller building on the west side of the campus, with streets, storm drainage and parking spaces for both cost \$1,069,000.

The next addition to the campus is expected to be let to bids in January of 1969 and it will be about half the size of the building shown here and it will be located about 140 feet to the southeast of this building, which itself is on the southeast corner of the existing campus.

Architect for these two buildings to be occupied this month and for the next building as well is Leslie Boney of Wilmington.

Hospital Rate Boost

The trustees of Lenoir Memorial Hospital, faced with large wage increases brought about by federal law, Wednesday announced rate increases of \$5 per bed across the board effective July 1st. This will make private beds cost \$30, \$31 and \$32, semi-private beds cost \$26, \$27 and \$28, ward beds cost \$22 and new born nursery beds cost \$27 per day.

BOUND OVER

Following a preliminary hearing last week teen-ager Henry Bell Jr. of 1304 Lincoln Street was bound over to superior court for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill in the beating of Mrs. Lillian Heath of Kinston route 1 with a rocking chair in February of this year.

DETECTIVE NOT GUILTY

In Recorder's Court Tuesday Private Detective Marvin Hardison Jr. was found not guilty of taking money and not performing duties promised. The charges had been made by Curtis King of Kinston route 3.

FOUND & LOST & FOUND

Last week while being booked in the sheriff's office in Kinston on several bad check charges Lonnie McRouse of Farmville suddenly took off in high gear. He was caught near Scuffleton Friday and now faces the additional charge of escaping from official custody.

APPEALS ROAD TERM

Arthur Goff of 307 Gordon St. who was charged Monday with breaking and entering and assault on a female was convicted

of the assault charge in recorder's court Tuesday and given eight months in prison, which he appealed to superior court.

MARINE FULTON HURT

Marine Private Vaughn Fulton, whose wife and parents live in Kinston, suffered a severe concussion and minor cuts from a mortar blast in Vietnam on June 15th. He reports that he is recuperating satisfactorily and expects to be back to duty in a week or so.

NOT-SO-TRUSTY

Last week Billy DeGraffenried got an additional 90 days in jail in Kinston for escaping from custody while serving 90 days for habitual drunkenness. He walked away from the court house where he was working as a trusty.

Spanky And Our Gang to Play at ECU

The "Spanky and Our Gang in Concert" show will perform at East Carolina University on Monday, July 8, at 8:15 p.m.

The show, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the East Carolina Student Government Association and is one of a series of popular shows to entertain during summer school at Greenville.

Spanky and Our Gang, the versatile and off-beat quintet whose dress conjurs memories of the '20s but whose repertoire spans a half-century of musical development, achieved widespread popularity with their first record, "Sunday Will Never Be the Same."

Spanky and Our Gang spend much of their time playing to college audience on campuses throughout the nation. In addition, they have appeared on numerous television shows including Ed Sullivan, Hollywood Palace, Johnny Carson and others.

The show is to be held on the mall at East Carolina but will be moved to Wright Auditorium in case of rain.

PROBATION REVOKED

Monday a 15-month suspended jail term for stealing against George Wiggins was revoked by Superior Court Judge George Fountain who held that Wiggins had violated the terms of probation under which the jail term had originally been suspended.

DEMONSTRATORS PUNISHED

Tuesday in superior court Fred die McKnight, Raymond Sutton, Carl and Milton Perry were each given nine months in prison for carrying concealed weapons and engaging in an unlawful parade, charges that grew out of disorders in Kinston following the murder of Martin Luther King in Tennessee in April. The grand jury failed to return true bills against Arthur Thompson, Nobles Hall and Roderick White, who were booked at the same time for engaging in an unlawful parade.