

'Orders from Washington, sir... sail on!'



EDITORIALS

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

The Love of Power

No doubt the most difficult job any person can possibly have is to step down from positions of great power. The inability to step down from flocks of servants, unlimited expense accounts, private jet planes, luxury yachts and front stage center led to the marriage Sunday of Jacqueline Kennedy and Aristotle Socrates Onassis.

In spite of being left comfortably rich in the estate of murdered President John Kennedy, Mrs. Kennedy could not possibly live at the level she had grown accustomed to during her three-years in the White House. To one such as she, with a queenly complex, it was easy to compromise the almost saintly position she occupied as widow of a martyred president for the less saintly but more

luxurious position as lady in waiting to an aging Grecian Satyr.

Mrs. Onassis has every right to pursue happiness as blindly as the rest of us moths who flicker around that illusory flame. And her husband has just as much money to invest in famous women as any other man with a big bankroll and a star complex.

But from a purely personal point of view and of course every editorial can be little else no matter how loudly the writer may proclaim his pure objectivity, the marriage stinks to us. There is something almost incestuous about men marrying women half their age, and the only more revolting thing is when a woman marries a boy half her age.

Report from Scope

Editors across the nation, and especially in the South this week were recipients of a bigoted bit of political propaganda under the label: "Report From Scope," and in the fine print one learns that "SCOPE" is "Southern Committee on Political Ethics."

What it is is a blast against George Wallace... all the venom, half-truths and generally accepted damned lies that such pious propagandists as Brooks Hays, the unfrocked Arkansas congressman turned preacher, who is chairman of this annointed association, and such other self-annointed guardians of the public ethic as Marse Grant, Hodding Carter and, of course, Ralph McGill.

It is not difficult to see who is underwriting this pious effort to keep politics ethical. The home address of this Brooks Hays boondoggle is 1120 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. and is just one of many such low blows Wallace will suffer before the November 5th

paid for out of the union dues of hard-working men and women in every part of the nation.

Four years ago an equally Southern do-gooder named Arthur Larsen from Duke University put his signature to a similar hatchet job on Barry Goldwater, and the sad side of the story is that such "ethical" efforts have their effect.

This week Muchraker Drew Pearson drags out the fact that Wallace drew 10 per cent compensation from the Veterans Administration for a nervous condition he suffered at the end of his military service in World War Two. This information was also illegally leaked out of the government who are purer than Ivory Soap.

Ethics... smethics... We'd rather do business with an Antwerp pimp than with the likes of these sanctimonious hatchet men of the Hays Grant Carter and McGill breed. More deadly and twice as nasty as a rattler are the self-righteous

The Learned Elders

Eighteen Lenoir County lawyers have signed a political ad asking the people of Greene, Wayne and Lenoir counties to ONLY vote for lawyers in making their choice for the four district judge-ships to be decided in the November 5th election.

These 18 learned elders make some protestation of political impartiality by listing three Republican lawyers and two Democratic lawyers as worthy of voter consideration, but they completely lose their detached objectivity when they assert that ANY lawyer is better than any non-lawyer for these particular jobs.

This is to assume the unassumable, because lawyers are no different than other mortals; in that they come in all sorts, sizes, shapes and degrees of intelligence.

All things being perfectly equal — which they never are — a lawyer would be preferable over a non-lawyer for a legal job, but it is a fierce kind of egotism which persuades slightly more than half of the lawyers in Lenoir County to subscribe to the hypothesis that all lawyers are smart.

There are eight candidates for these four jobs; and as the lawyers indicate with their obtuse advertising five of the eight are lawyers, and this advertisement categorically asserts that the least qualified of these five lawyers is far better equipped than the best qualified of the non-lawyers. To paraphrase Dickens' Mr. Bumble: 'If the lawyer supposes that, the lawyer is a ass, a idiot.'

The voters of these three counties are far wiser than these 18 Kinston lawyers, and whether they are wiser or not they are more numerous and we expect their vote to show it, and more strongly than might have been as one result of this "objectivity" of these learned elders.

The late Judge Joe Dawson, a very wise lawyer, if not a very good judge, once ran for office shortly after World War One and his opponent had been an officer in the army, while Joe was a plain buck private in the rear ranks.

Dawson campaigned very simply. He said: "Let all the officers vote for my opponent and all the enlisted men vote for me."

This philosophy has some applicability here.

Just Before The Battle

In just a few more days now there will be great weeping and wailing in the land because no matter how the political cookie is crumbled somebody is going to lose, and along with them in their bitter anguish will be those who worked and spent and voted in their behalf.

Perhaps the most frustrated group will be those millions, such as ourselves, who voted for George Wallace. Too many have hypnotized themselves into believing there is a chance of Wallace being elected. From many years of experience this writer has tried to avoid any such dangerous optimism.

But the Wallace movement has quickened the pulse and stirred the imagination of people in every part of the nation. Realistically he has no chance of election, but the kind of people he has inspired will be reluctant to take no for answer, but they will have to and comfort themselves with the fact that win, lose or draw, Wallace has had the most profound effect on national politics of any man since Theodore Roosevelt, and he and those he represents will surely have more audience in future affairs of our nation than we have had in recent times, when being

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

Scientists now have run across a physical defect which is being offered as an excuse for criminality. It is the presence of an extra chromosome in the genetic structure of an individual. This will no doubt further confuse social scientists who insist that there is never born any such thing as a bad boy, or girl.

There is now a growing body of medical evidence to contradict this since it has been found in a large number of cases that people with records of extreme violence have this extra chromosome and it is being offered in courts as defense for people charged with violent crimes.

An Australian court has this month acquitted a man charged with murder because he had this physical defect and a French jury handed a very light sentence out to such a sufferer who had killed a Parisian whore rather like the Johnny Cash character; "just to see her die."

In Illinois lawyers representing Richard Speck who murdered the eight student nurses in Chicago, are preparing an appeal on this same scientific ground. All of which raises a very profound philosophical point. First whether any kind of defect physical or mental should ever be accepted as excuse for committing any kind of crime, minor or major? Second, whether science, or the reporting science, is not exceeding its reach by hold out such straws to drowning defendants, and their families?

It is overlooked that the same body of scientific evidence indicates that those having this extra chromosome are either excessively violent or excessively meek. Which eliminates any broad generalizations about universal care of such sufferers. If every possessor of this extra chromosome were violent, society could simply give every new born baby a blood test and then dispose of the child as unfit for human companionship or order for it the more cruel sentence of life in strict custody. But science only supplies the question in this instance, and society itself will have to find the answer.

It is no consolation to find some scientific support for such old saying as "born mean," "born to be bad" since whether a person is born to be mean or just simply develops a mean streak as he goes along the problem for society is the same.

And since societies of men have existed the hard rule has had to be that those who refused to live by accepted standards, or could not because of physical or mental defect live harmoniously in society have had to be restrained in one way or another. Permissiveness with criminals or just plain spoiled brats can only end in more sorrow — much, much more sorrow than firmness and common sense in coping with such problems.

worse in the minds of national politicians than treason.

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