

'Try to smile, dear... after all, he's your son and heir!'



EDITORIALS

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

The Gauntlet Is Thrown

By an unbelievable 7-to-1 margin the United States Supreme Court has ruled that the United States House of Representatives did not have the right to exclude Adam Clayton Powell from its membership. The gauntlet is thrown and now the long-building constitutional confrontation is upon us. This is, if congress has the least bit of guts.

There is nothing in the constitution more clear than the language of Article One, Section Five, Paragraph Two which says: "Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, expell a member."

And to make this issue even more clear the preceding paragraph of that same section says: "Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members . . ."

Yet full in the face of this crystal clear language an overwhelming, blind majority of the supreme court has said the constitution doesn't mean what it says and the house did not have the right to kick Thief Powell out of the house. Committee hearings in the affair revealed more than \$54,000 that had been stolen from the taxpayers by Powell.

But from the viewpoint of what is best for our nation in the long run it is well that this Earl Warren court has crystallized this issue in one of his final acts as chief justice. Those who are insisting that a constitutional convention might create a crisis now find the nation confronted by just such a crisis and without a convention.

Jefferson warned, and time has proven him so correct, that the American

system has no room for life appointments to such high officials. What was intended to be protection from government has proven to be the greatest danger to our system.

Federal judges were not given life tenure to protect them from criminals or civil litigants before their court, but to insulate them from the power and the pressures of the other branches of government. From that point of view the life tenure made, and still makes sense, but this has been corrupted by Warren and his clique to that point where their imbecilities are the greatest peril our nation suffers today, including Russia and Red China.

More, Ever More

Since the first governments of man were conceived there has never been a time when those in government could not make a wonderful case for giving them more money. There always have been and always will be badly needed public projects that have to wait upon money.

For the first 11 months of the present fiscal year there has been an increase of 11.59 per cent in the overall tax collections of the State of North Carolina. This in industry would be considered a very healthy growth rate, but not for the state.

Governor Bob Scott is insisting on adding more taxes onto those which have produced this \$87,373,419 increase in this 11-month period.

Already approved as this Monday writing is an additional two-cent per gallon gasoline tax, and in this 11-month period a one-cent gas tax already in effect has yielded \$21,317,719, indicating that the

A Talented Man

From our admittedly biased point of view it is too bad that a man of such talent and charm should be lost to Kinston as Max Abbott, but it would be much less than candid to say that we regret his stepping up from the Kinston schools superintendency to become an assistant state superintendent of schools.

To put it bluntly, there was little that Abbott stood for in the operation of the schools that we agreed with. He was not the first, and he is not likely to be the last of the "big spenders" in education, but he was somewhat of a jolt after the long, careful tenure of Jean Booth who got far better mileage out of the taxpayers' dollars than Abbott.

But then Booth was fortunate not to be caught in the flood of federal funds which has caused even such other elder education statesmen as Henry Bullock to go fiscally berserk.

Perhaps with Abbott, as with Bullock it is easier to ride the high tide than to try to swim against the waste, duplication, overlapping and overt extravagance that have been the hallmark of recent years in public schools as federal gestapo agents succeeded in bringing local school officials into meek acceptance of total racial integration . . . and bribing them with their own money, too.

As the history clock ticks it hasn't been an eon ago since there was quite a budgetary hassle on the board of county commissioners because Jean Booth had a publicly-owned car in which he rode about and supervised the city schools. The board of commissioners accepted a car for Bullock, whose schools were a bit more scattered than Booth's. Then Booth had two aides in his office and Bullock had three.

Now the number of vehicles assigned to these respective offices and the number of aides runs into the dozens. The two Lenoir County systems are no different than the other 157 in the state. They are all drowning in money, but 14 per cent of the teachers are not teaching and next to no real help has been given to the actual men and women who are doing the hard daily job of classroom teaching.

In education, like the Mexican Army, the generals now almost outnumber the privates and it's getting worse every year.

increase in highway funds from this two-cent hike will be something in the order of \$100 million for the 1969-70 biennium.

Can government digest such gluttonous bites at the taxpayers' table? Hasn't it already approached the point of diminishing returns in many fields, particularly in education which is consuming 70.1 per cent of all state expenditures?

The slow-to-learn but slower-to-forget taxpayer has been taught the hard and very expensive way that there is nothing synonymous between quantity education and quality education.

The state's present 3-cent sales tax in this 11-month period has yielded \$217,843,986, which is an increase over the same 11-month period of a year before of \$21,068,638. The yield in May of this year amounted to \$20,587,629 from the sales tax, up over \$2 million from last May.

Income tax collections have risen from \$300,382,376 for the first 11 months of last year to \$335,264,791 for the same period this year — an increase of more than \$3 million per month and yet every department of state government is crying for more and more and more.

The end is nowhere in sight, but there is an end, and it will be reached and sooner than some may believe.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS BY JACK RIDER

An eerie question keeps coming back to me on a subject that is now slowly drifting out of the headlines: The Pueblo Incident. During the time when this matter was being given much more attention someone asked me this question: Doesn't it appear to you that somebody on our side wanted that ship to fall in communist hands?

Of course great volumes have been written by backwoods experts such as myself as well as a great deal more by supposedly better informed journalists who have been much closer to the forest; which, of course, brings to mind the old reminder about the peasant who lived so close that he couldn't see the forest for the trees.

The Christian Science Monitor is running an in-depth series of articles by Lt. Edward Murphy Jr., who was executive officer of this mistakenly called "intelligence ship". After reading two of this series of articles it would seem that "intelligence ship" is the most inept phrase in the language that could have been applied to the Pueblo . . . unless the "intelligence plan" from the very outset was to have such a ship fall into North Korean hands; perhaps loaded with some classified information and a lot more classified "misinformation".

It never pays to underestimate, nor to overlook the use of the most clumsy devices in the none-too-gentle art of spreading confusion and discontent among one's potential enemies. The Trojan Horse is as old as civilization, and it still works. In World War Two a high-ranking British officer's body washed up on the South Coast of France, apparently the victim of a sunken ship or a crashed airplane and he had super-secret information on his person which completely fooled the smartest boys of Hitler's gestapo and undoubtedly saved thousands of allied soldiers when the invasion came because that body's carefully conceived misinformation had the Germans prepared to meet the Allied invasion in exactly the wrong places.

Certainly now it would be the worst part of backwoods guessing to try to document so distant and so hush-hush an affair as this on my part, but even a casual reading of these articles by Lt. Murphy, coupled with the other known facts of the Pueblo Affair convinces me that this eerie question is a most valid one. Such things as the dismissal of the charges by the secretary of the navy after a court of inquiry had recommended a court martial for several Pueblo officers, including its captain.

And it might be said simply in passing that since the Pueblo was captured there has been a bloodbath inside Red China that came very near to being a revolution and more recently there has been a series of border incidents between the Russians and the Chinese. Bitter seed planted in evil soil often sprouts into amazing flowers. The Pueblo may have been the carrier of some such bitter seeds.

JONES JOURNAL
JACK RIDER, PUBLISHER
Published every Thursday by the Lenoir County News Company, Inc., 605 North Heritage St., Kinston, N. C. 28501. Phone JA 3-2375. Entered as Second Class Matter May 5, 1960, at Post Office at Trenton, North Carolina, under the Act of March 3, 1879, by mail first class \$300 per year plus 3 per cent N. C. Sales Tax. Subscription rates payable in advance. Second class postage paid at Trenton, N. C.