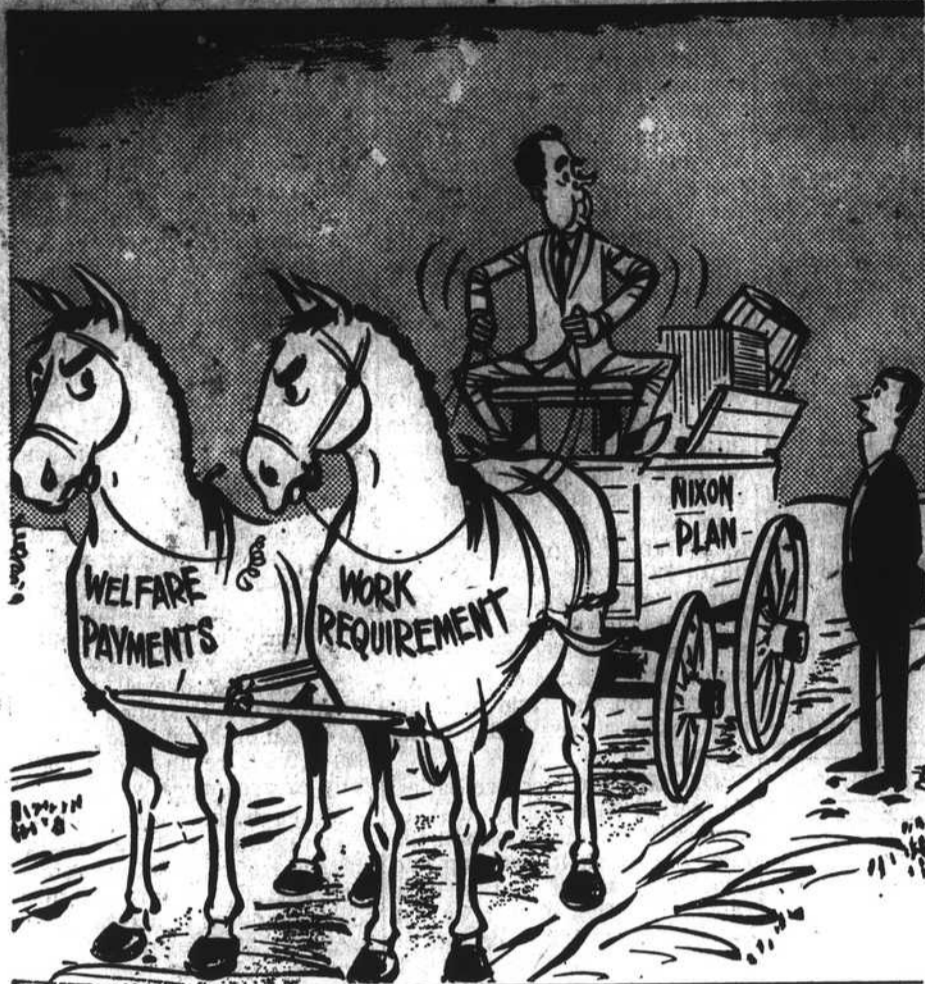


'It's about time they were hitched!'



EDITORIALS

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

The Titled Era

"A Rose by Any Name Would Smell as Sweet."

There is a considerable segment of the body politic spending a great deal of effort testing this theory.

Consider, this week we receive a mimeographed letter from an employee of Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, who shall remain anonymous, since it is his title rather than his royal name that caught our eye.

He is an "external communications manager"!

When this neat tribe of eager young beavers first wormed its way into the executive woodwork they were called "public relations men", but as time passed and these seekers after free advertising proliferated and formed their own little "professional organization" their original nomenclature became too mundane; and so it is now "external communications manager."

The disease, like most proliferations of verbiage began in government. It was government that first elevated the janitor to custodian and more recently to "building superintendent."

And lately we have seen welfare departments re-appointed with official banana oil and their name now a full-blown mouthful "department of social services."

Another governmental bit of hocus-pocus, in my opinion, eliminated one of the most honorable and descriptive titles in all of officialdom: "Farm Agent." To me that title said a lot. It represented a man who was devoting his career to helping farmers realize more profit and more comfort for their labor and investment. But now, alas, the Honorable Farm Agent has become a "County Extension Chairman". Pray tell, what is he extending? The county line, his waist line or his office staff?

Of course the news trade has not escaped this title mania. Reporters have either become correspondents or columnists, a semantical metamorphosis that has

not only automatically adorned them with the once cherished and hard-to-get byline but has also extended the editorial opinion to nearly every paragraph that gets in print. Reporters, whose only interest was the facts, are now about as scarce as the molars of female poultry.

On News Perspectives

If one makes no effort to keep things in a proper perspective it is very easy to become both shocked and saddened at the very thought of people fighting as they are now fighting in Ireland over different approaches to the gentle philosophy of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

But of all the people in the world, we here in the South should be most able to fully appreciate how badly this Irish brawl is being distorted by over-emphasis in the news, and especially in the television coverage it is being given.

Consider, so far only six persons have been killed and very few have been badly hurt in this Londonderry airing of religious intolerance on both the Catholic and Protestant sides.

In recent years we have seen too often how badly a minor racial incident in the South can be blown up by national news media and now the same thing is happening to a religious incident in Ireland.

Last week an Irish official said that the most of the action was taking place when the cameras were turned on.

About 20 years ago, before electronic news became the power it is, when England granted India its independence nearly a million people were murdered in the war that immediately broke out between the Hindus and Moslems. But the vast majority of us were hardly aware of that most terrible season which ended with the partition of that huge land into the Hindu area of India and the Moslem country of Pakistan.

We did, however, hear a great deal

Judicial Hope

Not even two judicial robins are likely to make the spring sun shine insofar as the United States Constitution is concerned. But it does give one more hope than has been possible in half a generation now that President Nixon has named Warren Burger chief justice and Clement Haynesworth associate justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Both are men whose previous record includes service in judicial capacity and whose decisions have been in line with what the constitution says the powers of the judiciary really are.

The replace Earl Warren and Abe Fortas, neither of whom had any previous judicial experience and both of whom were wedded to the concept that the supreme court is the supreme power in our nation rather than the people.

Warren and Fortas both figuratively and literally spat upon the principle that only the people through a three fourths majority of their state legislatures could amend the constitution.

They and their judicial camp followers subscribed to the new school of judicial expediency which believed that the legal process of constitutional change was too slow to meet the needs of a rapidly changing time.

But this was a shortsighted and cheaply ignorant view of the noble design worked out long ago in Philadelphia to protect minorities from the heavy pressure of that transient majority that happened to be in power on any given day.

Many other men have changed their principles when they have reached the upper levels of national politics. Lyndon Johnson is perhaps the most ignoble example of that type who felt that he had to get up early every morning and prove all over again that he did not mean what he had said as a senator on such issues as unlimited debate in the senate, civil rights and many more.

So it is possible that the flame of power may attract Burger and Haynesworth and tempt them to follow the primrose Warren path toward judicial tyranny. But it is more likely that these experienced men have been able to clearly see how the Warren Court permissiveness has unleashed the criminal elements of our society on the law-abiding, how the public schools are being threatened with total destruction by sociological experimentation and how legislative representation at the state level has been brutally corrupted by illegal rulings of the Warren Court that completely ignore all but one phrase of the constitution.

out of Indian Prime Minister Nehru a bit later on the subject of how badly American Negroes were suffering in the South. But Nehru never dwelt at much length on the slaughter of a million of his fellow countrymen in a very brief few months. Not to mention the loss of billions of dollars of property as these people fought their religious war.

If incidents such as that terrible one in India and this minor one in Ireland teach us anything it should be that people are not born to get along peacefully with each other. It is the very nature of nature to be violent. And it is to man's credit that he has been able to rise even a few inches above the basic brutality that dictates the ebb and flow of all life. . . vegetable and animal.

Surely, this does not infer that we should fatalistically accept brutality and strife. We need to bend every effort as individuals and as nations to lessen violent differences but we should be philosophically conditioned to accept the fact that it is an eternal job that will always be plagued with more failure than success.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

There is a great deal of official concern in our country over the continuing merger of big businesses. Many fear that the end is in sight for the small business. I'm not nearly so pessimistic. If bigness were that dominant dinosaurs would be running the world instead of puny little man.

The bigger any business gets the less efficient it becomes. This is an irrevocable rule because size automatically attaches to any business additional layers of workers who cannot make decisions whose interest is totally in payday rather than in doing a better job and turning out more of a better product or service.

Size is necessary in many businesses. Small plants could not possibly build cars to compare with the mass-produced product in price, although small plants can and do build cars that are far better in quality. The same is true of many other products of our technological society. But every time a mass-product comes along it automatically creates a demand for small businesses to bathe and burp that small egg that has been laid by the giant industry.

The millions of filling stations, one-man garages, car laundries and tire stores operated by very small business men are as vital to the huge car-building industry as the biggest plant in Detroit. One cannot long exist without the other.

If size were a guarantee of success Russia with its huge area or China with its massive population would be the dominant nation in the world, but either is far below the United States in any index of excellence, and such tiny countries as Switzerland have the edge in many areas over the colossus of America.

So some concern about conglomerates, mergers and monopolies is proper in a free society, but too much concerned aimed against the size of private business is only a razor's edge away from total control of the nation, since free enterprise is far more basic to individual freedom than even such preached about things as civil rights.

The man who has been given the right to vote, the right to fair trial, the right to equal representation in government is hardly a free man if he cannot seek his living in whichever direction he desires. The man who is tied to a job — by paternalistic government, or by misdirected unionism is a slave no matter what other kinds of civil liberties he can boast.

So, protection of the consumer by threatening the sources of production can be a boomerang that could be far more harmful than helpful.

JONES COUNTY JOURNAL
Jack Rider, Publisher

Published every Thursday by the LENOX COUNTY NEWS COMPANY, INC., 605 North Hermitage Street, Kinston, N. C. 28501, Phone JA 3-2375. Entered as Second Class Matter, May 5, 1949, at Post Office at Trenton, North Carolina, under the Act of March 3, 1879. By mail first zone \$3.00 per year plus 3 per cent North Carolina Sales Tax. Subscription rates payable in advance. Second class postage paid at Trenton, N. C.