

Now to Make It Fit



LAW AGAINST RACIAL QUOTAS

EDITORIALS

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

In 14 More Years

In just 14 more years it will be 1984, and unless there is a major change in the direction of American politics the year 1984 may very well surpass the novel "1984," which chilled millions of readers back in the 40's.

Orwell's frightening study of the all-wise, all-powerful government called "Big Brother" was terrifying in print. It will be worse in practice. And the thing that makes it far worse is that it will be accepted; if briefly.

Fresh from a victory for freedom in the postwar publication of "1984" very few who read its prophetic pages thought it possible that such a valiant people would, or could, possibly surrender so quickly and so suddenly that which they had so recently repurchased at such a high price.

But in 25 years Americans have exchanged some very precious parts of their birthright for a very thin bowl of governmental gruel, and as with Orwell's "Big Brother" it has all been done in the sweet name of "the general welfare." A common phrase of this sell-out has been "common good." This leaves no room for the uncommon, the rare, the talented, the courageous.

Ungraded schools today are a common community pride, rather than the "honor roll" of not-so-long ago. Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) has replaced Phi Beta Kappa as a campus honor. Football — a herd game — has replaced baseball — an individual's game — as the national pastime.

Escapism has replaced individualism. More and more of our youth are hiding behind beards, or a drug-filled fog. The arts have deserted talent and are rewarding gimmickery, or pornography, and occasionally both.

But nothing is permanent in politics. The Romans gave the simple mobs the circus instead of bread and raised debauchery to an art form. Marie Antoinette said, "Let them eat cake." Hitler hypnotized the gentle Germanfolk into werewolves by telling them how super

they were, and by throwing the Jews to the "lions" of scattered concentration camps.

All of these political Elysian Fields have one major thing in common: Their brevity.

They do not last because they overlook the hungers and passions of that lonely individual, who eventually reaches the decision that one day of freedom is worth a thousands years of slavery.

Another Reform

Some of the bright little bureaucrats around Raleigh have persuaded men who ought to know better that there is nothing right with the present state government and all that is needed to make things perfect is to reduce the number of departments of state government from the present 317 departments to about 17. There hasn't been so much horse manure around Raleigh since the horse show last fall.

First off, this fiction about 317 departments of government is not a damned lie, nor a half truth, but is a statistical slight-of-hand act. True there are a lot of names in the state directory of such exotic groups as the State Agricultural Hall of Fame, the Air Control Advisory Commission, the State Arts Council, The Armory Commission, the Museum of Art Commission, The State Art Society, The State Cancer Study Commission, The Governor Caswell Memorial Commission, The Civil Air Patrol, The Edenton Historical Commission and on and on and on.

Since the Council of State has bristled against this intrusion into its affairs, and the governor and his computer operators have agreed to steer clear of those agencies there are only a few areas in which logical consolidations can be made without vastly increasing the cost or lowering the service levels of the agencies involved.

There is no suggestion by the supporters of this "reform movement" that any

Congressional Idiocy

With one hand congress has voted a law which forbids racial quotas in work projects using federal funds and with the other hand they are moving ahead with something that is being called "The Philadelphia Plan" which does exactly what the other hand has forbidden.

This, like many another effort of the government is based in serious good intent, but in complete ignorance of practical facts of life. When any work group is forced to accept conditions contrary to its wishes the results are inevitable: Less work, higher costs and discontent.

This Philadelphia effort specifically is to force more Negroes into construction trades. This kind of federal "help" has already hamstringed many industries and lowered the level of efficiency while increasing the cost.

The Negro who permits himself to be used in this kind of sociological manipulation cannot possibly win. Everything that goes wrong on any job on which Negroes are being used against the wishes of the majority is going to be blamed on the Negro. He will be the scapegoat for every kind of white laziness, ignorance and meanness.

And it is equally true that if the situation were reversed and Negroes were forced to accept white workers on jobs previously confined to Negroes the white worker would become the scapegoat. This is not right, but it is the hard truth.

Fortunately this racial bias is worse in the North than in the South. Here we have been accustomed to working together racially since the history of the South began. We have been separated socially, but always yoked together when work had to be done.

But in the North the Negro is feared by people who have never associated with Negroes. Neighborhoods panic when even the finest Negro family moves in. They fear they'll be robbed in the night, and their daughters raped and their sons assaulted. They judge all Negroes by the criminal element of Negro society that have been turned loose on all society — but most largely on other Negroes — by this pathological mania to help the Negro.

No law, no prayer, no forced employment has ever raised people . . . and it will not raise Negroes now. People rise or sink on their own abilities and the individual willingness to use those abilities to their fullest.

department of service will be eliminated; only that many will be lumped under one heading for streamlining. And this is supposed to make those lost agencies more responsive to the public needs.

Any citizen who thinks he can exert more influence on the state school board than he can on his county school board has just about enough sense to vote for the kind of pig that's in this poke.

All this reform will do as we are seeing now with court reforms is about triple the cost and add nothing — absolutely nothing to the efficiency. The governor will just have 15 or 20 more highly paid jobs to pass out to his supporters but all the barnacles on the bottom of our ship of state will still be there.

The way to effect economies in government is for the general assembly to meet annually and take the time to inform itself about spending and spending requests and stop acting as a limp rubber stamp for the advisory budget commission, which has the most liberal spending "conservatives" on its membership of any organization in state government.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

This week I and every other newsman in the state received a news release from the Interstate Commerce Commission, which announced that the Rose Hill Poultry Corporation and Quinn Wholesale Company of Warsaw had each been fined \$1,000 for violating one of the precious little ICC rules by "transporting canned goods, catsup and paper bags from points in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia to Warsaw without there being in force appropriate motor carrier authority from the Interstate Commerce Commission."

Few of us have any remote notion of the petty ash-shifting to which the federal establishment goes to jack the cost of living up and to make doing business more difficult for those who are willing to work for an honest living. The Rose Hill Poultry Company has an ICC license to haul chickens, but it does not have license to haul anything back after unloading its chickens in the North.

Now why do you suppose such a regulation was ever written? Not to cut the cost of freight. Heavens No! But to keep the price of freight high. The entire federal apparatus is based on escalation of prices. It's the only way government can continue its deficit financing. Each year every taxpayer has to pay a little more taxes or the card castle will crumble. So empty trucks have to return to North Carolina.

But you might say: Why doesn't the Rose Hill Poultry Company get itself an ICC franchise that would permit it to haul canned goods, catsup and paper bags back to North Carolina? Well, getting an ICC license involves an expenditure of thousands of dollars and several years of time. Any and every kind of franchise at the disposal of the federal government is surrounded by a horde of inept lawyers, who'd starve to death anywhere but in Washington. If one goes before the ICC he has to hire — at an exorbitant fee — an ICC type lawyer, who is generally some hack who worked a few years in that branch of government and learned its particular kind of red tape.

And then there are hearings to determine if such a service is needed. All truckers who already have license oppose anybody else getting one. This is natural, and they are armed with their ICC-type lawyer . . . and this goes on for ungodly periods of time.

Then assuming one finally gets the federal franchise: He is sunk in a sea of regulations that in turn have to be "interpreted" by that same Washington shyster, and if you don't grease his palm it's awfully hard to get by his friends at "The bureau" who have the stamp in their hand. If you think this is an exaggeration I invite you to apply for any federal franchise that's on the market and find out for yourself. I found out the FCC route, but they're all basically the same. ICC just happens to be one of the worst.

JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

Jack Rider, Publisher
Published every Thursday by the Lenoir County News Company, Inc., 605 North Herriage 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.