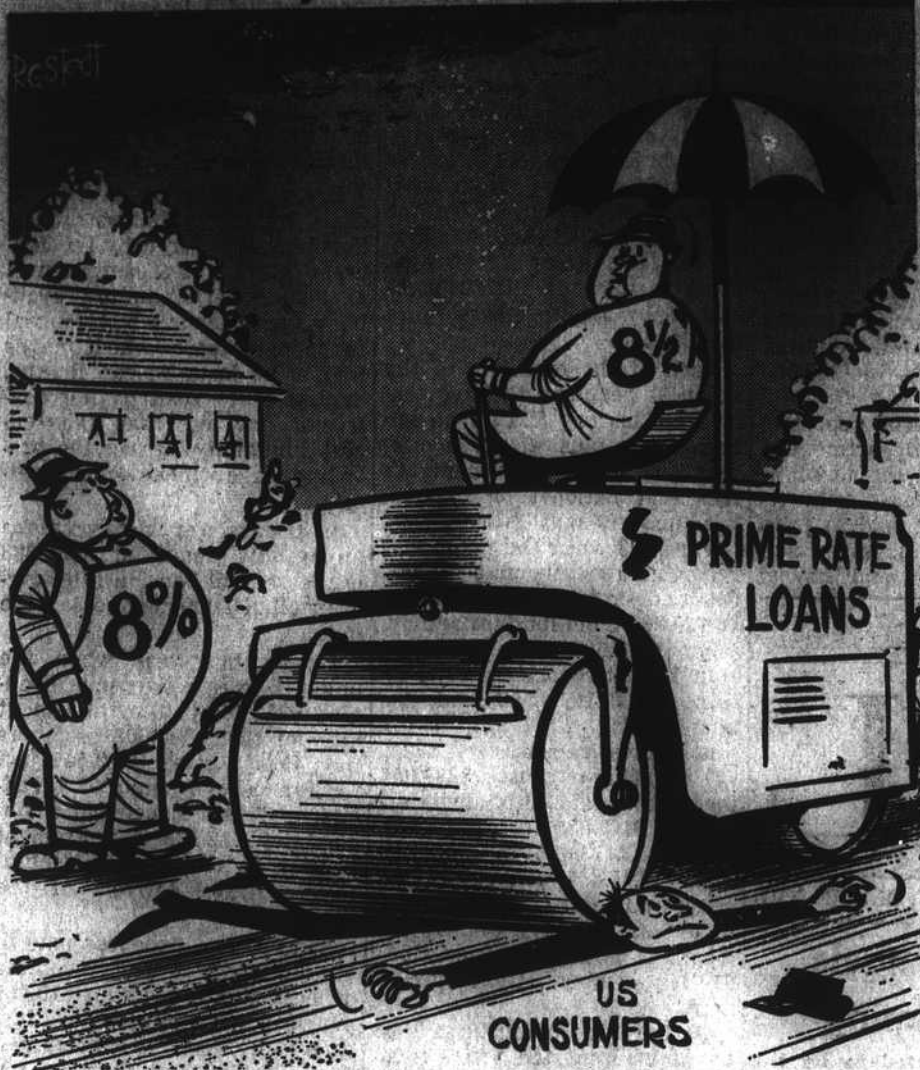


'Guess you can take over now...'



EDITORIALS

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

Bitter Lessons

Monday night a standing-room-only audience in Grainger High School auditorium was given a pointed lesson in totalitarian socialism and School Board Member Felix Harvey learned how it feels to be a Jew in Cairo or a Baptist in Rome.

After more than two hours of wasted time the school board, which had made up its mind two weeks ago, voted to do what it had previously decided to do, which is to install all seventh grade students next year in Harvey School, all eighth graders in Adkin High and all eleventh and twelfth graders at Grainger High School.

This was done over the lone dissenting vote of Harvey, whose prepared statement expressed the view that the move was not in the best educational interests of all the children, and was not necessary under current court and administrative rulings.

The other three school board members who spoke, Ray Jones, John Gray, and John Hooten all repeated over and over again that their personal preference was like Harvey's; one in favor of unfettered freedom of choice. . . but then each of these three attempted to explain why he was voting against his best judgment and according to the dictates of that distant dictatorship in Washington, D. C.

Jones, freely confessed his lack of experience and explained his vote against his better judgment with letters from the North Carolina delegation to congress, all of which were written before last month's statement on this issue by President Nixon, and before some probing comments by the new chief justice of the supreme court.

Hooten assisted by Republican Legis-

lative Candidate Fitzhugh Wallace proved beyond the slightest doubt that lawyers can be the most boring conversationalists since the art of conversation began, as they gnawed the judicial bone completely dry; each, of course, drawing the exact opposite conclusion from the same set of purported facts. Harvey was asked at two points what he meant by saying educational standards would be lowered under the system re-approved last night and he agreed to point out just one of the ugliest aspects; which is that by direction of the school board in the 1970-71 school year the faculty and joint high-school administration must pick four white marshals and four colored marshals.

So much for local government and so much for quality education.

In Our Midst

If there were simple souls who swallowed the frightening myth that marijuana was no worse than a martini events of the past two weekends ought to shake them out of their stupidity.

The capture of two large shipments of heroin in Lenoir County and indictment of three people make it terrifyingly clear that the ugly face of the most deadly of all the deadly narcotics is in use to a degree here in our community that most of us have been reluctant to admit.

Law enforcement agencies are to be congratulated for what they have been able to do, but they are the very first to confess that all they can do is not nearly enough. They are understaffed, underpaid and under-supported both by the public and the courts.

The first narcotics arrests made lo-

Major Crisis

The strikes by postal and air traffic control workers represent a major crisis in the affairs of our nation and unless some immediate solutions are found for this problem it will spread with epidemic force and threaten this complexly interdependent card castle we live in.

At the turn of the century government was finally forced to bring the ruthless Robber Barons of industry under control after they had run over the people and the national resource roughshod for much too long.

Today another set of Robber Barons must have a curb-bit jammed into their mouth or they will devour the country just as greedily and just as blindly as their fellow travellers of a century ago. Nothing separates a Jimmy Hoffa from a John D. Rockefeller except their titles. They were equally ruthless and equally bad for the majority of the people, and ultimately bad for the very people and principles which their ruthlessness attempted to protect.

For a generation now, since the early New Deal days, labor unions have dominated congress, the federal courts and the Charlie MacArthur type board which laughingly is charged with controlling those who actually control it: The National Labor Relations Board.

Untold billions of dollars stuffed in union trust accounts that go very largely unsupervised and more billions thrown into the balance of national and local politics give these fierce union animals of prey more power than is good for either themselves or the nation as a whole.

It is just one more example of one evil breeding another. The blind greed of the Robber Barons beginning with the Civil War and lasting until well into the 20th Century forced the labor they were raping and robbing to organize.

And for a long time the leaders of these newly organized workers were men of great courage and great integrity but in all too many instances today labor unions are controlled by men who exploit the nation and the worker just as ruthlessly as their intellectual kinsmen did a hundred years ago.

cally resulted in not guilty verdicts in local courts — not federal courts — on the thinnest technical excuse.

It is later than we dare think. These peddlers of poison are after our children. . . even after our very civilization. Any brief review of the decline and fall of the greatest civilization ever known prior to our own reveals what a drugged populace very quickly reduces itself into.

The Saracen culture which extended from Spain to India contributed more to science, art, literature and global development than any that existed until the 19th century. But drugs, beginning with marijuana and ending with opium sapped the mental and physical energies of this noble breed in three generations and reduced it to the level so recently seen in which a nation of less than three million (Israel) overwhelmingly defeated the combined forces of a better armed group of nations with more than 45 million population.

Those who try to equate the abuse of alcoholic beverages with the addiction to drugs abuse us with the sophistry that one terrible evil is no worse than another. Alcoholism is a disease. Drug addiction is an acquired habit.

And the direct path to mass drug addiction is public apathy and official acceptance of the myth about marijuana and martinis.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

The union organizers who are at present trying to persuade the employees of Barrus Construction Co. to begin paying union dues have circulated the lie that I oppose this unionization because I am in the pay of Barrus Construction Company. Of course, those who are willing to believe such a damned lie are not likely to be swayed by the truth, but for any who may care to know the truth this is it.

A. K. Barrus, the former owner of Barrus Construction Company, does own \$500 worth of stock in the company which publishes this paper, and the commercial printing company which is owned by the same company has done through the years a small part of the printing used by Barrus Construction Company. The total outstanding stock of this company is slightly over \$19,000, of which my wife and own \$11,800, so the \$500 worth of stock owned by Barrus does not put him in control of this corporation.

But Barrus is one of the best friends I have ever had, and I appreciate his help, his counsel and his friendship, and I highly respect him as one of the most constructive citizens this community has known in my lifetime. And for a lot of reasons, but foremost among these, is that in our long association he has never asked me to write one word for or against any issue or any individual. I flatter myself in believing that Barrus knows very well that I am going to do just like he would do under the same circumstance; which is to try to do what is right, but above all to do just exactly what I want to do and not what anyone else suggests, or asks. So if one wishes to accept that we belong (Barrus and I) to a mutual admiration society, then I assure you that this is 110 per cent correct insofar as myself is concerned and I hope to hell he feels the same way.

So much for the personal relationship of Jack Rider and Alban Barrus. Now as to my opposition to this union. I have never belonged to a union and hope that I can make it through this veil of tears without having a slice of my pay cut off each payday and sent to some socialist union boss in a plush office in Washington, D. C. It's bad enough to have taxes do this, but even worse to have union parasites also gnawing at the sweat of my brow.

But I know there are good unions; unions that have done great good for the workers they represent. But even a quick look at the union that is trying to organize the workers of Barrus Construction Company has convinced me that it is not a good union, and I rest my opinion on just one fact:

Aubrey B. Dixon, who is the chief union organizer here in Kinston, is on federal probation for stealing union funds as the result of his pleading guilty in Federal Court in Charlotte on October 15, 1970, and I say a union that will keep a man on the payroll at \$27,232.42 per year, who has admitted stealing union funds is not the kind of outfit I would want my Beagle hound to belong to.

JONES COUNTY JOURNAL

Published every Thursday by the LENOIR COUNTY NEWS COMPANY, INC., 605 North Heritage Street, Kinston, N. C. 28501, Phone JA 3-2375. Entered as Second Class Matter, May 5, 1949, at Post Office at Tranton, 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 Tranton, N. C.