

Taylor Says Too Much Fuss Made Over Scott's Appointment

Lt. Gov. Pat Taylor says he thinks too much fuss has been made over Gov. Bob Scott's appointment of Eugene Simmons as director of Conservation and Development.

Taylor says Simmons is a good man but he (Taylor) is uncertain if Simmons has a good job. We asked Taylor if Simmons should have been appointed to such a controversial position.

"The Governor is elected by the help of people throughout the State and he naturally appoints those people who help him get elected. President Nixon does this, President Johnson did it and every President we have had and every Governor we have had does it.

"Now, political patronage should end where incompetence or lack of integrity be-

he will announce for the Congressional race after the first of the year.

Meanwhile, Mecklenburg Republican Jim Martin has announced that he will run for Congress from the 9th District. Veteran 9th District Congressman Charles Jonas, a Republican super star, says he will not seek reelection.

One thing you can say about Nick Galifianakis' bid for the U.S. Senate: He seems to be everywhere at once... Many wise politicians believe the race for Lieutenant governor, with Jim Hunt and Roy Sowers as the main contenders, will be the closest on the ballot next May.

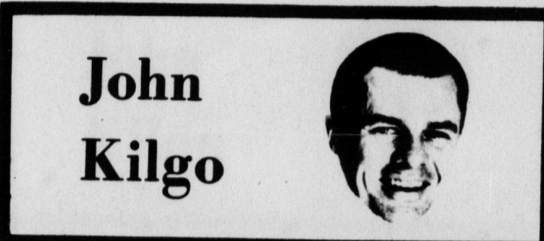
Expensive is the name of the game in Tar Heel politics this year. Skipper Bowles has already spent more than \$40,000 on TV time. It is reported that Bowles and Pat Taylor are taking state-wide polls at this time, s polls at this time, to see how they stack up now that Bob Morgan is out of the Governor's race.

Word continues to circulate that U.S. Sen. Sam Ervin will call it quits when his term expires in 1974. People say the Senator is moving his belongings back to the Tar Heel state. Ervin refuses comment.

gins, but Gene Simmons doesn't fit into either of those categories."

Scott's appointment of Simmons has been sharply criticized by Democratic gubernatorial candidates Skipper Bowles and Reginald Hawkins and by Republican candidate Jim Holschouser.

A delegation of Mecklenburg Democrats has paid a visit to Charlotte Mayor John Belk, trying to persuade him to run for Congress from the 9th District next year. Belk says: "I'm looking at the race very carefully." Jim Beatty says



John Kilgo

"I don't know what's controversial about Gene, except that he has been chairman of the Democratic Party and some people could say that that looks like you're putting politics in here... were rewarding him for partisan politics," Taylor said.

"But the truth about the matter is that every Governor under whom I've served says he is going to take politics out of the Highway Commission. We might as well take the baseball out of the baseball game," Taylor said. "We live in a political environment."



Young Now, But He'll Come of Age Fast Enough!

What Are Policemen Made Of?

BY PAUL HARVEY COMMENTATOR

Don't credit me with this mongrel prose; it has many parents, at least 420,000 of them; Policemen.

A policeman is a composite of what all men are, a mingling of saint and sinner, dust and deity. Culled statistics wave the fan over the stinkers, underscore instances of dishonesty and brutality because they are "news." What that really means is that they are exceptional, unusual, not commonplace.

Buried under the froth is the fact: Less than one-half of 1 percent of policemen misfit that uniform.

That's a better average than you'd find among clergymen. What is a policeman made of? He, of all men, is at once the most needed and the most unwanted.

He's a strangely nameless creature who is "Sir" to his face and "Fuzz" behind his back.

He must be such a diplomat that he can settle differences between individuals so that each will think he won.

But... If the policeman is neat, he's conceited; if he's careless, he's a bum.

If he's pleasant, he's a flirt; if he's not, he's a grouch. He must make in an instant decisions which would require months for a lawyer.

But... If he hurries, he's careless; if he's deliberate, he's lazy. He must be first to an accident and infallible with a diagnosis. He must be able to start breathing, stop bleeding, tie the splints and, above all, be sure the victim goes home without a limp. Or expect to be sued.

The police officer must know every gun, draw on the run, and hit where it doesn't hurt.

He must be able to whip two men twice his size and half his age without damaging his uniform and without being "brutal."

If you hit him, he's a coward; if he hits you, he's a bully. A policeman must know everything - and not tell.

He must know where all the sin is - and not partake. The policeman must, from a single human hair, be able to describe the crime, the weapon and the criminal - and tell you where the criminal is hiding.

But... If he catches the criminal, he's lucky; if he doesn't, he's a dunce.

If he gets promoted, he has political pull; if he doesn't, he's a dullard.

The policeman must chase bum leads to a dead end, stake out 10 nights to tag one witness who saw it happen - but refuses to remember.

He runs files and writes reports until his eyes ache to build a case against some felon who'll get dealt out by a shameless shamus or an "honorable" who isn't.

The policeman must be a minister, a social worker, a diplomat, a tough guy, and a gentleman.

And of course he's have to be a genius....

For he'll have to feed a family on a policeman's salary.

Distributed as a courtesy by the Kings Mountain Police Department, Thomas E. McDevitt, Chief.

reflections

by Rodney Dodson



The aftermath of Christmas the wake of the new year, this is traditionally the coldest period of the year.

Oddly enough, the days following Christmas have seen temperatures rise into the 70's.

For someone who just never quite got into the swing of the holiday season this year, the warm weather really camouflages the reality of mid-winter. After Monday, I was convinced that Spring is just around the corner.

Hard to believe that Christmas has come and gone during the past week, and that Saturday is the first day of 1972.

For the most part, businesses will be closed again Saturday for New Year's. The Merchants Association members are closing shop.

New Year's day seems like a strange day for a holiday. People take the day off, do nothing, made bold resolutions for the new year which are seldom kept or even remembered.

It would be commendable if everyone could make just one resolution, even a small one, and really strive to keep it. What can you do to make yourself a better person in 1972?

This time of year is especially rough on a newspaper. Seems like everything comes to a standstill. Meetings are cancelled or postponed, people are taking days off, and the holidays cut into a work-week.

Speaking of worthwhile resolutions, Sylvia Holmes sets forth a set of challenging ecological resolutions in her Mirror Images this week. I'm going to try them!

Debbie Porter, Kings Mountain High Senior, who was sponsored by the Mirror in the Christmas parade, came into the office Monday flashing a big diamond engagement ring. Congratulations Debbie!

A former resident of Kings Mountain, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bryant of Cherry Grove Beach been visiting their daughter, Mrs. John Harry of Grover.

Mr. Bryant was hospitalized on Saturday night and is in intensive care at Cleveland Memorial Hospital in Shelby.

Joe Rountree, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn R. Rountree, and wife Cindy left Grover on Monday to drive to Fort Syll Oklahoma where they expect to stay for 4 months.



1972's Campaigns

Despite the fact that the 1968 presidential campaign bored or tired most participants and listeners almost to death before it ended, the 1972 campaign will likewise be grim.

From convention time, when the parties make their nominations, until election day in November, the candidates will "save" the nation and the world over and over again - over a period of months. The reason campaigns were originally lengthy was that candidates sought to travel to all sections, that people might see them and hear them, before voting.

There was justification for such campaigns for distances in the country were (and are) vast. There was no radio and no television, and in the earliest days, not even telegraph. Transportation was slow. Today, however, the President and his opposing candidate speak to millions in every part of the country simultaneously by television. He and his opponents travel by air - in a few hours - to any state in the nation.

A time limit of a month would be ample for presidential campaigns. Nominating conventions could be held in the first week in October, or the last in September, and both money and time would be saved. In thirty days, with today's modern communications, every candidate can present his position on major issues to all Americans many times.

The Ecology Fight

The author of a new book, "The Closing Circle", an expert on ecological problems, says the nation isn't making much progress in the ecology field. Dr. Barry Commoner, of Washington University in St. Louis, hails the banning of phosphate detergents in various counties as progress. But he says federal action is disappointing.

The reason national progress is disappointingly slow is hesitancy in Washington, fear that action might adversely affect business and the economy, Commoner believes. He says real progress achieved in 1971 was mostly in the area of state and local rules. Little progress has been achieved on a federal level, where rail transportation is ecologically cheaper than motor transport, in the field of artificial versus natural fibers, throw away items, etc.

In essence, Commoner calls upon the American people to press for real progress on a federal level - in the ecology fight. They must do so in spite of a propaganda program by many major manufacturers, who give the impression, via ads and television commercials, they are waging an all-out fight on pollution. Often these public relations campaigns hide the fact that the sponsoring corporations' products, automobiles, gasoline, etc., are still major polluters, though the degree of pollution has been reduced.

Perhaps the most ironic of all recent public relations campaigns has been that of phosphate detergent industry, designed to convince the public soap is more dangerous when eaten than detergents. The emotional argument was that children eating soap become ill or die but would fare better eating detergents!

NEWS VIEWS

Spiro Agnew, Vice President: "It is essential that the party strive next year to give President Nixon the kind of Congress he needs."

Pope Paul VI, Vatican Pontiff: "In Latin churches there shall continue to be observed in its entirety... the present discipline of priestly celibacy."

Earl D. Rhode, Secretary, Cost of Living Council: "The citizen's role in this program is to rat on his neighbor if his neighbor violated the controls."

C. Jackson Grayson Jr., Price Commission Chairman, on doctor fees: "We were concerned with not reducing the quality of health care in the country."

Mike Mansfield, Senate Democratic Leader, on dollar devaluation: "We think it is a step in the right direction... beneficial to the U.S. economy."

Lester Maddox, Lt. Governor of Georgia: "I'm a little bit of a Democrat. I'm a little bit of a Republican and a little bit of an Independent."



Q. My neighbor, who lost both legs last year, gets monthly social security disability benefits. He can't wear artificial legs, but he would like to learn a trade where he can work sitting down. His friends tell him, though, that he'll lose his social security benefits if he gets a job. Is this correct?

A. Not exactly. The social security law provides a trial work period without loss of benefits for disabled persons like your neighbor. This is an incentive to help them return to work. If your neighbor does start to work and continues to work, his benefits may be continued for up to 1 year. The State vocational rehabilitation agency may help your neighbor learn a new trade if this is possible with his disability.

Q. When my father died 4 years ago, a friend told my mother that she could collect monthly social security checks as a widow at 60. But, the other day I heard that widows can get social security when they're 50. Is this right?

A. Severely disabled widows may collect monthly benefits as early as 50. Others do have to wait until age 60 to qualify for widows benefits.

Have a question about social security and its retirement, survivors, disability or Medicare benefits? See your telephone directory for the phone number and address of the nearest social security office.

Frontier FOOTNOTES
By Gene Cox - Historian, Kings Mtn. Military Park

The British Army

The British organization unlike the fledgling American Army during the Revolutionary War was a well trained and disciplined military force. The existence of a British soldier in the 18th Century was at best, one step above a penal colony. Criminals were usually given a choice between prison and enlistment in the army. The term of service was for three years, however at one time it was for life. If there was a war going on then the three year enlistment could be extended for the duration. Seventeen was the usual minimum age for enlistment but the recruiting Sergeant rarely questioned a promising youth.

The British soldier suffered not only from the arbitrary authority of the regimental Commander, but was forced to submit to the contempt and ridicule of the civilian population. They regarded the army as the enemy of its liberties since the age of Cromwell. The usual punishment of an infraction was flogging: strung up on the halberds (a type of long spear) and whipped with the cat-of-nine-tails. The pay was almost non-existent and there were no barracks. The soldiers were billeted throughout England in boarding houses and taverns. This practice was carried over to America and private homes were also used.

In peacetime, the army was in effect a police force, often called out to maintain order and help the civil authorities suppress riots. Roadbuilding was another means used to keep the soldier occupied. The contempt with which the British soldier was held is expressed in the following common expression used among seamen during the Napoleonic Wars. "A messmate before a shipmate, A shipmate before a stranger, A stranger before a dog, A dog before a soldier."

We might ask why did men voluntarily join the army only to live under these unenviable conditions? The answer lies in the general poverty of the times before the industrial revolution and the advent of the factory system.

Definition
Bachelor: A rolling stone that has gathered no boss.
-Opinion, London.

Geometry
One of life's saddest facts is that a square meal makes people round.
-Herald, Austin, Ia.

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