

Perspective

by Jay Ashley



And once again the forces of good are striving for a more progressive Kings Mountain. Yes, in a never ending effort to make downtown KMA thriving business center the merchants and chamber of commerce have suggested that parking meters be eliminated from the downtown scene. This should be an incentive for the shopper to use downtown facilities instead of driving a long distance to park free.

Some people have the concept of parking meters being vicious back biting instruments designed for the sole purpose of racking the customer with a case of the "screaming meemies." Many a stalwart and robust individual has been reduced to the level of stale whipped cream because of a 25 cent parking ticket.

"Aha" he will say after the first wave of anger has passed, "I'll teach them, I'll shop some where else." So he piles into his car and drives to Charlotte, spending \$2 for gas, a few cents for oil and 15 cents for the Roloids that he will need after spending two hours in downtown Charlotte traffic. This is his way of striking back?

Believe it or not, folks will get more upset over a parking ticket than a speeding ticket. Ask any policeman who has issued both types of tickets, I did and found that many

would rather face a car load of prison escapees armed with Thompson sub machine guns than an irate woman who has just been issued that little red envelope.

So in essence maybe the merchants are doing a far far better thing than appears at a superficial persual. Just think, those frayed nerves and tension headaches caused by the thoughts of a little red flag reaching the EXPIRED mark may soon be made well. The franticness that is caused by scrounging through junk drawers in the house for a quarter to pay the city before the ticket becomes worth a dollar may be a thing of the past.

If the issue of "No Parking Meters" becomes a reality then maybe a vast portion of troubles will dissipate.

I think it would be a dandy idea for the city to proclaim a special "Parking Meter Day" when the dream comes true. Everyone who has suffered from that clock on an iron post will be issued a hack saw and be sent into the streets to pillage and destroy the object of their hatred. People can hang the heads on their belts in a symbolic gesture of victory. Let no meter remain standing. Massacre the oppressor. Rise up you slaves to the money machine, you have nothing to lose but your anxieties!!

Halloween- Then And Now!

Halloween has its origin among the Druids centuries before the Christian era and from the Roman festival of Pomona. Later the church adopted the day as a special one, and the name is of Christian origin, referring to the eve of All Hallows Day.

Druid customs were so firmly entrenched that although the Romans outlawed their observances in both Britain and Ireland during their occupation many of the observances survive to this day. Halloween is one.

To the Druids, October 31st was the end of the year and thus the festival. The Druids also believed this was the time good souls of the dead went into animals, especially the cat. They believed punishment of the wicked could be lightened by gifts and prayers. (The 31st is also Protestant Reformation Day, dating from Martin Luther's rejection in 1517 of the church's teaching that one could buy indulgences for both the living and dead.)

In the United States the day has come to be associated with young people, who gather in goodies in trick or treat calls--a vast improvement over the mischief and destruction of former years.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We know all too well that the mischief and destruction is not all a thing of the past. Each year during Halloween, children are injured and killed as a result of the "fun and games." Halloween must still represent its original ominous symbol, because it seems to bring out the sick and malicious element of society who prey on the innocent. Parents who let their children go out trick-or-treating should accompany them. Children who don't want their parents going with them are a little too old for it anyway.

Personal injury is not the only price we pay for this "fun." Property damage is sometimes extensive even in small cities following a night-on-the-town by vandals. Property owners shouldn't underestimate potential damages, and take all necessary precautions to prevent it.

Nixon & The Press

Despite the daily efforts of the New York Times, the Washington Post and several other leading dailies, President Nixon continues to have the overwhelming support of most American newspaper editors.

What is the case argued daily and with much bitterness and ugly accusations by the Times and Post? They claim Mr. Nixon is a demagogue knowingly flim-flaming the people and the press, his motives being purely political.

To accept the editorials and lines of agreeing columnists of these publications, one must conclude Mr. Nixon is a complete phony. But the nation's other editors don't accept this conclusion. Nor do the nation's voters.

A recent poll of editors by Editor & Publisher, for example, shows 688 for Mr. Nixon and only 38 for Senator McGovern in the presidential campaign. Either the Times and Post are right, or eighteen of every nineteen editors throughout the nation are right.

Viewing the incisive and bitter Times-Post effort, one is concerned over the growth of newspaper chains: if a few chains owned practically all the nation's major dailies, the situation would inherently be a threat to the free press--as are the news operations of the three giant networks in the field of television.

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VIETNAM SERIES

Bowles & Holshouser Keeping Hectic Pace As Campaign Climaxes

KQ SYNDICATE
By JOHN KILGO

Skipper Bowles and Jim Holshouser, the two leading candidates for Governor, are trying to set some kind of a record for personal campaign appearances.

Look at the schedules of both men for a given week and you have to be amazed how either is standing up under the pressure. They start their appearances about 7:30 in the morning and continue until about 10 at night, at which time they have to gather with their workers to review the day and plan tomorrow.

Both men are trying to squeeze a day off every now and then, but even when they try to hide they end up on a hand-shaking tour or talking with aides on the telephone.

When it's over, both men will have to vacation for a week or ten days just to unwind. It makes me nervous just trying to write about

where they go every week.

The North Carolina Democratic Party made about \$30,000 from the Vance-Aycock dinner held in Asheville on Sept. 30... Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate Jesse Helms says polls aren't worth a doodle. In that light, we report to you that a Charlotte News poll showed Nick Galifianakis running ahead of Helms in Mecklenburg and a Greensboro Daily News poll also showed Galifianakis ahead.

However, a poll out of Greensboro taken by Long Marketing Service indicates that Helms is ahead.

Maybe Jesse has a point. Maybe the polls aren't worth a doodle. At least, somebody is going to be wrong in this election.

At least one Elections Board

in North Carolina has issued a warning about the upcoming election.

Bill Culp, executive secretary of the Mecklenburg Elections Board, says it will be well into the morning of Nov. 8 before the Mecklenburg returns are counted.

The reason, according to Culp, is the unusually heavy number of absentee ballots that have been requested.

The law says these ballots must be taken to the precinct where the voter is registered and kept under lock and key until the polls close on Nov. 7. At that time they will be counted by hand before the regular votes are tabulated.

"We have absentee ballots in the thousands out," Culp told us in an interview. "The counting of these ballots is going to delay our returns from Mecklenburg. We'll be lucky to have our returns finished by 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning."

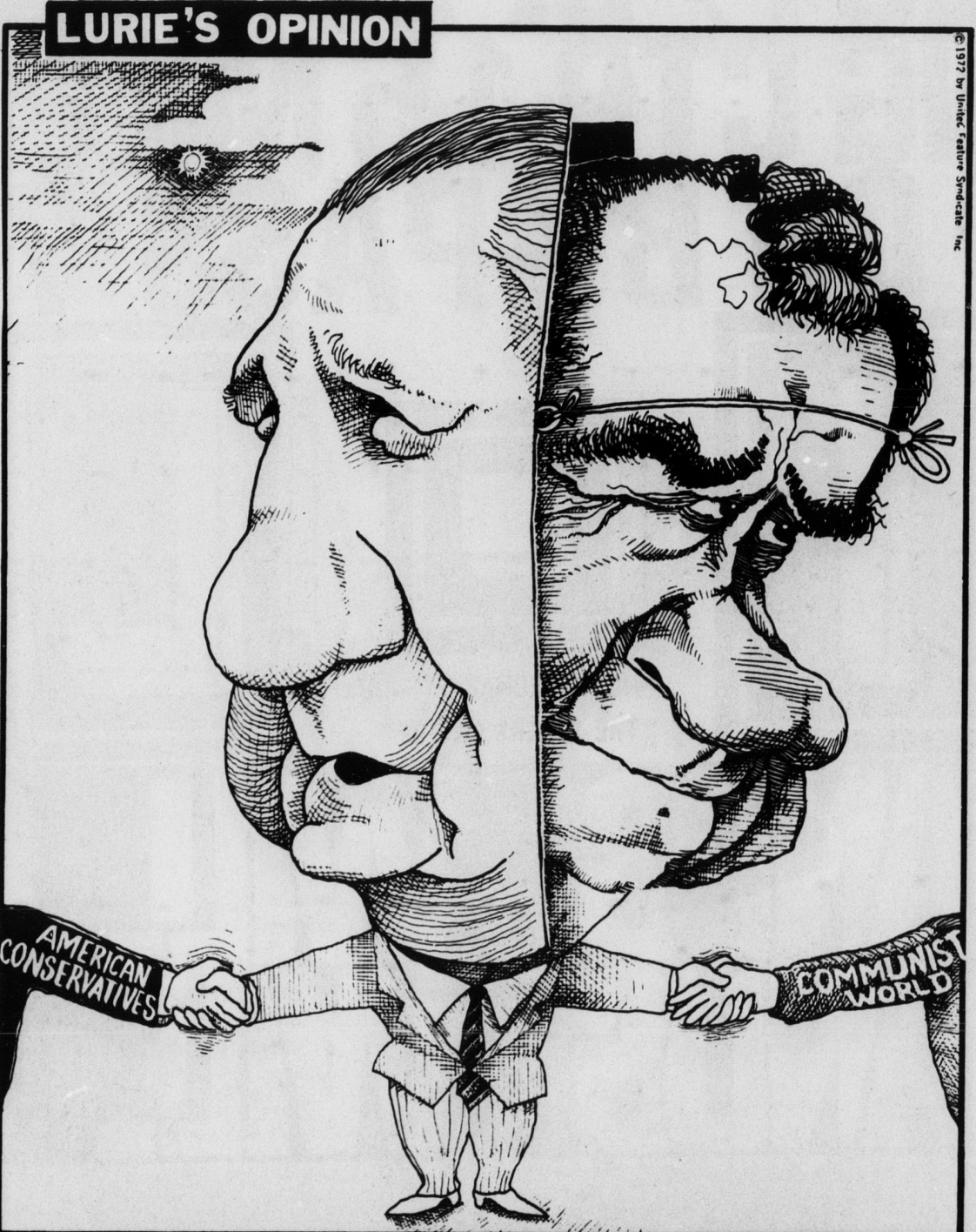
And this is in Mecklenburg County, where every precinct has voting machines.

It's not the kind of thing politicians like to see in print, but it's a fact that some New Hanover Democrats feel they've been snubbed by Skipper Bowles' workers.

The situation was serious enough that Hugh Morton, chairman of the New Hanover Democratic Party, wrote Bowles a letter informing him of the matter.

Morton says he wants to do all he can to push the Bowles candidacy in New Hanover and he told me: "I would have been negligent if I hadn't brought the matter to Skipper's attention."

The bigger the speaker, the smaller the words he uses.



TEAM WORK

Reflections

by Rodney Dodson



Well, apparently the movie cameras are rolling again in KM. Last week the production company of "The Last American Hero" a film about the life story of race car driver Junior Johnson, was supposed to do some shots here on the Lake Montona Road, using the car of local race driver Freddie Smith. It was supposed to be early in the morning, and since there was a heavy blanket of fog when I woke up that day, I didn't figure it would be any point to going out there. I do understand that parts of the movie were filmed at the Concord Speedway. One of the actors in the production is Jeff Bridges, son of Lloyd, and star in "The Last Picture Show."

I've never had any luck trying to attempt anything mechanical, especially when there are directions thrown in to make matters worse, nevertheless every once in a great while I have to prove that fact to myself all over again.

Sue had decided to put some new carpet down in the bathroom, and since the room is only about 5'x5' I decided I could handle one of those put it down yourself kits from Sears. Well the nice little square of bright blue carpet came. It lay in the floor for about a week. I got tired of looking at it the other night and decided to lay it down in a hurry. Glancing at the directions, I could see I had the paper pattern which was supposed to be cut first. I cut it out and the directions said something about turning the rug upside down before cutting it. That made a lot of sense, so I proceeded. Sue was watching me, and both our mouths flew agape about the same time, just as I had cut out a big hole for the commode...I hadn't turned the rug over, which meant the thing would fit all right-with the foam rubber side up! I was in no mood to panic or throw things, so we put the thing down, with the hole for the commode right in the middle of the floor. After a little patching, it was as good as new.

November, 1972

The Wind From The North
Is Strong and Proud,
And pounds on my door
In a fashion loud-

-Anne Lawler.

November was formerly the ninth month in the old Roman calendar and when Pope Gregory revised the calendar it became the eleventh, though its name derives from the Latin word for nine. In American history it is also known as the month in which five Presidents were born.

James K. Polk, 11th President, was born on the 2nd in 1795, in Mecklenburg County, N.C., but grew up in Tennessee, which he represented in Congress and as Governor. He was the first "dark horse" ever to be nominated in a Democratic Party convention, at Baltimore in 1844-while Martin Van Buren was denied the nomination by adoption of the two-thirds nominating rule (which was used until 1936 when supporters of Franklin Roosevelt discard it.)

Warren G. Harding, 29th President, was also born on the 2nd, at a farm in Morrow County, Ohio, in 1865--the year the Civil War had ended. Harding was a dark horse selection at the 1920 Republican convention, after having served in the Senate and as Governor of Ohio. James Abram Garfield, 20th President was born in Cayahoga County, Ohio, on the 19th in 1831, descended from Massachusetts ancestors. He was elected President as a Republican in 1880, and was assassinated in 1881.

Franklin Pierce (pronounced purse), 14th U.S. President, was born on the 23rd in 1804 at Hillsborough, N. H., and served his state in various capacities, resigning a U. S. Senate seat because the pay was insufficient. He was nominated and elected as a Democrat in 1852. He attempted to annex Cuba, tried to pacify North and South, but was not renominated by his party. He became very critical of Lincoln during the Civil War. Zachary Taylor, 12th U.S. President, was born in Orange County, Virginia on the 24th in 1784, preceded Pierce as President. He was a military hero in the Mexican war, son of a Revolutionary War officer of Virginia, grew up in Louisville, Kentucky (then Virginia), and won a great victory over the Seminole Indians in Florida, dying in office in 1850.

November also contains Thanksgiving Day, this year on the 23rd. And it is always election month in the United States.

The first American Catholic bishop, of the famous Carroll family in Maryland, was appointed November 6th (or 14th) in 1789.

U.S. troops landed in North Africa in World War II on November 7th, 1942. Congress met for the first time in Washington, D.C. on the 17th in 1800. Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) was born at Florida, Missouri, on the 30th in 1835.

News Report From Washington

The 1973 Senate-
The 1973 House-
Nixon's Role-
The South-

Washington, D.C.--A recent survey by the Washington Post indicates Republicans have a better chance of capturing a majority in the Senate than had been thought. But the survey sees the House remaining Democratic.

Some had assumed, and still do, that a Nixon landslide would bring the G.O.P. control of the House, but not necessarily the Senate, where only a third of the membership is running or retiring and circumstances favor the Democrats.

But the Post poll shows Republican Senate gains likely in Rhode Island and New Mexico and perhaps also in Montana, Oklahoma, North Carolina and Georgia. In three other Dixie states the G.O.P. is trying mightily to replace Democrats--in Virginia, Alabama and Louisiana.

Since the Republicans need a gain of five seats to gain Senate control, the prospect seems realizable. But, the survey indicates Republican candidates are

seriously threatened in races they must win to hold present strength. These races are in Delaware, Michigan and Texas. They also are being pressed in Oregon, Idaho, South Dakota and Kentucky.

The importance of President Nixon's role in the campaigns in these states is thus evident. Having tried so hard in 1970 to gain G.O.P. seats in the Senate, the President is certain to continue that effort.

If Mr. Nixon can further break the Democrats' traditional hold on the South by helping in Senate races in deep South states such as North Carolina or Georgia, the result is likely to be historic, politically. Until now, South Carolina's Strom Thurmond has been a rarity from the deep South.

In the House, a Nixon landslide might mean G.O.P. control but a gain of 39 seats is needed and most surveys indicate lesser gains for the G.O.P. Here again Mr. Nixon's role could be decisive.

FOREIGN AID MONEY

The Senate Appropriations Committee has approved a \$2.8 billion foreign aid money bill. This does not include foreign military assistance.

ON HOUSING

The House Rules Committee has killed a \$10.5 billion controversial housing bill and voted to defer action on it for the remainder of the Congressional session.