Building Better Relations

On December 2, Peggy Sue and Sonny Wright will be appearing at the Crossroads Music Park for two shows at 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. It will be like any other show except for one It is sponsored by and proceeds go to the Kings Mountain Junior Police.

Why, you may ask, should you go to the show or even support

a bunch of kids who call themselves Junior Police?

For one thing the philosophy behind the organization is to build a good working relationship between the police and the younger set. Teach them what the law is about from the right and not have them learn through harsh experience.

The Junior Police program is not a helter-skelter outfit that meets intermittently on an irregular schedule. Ptl. Tommy King, who has been working with the boys for the past few months, holds the regular meeting on Saturday at 6 p.m. At these sessions the Junior Police not only enjoy the camerad-erie of being together but also learn facts about police and law enforcement. Speakers come in and lecture and questions come fast and furiously from the boys. They want to know what is happening in the world of law enforcement today.

The Junior Police boys, who number 150 strong have the services of 22 motorbikes on which they take outings and learn traffic and driving safely. Most of the materials used are do-nated but not everything and therein lies the problem.

The Peggy Sue and Sonny Wright program to be held is for the purpose of supplementing a meager income. What do they need with the money? Helmets for riding the motorbikes, camping equipment for overnight excursions, gas for the vehicles, boots for riding, upkeep of the bikes, a truck to transport the minibikes from place to place instead of looking all around town for a pick-up truck to borrow. Even a pick-up truck means five trips to transport all the equipment used. Chief McDevitt has said that the police enjoy feeding the Juniors ev-ery other month but of late the suppers have been fewer and

To keep up a program such as the Junior Police funds are needed as well as public participation. A lot has been said lately all over the country about a breakdown in communications between law and the people. The Junior Police offer a bridge to that gap but like any bridge it needs ample support. Go to the shows on December 2 and help these boys as well as yourself.

Get your tickets early for a good seat at the show. Reserve tickets are \$2.50 and general admission tickets are \$2.00. The tickets can be purchased at City Hall or at the MIRROR office.

The DC Vote

If the voters of Washington, D.C., many of them federal office holders, are as out of tune with majority sentiment in the nation as the recent presidential election indicates, many Americans will want to think twice before turning over the site of the federal government, its security, to local inhabitants clamoring for more home rule.

The District of Columbia is owned by the fifty states and there is a good argument for keeping it that way--and retaining Congress' underlying responsibility for the District's government.

District residents now elect their own mayor, vote in national elections and have representation in Congress-all reforms of recent years. There is no compelling reason to move further, to turn over practically full control of the capital site to those who have come there for federal jobs, for the most part--in an idealistic gesture.

Perspective

by Jay Ashley



It pays to know who you are waving at...or...Which way to Florida?

This past Monday a friendly wave led to the questionof three young men at the Kings Mountain Police Department.

It seems as though Lt. David Corn was out in his un-marked car when he preparto cross the railroad tracks downtown. A train was coming so he stopped to let the bigger vehicle pass. As he was idly watching the train roll by he noticed a young guy in one of the box cars watching the Kings Mountain scenery go by. When the boxcar got to the and threw up his hand to Corn in a gesture of care-freeness. The young man was accompanied by two other boys who didn't exactly fit the description of train personnel so Corn radioed have the train stopped. Lt. Johnny Belk and Richard Reynolds responded to the message and began searching the train near Midpines. Reynolds saw one of the young men who prom-ptly exited the opposite direction from our boys in blue. A brief chase ensued and two of the boys were apprehended and finally the third came from hiding. Since the railroad big wigs frown on unauthorized passage on their trains or as is more commonly referred to by those who do it, "riding the rods" the officers took the boys to the KMPD station for questioning by railroad authorities.

One of the "hitchhikers" came from Phoenix, Arizona and one hailed from New York. Seems they have been just about everywhere in the States by railroad. They said they were traveling to Florida and hopped the train in Charlotte. When questioned by the officers of why they had jumped a train when it could be in-jurious to health one of the rugged ones replied, "It's dangerous trying to hitchhike." If everything was known about phantom rail-road riders, statistically he is probably 100% correct. One thing's for sure, they at strangers again.

Then there is Floyd Thornburg, fire chief and general 'gopher' at City Hall who came up to me this week telling about his highly successful turnip patch. Floyd said he went out the other day and pulled one that was so big he took it to the house to weigh it. The gargantuan turnip weighed five pounds. Thornburg says the secret is not to sow the seeds so close together. He had his picture made with his prizes and when he left the office, the turnips remained for yours truly. I just hanturnips can be so now I have five pounds worth of turnip and greens to eat. If I'm able to move after I eat it, I hope to have a report!

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Rouse Expects To Hold On To State **GOP Awhile- Discusses Election**

KQ SYNDICATE By JOHN KILGO

Frank Rouse, who took and retained the chairmanship of the North Carolina Republican Party as controversy swirled about him, tells me he assumes he will keep his present post until next November.

"But nothing definite is settled," Rouse told me in an interview "I'm not used to having a boss and I've got one now That'll be a chan-

Rouse says he and Governor-elect Jim Holshouser have met and talked about things they'd like to see the Party do in the future.
"We were in right much

agreement," Rouse said. "I assume I'll keep the job until next November but maybe we'll have to wait and see." dented move last spring when

he took a leave of absence from the chairmanship to actively support Jim Gardner for Governor in the Republican primary. He said at the time that Gardner could win over a

Democrat, but Holshouser probably couldn't. Holshouser, however, admits Rouse gave him 100 per

cent support once he defeat-ed Gardner. I asked Rouse about Holshouser's ability as a candidate.

"I could give you bookoos of reasons why Holshouser won," Rouse said, "but the overriding reason was because he was totally committed to being elected Governor of North Carolina." Rouse also says "Hols-

houser got prepared to be Governor. Every move he made was to prepare him-self for a job he knew he'd eventually win."

"His looks fool you,"
Rouse said. "He looks younger than his years and some people held that against him. But he's a tough, agressive campaigner. He's

"And if you asked me to give you a key to his success this year, I'd say self-discipline. He's a very disciplined man. He workhard and kept pushing himself."

Many people remained skeptical of Holshouser as a campaigner, but he seemed to warm to the situation in the last six weeks of his campaign against Skipper

"He improved as a cam paigner," Rouse says. "His speaking ability improved

he became confident that he was going to win and he just kept getting better. He was convinced he was going to win and you could tell it after listening to him talk." Rouse contends that Holshouser's campaign never peaked. He says he would

have beaten Bowles worse this week than he did on election day.
The GOP chairman knows, however, that Holshouser won't have an easy job as Governor, especially with a Democratic Legislature as

his neighbor. First, Holshouser has many important positions to fill "with members of our own team."

Says Rouse: "This won't be an easy task. The Republicans have been out of office for so long that we just don't have a lot of people who have had a chance to get experience in some of these government positions.

blems, but Holshouser has been a student of the game. He's prepared himself and know and understand what has to be done." Rouse says he's delighted

that Holshouser and Jesse Helms were able to win in North Carolina.

"A lot of blood was scattered along the trail," Rouse says, "because we worked that hard. And knowing how hard we did work, we can say we deserved the good things that happened to

Republican Jack Hawke, who lost to Ike Andrews by fewer than 1,000 votes in the 4th Congressional District, hasn't quit swinging. A court order has been obtained to impound the Durham votes on that day until the matter can be thrashed out before a judge...Mecklen-burg County is going through a seizure trying to elect a chairman for its delegation to the Legislature. Voters sent six Republicans and from Mecklenburg. The best Knox will get the chairman's

How will the Mecklenburg delegation, so heavily populated with Republicans, be treated by Democratic legis-

"You're gonna have to see it to believe it," said Democratic Rep. Craig Lawing. "But I think you can say they ain't gonna greet us with open arms and I doubt they give us a parade or

Reflections

by Rodney Dodson



It might be interesting to those who follow Country Music that a new success story could be in the mak-Remember the Country Music Festival at Crossroads Music Park last June? Remember those three good looking Radford Sisters from Rutherford County who won the talent contest and a guest appearance on the Ernest Tubb broadcast from Nashville?

Well, apparently some Nashville record people took notice of them. In a recent edition of the Country Music Digest, Editor Jimmie Helms says, "Tom Brooks, country promoter, has some winners in the Radford Sisters...some Nashville labels are already interested in

Elaine Brooks tells me that she and Tom are taking the girls to Nashville on the 26th to tape a Wilburn Bro-thers TV show. "It really thrilis us that maybe this year the Radford Sisters will make it big." They
can be gratified that the
girls first got their exposure at KM's own Crossroads Park.

Will it become necessary have a mini-park policeman? Folks are making use of the park all right, but pulling up the greenery and replacing it with cigarette butts isn't conducive to the beauty of the place. Redevelopment Director Gene White wants to have an outdoor art show in the park this Spring. I think he deserves plenty of support for that. It could be a nice annual event.

Guilty or not! For the benefit of affected readers, those touched by the long arm of the law, or just habitual complainers- when someone's name ends up on the police arrest book, and thus in this newspaper, that's that! I was queried last week by a fellow who felt we shouldn't have printed his arrest, because, as he put it, he wasn't guilty. As I explained, that's a matter to be taken up with the arresting officer, then the courts- not the newspaper. The arrest report is published only as a matter of public record, and we do not point the finger of guilt or innocence at anyone happens to be on that list It's simply a statement of fact- that a charge was

Heir-Apparent?

The national Democratic Party, in shambles thanks to Senator George McGovern and his youth wave, is expected to be taken over by supporters of Senator Ted Kennedy of

There are several reasons for this, one being Massachusetts was the only state carried by the Democrats. But the dominating reason is that so many Democrats think the Kennedy name is an asset in vote-getting. In the final analysis, most politicians and party workers want to win and will go with the candidate they think a likely winner.

Political factors seem lined up perfectly for Kennedy; McGovern was so badly beaten he will almost surely be denied another try. Senator's Muskie and Humphrey of Maine and Minnesota have counted themselves out of further na-

And yet, there are those who feel Ted Kennedy can never win a national election, especially one for President. His responsibility image, according to this theory, is not saleable to the moderate and conservative majority of the nation, though he will surely poll a good vote, as the polls indicate. Only time will prove or disprove this theory.

For the first time in decades there's a long-shot chance Democrats will turn to the South for a presidential candidate in 1976; having lost that traditional bastion this year. They could pick a progressive, moderate and Governor Reubin Askew of Florida seems one likely bet. (Askew says Kennedy isn't popular in the South.)

The young, new-image Floridian who turned down second place on the McGovern ticket, could regain the South for Democrats and likely capture a massive non-South vote, greater than that of George Wallace. He's a proven votegetter. Traditional anti-South prejudice presumably no longer bars southerners like Askew, who is a liberal and a

Church-State

The Supreme Court recently agreed to hear another case in which a state has given church schools tax monies. The case involves New York, where a 1970 law aimed at circumventing the First Amendment to the Constitution barring government help for private and church schools has resuited in the payment of \$42,000,000 to private schools in two years.

After years of avoiding the issue, the high court has been more disposed recently to face the controversial question. In 1971 laws in Rhode Island and Pennsylvania allocating tax monies to pay part of the salaries of church school teachers were declared unconstitutional as expected. A month ago an Ohio law, also designed to circumvent the First Amendment, was struck down by the court; that law provided for the use of tax monies to reimburse parents for certain church-school expenses.

The major impetus behind the effort to circumvent the First Amendment has always come from the Roman Catho lic Church, which runs more schools than any other church and pressure on state legislatures is traditionally heavy in states where there are large numbers of Catholics. In New York a federal district court recently held that the state's 1970 law providing for public aid to private schools was unconstitutional. It is an appeal on this ruling, being appealed by Catholic groups with some Jewish support (most Protestants and Jews traditionally oppose the use of tax monies to aid private schools), which the high court will hear.

The effort to change the historic interpretation of the First Amendment has been a long one. One after another, in state after state, private interests have come up with new interpretations and legalisms they felt would circumvent the amendment as courts and elected officials (including the late John Kennedy) have interpreted it over the years.

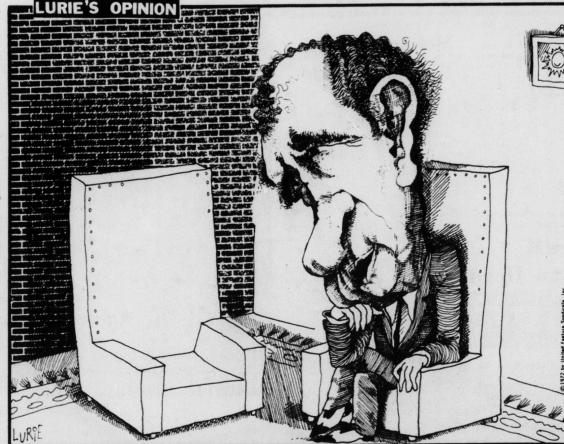
The 1970 New York law, whatever its virtures, is clearly another effort to dig into the public treasury on behalf of church schools. If this is permitted, through a loophole or legalistic technicalities, for political or other reasons, the effect will be the same as that created by a number of state laws already struck down, and the flood gates will be open in many other states for the diversion of public monies to church schools, which is understandably what the schools are after. As much as one presently sympathizes with the financial plight of church schools of all denominations, one feels our tax-free churches (and their tax-free businesses) already enjoy a heavy favoritism and that tax monies should not be turned over to non-public

Best Of Press

It Is

A sense of humor is what makes you laugh at something which would make you mad if it happened to you. -Coast Guard Magazine.

Only One Some think that the Sunday morning church service is like a convention; many families send one delegate. -Texas Topics.



"TELL ME MORE ABOUT PARIS, HENRY"