

Consistent Faith

What happened to the "authoritative source," the "high administration official," the "informed spokesman" and all the other ghostly characters who used to be credited with inside scoops out of Washington?

They were the way of all flesh. Nobody believes anybody any more, so why bother? We've been fed official lies from so many "reliable sources" we could care less these days who says what.

Which brings up an interesting point: Would we believe visits by creatures from other planets if they landed on the White House lawn, the palace guard was there to meet them, and Walter Cronkite read us the official news release?

Until recent months, we accepted the word of our various governments as "official" in the sense that, right or wrong, that's the way it is. We can't be sure of anything now.

Is this a loss of faith, or is it an indication of a maturing populace?

A smattering of both, perhaps. Faith is a positive action. We can believe anything we want to. We are perfectly willing, for example, to embrace a concept such as immortality of the human soul, the everlasting nature of

our personalities, as it were. We find it a great comfort to believe in heaven, and heaven would be pointless without an alternative, hell. To further our "logical" eternal arrangements, we believe in a halfway house, purgatory. We find all this to our advantage; our beliefs enhance the value we place on ourselves.

We are consistent, therefore, in dismissing Dr. Allen Hynek as some kind of nut. An astronomer at Northwestern University, he said flat out that "a craft from another planet landed in Mississippi." He had reference to reports by two fishermen who said they were taken aboard a "fish-shaped vehicle," examined and released unharmed by creatures with wrinkled skin, crab-claw hands and pointed ears.

If we, in our egotism, are eager to accept "on faith" events past, present and future that were, are and will be utterly impossible in a world we know and experience, it is understandable that we will not accept evidence of other-world civilizations advanced far beyond our own.

The reason is simplicity itself: We don't want to.

Power To The People's Pen

In the final analysis, a groundswell of public indignation turned Nixon around. The almost-unanimous public resentment of the president's omnipotent attitude may have been reflected through the Congress, but, nevertheless, Nixon felt the heat more than saw the light.

The Great Capitulation by Nixon that followed his iron-fist handling of his man Cox and his Justice Department people was the first real indication that the president and the executive branch are receptive to public opinion. It was altogether a healthy sign.

But whatever else they may be, those in the legislative branch always are attuned to the folks back home. They depend on the citizens they represent for guidance. They take letters and telegrams seriously; they have people around them who pore over all the newspapers from back home. They want to do what pleases the greatest number of people, because that's the way they stay in office.

It is not idle conjecture to say, therefore, that what you, Mr. Mrs., Ms., Miss Individual American, say

and do—and especially what you write—is the most direct source, if not the last vestige, of government-by-the-people at work.

So why not participate in this process? Why not give your voices in Washington a piece of your mind? Your senators are Sam Ervin Jr. and Jesse Helms. Ervin's address is 337 Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20510. Helms is in the Senate Office Building, same city, same ZIP.

Address mail to your North Carolina members of the U. S. House to House Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515.

These are members of the state delegation, their district and their hometowns: 1, Walter Jones, Farmville; 2, L. H. Fountain, Tarboro; 3, David Henderson, Wallace; 4, Ike Andrews, Siler City; 5, Wilmer Mizell, Winston-Salem; 6, Richardson Reese, Greensboro; 7, Charles Proye, Fayetteville; 8, Earl Ruth, Salisbury; 9, James Martin, Davidson; 10, James Broyhill, Lenoir; and 11, Roy Taylor, Black Mountain.

Parson Jones' Pulpit

DEAR MR. PUBLISHER:

They say there's nothing new under the sun. That may be true, but I think there's a few new wrinkles in some old things. You take, for example, an atheist. He's been around for a long time. And there's always been a few of these brave folks with "heart trouble" who are bold enough to share their faith. (I guess it would be their "unfaith.")

One of these critics in our little community now has started a "Dial-A-Theist" program. This is an honest-to-God fact, or as he would say, an honest-to-God fact. When you dial his number he tells you how there ain't no God, how church members are suckers, and how preachers are in the same category as buzzards.

Mr. Publisher, this man's program is so popular that he has to have two telephones to take care of the business. Fact is, it's getting to be a full-time job now.

I think the poor fella is either suffering from gastritis or ateleaks foot, cause anybody that would spend all his time talking about somebody who doesn't exist has gotta have something wrong. Only a nut goes around talking about nothing.

A good number of the local preachers are up in arms and declare he oughta be impeached or something. Some of the good citizens have come to God's defense and threaten to rip the man's car apart. It's the first time it's ever come to my attention that the Almighty needs a bodyguard.

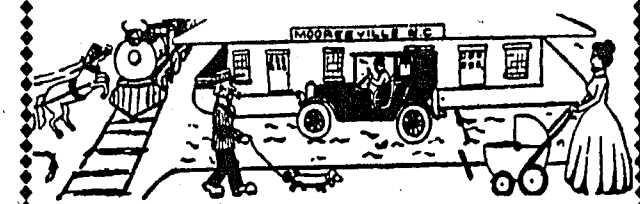
My reaction to the whole thing is a good belly-laugh. The Good Book, over in Psalm two, says that when people try to get rid of Him, He just rars back and laughs. If He think it's funny, I think I'm funny.

Listen, Mr. Publisher, the ole sun up in the sky shines away, not because somebody says it does, and it don't stop because somebody says it don't. The truth just hangs in there no matter what folks say.

Well, I've gotta be signing off for now. I'm gonna have Dr. Charginight go check this atheist. I've got a feeling he might have gallstones.

Yours Truly,
Parson Jones

OUR COMMUNITY



IN OTHER 1922
YEARS... 21 YEARS AGO

The only thing that saved the churches of our city being robbed of their usual Sunday congregations last Sabbath was the fact that it was not known that William Jennings Bryan was to lecture at Davidson that morning at 11:15. Mr. Bryan dropped off at Davidson Sunday morning, accompanied by a grandson whom he wished to place in Davidson College at the opening of the next term. He was induced to give a lecture and word reached Mooresville just in time for a few to make the trip down there in time to hear him. He spoke twenty minutes in the Presbyterian Church of that place, and his theme was "Ali." From this small word he preached one of his customary sermons. He paid a high tribute to Davidson College, having chosen that institution for his grandson for the reason of its religious environments and the excellence of that institution's record.

The Great Communion has lost none of his eloquence and during his brief stay and discourse he held his audience with the same vast attention so familiar on former occasions when in North Carolina.

Misses Rebecca and Mary Beth Davidson left Saturday night where they will very likely make their home. They were accompanied by Miss Minnie Williams, their aunt, who has been keeping house for them since the death of their parents, the late Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Davidson. Mr. Clayton Davidson, their brother, will continue his residence in this city until next fall, and probably longer.

Miss Nona Brawley left last Thursday for Lander, Wyo., where she has gone on a visit to her brother, Mr. Samuel J. Brawley. She was accompanied by her niece, Miss Ruth Brawley. They will remain in the west during the summer months.

All the concrete in that portion of the Mooresville-Charlotte highway between this city and the Mecklenburg line at Davidson College is down and within another ten days the asphalt will be laid and the road opened for traffic. This will complete the first link in the Statesville-Charlotte permanent hard-surfaced road, which is a thing of beauty and a joy forever. One can't imagine how smooth and splendid it is until they have glided over the surface in one of Henry's favorite flivvers. The mixing machine has been sent to Mooresville and the concrete work from there to Statesville is being put down by the R. M. Hudson Company. The concrete base is already down from Shepherd to Ostwald, a distance of about three miles, and the force is going right on toward Troutman, and will reach that point within the next four weeks.

The Chautauqua opens Monday. Mr. W. B. Evans, of Greensboro, spent the week end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Evans.

Misses Margaret White and Patsy Davidson have gone to Davidson, where they are attending the Young People's conference.

Mr. Eugene Hawthorne arrived Monday from Atlanta, and will spend a month here at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Hawthorne.

Miss Alma Culp, who last week returned from Flora MacDonald College, has accepted a position in the office of the McKnight Auto Company.

Misses Mary Howard Turlington and Martha Culp left yesterday for Davidson, where they are attending the Young People's conference this week.

Mrs. A. L. Starr and little daughter, Sara, left Sunday night for Savannah, Ga., where they will visit among relatives for several weeks.

Mrs. H. C. Davidson has returned from a visit of several weeks with her brothers, C. W. Johnston at Charlotte and Ed Johnston at Rock Hill, S. C.

Misses Margaret Templeton, Lelia Gouger and Plato Kelly and Mr. Eugene Houston, of Mount Mourne, will attend the meeting of the State Christian Endeavor Society at Charlotte, which begins tomorrow and closes Monday of next week. These young people are representatives of Centre Church.

Fink Gabriel, one of the bustling farmers of Davidson township, raises the ever-bearing strawberries, and during the past few weeks he has supplied the market with many kinds of the finest berries that have been brought to market this year. They are large and very sweet and elegantly flavored.



Mooresville High's Sophomore Class Officers

The officers for the Class of 1976 were recently elected at Mooresville Senior High School. From left are president Roy Lambert, treasurer Rosalind Lanier, student council representative Charles Walker, vice president Keye Everhardt and secretary Barbara Wilson.



Be brave, Ronnie! It will hurt a little, but it's worth it. No matter how old we are, life requires courage. And we show our greatest courage when we are terribly afraid but fight on through the fear.

Moral courage is sometimes much harder than the physical kind, but whenever we stand up for what our God-given conscience tells us is right, regardless of sneering opposition, we win a shining victory... and we keep our self-respect.

It is never too late to start living courageously. If you are facing a life situation that is draining your courage, why not pray about it in church tomorrow? The Christian Gospels assure us, without a shadow of a doubt, that strength will be given us whenever we need it and as much as we need. Remember that life is not a lonely battle. God is always with you.

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Roberts Funeral Monday



JOHN RAY
Veteran Auto Salesman

Ray Joins Mooresville Motor Co.

John Ray has joined the sales staff of Mooresville Motor Company, according to an announcement made today by Sales Manager Oscar Goodman. A native of Cherokee County, Mr. Roberts was born on March 20, 1896, a son of the late Benjamin Franklin and Margaret Bryson Roberts.

Prior to his retirement, he was employed at Mooresville Mills. Surviving are: the widow, the former Mattie Roberts; two sons, Max Roberts of Concord and John Roberts of Mooresville; four daughters, Mrs. Ralph Hooks of Winston-Salem, Mrs. Dorothy Addison of Gastonia, Mrs. Louise Crye of Mooresville and Mrs. Bill Goodman of Mount Mourne; two sisters, Mrs. Neal Willard and Miss Mary Roberts, both of Greenville, S. C.; and one brother, Bill Roberts of Lenoir City, Tenn. Sixteen grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services for Mr. Roberts were conducted at 4 p.m. Monday in the chapel of the Cavin Funeral Home, with the Rev. Richard Newkirk, pastor of the Fieldstone Presbyterian Church, officiating. Burial was in Willow Valley cemetery.

NCNB Promotes Shirley Flowe In Charlotte

Shirley E. Flowe, a former Mooresville resident, has been promoted to operations officer at North Carolina National Bank in Charlotte.

She has been associated with NCNB since 1955 and has served in several bookkeeping and accounting assignments. She is currently supervisor of deposit accounting.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Eagle, live on route 1 in Mooresville. She has two children, Douglas, 13, and Kelly, 7.

17 Become Nurses Aides

A class of 17 nurses aides graduated October 24 at Lowrance Hospital. The training program, the latest in a series given at Lowrance in cooperation with Rowan Technical Institute, was offered in the Furches Hall classroom on the hospital grounds, where the certificates were presented.

These persons completed the training, which included practical experience in the hospital:

Mrs. Ruth Ewart, Mrs. Fannie Kennedy, Mrs. Vivian Lowery, Frances Lowery, Mrs. Nan Turman, Mrs. Pat Harris, Mrs. Catherine McIntosh, Mrs. Dorothy Lineberger, Mrs. Monique White, Mrs. Bonnie Smith, Mrs. Norma Potts, Mrs. Lugenia McLaughlin, Mrs. Linda Sloop, Kathy Foltz, Mrs. Margie Sherrill, Mrs. Dot Hannah and Mrs. Irene Brackett.

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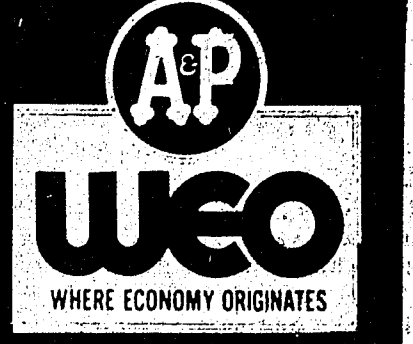
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Others' Words

Nixonomics: From beef to fish to port to chicken to grits.—The News and Observer.

The man with a new idea is a crank until the idea succeeds.—Mark Twain.

You've reached middle age when the morning after lasts all day.—Franklin P. Jones