

Different Drummers

The Christian Science Monitor recently devoted a full page to an in-depth conversation with Katharine Graham, publisher of The Washington Post. Her thoughts constitute the most compelling argument we've read regarding the role of the fourth estate in American life.

In the context of democratic government, we may list the four estates, or sources of power, as executive, judicial, legislative and journalistic. The essential nature of a self-determining press never has been more clearly defined than during the early days of Watergate by The Washington Post.

As Mrs. Graham reminded the Monitor's reporter, her paper stood virtually alone and roundly castigated during the days—and weeks—following the break-in at Democratic national headquarters. Leading the wolfpack howling for the Post's hide was a Nixon Administration smarting severely under the slings and arrows of outrageous truth being unearthed by Post reporters.

Mrs. Graham does not assume the posture of a heroine. On the contrary, she insists her part in the Post's day-to-day trauma of digging and printing was played in one dramatic decision: to do it.

"The awesome thing is," she said, "I could have walked downstairs (to the Post newsroom) and I could have stopped the whole thing by saying two sentences."

As publisher, she was saying, she simply could have told her people to quit the chase, and they would have quit.

Our point is, had she not been free to make that decision, had the Post not been free to keep pecking away at the Nixon Administration armor of "official information" and its indignant insistence that the Post was conducting a "virulent vendetta," how different would have been America's course through this particularly turbulent time?

Too often, those of us involved in the often-routine job of grassroots

newspapering convince ourselves that what we do is of little or no consequence. But we are part of bigger things. In our way, we are as vital to our community as The Washington Post has been to the proper functioning of our national government. And our responsibility to our service area is identical to that of the Post. While we enjoy an open and cooperative relationship with all levels of government, we deal with in the normal course of news gathering, we cannot become lulled into complacency. We, like public elected and appointed officials, are servants of, and responsible to the same public—but, as close and as harmoniously as the two of us may work, we still must step to different drummers.

As nature abhors a vacuum, the fourth estate abhors secrecy; it is repulsive to our nature. Government, by its nature, often finds that going about its business in secret seems to make for a smoother operation. And this does not imply that preference for secrecy denotes wrong-doing. Government officials learn quickly that you can't please all the people all the time. In fact, they're lucky to do anything that sets well with a simple majority. Government, therefore, easily falls prey to the notion that what the public doesn't know can't produce objections. This is the short view. Over the long pull, the public will get half-truths or outright lies that are harmful to all concerned. Newspapers are dedicated to the proposition that we must tell it right the first time.

When people who have established their governments and are committed to supporting them are not informed, they have no way of justifying their support. Freedom requires that free people decide for themselves, and they must have facts on which to base decisions. The role of newspapers, historically, has been to keep watch on government and public officials by telling the people what they are doing. Only so long as this fourth estate is functioning independently can democracy function.

Some Air Into Musty Corners

Three weeks ago, we wondered on this page whatever happened to the Governor's Efficiency Study Commission. Now we know. The 72-member commission made all the front pages last week when it plopped its 218-page report on the governor's desk.

During their three month study of state government, the businessmen and industrialists who formed the commission's seven teams of administrative specialists came up with no fewer than 876 recommendations for change.

The commission struck us as a good idea when it was authorized in January. Its work, taken as a whole, supports our initial impression.

Many of the commission's suggestions are ideas whose time has

come. Most would make for more streamlined state government. A few are impractical ideals, and commission members recognize them as such. One or two are politically explosive.

All in all, the service of the state's private economic sector to state government is to be commended—and taken seriously. The governor, on first scanning of the commission's report, observed that application of the findings would take months, even years.

The major advantage of the commission's work, as we see it, is the fresh breeze it blows into some musty corners of government administration traditionally committed to the status quo. Its purpose was not to suggest change for change's sake, but to come up with alternatives, with new ways to skin old cats.

We think the commission has performed a notable and lasting service for North Carolina, and we commend the state's private business and industrial sectors for their contributions of manpower in the interest of more efficient government.

Parson Jones' Pulpit

DEAR MR. PUBLISHER:

I know you'll be proud of me when you hear that I'm recycling newspapers now. I used to just stack 'em up in a corner until the room was full and then I'd move to another room. That not only took up a lot of space, the bugs and the silver fish almost took over the place. Now I give 'em back to the newspaper company and they use 'em over.

This recycling trend is the best news I've heard in a long time. I even dry my own motor grease now and put it on my garden. Recycling keeps everything in circulation, the way the good Lord intended it to be.

Now, if we can just get church folks to recycle their faith, we'll be in good shape. A fellow told me the other day that he became a Christian when he was 15 years old, but he ain't practiced the faith for 37 years. He said he still had faith, though. Well, I reckon only the good Lord knows for sure, but it seems to me that if he's got faith it must be full of bugs and silver fish. Besides its gotta be smelling awful musty after 37 years of storage.

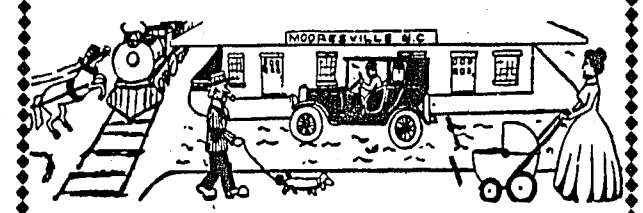
Not only that, Mr. Publisher, but what good is a faith that ain't put back in circulation? I just can't believe that faith is for stacking away in a back room any more than newspapers are. If what we have don't help nobody, what good is it? Who wants a faith that's good for nothing?

Wouldn't it be nice if everybody went into the storage room of their hearts and got out their old faith and recycled it? A doctor could recycle his faith into helping the sick. A politician could recycle his faith into doing what was right for all the people. A mama could recycle her faith into making a home for the family. A mechanic might use his faith to put in new spark plugs when the work order says he put in new spark plugs.

That's about all the news from this corner. The newspaper people just came and this corner is clean. Somebody once said, "Keep the faith." I'm saying "Recycle the faith." Have a good day.

Yours Truly,
Parson Jones

OUR COMMUNITY



IN OTHER YEARS... 49 YEARS AGO

Tuesday afternoon between 2 and 3 o'clock the two young sons, Hugh and Wesley, of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Lohery, who live on Park avenue near Stewart's park, were playing near the swimming pool when Hugh, 3 years old, toppled over into the water. Wesley, who is a little better than 6 years of age, realizing the peril of his little brother, made a desperate and successful effort to save him. The little fellow bobbed up and down in the water several times before Wesley was able to get a hold upon the child's hair. He made a masterful pull and landed the drowning boy safely on the ground. After the rescue the children attracted their mother by their terrifying screams. Mrs. Lohery found the children excited. They had realized in their child's minds that something eventful had taken place. A physician was called and after a thorough examination, the child seemed to have suffered no ill effects from his experience. Wesley, the 6-year-old boy, proved his metal and true instincts in rescuing the perishing. He is the hero of the day. Mrs. Lohery, who had been indisposed for several days, is much better, although her nerves received a shock.

Policemen Robinson and Davis flushed a couple last Saturday night between 11 and 12 o'clock that had just returned from a "hurry up" trip to the mountains. Or at least the mountains got credit for having them as visitors on that particular day. They were riding in a Ford roadster and reached the lower end of town before midnight. They did not tarry, however. The policemen were there to give them a little surprise party, and when they were seen by the men with the liquor a five gallon can was tossed from the car and after running a short distance the men left the car and "took to the tail timbers." The car contains several gallons of beer and liquor, presumably corn. The car is being held for the owners to come and make claim.

It is said by some of those who beaks came in close proximity to the hole in the can, that the liquor would not do to make "nog," if it were permissible to do so. It was all purely accidental, and amicably adjusted without any hard feelings, and it happened somewhat in the following manner: Last Thursday Mr. Robert Edmiston was going out Statesville road near the red barn, and in front of him was Mr. Andy Neill driving a two horse wagon. Mr. Edmiston started to pass the wagon and at the same time noticed an approaching car. He clamped on the brakes, his car swerved, running into the team to the wagon. One mule sustained a broken leg and had to be killed. Mr. Edmiston brought Mr. Neill to town and forthwith sought John McNeely, from whom he purchased a "new" mule and gave it to Mr. Neill. After this had been done Mr. Edmiston and Mr. Neill adjusted all differences and journeyed to their homes in peace of mind.

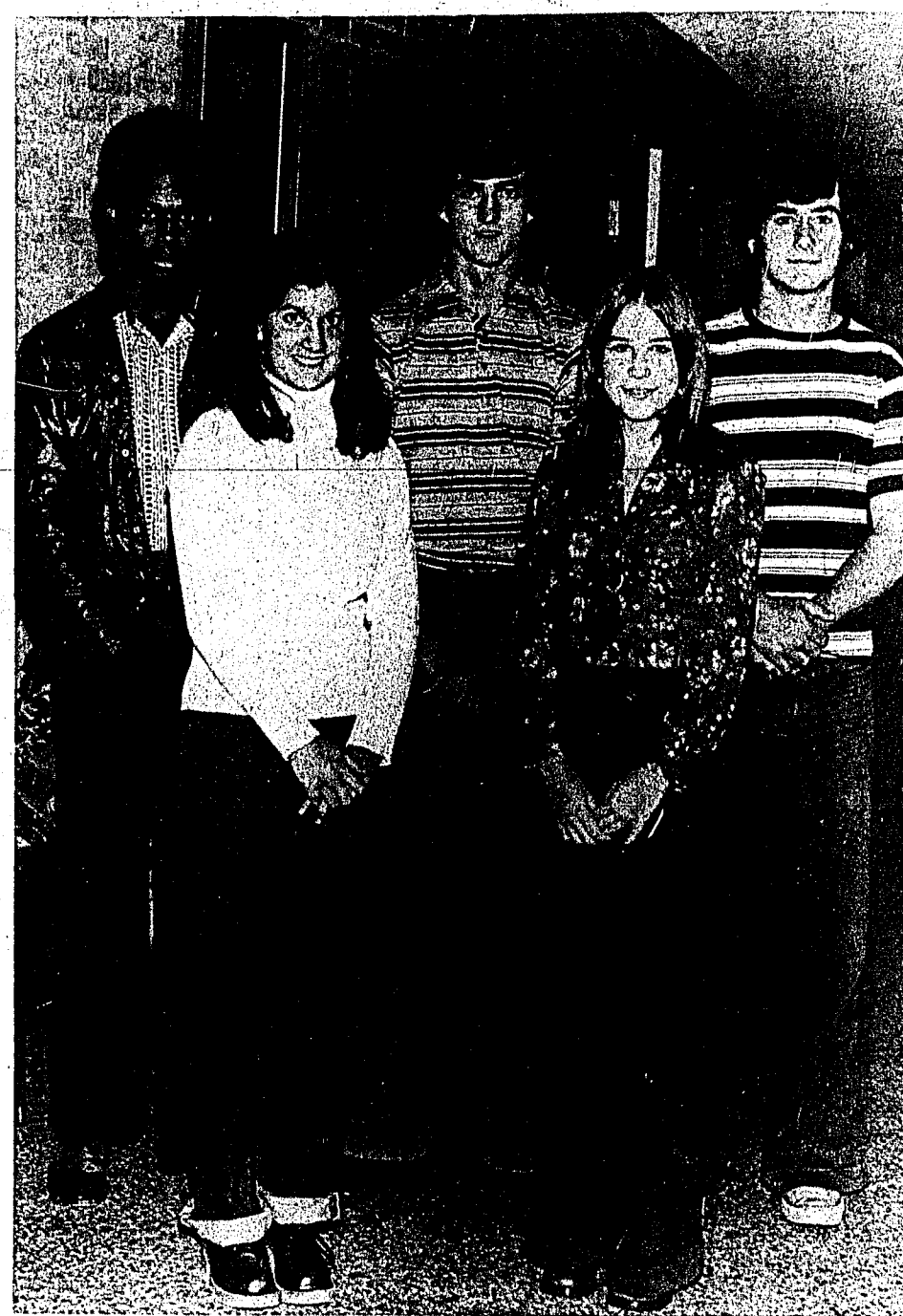
Of course it was tough on the old mule that got killed, but he died a martyr, anyway, for having ventured out on the best piece of highway construction in America.

Mr. G. M. Kipka received a message Tuesday morning announcing the death of a sister, Mrs. Kingswood, at Foster, Ohio, his old home. Mrs. Smith, another sister, is desperately ill. Mr. Kipka left Tuesday evening for Foster.

John White Moore had purchased the American Cafe and took charge last Monday morning. The proprietor has already been dubbed "Dinty Moore," and he will put on the menu "corned beef and cabbage" and assured the boys that Maggie will not molest them.

Franklin Harrison Wallace died at his home on North Main street Monday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock from cancer, having been a sufferer for many months and confined to his home for quite a while. Deceased was 68 years of age, and was a native of Cabarrus county, having been born and reared in the Poplar Tent section. Early in his young manhood he was married to Miss Alice Templeton, of Maysboro, and for thirty years was a resident of this vicinity, having lived in Mooresville a greater portion of that time, his first wife having died many years ago. To this union there are four living children: Mr. Rock Wallace, of Asheville; Messrs. Thorne and James and Miss Nona Wallace, all of this city. He is also survived by his wife, who prior to marriage was Mrs. Funch, of North Iredell. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, conducted by his pastor, Rev. I. N. Kennedy, the interment being made in Willow Valley cemetery.

Mr. Wallace was a kindly disposed man, a friend to everybody and a splendid neighbor and good citizen. For a number of years after moving to the city until a short time ago he operated the Mooresville Bottling Works together with his farming interests. A Claudius Shevill, aged 70 years, 9 months and 5 days, died at his home on North Broad street Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock. He had been sick only a few days and his death was a shock to his numerous friends throughout the city and community. Deceased was a native of Catawba county and moved with his family to this city twenty-five years ago. He was a good man and highly respected.



Junior Class Elects Officers At MSHS

The members of the junior class at Mooresville Senior High School recently elected class officers for the 1973-74 school year. Elected were Denise Mack, student council representative (left); and treasurer Mary Griffith. Back row, from left are secretary Austin Jetton, vice president Jeff Wade and president Bobby Craig.



ALL EARS

Sunday 11:00-12:00
Monday 11:00-12:00
Tuesday 11:00-12:00
Wednesday 11:00-12:00
Thursday 11:00-12:00
Friday 11:00-12:00
Saturday 11:00-12:00

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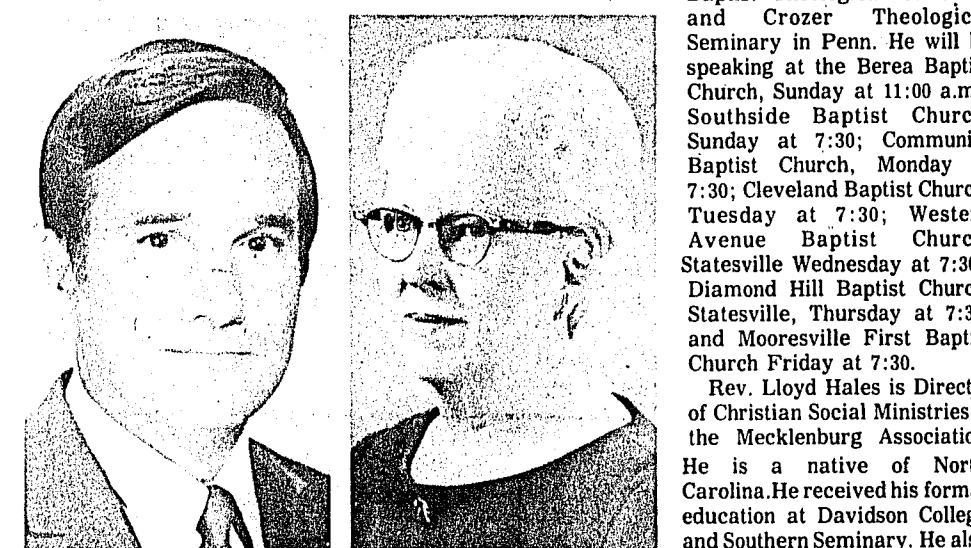
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REV. MARVIN SOUTHARD REV. WILLARD MARTIN DR. JULIUS AVERY

Baptist Churches To Participate In 5-Day Mission Conference

Thirty churches in the South Yadkin Baptist Association will participate in the World Mission Conference (formerly called School of Mission) October 28-November 2. Thirty foreign, home, state and associational missionaries have accepted the invitation to speak in the various churches during the week. Rev. Marvin Southard, Rev. Willard Martin, Rev. Lloyd Hales, Dr. Julius Avery, Mrs. Hubert Middleton, Rev. Jerry Potter and Miss Sarah Frances Taylor will be speaking in the Mooresville area.



REV. JERRY POTTER MRS. HUBERT MIDDLETON

Another Hike Ahead In Retail Milk Prices

Reliable reports indicate the state's major dairies will increase retail milk prices beyond the three-cent per quart hike approved last week for the state's dairy farmers by the North Carolina Milk Commission. Industry spokesmen attribute responsibility for the future price hike in higher commissions for route salesmen, rising production and delivery costs, and increases in the cost of gasoline used in home delivery. In addition, consumers are feeling the pinch generated by the recent price increase for farmers. Jack Garrison of Salisbury, a division manager for Long Meadow Farm, Inc., a dairy firm that has an outlet in Mooresville, said he was awaiting word from the firm's state office in Durham, but indicated Long Meadow's prices would probably be one or two cents higher than the state Milk Commission-approved increase. The Milk Commission is authorized only to fix milk prices at the farm level, but hikes for farmers have traditionally been passed on to consumers. According to Ben W. Kilgore, president of the Raleigh-based Pine State Creamery, the retail price of a quart of milk has risen to 32 percent in the last year while the price paid to farmers has risen 38 percent. Middleton between farm and processor received the six percent difference, Kilgore stated. The three-cent price increase is scheduled to take effect November 1. In December, 1972, the Milk Commission set the price paid farmers for Class I milk at \$7.96 per hundred pounds. It boosted this last February to \$8.29 and again on August 6 to \$8.29. This time, the Milk Commission upped the price \$1.20 to \$10.82 per hundred pounds.

Miss Sarah Frances Taylor will be the speaker at the Southside Baptist Church, Mooresville, on Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. service. Community Baptist Church, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.; Cleveland Baptist on Monday at 7:30; Western Avenue Baptist, Tuesday at 7:30; Berea Baptist, Wednesday at 7:30; Community, Wednesday at 7:30; Cleveland Thursday at 7:30 and Western Ave., Friday at 7:30.

Rev. Jerry Potter is the Director of Deaf Ministries for the Baptist State Convention. Mr. Potter is a native of Mississippi, having come to N. C. in 1952 after his call to the ministry. He will be speaking at the following churches: Diamond Hill, Sunday 11:00 a.m.; Mooreville First Baptist, Sunday at 7:30; Berea Baptist, Monday at 7:30; Community, Tuesday at 7:30; Cleveland Thursday at 7:30 and Western Ave., Friday at 7:30.

FOR WATCH REPAIRING SEE HOYLE SETZER 118 N. Main

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Prices in This Ad Effective Through Saturday, Oct. 27 at A&P WEO in Mooresville. Items Offered For Sale Are Not Available to Other Retail Dealers or Wholesalers.

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Shoulder Roast Bone-In Lb. **89¢** **Chuck Roast** Boneless Lb. **99¢**

"SUPER-RIGHT" CORN FED HEAVY BEEF

Chuck Roast Bone-In Lb. **79¢**

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Colonel Moor's Musings

Frankly, I'm real bumfuzzled about all these UFO sightings around the country. We got a report last week from Sherrilltown of a mysterious light that seemed to be looking for something. I'm not worried about these folks from other worlds hurting us, or causing us to hurt ourselves, but I am concerned about them looking us over and taking off quick. They don't want no part of this world. Maybe they know something we don't.