

Stop The World

How do you feel about the proposed channel tunnel connecting England and France? Folks around Cheriton in Kent, England don't like it one bit. The tunnel terminal would absolutely disrupt their countryside, and their objections are getting international attention.

Name a project—any project at all—and you'll find people for it and people against it. People in and around Cheriton say nobody wants an English Channel tunnel but "politicians and bankers," but millions of people in London and other places removed from Cheriton think the long-dreamed-of tunnel is a smashing idea.

So it is with Marine World. Who wants it? Not people who have invested their lives in homes near the site. Certainly not the comparative newcomers and lake dwellers who came to this area precisely to get far away from the traffic jams, the pollution and litter and all the problems caused by having many people in one place.

The people who own the bulk of the land being considered for the facility are excited about it, and they find all manner of things to say in its favor. They don't live nearby and they won't be living nearby, of course, they merely stand to turn a tidy profit. People who have invested in Marine World want it. They see the park as a way to share in lucrative rewards to be had in the field of recreational services. Service stations, motel chains and others in the business of providing goods and services may be for it or against it, depending on what they feel the park would do for or against their businesses.

There is this about Marine World: It is a private commercial venture,

subject to all the laws of capitalistic economics. Business people who stand ready to pour \$8 million to \$10 million into the project have a most compelling incentive to build the place right and run it right. This should be understood by people who fear Marine World will attract dregs of humanity and destroy the moral fabric of our society.

The only reasonable argument against Marine World is a protest against the inevitable. Certainly it is reasonable to want Mooresville to remain, as one Yankee-accented lady said at last week's zoning hearing, "a sleepy little southern town." It is not reasonable, however, to expect it to.

Mooresville Mayor Joe Knox put the inevitability in perspective at the hearing: "When Interstate 77 came through it was a forgone conclusion this area would grow. We worked to get the interstate moved as far from Mooresville as possible to allow for growth. We've been trying for the past two years to get the state to four-lane N. C. 150 from town to the interstate. If it isn't Marine World, it'll be a trucking terminal or something else. Personally, I feel we could do a lot worse than Marine World."

So do we. And the Iredell County Board of Commissioners agrees, which gave those who spoke against zoning the property for the park the justified feeling they were taking part in an exercise in futility.

But the futility is not in objecting to half a million people a year watching performing porpoises in large tanks of water on what formerly was beautiful, rolling South-Iredell farmland. What is futile is trying to put an arbitrary point in time for the world to stop.

The Golden Age Of Discontent

How many Mooresville "movements" have moved on, leaving not a trace? You can name several, all of whose passings were not nearly so lamented as their births were bemoaned. The life expectancy of "do-gooder" organizations with grandiose designs is such that a ho-hum attitude toward still another one is not unexpected.

We have a feeling, though, that the Iredell Council for the Aging is not your flash-in-the-pan plan for righting the world. We suspect this new bunch will be heard from soon, loud and often. We hope so.

Last week, Donald Stewart of Mooresville announced the council is in the formation-recruitment stages, and that a county-wide meeting at Mooresville A.R.P. Church September 27 will continue organizational efforts. Stewart is a retired minister and an experienced administrator. He is president of the council.

He appeared before the Mooresville Town Board last week to report on the creation and explain the purpose of the council that has been established under guidelines drawn up by the North Carolina Governor's Council on Aging. The president said application is being made for federal backing, and that financial support from all levels of government in the county will be sought.

The Iredell Council for the Aging, though, starting on fairly strong footing. What it needs most right now is public awareness. If people make it a point to find out about the council and its services, council membership will take care of itself.

We predict the council won't lack for members. The people it exists to serve are among the most capable and the most frustrated individuals in our society. If they channel their abilities and vent their frustrations through a Council for the Aging, things will start happening.

Right now there are 25 million people in this country 65 years old or older. By the end of this century, fully a third of the American population will be what we now euphemistically call golden agers. Check that. To call a person who has lived a long time a golden ager is more than euphemistic, it's incorrect. There are happy old people, and there are miserable old people. Probably, there is more unhappy among older people than in any other age group in our society.

On the one hand, it defeats acceptance of old people to designate them as a breed apart. On the other,

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Parson Jones' Pulpit

DEAR MR. PUBLISHER:

We shored up through a lot of fads in this country. We had the butch haircut, the hula-hoop and the long-haired boys. Now, we've got a shortage of hair. We seem to be short on everything. I even see where they're run out of rice in Chinatown. It's the popular thing these days to have a shortage. You ain't nobody till you have a shortage. When beef got so high I couldn't afford it, I used to go in the store and smell it. Now, all I can do is go in and look at the pictures, taste the beef counter is empty.

Eggs are getting as scarce as hen's teeth, which is a foul state of affairs. A real shortage of lettuce is coming to a head. Potatoes used to be cheap and plentiful, but they're getting so high they're gonna knock the starch out of everything.

Some grocery stores are switching to artificial foods. I notice where they've got beef that ain't beef, pork that ain't pork, chicken that ain't chicken, and turkey that ain't turkey. Some stores are mixing their meat with soy beans to make it go farther, but now there's a shortage of soy beans. I guess we have to turn to soup; but with the growing shortage of water I may have to give that up.

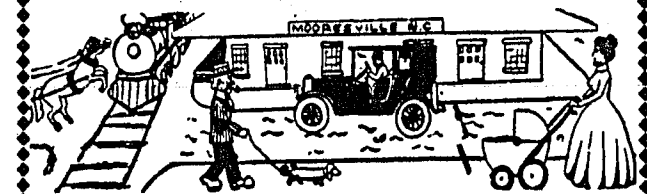
Mr. Publisher, I didn't mind butch hair cuts or the hula hoop, but this shortage fad is carrying things too far. It looks like we may have to turn to Jesus after all. He fed 4,000 people with seven loaves of bread and a couple of fish—and he had a surplus.

I don't understand how Jesus done that, but it still makes more sense than our present economic philosophy. I know Jesus didn't mix the leaves and the fish with 100 bushels of soy beans. He just plain out, smacked-d worked a miracle. It looks to me like Jesus is gonna have to come back and pull us outa this mess.

Well, I've gotta be signing off now and go calling on my members. I can't buy any gas and it's a long way to walk. Is Mr. Publisher, this hole thing is a real gasser. Just remember, April showers bring May flowers. At least that's the way it used to be.

Yours Truly,
Parson Jones

OUR COMMUNITY



IN OTHER YEARS... 22 YEARS AGO

South-Iredell's water tank at the junction was torn down this week, and thus a Mooresville landmark of half a century was destroyed. Located at the junction of Southern's branch line from Charlotte to Statesville and Charlotte to Barber's Junction, the huge smoke-blackened tank gave many a cooling drink to a thirsty traveler over the years. But now that diesels have arrived on the scene the tank becomes obsolete and of no use.

Mr. R. H. Baker, agent at the local station, said that he was sure the tank was built more than 50 years ago, along about the time the railway built its spur line from Mooresville to Barber's Junction.

Anyway, we doff our hats to a passing landmark! The Board of Trustees of Lowrance Hospital met in annual session at the hospital Monday night and made a number of organizational changes.

It was the wish of the group to place more women on the Board of Trustees. Mrs. A. C. Craven, Mrs. Carol Beatty, Mrs. John Matheson, and Miss Margaret Mayhew were elected to membership in compliance with this new policy. Mr. Bill Spencer, of Burlington Mills, was also elected membership to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mr. Guy Byrd.

All community physicians automatically become members of the trustees, and under this regulation, Dr. A. M. Henderson and Dr. L. B. McElroy were welcomed the group.

First steps toward the erection of a new Iredell county hospital at Statesville and the erection of an addition and other improvements at the Lowrance Hospital in Mooresville have been taken by the Iredell County Board of Commissioners.

This move on the part of the commissioners was in compliance with the request of the Medical Care Commission. Sgt. James B. Powers, who does administrative work in the billing office at Ernest Harmon Air Force Base, Newfoundland, writes that Sgt. Richard (Dub) Smith, also of Mooresville, came to the base on secret mission. Sergeant Smith is stationed in South Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wagner, of Drexel Hill, Penn., are visiting their relatives here.

Mrs. L. H. Anderson is spending several weeks with her sister, Mrs. L. V. Blodgett, at Mount Vernon Inn in White Park, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lumpkin, of Danville, Virginia, were week end visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Turner.

Mr. and Mrs. William M. (Bill) Turner, of Charlotte, spent the past week end with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Turner, Sr., at their home on West Center avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Goodman and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rummage spent Sunday afternoon in Charlotte visiting Mr. Goodman's sister, Miss Vernie Goodman. Miss Goodman is a member of the staff at the Thompson Orphanage in the Queen City.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. McConnell spent Sunday afternoon with the latter's sister, Mrs. Henry Gabriel, in Cleveland.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bailey and Miss Sue Bailey, of Lexington, Mr. Bill Bailey and children, of High Point, and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Lipard, of Salisbury, were guests in the home of Mrs. C. M. Wise last Sunday.

Mrs. Julia Kerr and Miss Mamie Nell spent the past week end in Cornelius with their sister, Mrs. B. S. Sherrill, and Mr. Sherrill.

Dr. George I. Wike and children, Georgianna and George, Jr., spent Sunday afternoon with Dr. Wike's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wike, of Lenoir.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Morrow and Donald, Emmett Morrow and Bill Zimmerman attended a district meeting of Frigidate dealers in Bonnore, Va. Monday.

Modern Free-Standing Community

Volume 1, number 1 of Soul City News came across the desk last week. It is an every-two-months paper published by the Soul City Foundation in association with the Warren Regional Planning Corporation, Floyd B. McKissick Enterprises and Health Co., Inc.

You must understand that Soul City is a place. It's in northeast North Carolina, in Warren County, and its ZIP is 27553. In his "Lines From the Developer" in the first issue of Soul City News, Floyd McKissick describes the place in more detail:

"Soul City is more than just another new town development—it is the only free-standing new community in the country being developed by a black owned and operated company."

The developer defines "free-standing" as a community that "must create its own sustenance, its own means of economic, social and cultural survival."

It is to laugh. With the exception of "Lines From the Developer," the maiden issue of Soul City News is given exclusively to announcements of foundation funds, grants, health services, job training and on through the listing of tax-supported services assigned to enable Soul City to stand free and strong.

The Soul City Foundation received three grants within two months: \$98,000 from the Office of Education for a "learning lab"; \$502,875 from the Office of Economic Opportunity to finance Southcoast 1, "an industry incubator"; \$12,500 to secure a "cultural planner" came from the National Endowment for the arts.

In other stories, Soul City News reported that \$1.35 million in state funds had been received toward a \$9 million water system to serve Soul City and nearby communities. The Soul

I didn't know how to tell Billy about the accident. How can you say to your son that his mother is injured and there seems no hope?

I held him close, but could find no words of comfort. Suddenly I heard Billy start to cry softly. I had always felt prayers and that sort of thing up to Mary. I somehow felt it couldn't really help, but I felt myself kneeling with Billy.

Softly he prayed as his mother had taught him. To my surprise I heard him begging plea but rather earnest conversation like that with a trusted and loved friend. "Thy will be done," not hopelessly, but serenely acknowledging the goodness of God's will.

Miraculously, we brought Mary home yesterday, and I plan to spend the rest of my life praising God, not only for her recovery, but also for the faith I have learned from our son.

You can bet that when Mary and Billy go to church next Sunday, I'll be right there with them—singing, praising and believing.



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Social Security

Questions and Answers

Q: Will the Supplemental Security Income payments be made from the Social Security trust funds?

A: No. Federal supplemental security income payments will be made by the Social Security Administration, but the new program will be financed by Federal—general—revenue—income taxes and the like—not by the contributions made to social security by workers and employers.

Q: My husband will soon be 65 but doesn't plan to stop working. I am 63 but never worked very long. Since I am old enough can I draw on my husband's social security?

A: You would not be eligible for benefits as a wife until your husband becomes entitled. Even though you did not work long under social security it is possible that you may be eligible for small benefit on your own account. Call us and we will check it out.

Q: A business friend was complaining recently about the amount of social security tax he had to pay for his employees. He seemed skeptical when I reminded him that much of this came back to him through his customers. Can you tell me how

much money does come into the area in social security checks? A: The latest figures available show that social security payments amounting to approximately \$1,000,000 per month are being received by Iredell County residents. As you have implied most of this money is spent in local businesses.

Q: My maid is 62. She wants to apply for payments and thinks she has to quit work to get them. I would like her to continue, even if only part time. Can she work and get Social Security at the same time?

A: She certainly can. But if she earns more than \$2100 a year, she would have to give up some of her Social Security checks. She should check right away with her social security office to put in her claim.

Q: I was told I had the maximum number of quarters I need for social security. Why don't I get the maximum social security checks? A: There is no direct relationship between the number of quarters you have and the amount of your check. The amount of your check depends on your average yearly earnings.

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Clinics On Beautification Of Homes, Yards Planned

"Beautify Your Home" will be the topic of the day in Iredell County next Thursday, September 27.

An outstanding panel of experts in the field of landscaping from North Carolina State University in Raleigh will spend half a day in Mooresville and half a day in Statesville.

Anyone with questions regarding landscaping their home, transplanting shrubs, rooting cuttings, lawn care, insects and diseases are invited to attend these events. These meetings will involve one hour presentation and two hours of questions and answers. Samples of any plant problem can be brought and obtain an

Funeral Rites Sunday For J. S. Pruitt

James Stafford Pruitt, 66-year-old resident of 721 Spruce Street, Mooresville, died at the Lowrance Hospital Friday, following a long period of declining health.

A native of Spartanburg County, South Carolina, Mr. Pruitt was born on August 10, 1907, a son of the late Rufus and Melissa Walker Pruitt.

He was employed by Mooresville Mills for 38 years. Surviving are: the widow, Mrs. Beatrice Woods Pruitt; one son, Jerry Pruitt of Lenoir, Ohio; one daughter, Mrs. Barbara Crisco of Youngstown, Ohio; five sisters, Mrs. George Fisher of Gastonia, Mrs. Fannie Fisher of Asheville, Mrs. John Smith of Stanley, Mrs. Edward Campbell and Mrs. J. P. Abernathy, both of Belmont; and three brothers, Bryson Pruitt of Gastonia, Floyd Pruitt of Mooresville and Harold Pruitt of Stanley. Four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services for Mr. Pruitt were conducted at 3 p.m. Sunday in the chapel of the Calvin Funeral Home, with the Rev. John Hunter, minister of the First Baptist Church, and the Rev. W. B. Carr, Southside's interim pastor, officiating. Burial was in Carolina Memorial Park cemetery in Concord.

Davidson College has won a first-place award from the American Alumni Council for improvement in annual giving to the college during 1971-72, college officials have announced.

Davidson ranked first among all independent men's and women's colleges in the United States and Canada on the basis of improvement in factors such as number of contributors, level of giving and efforts made to improve giving.

Annual giving to the college's Annual Fund and Wildcat Athletic Fund rose from a total of \$206,436 in 1971-72 to \$406,388 in 1972-73, a 42 per cent increase.

The award consist of \$1,000, which has been placed in the 1973-74 Annual Fund; a Mobius Strip trophy, and a plaque. The award is sponsored by the United States Steel foundation and presented through the American Alumni Council.

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Top Draymore Operator

Mary Deese was one of two Draymore Manufacturing Corporation employees honored recently as outstanding operators during August. Mrs. Deese works on curtain rod hem in Draymore's curtain plant. Operator of the month in the drapery plant was Betty Lall, whose assignment is multi-dot tack. Each month, Draymore salutes top employees in each plant. The choices are made on basis of the employees' attendance, production and quality. Operators of the month receive certificates of achievement and cash awards. The recognition program is one way Draymore expresses appreciation to employees for loyalty and pride in workmanship. (ADV.)

Dr. Jones was on the staff of the University of Florida in Plant: Virology. He was responsible for diseases of ornamentals and turf and fruits at Clemson University. Since 1970 he has had the responsibility for diseases of ornamentals and small fruits at N. C. State University.

Dr. Scott has a varied experience in household, yard and 4-H insect work. He is presently responsible for insect work on ornamental plants. The home owners plant clinic in Statesville will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the First Park Presbyterian Church, 1026 Davie Avenue, from 9 until 12. The clinic will be in Mooresville at the War Memorial Building, hallways, from 2 until 5. Everyone is invited.

Dr. Blake has spent nineteen years at N. C. S. U. in the position of Agronomy Specialist working with turf. He has been involved in research in forage crops. He is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, American Forage and Grassland Council, N. C. Soil Science Society and has published some 35 general articles.

He is listed in Who's Who of the South and Southwest, Who's Who in American Men of Science.

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