

'There's Been Talk He Believes In The Bill Of Rights' Six Rocks In Tar Heel Marked By Vanished Race



By BILL SHARPE
 (In The State)
 THE SIXTH of the known petroglyphs in North Carolina has been rediscovered by Dr. N. Jones, of Newton, a "rockwriting" fan. This is known as the Petty Rock, and was described as early as the 1890's, when the late Dr. J. M. Spain, of Lenoir County sent a report on it to the Smithsonian Institution. Apparently, it had been observed by the first settlers, and it is said an Indian burial ground was near by.

After a search of several days last summer, Mr. Jones located the old Petty Rock in the Yadkin River about three miles below North Wilkesboro. It is a granite boulder about 30 feet long and three to five feet wide, the highest point rising about four feet above the water.

Mr. Jones says the writing on this rock is known as cup-sculpture, which is the simplest type of ancient stone-cutting. The cups are from one to three inches or more in diameter and over half an inch deep. On the Petty Rock they are generally scattered without apparent order. The Newton man says they might be a map or might be a census of the tribe. He counted 23 markings and estimated that erosion might have taken away as many more. They may have been carved by a race antedating the Indians as we know them.

PAIN ROCK
 Five other rocks containing markings have attracted Mr. Jones. One of these is Paint Rock, a cliff on the north bank of the French Broad, right on the Tennessee line.

In 1854, a correspondent "wanderer" wrote an extravagant description of Paint Rock for the Raleigh Register. He said: "The rocks in an unbroken wall are piled one above another rising hundreds of feet into the air, so overhanging the road, which is scarcely wide enough for a horse to pass, as to almost shut him from the sight of day and make him shudder for his safety."

He gazes upon this stupendous pile of rocks, rearing their awful heads far above him, bidding death to the tumbler's heavy bolt and the tornado's fearful power, and stretching so far along the distance that they seem to lock in a full death struggle.

Communism.
 Russia clinched her hold on the satellites, grabbed Czechoslovakia (1948), rushed development of the atom and hydrogen bombs, achieving her first atomic explosion in 1949. And the Chinese Communists took over all of China (1949).

At the close of the war, Communism in Russia alone, ruled 200 million people. Now Communism, Russian and Chinese, ruled nearly 400 million. A solid Red military alliance that stretches from central Europe and across Asia to the Pacific.

Ike's Highway Program Makes Sense

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S proposal on federal highway funds is no exception to the old rule that there are two sides to every question.

Currently, Uncle Sam collects two cents on every gallon of gasoline used by motorists. This nets an annual total of some 900 million dollars. But the federal government has been returning to the states for road-building purposes only some 575 million dollars of this amount.

The federal gas tax is scheduled to drop to 1.5 cents on April 1. Mr. Eisenhower has asked Congress to keep the tax at two cents, and to increase allocations to the states to 800 million dollars—a better cut for the states, but still 100 million dollars a year short of the collections.

On one side of the issue are those who believe that the federal government should get out of the gasoline tax field, and leave it to the states. We have some sympathy with the principle they argue, but there are other factors involved, and they were well stated by Rep. George A. Dondero of Michigan at the recent annual meeting of the American Association of State Highway Officials:

"To repeal the federal tax on gas... would not mean more money for roads, but less. We could not expect the 41 states to add the two cents a gallon to their taxes in order to obtain more funds for building roads. Some states might do so while others would resist the idea... To abolish the Federal Bureau of Roads would result in chaos and confusion. The revenue for general purposes."

No Long End Of The Butter Stick

MAYBE Ezra Taft Benson is not the best administrator in the world. Maybe he is a procrastinator. Surely he will be a political liability, in some states, to the Republican Party. But let it be said that he has the courage to make an unpopular decision when it is in the public interest to do so.

His decision to reduce the butter support price is in that category. We believe he made a sound, albeit overdue decision, and applaud him for it.

The butter case is symptomatic of the mounting surplus problem. Last November the Commodity Credit Corporation acquired, on loans, 3.2 million pounds of butter. In December it took over 11 million pounds. During only the first two weeks of January, the last figures available, it acquired 13.5 million pounds.

During the surplus problem, government loans on cheese and dried milk also increased sharply. The increased acquisition of dairy products was paralleled by that of other agricultural products—wheat, corn and cotton. CCC funds which were supposed to last until mid-July ran out this month. So the government pushed through authority for the CCC to use another 682 million dollars, and it will probably have to ask for at least another billion dollars to take care of loan requests for this crop year.

It's Doggoned Hard To Figure

CHARLIE, the big, friendly collie down the street, and his friend Tinker, who lived in Charlotte before he came out to the county, were talking, as dogs will, by the big willow oak at the bottom of the lot. They started discussing taxes. That subject being much on our mind, we decided to listen in.

"Tell me," said Charlie. "I am a Mecklenburger, and you have been among those city folks. Maybe you can explain to me why they are all time grouching about paying more taxes than my boss and the rest of the county folks do. My boss is so peeved by those arguments, that..."

"Now wait a minute," said Tinker. "Answer me this. Your boss likes to watch basketball games and go to concerts. Reckon he'll be going to the Army-Authorium, which is just a couple miles away, soon as it's finished?"

"Why sure, but what's..."

"And do you know that the city folks put up the money for that, even those who live a lot farther away than your boss does?"

"And remember (Tinker's tail was straight back and quivering now) when your boss took you out to Freedom Park to watch the ducks? Did you know that the city folks pay for all the recreational facilities in town that the county folks use too? And that the city, not the county, pays that part of the cost of the airport? And that just the city folks pay for keeping up the streets, and widening them, and traffic control there in town where the majority of the county folks work?"

"Now, Tinker," said Charlie, "don't get so doggish. Surely reasonable human beings can work out some kind of an agreement. By the way, what ever did become of all that talk about consolidation? If your city friends are so hopped up on tax inequality why don't they set more interested in this county commissioner race coming up, and work for 'consolidation' candidates?"

"I will," said Tinker sadly, "be doggoned if I know."

IT IS TOLAUGH

EVERY TIME we hear a howl of laughter we are envious. Ours never has amounted to more than a "hee-hee" and it worries us.

A fellow can crack the best joke of the month and we laugh, but a real howl we find almost impossible to extort under any circumstances.

There'll always be a place in the world for the person who can roll with laughter. He finds ready company in any crowd of jesters. He is the target of every television comedian. Every comic wants him around. He makes everybody feel good.

Then there's the person who can laugh so hard tears will come to his eyes.

"Katherine, would you tell the class what happens when a body is immersed in water?" asked the science teacher.

"Certainly. The telephone rings."—FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

People's Platform

Hurrah For TVA

But of far more importance to me was the fact that great reserves of health had been established in an impoverished area, and that this great reserve of power, as had the TVA system, made it possible without any public outlay to establish a public utility system, to organize and build a great atomic plant in South Carolina to protect and to defend our rights of freedom. The same is true of the Tennessee plants at Oak Ridge.

In 1925, I was deeply interested in minerals of several salable types and had occasion to go through the areas now covered by TVA. I found silicified rampant, jobs scarce, schools poor, and the people very hungry indeed.

In 1932, I attended the annual jamboree of the North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina mineral groups near Franklin, N. C. I talked very extensively with hundreds of people all over the area the next few days. There were dozens of fine little lakes and general prosperity was the order of the day.

In the area, there are few houses without electricity. Many of the mountain cabins on the high lines are electrified. The happy lives and the certain growth. There are hotels and plenty of motels all around. The mines are being worked, and general prosperity is the rule, all due to TVA.

"Creeping socialism." God forbid such a designation. Now all the hills, the rivers and the valleys belong to our people. The right to improve them, even if it costs money, is our right and our privilege. TVA has advised people how to live better, happier lives and to better Americans. No private power outfit ever has done such things.

TVA has planted fish in the streams that were barren, they have shown how to reforest the mountains and to check the riddle and devastating floods. The happiness of the people is fully apparent and outside money has come into the mountains and the valleys and they are happy and prosperous. TVA is a great thing.

Hurrah for TVA.

—DR. WALDO H. JONES

Court Should Ban Segregation

Editors, The News:
 SUCH men as Roger Williams, John Marshall and Horace Mann were great Americans of former eras. Their genius still adds to the comfort and joy of

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
 THE inside story of how Congressman Ernest Bramblett of California was tried and convicted can now be told. His prosecution during the firing of five Democratic lawyers who didn't want to prosecute this Republican in California. They were overruled by a new Justice Department executive who happens to be a Republican and who ordered the case to trial.

Though Attorney General Brownell has been charged with playing politics in certain cases, his associates certainly did not play politics in this one.

Here is how the backstage story unfolded:

In December, 1952, as the Truman administration was about to leave office, the Democratic central committee of Santa Barbara, Calif., which is part of Bramblett's district, sent a telegram to Attorney General James McGranery, a Democrat, which read in part:

"Drew Pearson has filed with the Justice Department his published charge that Congressman Ernest Bramblett obtained salary kickbacks from his employees. We urge that you prosecute before new administration comes in and whitewashes this."

The telegram went in due course to Charles Murray, then assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's criminal division, who forwarded

Democrats Say No

THE kickback charges against Bramblett were processed in due course, and on Jan. 14, Attorney General McGranery, the outgoing attorney general, ordered prosecution in a letter which he himself signed.

Since only six days remained before the inauguration, it was assumed that Eisenhower was to be inaugurated and Attorney General Brownell took over. It was obviously impossible to prosecute the former eras. Their genius still adds to the comfort and joy of

It was on this chief assistant, Andrew Gohmann, with this note: "Andy, please assume justice will give mercy when our successors take over. Give this the usual treatment."

Murray's confidence in the ensuing Republican administration was not misplaced. They proved more anxious to prosecute a fellow Republican than did certain Democrats.

So he asked for the entire Bramblett file and turned it over to an independent attorney of his own choosing.

New Documents
 THIS attorney turned up several interesting and extremely important documents which had been held out of the abbreviated file which had come across the desk of the new assistant attorney general.

One of them was the signed order by Attorney General McGranery for criminal prosecution. His letter listed several laws which Bramblett had violated. It was emphatic and unequivocal.

Another was a letter that Edward B. Williams, Bramblett's attorney, had called at the Justice Department on Jan. 8, 1953, stating that he was acquainted with Mr. Olney. He was being new in office and being from California, as is

Will Historians Call Big Failure Last Peace Chance?

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON
 TWO tigers moved up close to examine each other again, and again they withdrew to satiate and wait and sharpen their claws.

That may be the historians' description of the Berlin meeting, which began Jan. 25 and ends this week, between the Big Four foreign ministers.

Three of them from the West—United States, Dulles, Britain's Eden, France's Bidault—have talked through four weeks with Russia's Molotov.

Neither side was expected to yield anything. Neither did. In that sense the meeting was not a disappointment.

But history may consider it a tragic disappointment if it turns out this was the last chance the Big Four had to settle their differences peacefully before World War III.

This was only the latest in a series of "peace" conferences since September 1949. There may be others in the years to come.

If that's so, then this one, in spite of the attention it attracted now, may wind up as only a tiny footnote in history.

At the time of the first breakdown over Germany and Austria this country and the rest of the West were practically unarmed. Still, there was a balance between them; this country was no match for Russia in number of men under arms but this country had the atom bomb, which Russia didn't. The bomb was enough to discourage Russian attack in Europe.

In the years since 1946 both sides have built up their muscle, sharpened their claws, pushed and pulled and tested each other with-

GOP Official Forced Bramblett Trial

Bramblett, he took a second look. The five subordinate attorneys who found no favorable consideration in the Bramblett case.

Later it developed in court testimony that Bramblett had phoned his campaign manager John Hardaway, at a critical time, telling him not to worry, that everything was being "fixed."

The omission of these two documents from the file handed to Olney was significant. The McGranery letter, categorically recommending prosecution, showed that the outgoing Democrats were all set to throw the book at Bramblett. The second document, stating that Williams, a reputed friend of Bramblett, asked for favorable consideration, might have led to the conclusion that Olney, the new Republican chief, was fixing a case for a friend.

Olney called in the five Democratic attorneys and fired them. He also ordered the prosecution of Bramblett.

Reason for firing the five attorneys was not that they made a mistake in recommending dismissal of the Bramblett case, but because they withheld pertinent information. The deliberate omission of Attorney General McGranery's letter from the files appeared either calculated to carry out a fix for Bramblett or else to entrain the new Republican into the discredited Democratic charges against a fellow Republican.