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# VIEWPOINT

## It began with Brown

"Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal "

In delivering that judgment 25 years ago this May 17th, a unanimous United States Supreme Court did much more than end legal sanction for racial segregation in public schools. It initiated a chain-reaction restructuring of American society of which the end is not yet in sight and may never be seen.

To call the Brown vs. Board of Education decision a landmark is to understate the case by quite a bit. It could be argued that no other single act by any branch of gover. ment in modern times has had such a profound and continuing impact upon the nation.

Brown, while socially revolutionary, at the time appeared deceptively simple. It reversed the 1896 "separate-but-equal" Supreme Court decision justifying racially based school facilities on grounds that such in principle deprived one section of the population — blacks — of 14th-Amendment rights to the "equal protection of the laws " The immediate effect was limited to 21 states and the District of Columbia where school segregation was institutionalized on either a compulsory or permissive basis

But that was only the beginning. Brown, perhaps as much as any other single event transformed the initially placid presidency of Dwight Eisenhower into a civil rights high noon and a time of testing for the national conscience. It led to federal troops at Little Rock, George Wallace blocking the door at the University of Alabama, decades in which race and rights were the dominant issues in national politics, and a quarter of a century of continuing litigation that has given rise to new issues of a far-greater complexity

The initial testing of and resistance to Brown was in the South But that battle, although sharply fought in many instances, was in retrospect brief The South adjusted more rapidly to the fact of Brown and with less social dislocation than other sections of the country with significant racial divisions

The frontline has long since shifted, primarily to the Northeast and Midwest where a means — busing — designed to achieve the end of desegregation has become in itself an even more explosive issue There are those who will argue that busing, and therefore Brown, bears the major responsibility for the deterioration of urban public education. And as a result, by accelerating the flight of the professional and largely white middle class to the less-troubled schools of suburbia and exurbia, has contributed greatly to the decay of the central cities

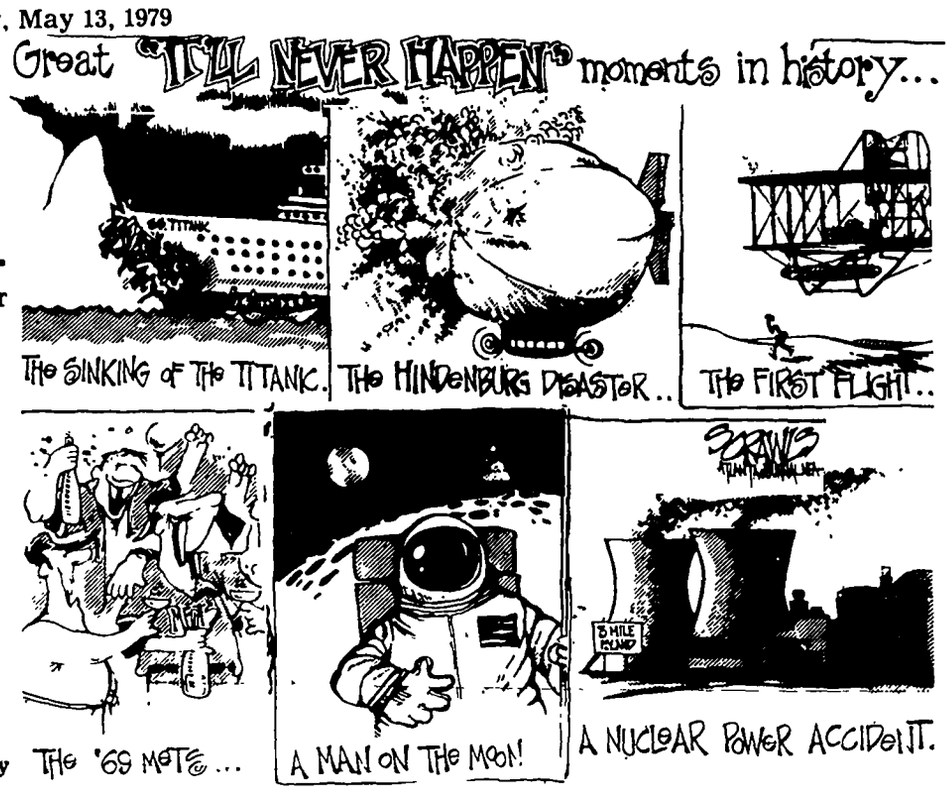
At the very least, the busing controversy has enflamed urban politics and added a new dimension to the racial problem. And as an example of the problems arising from the practical implementation of principle, it has given many once-firm supporters of integration cause to question their depth of commitment.

The youngest child of Brown is so-called "reverse discrimination" which has already reached the Supreme Court in another landmark case. Allan Bakke's celebrated and successful effort to gain admission to medical school by invalidating the quota system favoring minority applicants is only the beginning of what promises to be prolonged judicial testing of multitudinous affirmative action programs in education, business, industry and government, the origins of which can be traced to Brown.

In short, the impact of Brown goes on and on and on. It is, in the opinion of J. Harvie Wilkinson III, author of a current book on the subject, "From Brown to Bakke", much more than a legal and social landmark.

"Brown may be the important political, social and legal event in America's twentieth-century history," he writes "Its greatness lay in the enormity of injustice it condemned, in the entrenched sentiment it challenged, in the immensity of law it both created and overthrew."

To say the least.






Martha Angle and Robert Walters

## IN WASHINGTON

### Free and easy oil prices

WASHINGTON (NEA) - The good news (relatively speaking) is that the legal price of gasoline, heating oil and all other petroleum products is spiraling upward at a dizzying pace

The bad news is that the illegal price, charged by fast-buck artists willing to risk violations of federal law, is soaring even higher — but government efforts to apprehend and prosecute those criminals invariably are too little too late

The sorry state of the federal law enforcement program is vividly illustrated by two documents that surfaced here recently but went virtually unnoticed, possibly because the officials involved wanted no embarrassing publicity

The Justice Department's first complete listing of all cases referred for prosecution by the Department of Energy (DOE) contains 22 separate allegations of criminal activity, many of them involving multiple defendants

The charges involve illegal falsifications of invoices, price lists, transportation charges, sources of crude oil and various official certification documents

Other allegations include conspiracies between refiners and resellers, operation of "daisy chains" to illegally boost profits and improper efforts to gain special oil allocations.

The suspected criminal activities have occurred throughout the country, in Florida, California, Colorado Georgia Illinois, Kansas, New York, Oklahoma Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia

DOE was created in the autumn of 1977 With only two exceptions, however, none of the criminal cases was even referred to the Justice Department until late 1978 or early this year

The oldest case on the list dates back to mid-1976, but it still hasn't come to trial Another case goes back to late 1977 but wasn't concluded until last month, when four oilmen were sentenced to prison terms by a federal judge in Tampa, Fla

On the same day, a federal grand jury in Houston indicted four petroleum companies and five oilmen on charges of participating in a "daisy chain" scheme That case had been referred to the Justice Department almost a year earlier

The situation isn't much better within DOE, according to the newly issued annual report of that department's inspector general

"Programs totaling billions of dollars are being audited only glancingly," says that document, referring to a lack of oversight "in program areas where the possibilities for waste, fraud and abuse are the greatest "

To monitor all energy programs, including transactions worth billions of dollars, DOE has an investigative staff of exactly 21 people, with 17 at headquarters here and one person each stationed in Tennessee, New Mexico, Nevada and Washington.

In contrast with DOE, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has 80 field investigators and the Agriculture Department has a field investigative staff of 241 people.

DOE is supposed to regulate the prices at which multi-national oil companies are allowed to transfer crude oil from their overseas-based producing affiliates to their domestic refining subsidiaries

But the inspector general "learned that DOE had published maximum allowable prices only for the period (from) October 1973 through May 1975," says the report "This meant that the department had no way of determining overcharges which may have occurred since May 1975 "

Although the lack of more current ceiling prices could result in hundreds of millions of dollars worth of overcharges being passed on to consumers, DOE agreed to update its list of allowable prices only through the end of 1976

Despite the warnings from its own inspector general about the potential for price gouging, the department displayed no inclination to establish maximum allowable prices for 1977, 1978 and 1979 As a result, the major oil corporations are free to set their own prices for international transactions.

## Safety Valve

" ..park permits..."

EDITOR, News-Press In 1978 the legislature passed a law requiring that effective April 1 all motor vehicles entering state parks and recreation areas be required to display a valid park entry permit

The money generated from the sales of these permits is used to improve park facilities throughout the state Currently, the permit is required through October 31

The Riverview Marina composing of 40 acres adjoining the Missouri river is a state recreation area and a valid park entry permit is required to enter this area

Signs to this effect are prominently displayed at the beginning of state property and in several other locations throughout the area. Anyone driving his vehicle into this or any other designated state area without the required permit attached to his vehicle is in violation of the law and is subject to arrest

The cost to operate a guard station at the entrance to sell permits is prohibitive at this time as park permits are available wherever hunting and fishing permits are sold. A person should purchase his permit before he drives his vehicle into the area.

The vast majority of people driving into the marina do have the required permit which has been reduced in cost from $7.50 to $5 this year

Cooperation from the public has been excellent. Also, many big improvements have been made in the marina this year — new paved road, remodeled restrooms, temporary boat dock installed until the new permanent dock arrives in 60 days, and others

This is a beautiful little area for outdoor activity and should all be proud to use and help maintain it Everyone's help and cooperation is certainly appreciated.

**ED KREJCI**
State game warden

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## The Prayer For Today From The Upper Room

He took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them saying, "This is my body." (Luke 22:19 RSV)

PRAYER: O God, give to each of us a sincere but simple expression of faith. May our love not become a burden but constantly prove to be enthusiastic and spontaneous as we participate in the building of Your kingdom. Amen.

*AS TIME GOES BY*

## Property value set

FORTY YEARS AGO
1939--

Central Power Company set the value of its local property at $1 3 million in a brief filed in federal district court in Lincoln Plans were announced for improving conditions at Dead Man s Crossing southwest of Nebraska City 11 persons were missing after the collision of two fishing vessels off the coast of Nova Scotia Actor John Barrymore denied charges that he had tried to kill his fourth wife who was divorcing him

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
1954

The Nebraska City Board of Education learned that its long-range planning should include a new high school building A Community Chest drive was being planned for the city The Rev A F Rinne was named pastor of the Nebraska City Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church The State okayed 14 miles of new paving on Highway 50 from Syracuse to north of Tecumseh

TEN YEARS AGO
-1969--

Roger Oviatt won the Athlete of the year award from the Nebraska School for the Visually Handicapped A jet plane crashed two miles north and a mile east of Palmyra Harry Vondrak was named the Elk of the Year Approximately 2,000 attended the Lourdes Senior High production of "Up With People" Jack Hobbie son of Mr and Mrs Don Hobbie was awarded the athlete of the year at the Pioneer-NSVH athletic banquet as the Pioneer winner

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Welcome Wagon

Mrs. Robert (Marian) Dickey Phone 873-7176



**Ivan D.E. Beaumont** — **THE BUCK ENDS HERE**

# Talent is found

**The plant —**

Thanks to Mrs Bernard Lukowski, Nehawka and Mrs Don Mason for the tips on the African Violet plant.

The plant was a door prize from the Otoe County Farm Bureau It had a difficult beginning under my care, but is beginning to show signs of glowing life.

Those growing tips include Don't water the leaves. keep the soil moist; if possible keep it in a humid area and most important I learned, keep it out of the sunlight. My plant is on a desk top 10 feet from the nearest window Earl May Co., you don't know the talent you're missing

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**The baker —**

David "Bo" Swift, the new owner of Zipp's Bakery in Nebraska City, is rolling out the dough long before most of us even think about getting out of bed

Bo says he could open later each morning, but to do that he'd have to get some of the pre-mixed stuff and that's a no-no in his caliber of business

"I mix everything from scratch," he said "Customers can tell the difference and they like the real thing."

We have to attest to his quality and our timing on a recent Saturday morning trip down the alley The rolls with all the goodie-goodie frosting were still warm

News-Pressers enjoyed them why not Bo says they're calorie - free Snort, snort

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**DECA students —**

Robert Rathe directs a program at the Nebraska City school that probably doesn't get a whole lot of recognition but does a whale of a lot of good for boys and girls and business people.

Mr Rathe ramrods the DECA program That's the class where students have jobs and must report to employes and to Mr Rathe In other words, they've got to make the grade in and out of school

Thank you to Mr Rathe and his students for another fine year The News-Press has participated in the DECA program for many years and we hope to do it many more years

Our DECA students this year were Mark Johnson and Larry Keran

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**Emergency room —**

The young, good looking blond nurse in the emergency room at St. Mary's hospital was holding both of the patient's wrists when Dr Madison entered

"You don't have to hold both wrists to check his pulse," the doctor instructed nurse Pat Gude

"I'm not holding his wrists to check the pulse," Pat said. "I'm holding them to check his impulse "

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**The hole —**

Art Sweet writes from Sun City that he didn't believe the hole in the alley behind Frazier's was an old cistern It was probably the old subway

"When the Cleveland store was over on 8th and Central (now Frazier's) there was a subway between the basement of the former Nebraska City Savings and Loan (where Mercer's is now) and the Cleveland store

"Cleveland's had their grocery store in the S&L building. There was a beauty shop and some other things on that level The late Frank Hall continued to run the grocery in the S&L building for some time "

Thanks, Art, for the update The Sweets hope to be in Nebraska City for Marguerite's 50th anniversary class reunion at NCHS I'd tell you what Art said about the gas shortage, but this is a family newspaper

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**The Livingstons —**

Marjory: Our bank balance is so low I don't know whether to pay the doctor or the utility bill "

Vern "No big problem, dear Pay the utility bill. The doctor can't shut off our blood

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**Respect for Law —**

Thanks to Optimist Kevin Kreifels for serving as chairman of the annual Respect for Law Week Kevin is a sergeant with the NC police department and he introduced FBI Agent Tom Martin of Lincoln

Eight local law enforcement officers attended the meeting and heard Agent Marlin speak of crime fighting on a national basis

### Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, May 13, the 133rd day of 1979. There are 232 days left in the year This is Mother's Day

Today's highlight in history·

On this date in 1607, colonists from England landed near the James River in Virginia and began to build a little fortress community that became Jamestown — the first permanent English settlement in America

On this date·

In 1846, the U-S Congress declared that a state of war existed between the United States and Mexico.

In 1865, the last engagement of the Civil War took place at Palo Pinto, Texas.

In 1915, the United States protested to Germany against the sinking of the British liner, Lusitania, and the loss of American lives.

Today's birthdays: Former boxing champion Joe Louis is 65. Singer and composer Stevie Wonder is 29. Democratic Senator Mike Gravel of Alaska is 49. Dance and theater critic Clive Barnes is 52.

Thought for · today: Whatever you have, you must either use or lose — Henry Ford, auto manufacturer, 1863-1947.



## HEALTH

Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

### Tic douloureux

By Lawrence Lamb, M.D.

DEAR DR. LAMB — I am the unfortunate sufferer of trigeminal neuralgia. I have had it for three years now since I was 75.

I take medicine for relief but the drug seems to be losing its potency. What triggers this condition? I'm told there's no cure and that the culprit is the fifth nerve and if you take it out, the face will be deformed permanently. Please give me your opinion and also if the medicines I'm taking will be harmful.

DEAR READER — Trigeminal neuralgia is also known as tic douloureux. This term refers to sudden attacks of severe pain. The pain can be so severe that a person literally feels knocked to the floor. The lancinating sharp pains extend usually into the jaw. They may be precipitated by brushing teeth, touching or any number of different minor stimuli.

Some cases can be managed with medicines but even the most effective medicines don't work in all cases.

The disorder is caused through some abnormality in the sensory nerves that supply the head and face area, which as you've said are from the fifth nerve. Cutting these nerves will cause problems such as numbness or even paralysis. For that reason newer techniques have been directed toward isolating the pain fibers in the nerve and destroying those electrically. This has been very successful in many patients and the most modern techniques usually do not leave any significant residual such as muscle paralysis or numbness.

The procedure involves inserting a fine needle into the various branches of the nerve during surgery. By the patient's response the pain fibers are separated from the fibers for other functions. The goal is to destroy only the pain fibers and not damage the fibers for other functions.

More recently another procedure has been added to things that can be done to relieve this difficult problem. The nerve fibers appear to be trapped between two arteries. These arteries become hardened as you get older and beat against each other with each heartbeat. They work on the entrapped nerve fibers much like the two blades of a pair of scissors. It's the hammer, hammer, pinch, pinch of the nerve fibers that irritate them to the point that they become painful and sensitive

The latest approach has been to surgically lift the arteries away from the nerve and actually put in a little padding with synthetic material to cushion the nerve from the beating of the arteries.

I do not know whether either of these operative procedures could be used successfully in your case, but I do want you to know that there are things that can be used for people to provide relief from this very difficult problem. Perhaps you should see a neurologist, a specialist in nerve disorders, and he could give you some specific advice as to what could be done to give you some relief.

EPILEPSY ISN'T just something you inherit. A large number of new cases occur each year secondary to head injuries, as in automobile accidents. Readers who want to learn the truth about epilepsy can send 50 cents with a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope for The Health Letter number 10-8, Epilepsy: You Can Have It Too. Send your request to Dr. Lamb, in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 1551, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019.

## Berry's World




*"Little lady, kindly tell the congressman ah'd like to talk to him 'bout th' windfall profits tax on oil companies."*