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FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1950

ASKING FOR TROUBLE

AN ARTICLE elsewhere on this page by Mr. Gibson tells why the Mecklenburg County Commissioners declined to follow a 1948 law governing magistrates and elected instead to follow the cruder old system...

It was not the first time that 'Jaypee Justice' had broken into the news in North Carolina in an unfavorable light. Year after year, in this county and others, unavailing operations have been uncovered which pointed up the need for revising the ancient system...

ANOTHER 'STUDY' IS LAUNCHED

WITH the permission of our little readers, we will be back and wait for the results of the Joint Duke Power-City Government study of bus service before waxing too enthusiastic.

What is new about this study, when you get right down to it? First, a new note of harmony has been struck. The City Council and the Duke Power Co. are humming the same tune for the first time.

USE BOTH BARRELS, SENATOR

VIROGINIA'S Harry F. Byrd, self-appointed watch-dog of the Federal budget, is probably the best informed man in Congress on wasteful expenditures and deficit financing.

CRIME AND SAUCERS

THERE was more than coincidence in the fact that two stories about radio's irresponsibility made the papers on the same day. Way out in Norman, Oklahoma, Chairman Wayne Coy of the Federal Communications Commission called on radio and television to "clean house" in the matter of crime programs and "lively stable humor."

NOT FOR LESSER MEN!

WE NOMINATE Dr. Robert A. Millikan for the Order of the Turing Storm. If there isn't any such order, one ought to be invented. If the award isn't as famous as the Nobel Prize he already holds, there are many who would like to make it so.

Treasury instead of into the magistrate's pockets. They would be appointed by the resident Superior Court judge, instead of being lumped together in that legislative monstrosity known as the "omnibus bill" which biennially names hundreds of Jaypees all over the state.

Mr. Gibson cites three reasons why the Commissioners spurned this new law: 1. Paying salaries and providing space for several magistrates would establish an unnecessary department of the County Government.

We would suggest respectfully to the Commissioners that they take another look at this new magistrate law. They have been given an opportunity to correct a system which has given off bad odors for many years.

People's Platform

THEIR letter is written in appreciation of the articles on North Carolina current candidates for the United States Senate, Bob Reynolds and Senator Frank P. Graham. I think both of these men are grand, but I cannot say enough for Senator Graham.

Church Editorial Praised

I WANT you to know that I thoroughly appreciate the editorial "The New Church" in your edition of March 12. Although brief, it was to the point and about the best article I have read in some time in the secular press concerning the Church.

Thank You, Mr. Jones

THAT was a good job you did on your editorial issue of March 14. (Editorial: "A School Problem" and "Back to the Schools.") More power to you.

'Culture And Collards'

THE coming fall discussion on the subject of "Culture and Collards" in support of the North Carolina State Symphony Society, is an event of which I am a devotee.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

FOR some time there has been a running, private debate all important question of the State Dept. over the make a new, dramatic peace overture to Russia.

Marshall Said No

THIS sentiment was behind Truman's move for a conference with Stalin two years ago. The President had made a point to a friend, "I could just get to talk to Joe Stalin. I think we could stop a bit of the trouble. Stalin is a reasonable man."



A Plug For Senator Graham

MR. ROBINSON: I have been reading your article on Senator Graham and am glad to see you are so full of praise for him.

Nothing Like It!

I AM spending six weeks in Titusville. The fishing is the good and the temperature around 85. But best of all is the Charlotte News which I receive each morning.

Mint Concerts Popular

CHARLOTTE: The developing musical as well as numerically? I remember when some of you older citizens sat together many years ago with the writer, when the world-famous Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra visited our city to play in the Army.

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'Past—Is She Gone Yet?'

MECKLENBURG was one of 24 North Carolina counties empowered by the last General Assembly to abolish the fee system for justices of the peace and limit the number of these magistrates who may operate in each county.

Commissioners Spurn Law To Regulate Magistrates

By RALPH GIBSON. The County Commissioners, however, elected to continue the old system of letting the justice collect a fee for each conviction he hands down.

Scholar-Genleman Acheson Object of GOP Attacks

By MARQUIS CHILDS. operation. On one occasion almost single-handedly he beat back an attempt to abolish the ECA appropriation. But Dirksen has reverted to isolationism and embraced with gusto the anti-Communist bias in the conduct of foreign policy.

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Members of the five-man board felt that (1) paying salaries and providing space for several magistrates would establish an unnecessary department of the County Government; (2) the salary a competent magistrate would ask would be too heavy a drain on the treasury; and (3) the board would have sufficient control over the few justices of the peace in Mecklenburg who make active use of their commissions.

Under the 1948 law which the Board rejected, the Commissioners would have been given power to say how many magistrates the County may have. They would fix the salaries, and demand the same strict reporting system as in effect.

Another power given the Commissioners is that of fixing the place at which the Justices of the peace would sit to transact business regularly.

At present magistrates have jurisdiction only in the township in which they hold office. Under the new law, they would have county-wide jurisdiction.

Now the magistrates are appointed either by the Governor or the Legislature, or elected in the various townships. There is no limit on the number of magistrates in any county.

The new act vests appointive authority in the resident Superior Court Judge of the judicial district. The judge has the power to reassign justices of the peace for just cause. Vacancies would be filled by the Clerk of Superior Court.

When the case came to trial, it became obvious that the defendant was ignorant of the law with regard to reporting his fines, forfeitures, and fees, and he was ordered to appear before the County Commissioners.

The County's legislators in the General Assembly introduced a bill to require regular reports from all magistrates. The bill subsequently became law. The Governor is in effect enforcing it.

The later law giving the Commissioners and the resident judge full jurisdiction over justices of the peace was ignored by the Board when it met the first Monday in March. It cannot be adopted now until the first Monday of March, 1951.

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By MARQUIS CHILDS. operation. On one occasion almost single-handedly he beat back an attempt to abolish the ECA appropriation. But Dirksen has reverted to isolationism and embraced with gusto the anti-Communist bias in the conduct of foreign policy.

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Jerky Mr. Truman

IN THE last few weeks, the Presidential readiness for a peace conference has been evident again. A slow-moving stream of public opinion, Mr. Truman understands the American people better for one more talk with Russia before going back to a hydrogen atom.