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THE LEGISLATURE'S PRIORITY LIST

Editorial Correspondence
RALEIGH—With appropriations requests already totaling \$69 million more than the recommendations of the Advisory Budget Commission, and more to come, the 1951 General Assembly will be turning out a priority list for the many deserving projects.

There will not be enough money, short of a major revision upward of the State's tax laws, to pay for all the requests. Unless there is some miraculous relaxation of the powerful opposition to any tax increases, and the possibility is so remote that it is scarcely worth mentioning, the General Assembly will have to turn down a majority of the requests. There is no alternative.

Some increases in appropriations can be made without unbalancing the budget by the simple method of tapping the revenue estimates for the 1951-53 fiscal biennium. Most everyone around Raleigh, even the ultra-conservative chairmen of the Senate and House appropriations and the Finance Committee, admit privately that the general fund estimate is low. Just how low is a subject of some disagreement, but the majority opinion appears to support the premise that the general fund revenue estimate can be increased to \$120,000,000 a year. That would mean \$20,000,000 to \$24,000,000 for the biennium.

School teachers will get first call on that extra money. They were on a \$2,200-\$3,100 salary scale in 1949 and 1950, but the simple method of tapping the revenue estimates for the 1951-53 fiscal biennium. Most everyone around Raleigh, even the ultra-conservative chairmen of the Senate and House appropriations and the Finance Committee, admit privately that the general fund estimate is low. Just how low is a subject of some disagreement, but the majority opinion appears to support the premise that the general fund revenue estimate can be increased to \$120,000,000 a year. That would mean \$20,000,000 to \$24,000,000 for the biennium.

MONEY IN THE BANK

ONCE upon a time, bank when John Dillinger, Freddy Roy Floyd et al were on hand, a high-powered, black sedan would stop in front of a bank and out would hop such masked men as John and Freddy Boy, loaded to the gunwales with submachine guns and big .45 calibre revolvers. They would rob the bank and depart with the currency, sometimes never again to be heard from.

But that was once upon a time. Nowadays they're heard from more quickly than a gunshot in a "Reschli". They're heard from behind bars.

A check of the statistics will show that bankrobbing is a decidedly risky profession in North Carolina. More than other states, banks are robbing too much.

FIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S challenge to Congress to cut his \$71 billion budget has been accepted by several key members of both Houses, and some of them appear to be rubbing their hands in glee at the prospect. But before any bets are placed on the outcome of this new twist between the Administration and Congress, it might be wise to consider three basic factors in budget-cutting that were highlighted by the testimony of Budget Director Frederick J. Lovton before the House Ways & Means Committee this week.

- 1. Previous slashes by the Budget Bureau have brought retaliation from Congress.
2. Many of the proposed expenditures were authorized by Congress in past years.
3. Some of the projects now being criticized seem sharply favored by Congress since Korea.

To cite a few examples: Asked why military appropriations should not be cut, Mr. Lovton reminded the committee that the House Appropriations Subcommittee worked him over last year for cutting the armed services too much. Asked if the Veterans Administration couldn't be run efficiently, Mr. Lovton recalled that he had once cut out 16,000 hospital beds from the veterans hospital construction program. Asked why angry House members took revenge by cutting the Budget Bureau's funds by \$200,000. When the suggestion was made that farm price support funds should be reduced, Mr. Lovton pointed out that Congress had sold itself the scope of the program. But that his only job was to decide how much money was needed. Rep. Bob Doughton asked why the Budget Bureau didn't give the Internal Revenue Dept. more money to hire tax collectors. An avowed reply, he had requested for additional enforcement personnel.

Explaining the problem posed by pre-

Carolina teaching hospital, and the \$200,000 request for higher professional salaries and an in-training program for nurses and attendants have a 50-50 chance of being approved.

The Legislature will also do something for the State employees who have been hit by inflation. What form this pay boost will take is not yet clear.

It may provide some money for hospital construction, but certainly not the \$6 million Governor Scott requested.

There will be no major tax increases. A tax on theaters, a tax on cigarettes, a tax on soft-drinks will get consideration, but none of them has strong support.

The General Assembly is marking time until all requests are in hand. Then the appropriations committee will start trimming them. It is unlikely that the final appropriations total will be much more than \$20 billion above the recommendation of the Advisory Budget Commission.

One thing is certain. The 1951 General Assembly will start trimming them. It is unlikely that the final appropriations total will be much more than \$20 billion above the recommendation of the Advisory Budget Commission.

—C. A. McKnight

'But First A Few Words From Our Sponsors'



People's Platform

'Lifting Up The Spirits Of Man'

CHARLOTTE
enough to have armed her, at the American taxpayers' expense, putting her in position to destroy her benefactor as well as the rest of civilization.

Destiny's Child Property Concerned With Dul Stuff

By ROBERT C. RUARK
IS RELECTED in the avidness with which people scan the front pages...

WE WERE sitting around in the literary salons I occasionally frequent, munching potato longes on toast and sipping wine...

The subject was "Darkness at Noon," the new play from Arthur Koestler's old book about perversion of idealism in the Russian Communist Party...

"Well," the fellow said, "that was before I associated myself with destiny."

There was a generally derisive hoot. The destiny-boy got a little peeved.

"Wait a minute," he said. "I don't mean that I, me, now have such delusions of grandeur that I, me, is going to control or influence destiny, like Roosevelt or Stalin or Mussolini or Harry Truman. I mean that in the years before I never realized that I was going to have a personal and important association with a thing that may shape the world differently."

CLONE ASSOCIATION
"my point is today that everybody has a close association with destiny and it is conscious of it and worries about it, where once upon a time he shrugged off politics and the people across the seas because he felt none of those things had any direct bearing on him. Times," the fellow said, "has changed."

The man has got himself a pretty good point, it seems to me. Mass sensitivity to what used to be disregarded as "heavy" stuff has increased amazingly, and the people across the seas because he felt none of those things had any direct bearing on him. Times," the fellow said, "has changed."

—J. L. WALKER

Pray For Peace

CHARLOTTE
TODAY, as I was coming home on the bus I saw young boys who were leaving for the Army marching in a long line. Some looked so young...

A song was sung over the radio recently; a song to mothers and fathers from boys who were leaving. It said if we never meet again, my we meet in Heaven? I hope every boy who leaves home to go to war can say those words and mean them.

Fathers and mothers, who have boys fighting or in training, if you are not a Christian, give God your heart and start praying for peace. You may be a church member, but you know to God, are saved or not and if your name is on God's record in Heaven. That is what counts. If we do that, in the five year counts. There are so many homes broken up today because of sin. That is why we are in war. So many people would rather enjoy worldly pleasures than live for Christ and man's sake. I will wake up and thank God, and be saved and then we will have peace.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

In Defense Of McCarthy

ST. PAULS
DEFINITE all the ridicule and abuse that has been heaped upon Senator McCarthy by newspapers in sympathy with those of the New Deal persuasion, and in spite of everything the administration hawks could do to hamstring his endeavors with their hush-hush tactics, and regardless of how "low" he may have "unk" in the estimation of those who, over the years, have shown only passive resistance against the encroachment of Communism, being a man of the story of a job in a job, he has the desired effect of laying it bare in high places, and opening the people's eyes to its dangers as well.

Senator McCarthy may be crude in his "tactics" and his "mouthing" are, no doubt, repulsive to many. But his "tactics" have resulted in exposing many Communist parasites, who have occupied high places in our governmental departments since the inception of the New Deal in 1933. As you assert, quite possible that the McCartys and their ilk might, if given access to our lawmaking forums, "debate the ideals of that venerable institution." Yet, if more McCartys had been in the United States during the past two decades, we would have undoubtedly been spared the humiliating aspects of many secret concessions at both Yalta and Potsdam—concessions that the grand moguls of New Dealism are ashamed to mention even to this day. And in all probability, McCarthy, regardless of how "irresponsible or insane" he may be, would have never "recognized" Communist Russia, or have been "adde-pate"

Quote, Unquote

Fulton is getting to be a big town, to take the Board of Mayor and Aldermen about four or five times over. I've heard that Fulton is getting to be a big town, to take the Board of Mayor and Aldermen about four or five times over. I've heard that Fulton is getting to be a big town, to take the Board of Mayor and Aldermen about four or five times over.

Drew Pearson's Firm Bankrupt After Getting RFC Loan

WASHINGTON
THE politics-ridden Reconstruction Finance Corp. is hoping that another of its juicy deals will not make it a laughing stock. It is now in a tight spot. A manufacturer in President Truman's home town, Kansas City, through the jukebox business is not considered one of the starkest pillars in our national economy, the RFC advanced it \$1,500,000 in 1947. A year went by and on Jan. 23, 1947, loaned \$1,500,000 to the Aircon Corp. of Kansas City, which the taxpayers will now get back about \$700,000. The other \$800,000 of the taxpayers' money went down the drain.

One interesting thing about this deal is that the latter part of it was concluded even while the news headlines were sizzling over the Fulbright report about two weeks ago.

Another interesting thing is that the liquidation of the Aircon Corp. is being handled by a man in Worcester, Mass. Just why an auctioneer in Worcester, Mass., Aaron Krook, should be picked to liquidate a company in Kansas City is hard to understand. It was the man's name that was the attraction. Auctioneer Krook is a former neighbor of RFC Vice-Chairman C. Edward Rowe, whose dealings both in and out of the RFC have come in for some criticism.

Here is the inside story of Aircon, which smells of politics from beginning to end. Eight months after the RFC advanced it \$1,500,000 in 1947, Aircon went bankrupt. About three years dragged by. Finally, with the outbreak of the Korean war, other manufacturers showed interest in a profitable war plant, particularly the Starrett Television Co. of New York City.

After this contact was made, Starrett Television seemed to have a fairly easy time closing a deal with the RFC to buy the Aircon jukebox plant for \$700,000—through Aaron Krook, New England Industries Inc., had been given \$770,000.

Tax Frauds

THIS oversight was unfortunate, for it turned out that Starrett's owner, Jacob Frenkel, was under indictment for income-tax frauds aggregating nearly a quarter of a million dollars, that the vice-president, Larry Knohl, had been indicted for income-tax frauds aggregating nearly a quarter of a million dollars, that the vice-president, Larry Knohl, had been indicted for income-tax frauds aggregating nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

Yet despite these shocking discoveries, the RFC hedged for a month before rescinding its contract with Starrett.

This should have ended the political wire-pulling. Yet the RFC turned right around and hired Rowe's friend, Aaron Krook, to auction off the Aircon facilities.

In the end, however, it appears that Krook did a good job. He brought in \$700,000 from the piecemeal sale of the Aircon plant. This did not include the lease of the manufacturing space, which RFC is still holding and estimates "will give us an additional \$200,000 to \$250,000 in the next five years."

Servants Of Brotherhood

JAMES JONES, the Negro Western Union messenger in Florence, S. C., this year has bettered his own high score in collecting money for the Red Cross. He has been doing a wonderful job adopting entire wards in Army, Navy and Marine Corps hospitals in order to care for the colored veterans.

So we get back to the premise that the outcome of the Russo-Chinese alliance in Asia is bound to have a great influence on the future of humanity. And there is, as I see it, no reason why the Russo-Chinese alliance should not be a blessing in disguise for the world.

Moreover, we may expect sturdy religious resistance on the part of the United States and other free nations against atheistic Communism. The Moslem takes his belief in God seriously. Without such a firm religious basis, the Russo-Chinese alliance in Asia is bound to have a great influence on the future of humanity. And there is, as I see it, no reason why the Russo-Chinese alliance should not be a blessing in disguise for the world.

Such a European outcome would provide Moscow additional resources to develop. The Far Eastern conflict. And the democracies naturally would be correspondingly weakened.

In short, Russia would be pretty well queen of the globe—a circumstance which this column deems a disaster to develop.

The Asiatic struggle may take on a different complexion as Japan increases its power against Moslem countries. The world Moslem conference just held in Karachi, Pakistan, warned that the Moslems would agree together in a front against any one of them. The global Moslem belt totals some 316,000,000. With such a vast reserve represented at the conference.

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