

THOMAS L. ROBINSON Publisher
J. E. DOWD General Manager
B. S. GRIFPITH Executive Editor
C. A. MCKNIGHT Editor

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1953

ON KEEPING FAITH WITH THE PEOPLE

SINCE the County Commissioners are charged with the financial responsibility for new school buildings, and since they are subject to reelection each two years, we shall not quarrel with their decision to pay for the new \$7,500,000 building program out of taxes in seven years, instead of borrowing money for a longer period of time.

Secondly, this newspaper has long held that borrowing money for long-term public improvements is a sound and equitable policy. So long as interest rates are within reasonable limits, the additional cost is not excessive. And repayment over a long period of time spreads the burden among new taxpayers of an expanding county who will be paying for the facilities. A quick seven-year program will place all the burden on present taxpayers, a burden that will be much heavier on each taxpayer now than it would be after the county's ability to bear the total load had been spread over a longer period.

Nonetheless, we have two reservations about the decision. First, it's too bad that someone didn't think of it earlier, so that the method now proposed might have been presented to the voters last December. Unquestionably the Commissioners have the legal authority to

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX FULL OF DEFECTS

WHAT'S WRONG with the present system of taxing personal property in Mecklenburg County?

- 1. There is no way to nab the renter, unless he owns an automobile.
2. With the exceptions of dogs and automobiles, the taxpayer is permitted to set his own value on his taxable personal belongings. His estimate is apt to be ridiculously low, unless he is unusually patriotic and honest.
3. The listing process itself is an inconvenience to taxpayers, and imposes a great burden of extra work on the office of the Tax Supervisor.
4. It doesn't produce nearly as much money as it should.

property tax, except on automobiles, and add enough to residential listings to make up the lost revenue? That would automatically get everybody. It would save the waste of time and money in keeping a double set of books in the Courthouse. And it would free the taxpayer of the annoying inconvenience of listing his personal belongings.

How can the collection of personal property taxes be improved? Tax Supervisor Rufus Grier has proposed the adoption here of the Guilford and Forsyth systems. In those two counties, the value of a home owner's personal property is fixed at 15 per cent of the assessed value of his residence. If he thinks that is too high, a tax letter will inspect his property and revise the figure downward if he finds the complaint justifiable.

It is to press this point that I welcome the generosity of your attention today. Though I am preoccupied with the symbol of the book as the

Mr. Grier's suggestion has been referred to a special five-member Commission for its consideration. Undoubtedly it would be a substantial improvement, though the precise percentage figure may be open to debate.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

Why not simply abolish the personal property tax? It is a relic of a bygone era, and its collection is a burden on the taxpayer. It is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES—RESERVOIRS OF WISDOM

FOR THOSE of us who have competed against him through the years, it came as a surprise that Spencer Murphy, of the Salisbury Post, won the annual editorial writing contest again. Such eloquence merits reward, whether it is found on the editorial page or in the "private Murphy" mail to the joint appropriations commission on behalf of the N. C. Library Commission. The text of which will be found elsewhere on this page.

Yet if our vast expenditures on public education and institutions of higher learning are to continue to pay dividends of enlightening progress in the future, it is not only desirable but essential to cement the key stone to our arch of learning. The public library, as Murphy says, is "the university" for the adult citizen. It is the post-graduate school for the scholar just as it is the reservoir of wisdom and inspiration for knowledge-hungry youth.

Mr. Reeves, however, brightens. This further thought occurs to him. "I believe," he continues, "that there will be no miracle, although it is not clear to me the moment I was trying to be styling." Again freely translating, Mr. Reeves is saying that if the customer's clothes don't wear out soon enough, he can be persuaded to throw them away anyhow.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

Mr. Reeves, however, brightens. This further thought occurs to him. "I believe," he continues, "that there will be no miracle, although it is not clear to me the moment I was trying to be styling." Again freely translating, Mr. Reeves is saying that if the customer's clothes don't wear out soon enough, he can be persuaded to throw them away anyhow.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

Mr. Reeves, however, brightens. This further thought occurs to him. "I believe," he continues, "that there will be no miracle, although it is not clear to me the moment I was trying to be styling." Again freely translating, Mr. Reeves is saying that if the customer's clothes don't wear out soon enough, he can be persuaded to throw them away anyhow.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

Mr. Reeves, however, brightens. This further thought occurs to him. "I believe," he continues, "that there will be no miracle, although it is not clear to me the moment I was trying to be styling." Again freely translating, Mr. Reeves is saying that if the customer's clothes don't wear out soon enough, he can be persuaded to throw them away anyhow.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

Mr. Reeves, however, brightens. This further thought occurs to him. "I believe," he continues, "that there will be no miracle, although it is not clear to me the moment I was trying to be styling." Again freely translating, Mr. Reeves is saying that if the customer's clothes don't wear out soon enough, he can be persuaded to throw them away anyhow.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

Mr. Reeves, however, brightens. This further thought occurs to him. "I believe," he continues, "that there will be no miracle, although it is not clear to me the moment I was trying to be styling." Again freely translating, Mr. Reeves is saying that if the customer's clothes don't wear out soon enough, he can be persuaded to throw them away anyhow.

And while the committee is at work, it might profitably consider abolishing poll taxes and dog taxes. The former is not only un-democratic in this day of feminine equality, it is also non-productive of revenue and doubles the cost of the County as much in extra collection and bookkeeping expenses as it brings in. The latter could be handled more cheaply and more efficiently by placing it under a rabies inspector and combining it with the inoculation process.

A Stirring Plea For Better Public Libraries

(Note: Spencer Murphy, editor of the Salisbury Post and the only three-time winner of the North Carolina Press Association's first prize for editorial writing, is also a member of the N. C. Library Commission. Recently he appeared before the joint appropriations committees of the Legislature in behalf of more state aid for public libraries. These are his remarks, Eds. The News.)

I am a newspaper man. I have been a newspaperman for 27 years. In that time I have seen the gramophone develop into the phonograph, and the phonograph into the record-player. I have seen the nickelodeon grow into the movies, the movies into the talkies, and the talkies into the cinema.

It is my trying duty in this joint committee to bear the repetitions of many ages ago. I am sure that the public will be glad to see the public library system in North Carolina—the need for trained, perceptible and patriotically devoted personnel!

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

I have seen a newspaperman for 27 years. In that time I have seen the gramophone develop into the phonograph, and the phonograph into the record-player. I have seen the nickelodeon grow into the movies, the movies into the talkies, and the talkies into the cinema.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.

Let me emphasize here that the maximum possible advance we are offering on this subject shall over-extend ourselves. No amount of optimism could now focus on a library service paid more remote than a strictly regional superiority. If North Carolina is to compete in this sphere on a national scale, the advance must be left for future years.