

Thomas L. Robinson... President and Publisher
Brodie S. Griffith... General Manager
Robert H. Lampe... Advertising Director
Cecil Price... Editor
Perry Morgan... Associate Editor
R. L. Young Jr... Managing Editor
Huey Stinson... Circulation Manager

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1957

Mr. Houghton's Stunning Distinction

'POLITICS stop at the water's edge' is an assurance Americans expect and get during the more sanguine phases of presidential campaigns.
Mud-splashed candidates always remember to tell us that however bitter internal politics become, they will represent the nation to the world with the best possible ambassadors and ministers...

Ballots & Bullets Don't Necessarily Mix

LET it be understood right off that it is not because we fear Elvis Presley will be elected governor of North Carolina.
The job doesn't pay enough. And although Tar Heels may buy their government or an "airplane" pink Cadillac as a little too tony for their taste...

Threatening Flivvers Need No Sympathy

THE taint of a felony will not soon touch highway drag racers.
Even if racers prearrange their perilous sport to the pleasure and consent of motorists, the House Roads Committee has decided a felony charge is too harsh. If convicted, a teenage racer will be branded for life. So it still is less criminal to threaten lives with souped-up automobiles than with knives or pistols...

Renaissances Have To Be Shared

A GENUINE, honest-to-goodness renaissance is taking place in North Carolina, wrote Blackwell P. Robinson in 1956. "A renaissance is clearly perceptible in many cultural fields of endeavor—art, music, drama, literature, history and handicrafts."
This cheerful view of Tar Heel culture lost some of its luster the other day when Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes, state librarian, and Dr. Roy McKnight of Charlotte, her board chairman, made a plea for funds in Raleigh. For instance, it was revealed that North Carolinians today outnumber their public library books by about one million...

From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

LICENSES AS GOOD CLEAN FUN

NEW HAMPSHIRE recently authorized "personalized" automobile license plates and the result so far, the Associated Press reports, is pure whimsy. Far from being satisfied with the mere initials or favored numbers, citizens are demanding all manner of identification: an explosive manufacturer asked for license TNT, a Republican sought IKE, and there were requests for WAC and even AWOL.
This may be whimsy but it was thoroughly predictable, and we predict it is also going to be troublesome. California devised a triple-letter, triple-number system for last year and a musician asked for A-440, which is the international pitch for tuning instruments. But the trouble began when one C. E. Larson of Atherton received (without asking for it) a license beginning DEM. Mr. Larson turned out to be an irate Republican. It would be simpler, and safer, for the states to avoid personalization and favors in auto licensing and try standardization. But so far the only standard which all 48 states have agreed upon involves size. After 54 carefree years in which the auto license has come in all shapes, a standard 12-inch plate is supposed to be adopted this year by Oct. 1. If states' rights as to auto licensing can be set aside, which still seems doubtful, this date will be Der Tag.
Absent-mindedly prof: "Give me some prepared monatomic-acetidester of salicylic acid." Pharmacist: "Do you mean aspirin?" Prof: "That's right. I can never remember the name." — FOUR MYSTERS (Fla.) News-Press.

'Conscience Cases' To Be Tested By Supreme Court

By MARQUIS CHILDS

ALTHOUGH it received almost no attention in the news, one of the most significant cases to be argued before the Supreme Court in a long time is moving toward a decision. The likelihood is that the court will rule on it before the summer recess.
This is the first of several "conscience cases" to come before the high tribunal in which Congress has refused to name past associates and have, at the same time, declined to invoke the Fifth Amendment.
The Fifth Amendment repeatedly enforced by witnesses before the McClellan committee investigating labor racketeering, gives the individual an out on the ground that he will incriminate himself by his testimony.



SEN. JAMES O. EASTLAND A Smoldering War

The Supreme Court has so far avoided passing on the broad powers which congressional committees have exercised since the end of World War II. Traditionally the court seeks to postpone as long as possible such major constitutional tests, and it may do so again in the Watkins case.
But if the nine justices decide to wrestle with the central problem of congressional authority, the case will be decided by the middle of June a year of the most far-reaching importance can be expected, with loud political repercussions.
Solicitor General J. Lee Rankin argued for the government that the Un-American Activities Committee, in its questioning of Watkins, was contemplating legislation to curtail the activities of the National Labor Relations Board to Communist-infiltrated unions.



ARTHUR MILLER A Burning Conscience

It is not hard to imagine the reaction of Eastland, Chairman Francis E. Walter of the House Un-American Activities Committee and others if the court were to rule that congressional committees had overstepped the bounds of their authority. The smoldering war between Congress and the judiciary, which has been a phenomenon of the political scene almost since the founding of the republic, would flame up anew.
But the court has not hesitated, either in the remote or the recent past, to make itself an arbiter in the logic of events it can be expected to do so again.

WATKINS CASE

Appearing in 1954 before the House Un-American Activities Committee, John T. Watkins, a labor organizer now employed by an investigating labor racketeer, testified freely about his close association with the Communist Party from 1942 to 1947.
He also told the committee that he was willing to give any information he had about persons he knew to be members of the party and whom he believed were still members. But he would not testify about former associates, whom he believed "had long since removed themselves from the Communist movement."

Watkins was cited for contempt, tried and sentenced to a year in jail. Appealing to the Supreme Court, Watkins' attorney, Joseph L. Rankin Jr., declared that congressional committees by claiming the right of exposure, unrelated to any legislative objective, have usurped the rights of both the executive and the judicial branches of the government. When a citation for contempt brings almost automatic indictment and conviction, Rankin told the court, the Congress has become prosecutor, judge and jury.

LAFFARE MILLER

Government prosecutors have argued that the broad powers of the Un-American Activities Committee, in its questioning of Watkins, was contemplating legislation to curtail the activities of the National Labor Relations Board to Communist-infiltrated unions.
The most famous of the "conscience cases" involves Arthur Miller, playwright and husband of Marilyn Monroe. Miller also refused to name those who had attended meetings at which he was present in the past on the ground that he would harm persons who had long since given up any connection with communism. Cited for contempt, he was indicted and

Platform Does Teacher Have A Kitty For A 'Caddy'?

Valdese to some facts regarding the matter.
A beginning teacher, Class "A" certificate, on the present North Carolina salary schedule is paid \$270 per month for nine months, or \$2,430 annually. This, of course, actually averages only \$269.20 per month for 12 months. But before salaries are out of line, Mr. Simpson says he has not read anywhere any article or information that states just exactly what teacher pay really is. For his information, and for the information of others who do not realize that the matter of low pay is a prime factor in the serious problem of getting enough teachers of any kind to staff our classrooms, I should like to cite him

in college, either summer terms or in a regular year when she was not on the payroll, earns the maximum after 12 years in the classroom of \$423 per month for nine months, or \$3,807 annually, which figures pay \$372.25 per month. All this is after 12 years experience and five years in college.
Now Mr. Simpson mentions "average people" — such as the downtown secretary, the saleslady, the nurse, the receptionist, the used car salesman, the bookkeeper, the furnishings salesman. The inference is that he wishes to compare the salary of these people with those of the teacher. Is it not quite possible that, excluding the nurse, who certainly also needs a raise in average pay, the most of

these good "average" people referred to by Mr. Simpson would get little or no investment in costly specialized training above the first or second year of college? The figures quoted above as the present scale of pay for teachers in North Carolina are gross figures before home pay taxes are deducted. How many of these "average" people mentioned by Mr. Simpson can support families, or begin a family, or buy an insurance policy on an average monthly salary of \$372.25 before taxes? That is why it is next to impossible to attract capable and qualified young people into the preparation for teaching — much less hold those who are already in it!

By further comparison, last year an extensive study was made in Burke County by the Guidance Council under the direction of Dr. J. T. Harner which presents some very correct facts regarding teaching salaries in that county. It is a study which drops out of school, this study involved the members of the graduating classes from Burke County high schools as of the year 1950, and hundreds of unskilled occupations from these pupils were used as a basis for these comparisons.
(1) The average salary for those who dropped out and never finished high school in 1955 given by these pupils as \$2,780 as compared with \$2,430 for the graduates of the same class who finished four years in college and began teaching in 1955.
If money were the only consideration in choosing an occupation in Burke County, teaching would be less profitable than employment in a coal operator, textile factory worker, saw-mill hand, truck driver, construction worker, or store clerk.
(2) Total drop-outs in class of 1950 were averaging annually \$2,780 as compared with the average of \$4,230 for the graduates who began teaching for \$2,430.
(3) Male drop-outs were averaging \$2,835, as compared with the male teachers who began teaching in 1955 for \$2,430.
(4) The male graduates with the high school class of 1950 who went to college did not prepare for teaching but went into other fields were averaging \$5,115, as compared with \$2,430 for those who began as teachers in 1955.

Similar studies made at other places in the state will no doubt vary somewhat from the findings of the Burke County situation, but it is safe to predict that the situation will not improve any place in the state so long as salary schedules for teachers remain anywhere near the levels now prevailing.
I believe Mr. Simpson should have another look at all those "average" and other high-pitched automobiles he sees parked at East Myers Park, West — in fact the state behind our schools. It is hoped that he does not let all those high lines and pastel colored cars deceive him. Another close look will reveal that many more drivers in North Carolina drive cars in the low price range, or "Gulches" and others of the highest price — and many of those they drive either are on lease arrangement with the finance company, or are ready for the junk heap!

Oh, My! I'm Afraid Not—It's Very Traditional, Y'Know'

THE CONSTITUTION of North Carolina states that the General Assembly SHALL REAPPORTION after each census.
this was ignored by the legislatures of: 1931-1933-1935 1937-1939-1951 1953 and 1955
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
REAPPORTIONMENT DEMANDS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

is not because we fear Elvis Presley will be elected governor of North Carolina. The job doesn't pay enough. And although Tar Heels may buy their government or an "airplane" pink Cadillac as a little too tony for their taste.
No, the reason we oppose extending the franchise to 18-year-old Tar Heels is based solely on the arguments made for giving them the vote.
Ours is a passive opposition, you understand. The ship of state will wobble onward, either way. But the idea that "if they're old enough to fight, they're old enough to vote" is too much like saying "if they're old enough to talk, they're old enough to be lecturers on aerodynamics or space satellites."

THE public is more concerned and more aroused than ever before about the low salary scale of the teachers in the schools — and the acute shortage of supply of teachers to fill the schools.
The public is more concerned and more aroused than ever before about the low salary scale of the teachers in the schools — and the acute shortage of supply of teachers to fill the schools.
The public is more concerned and more aroused than ever before about the low salary scale of the teachers in the schools — and the acute shortage of supply of teachers to fill the schools.

Is The Dog Really Man's Best Friend?
Lancinston Editors, The News: I had a comment by a Mr. J. R. Dean through your column, relative to the dog man's best friend. Here comes another somebody saying in People's Platform that a dog is man's best friend. I want to ask this writer if he has a mother and does he believe in Christ. If he has and does, how can he say that a dog is man's best friend?
I surely do enjoy reading your columns in the News, and I can say the best paper in North Carolina. — J. P. LONG

Quote, Unquote
If a dog jumps up into your lap, it is because he is fond of you; but if a cat does the same thing, it is because your lap is warmer. — Alfred North Whitehead.

Drew Pearson's GOP Stymied Teamster Probe In 1954

WASHINGTON THERE is one man who's laughing up at his sleeve at the midnight arrest of teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa for allegedly trying to bribe an agent of the Senate Rackets Committee. He is cantankerous Congressman Clare Hoffman of Michigan, who started a probe of Hoffa and the teamsters three years ago, but was abruptly and unceremoniously stopped by none other than a member of the Eisenhower Cabinet, Postmaster General Summerfield.
Congressman Hoffman, Republican, together with Wint Smith of Kansas, Republican, and Phil M. Landrum of Georgia, Democrat, were investigating the teamsters, when suddenly word came from the White House via GOP House leader Charley Hallack of Indiana to call off the probe.
Hoffman was so irked that he made a speech on the House floor complaining that his subcommittee on labor racketeering and welfare funds "had but barely entered upon its investigation when appar-

ently for political reasons it was liquidated." Rep. Smith also complained to newsmen. After the hearing on Detroit labor racketeering closed, Smith stated that it was being terminated because of "pressure."
"Where does the pressure come from?" Smith was asked.
"From so high," Smith told newsmen, looking at the ceiling, "that I can't even discuss it."

Deal With Teamsters
Inside fact, as revealed by this column April 13, 1954, was that high Republicans in Michigan, led by Postmaster General Summerfield, made a deal with the teamsters to support Sen. Homer Ferguson, Republican, for reelection. In return, investigation of Hoffa and the teamsters was dropped.
Ferguson in 1954 faced a tough reelection battle with the late Sen. Blair Moody, Democrat, running against him. Moody died in the middle of the primary campaign, and Pat McNamara, a long-time member of the Detroit City Council and a strong AFL leader, was nominated.

Adlai-GO-Round
Here are highlights from Adlai Stevenson's recent off-the-record speech at the Gridiron Club. First he said the famous cow on a winter morning who looked at the farmer and said "Thanks for that warm hand," I wish it had been as warm and friendly last November. I hesitated to come back four months after the election to rake among the embers of my funeral pyre, a bonfire which most of you publishers fanned so vigorously and a funeral at which so few of you mourned. . . I have great sympathy for

the men who occupy the presidency, especially the present incumbent. Think of the embarrassment when even Time, the Republican house organ, reveals that his bird dogs fail to flush a single dove of quality.
As Jefferson said, the office of man's best friend is a splendid misery. I feel deeply for the unhappy man in sweaters and coats who approaches a toe and finds a sign reading "40 yards out." Even after an heroic 225-yard drive you still have to struggle to replace the turf in some far-off place like London or Sweden. I would recommend miltown to any pitcher. It might diminish the pain of recent scenes. . . Mrs. Charles E. Wilson rams as the first female Vice-president. Do not let me ever discourage you from ever running for president. It is a wonderful way to meet a lot of people you wouldn't meet otherwise — at any price. It is a fine exercise for the hands, feet, stomach and vocal chords. I am told that it is not too hard on the head if you use good judgment. You don't even have to read or write. Someone will do it for you."