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The Court Itself Is The Vital Thing

SATURDAY'S election of a District Solicitor turns on a point of honor, so our friends in Gaston say. They—and some Mecklenburg collaborators—cry that to elect a native in the person of Ben Whitling would abrogate a long-standing agreement that the Democratic political leaders of the county should make many years ago. That's right. It would.

Mecklenburg's leaders are saying, just as loudly, that this agreement, undoubtedly made in one of those smoke-filled rooms, cannot be binding forever. The time has come to change it. The time has come in fact, for a much greater change. Mecklenburg needs a separate solicitorial district, if ever a county separated one. Gaston admits that. And if the voters of the District elect a Gaston native in the person of Ben Whitling, they will demonstrate that business considerably.

Mr. Whitling can do a remarkable job as Solicitor. Entering the office when it was in sorry shape, he immediately began cleaning the decks. He shortly reformed the most important of the office's first-class Solicitor. But if he succeeds himself in the office, Mecklenburg will go to the next Legislature seeking its sorely needed separate district with a heavy burden.

Every voter in the District, it seems to us, should be chiefly interested in the honest and efficient prosecution of the court docket. We can't have that so long as these two populous counties are combined, and propping 1400 criminal cases, a mere 1000 of which are for minor offenses, on the meager staff housing an ancient gentlemen's agreement between isolated leaders, even if it does involve dismissing a capable young office-holder.

A Start At City-County Consolidation

SOME months ago a series of news articles pointed out some of the handicaps in the work of local health officers in controlling the most serious of the public health points was that City control extended to the boundaries—and that beyond that control almost anything went. Officers might condemn animal carcasses at the abattoirs, only to be told that they were destined for marketing in the County. Inspectors of hotels, and County people were unprepared.

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We are not spending enough money to do a really thorough job with either Health Department, and there are already signs that we will spend more in the few years ahead. We are going to get the most for the money now spent, we should consider consolidation soon.

We're All Filibustering Now

WHEN the news of a filibuster comes from Washington it seems immediately clear that some old word has been shaken in his mane in anger, or plodding sturdily through a stack of great tomes, reciting The Passing Of The Backhoe, or fronting plod likker recites. This week it is a filibuster in the Senate.

Long before the end of the gallery and the nation at large had lost sight of the issue at stake, and had no clear picture of what the Senate was trying to do, and Pepper was trying to stop. Skunk-calling went easily and naturally into the headlines.

The processes of democracy descended again in name-calling for a few wretched moments. Harry Byrd, accused of playing a dirty game with men operators, offered the opinion that Pepper was a skunk. There were others who roared at Pepper. Hawkes of New Jersey was weary of his personal attacks on Byrd; New Mexico's Hatch didn't like to be threatened by

the reminder that labor would take revenge for reactive legislation. Long before the end of the gallery and the nation at large had lost sight of the issue at stake, and had no clear picture of what the Senate was trying to do, and Pepper was trying to stop.

Another Voice

WE WILL wager that Burke County has had, during the past twelve months, the largest number of tourists who had not been more than twenty miles from home suddenly found himself traveling the wide and breadth of the United States, seeing new country, talking with new people, and applying to the lad from the hills of North Carolina, and to the lad from Burke County.

It is a lack of opportunities in the land he once thought was God's country. He remembers the towns and cities he has visited and the grass greener in look a little greener there. He may have been given his old job back, true. But even the old job may seem a bill on the monotonous side of his life.

Back-Home Restlessness

THE restlessness on the part of returned servicemen is contagious to a great extent, and the blame for it cannot be placed on the lad himself. He was shifted from pillow to post in the armed forces for two, three, four years or more. The war for him was with the serviceman himself and with the people of his community and the prescription is Opportunity.

It is the search for Opportunity that brings in the newcomers to a town. It is a desire to better himself that causes a young man to desire making a change, and it is up to the men and women of a community, who have the ways and the means, to put an end to this restlessness. They must give the servicemen, by doing so, the opportunity to obtain some of the best trained minds our country can offer. This scheme has been carefully mapped out and Peron is prepared to put rationing into effect no later than August.



People's Platform Maybe We Should Do Something

CHARLOTTE EDITOR: THE NEWS. It is one thing to become aroused enough to force birth out, another 'solution' to the nation's economic ills, and that still isn't my intention in this letter. But it is still hard to get out of one's mind the daily paper containing political gripes, gossamer, and general unrest from everyone ranging from rural high schools to the UNO.

Let's Jump Russia CHARLOTTE EDITOR: THE NEWS. We only are one nation that wants peace, so let's preserve same, let's not try to save our face. We stand up to the smaller nations for their birthright, let's do so and mean it. Let the aggressive nations know that we are not to be fooled with. If it takes harsh measures to put a stop to their aggression, let us show them who is who and what we can.

Quote, Unquote BY what we think and say and do now, we determine whether today is a breathing spell between wars or the beginning of a lasting prosperity and peace—Treasury Secretary Fred M. Vinson.

RR Labor Fumes TRUMAN'S able labor adviser, John Steelman, may be forgotten, but he had a significant talk with RR labor leaders here last week, indicating that union leaders were liked at Truman quite a while back.

Dr. E. W. Hooper's Argentineans Plan To Put Hoover In Merry-Go-Round THE late Herbert Hoover sent in the Washington Post-Chat in 1928—his last full month at almost every step he made, beginning by kicking the representative of the powerful newspaper La Nación off his back.

ONE of President Truman's recurring complaints is that he finds it more and more difficult to recruit able men for public office. Room-ling properly is a private attorney.

FREE LEGAL AID It so happens that Puerto Rican legal matters in this country have not been handled by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice at no cost to the Government of Puerto Rico.

Samuel Graiton A Red In Alabama JACKSON just had to go to his father-in-law, Ilya Gregorovich, to ask about his work as a lawyer.

BAPLES AMERICANS Ilya Gregorovich has wild, iron-grey hair, a dead-pale face, and a long nose. He reserves for persons of whom he approves a rather baffling American, who are inclined to regard him as a hand-ful.

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Truman's Old Friends PROTHROODH men say this incident has been forgotten and no grudges. Nevertheless, the incident symbolizes the growing rift between the Democratic Party on the part of some labor groups.