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The Poor Little Rich Boys

Forecasts for a short session can be taken as an indication of optimism, the pre-session comments of Legislators arriving in Raleigh for the opening of the General Assembly today are almost uniformly rose. Practically all the gentlemen who have thus far unburdened themselves to the press expect fine adjournment along about the middle of March.

It will certainly make great inroads into the surplus. In order to take care of the demand for expanded services, such as Good Health, the gentlemen may find themselves able to face with the dread prospect of increased taxes. And, in the face of a general paring down of budgetary requests, there will inevitably develop a brisk competition between the various agencies, each seeking to peddle its own program at all costs, which is another way of saying at the expense of another.

Co-Operation With The Inevitable

As I look back over this long period of 7 years I have a mingled feeling of pride and address—address because I am separating from you and pride beyond my power to express because of the long record of accomplishment for which you good people are entitled to at least as much credit as management.

solidation. But the men who handled the mergers were natives, never too far from the mill villages to lose the thread of the old personal relationship. There are, we believe, no members here who were not in this sort of operation. At any rate, the tide has been running the other way in recent years—toward new and bigger combines with ultimate control vested in the hands of the man in the region.

The Absentee Ballot Statute

COLONEL WILLIAM T. JOYNER, resigning after rendering distinguished service as chairman of the State Board of Elections, leaves a list of suggested amendments to the election laws as a legacy for the Legislature. Most of these are highly technical, but one touches an old sore spot in North Carolina politics—the absentee ballot.

Carolians unavoidably absent on election day. But we are also inclined to go along with The Raleigh News & Observer's judgment that the proposal to outlaw it entirely is an election of impolicy. In other states, it was this that Ben Gossett had in mind when he wrote to the employees who were also his friends: "This is life as it is, and we should all cheerfully co-operate with the inevitable . . ."

Another Voice

Now Veterans Class, Please

WE DON'T know just what classes of citizens John C. Bills, agent in charge of FBI activities in North and South Carolina, is talking about when he compares them with the veterans of World War II and says crime is much less prevalent among these other classes. We could be wished that he had been more specific. He was talking about all non-veterans, or only those of the same age group? In any case the veterans appear to have a right to be part of the confusion of this expert on law enforcement.

ed a class, are individuals just like the rest of the folks, with similar virtues and similar failings. We doubt very much if he has the facts at hand, or the right to consider them as anything but human beings to be fed out of the same spoon as you and I are. In law enforcement or anything else, they have asked for no special treatment. And they are just as much if they like to be held forth separately either as paragons of virtue or examples of lawlessness. They are people remarkably like you and I. —Shelby Star.

Too Many Readers For Newspaper

WORKING at cross-purposes regarding this investigation of the newspaper industry, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has found that there now are 1,000,000 people in the world who can read. And the greater the number of people who can read, the greater the demand for newspapers and newsprint. Russia, once with only 25 per cent of its people able to read, now has 75 per cent. There has also been an increase in Latin America, Europe, Asia and the United States. Thus the problem of newsprint is serious and will become more so.

Simultaneously, the big magazines, especially Time, Life, Fortune, The Saturday Evening Post, the big trade journals, such as Iron Age, and some of the big newspapers, are all making a handsome annual subsidy from the New York Times have cornered many of the pulp mills of the United States and Canada. This has led to scores of smaller papers that are now being closed.

Background On Bilbo

Precedent For Expulsion

"NEVER mind what I did, what I said, or what I am—of the people of Mississippi, I am for their Senate, they are entitled to have me. If the Senate bars me, then the Senate, not the people of Mississippi, is deciding on Senator Bilbo, Mississippi," said Senator Bilbo, in an effort to move to bar Senators before they are seated or to expel them after they are seated. And it has always been successfully, by pointing to the Constitutional provision that each house of Congress shall be the "judge of the qualifications" of its own members.

Bill Of Rights

A BILL of rights for public school teachers will meet the next break time in the school day to plan. The general practice in the service school of one hour for each hour of teaching seems adequate. Even the public may not recognize his usual charge. Depending on the kind of work a class size of from 10 to 20, a very common class that is too large, seems reasonable. To implement this suggestion the schools will need an additional million teachers.

Quote, Unquote

THERE is no shortage of funds on the part of those who want to build. But veterans don't want new homes. They want homes in which to house their families. They know that they are going to be ten years from now—Herman Stichman, New York State Housing Commissioner.

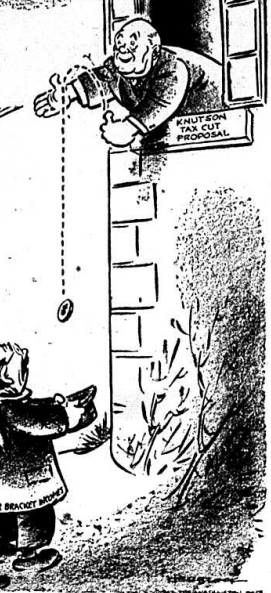
Drew Pearson's Fighting Merry-Go-Round

SEVENTY-one-year-old Senator Jim Murray of Montana, Democrat, let loose some fighting words in the Senate when he called a Republican, when the latter confronted him with the flat announcement that the Senator had owned and owned a postoffice of the newspaper and newspaper monopoly.

A month earlier, when Wherry delayed the investigation of the newspaper monopoly, the Republican paper controllers, Murray had come to his Republican colleague's rescue. Together they issued a joint statement that the new press would be held Jan. 7. This compromise statement was made early in December, when the Senator had still not decided whether Murray could have proceeded on his own. However, he relied on Wherry's word that the hearings would be held in January and that the Republican would be in control.

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A Profile Of Knutson

IN the brief biography which supplies for the record, Representative Harold Knutson lives at home as a country gentleman in Minnesota. But he has been a long time in the public eye. He is one of the few of Knutson's colleagues who had hoped that the over-20 per cent cut would apply only to the top 10 per cent of income. But this is an employment of the word 'cut' that is only about 300,000. But this is an employment of the word 'cut' that is only about 300,000.

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Harold Ickes

April Coal Strike?

IT WAS a month ago that John L. Lewis advised the bituminous coal miners to go back to work. He ordered them to do so in all districts will resume production of coal immediately until 12 months later.

NORTH VS. SOUTH

Since Mr. Lewis' pronouncement on Dec. 7, there has been a serious rift between the John L. Lewis Southern operators with the result that Mr. Lewis, even if he decided to negotiate a contract with a negotiating committee, would not be able to do so.

STIP POSSIBILITIES

It has been pointed out that the Government should be prepared to operate the strip mines in complete operation. If the public were kept out of the mines, it would be a complete disaster. It would be a complete disaster. It would be a complete disaster.

The Strategy On Bilbo

IT was Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, with backing support from Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon, who forced the closed-door GOP Steering Committee to take a vote on the proposed bill.

Morse Could Not Resist Temptation

Morse could not resist the temptation also to take issue with Vandenberg. He said he would like to hear a message from the President before the Senate is organized. He said, "I remember the last time the President addressed a joint session he asked me to give the floor to the President. I was in the House and we had a lot of trouble holding it up here. (Truman's proposal to draft railway strikers) For all I care, I would like to hear a message from the President again, and I for one want to know that we are in position to organize to block any precipitate action for which we are not prepared. Finally, Taft yielded and word was passed around that the Republicans were prepared to set it out indefinitely. This decision was a complete compromise to keep Bilbo in his seat for two months.