

60th Anniversary Year
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HOLIDAY CHEER
MARQUIS CHILDS
The Duggan Affair

THE SIZE OF THE JOB AHEAD

The biggest single issue facing the new 1949 General Assembly which convenes in Raleigh next month is a much-needed and substantial improvement in the State's educational system. It gets top billing for two reasons: the importance to the State's future welfare, and the tremendous cost it will entail.

Some illuminating figures on the relative standing of the states, based on school expenditures in 1946, are given in the accompanying table. North Carolina is seventh in the number of school-age children per 1,000 of total population. We have more children to educate than 41 other states.

Even so, the State has been stretching its budget to do a good job for its schools. We rank well in relative effort, 19th among the 48 states in percentage of average income devoted to all school expenditures, both state and local.

North Carolina is 41st in income payments per capita of population. Despite our large number of children, we are the least financially to educate them than 40 of the states. North Carolina is 43rd in income payments per school age child, an even better indication of our relatively poor financial ability to pay for our school program.

Long ago the State of North Carolina decided that, within its borders, every child should have the same minimum educational opportunity. This education system is divided among the 100 counties on an equalized basis, regardless of how much a particular county may have paid in. And the children of a poor county share the revenues from the wealthier counties.

North Carolina finds itself in a peculiarly enviable financial condition, with all debts paid and a bulging bank account. We can certainly do a great deal more than we have in the past without generating a new Washington with our hands stretched out in supplication for HUD's Federal aid.

THE WRONG APPROACH

ALTHOUGH one can understand the motives which prompted it and agree with the objective which it implies, the State's new State Representative, John B. Regan of St. Paul, has taken a wrong approach in state institutions of learning which had better stay right where it is—in the State.

It is one thing when a professor or teacher tries to convert students to Communism, and if we have such people in our primary or secondary school system, they should be ousted as well as the executives who permitted them to hang around.

LEGACY FOR APARTMENT DWELLERS

THE early American folk musician who gave birth to the tune entitled, "I'm Gonna Move to the Outskirts of Town," might just possibly have had something here.

This could go on indefinitely—the cows that may be just across the way; the fields nearby where you can see the dew or frost, depending on the season; the way you can see your baby cots, or your wife has a penchant for chinking crockery.

There may be some objection if you are a light sleeper and wake up when the first ves voice (that would be about dawn) but you can just catch him on the tail-end of his schedule—say, about 8 o'clock—when the clean, bright, shining and, we might even say golden crow of the cock is fine thing to listen to.

There is a dog, man's best friend when you don't have to keep him in an apartment. Can you imagine playing to a he-stick in two rooms and a kitchenette? lower needs room for romping. Walking down a dirt road with a big red setter padding along behind is one of the good things of life. If you don't like setters, try beagle—same thing.



A Congressional Quarterly Report

Government Overhaul Proposed

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House subcommittee today proposed a sweeping reorganization of the Federal Government, including the elimination of 100,000 jobs and the creation of 100,000 new ones.

The House subcommittee report, which is being prepared by the House Administration Committee, calls for a major reorganization of the Federal Government, including the elimination of 100,000 jobs and the creation of 100,000 new ones.

People's Platform

'Big Bend Boulevard' CHARLOTTE (AP)—The city of St. Louis there is a very famous boulevard which strikes the fancy of all citizens and visitors of that Missouri metropolis. It is "Big Bend Boulevard."

Epitaph For A Patriot

CHARLOTTE (AP)—The death of a free and independent Republic, the death of the great Irish patriot, his last words before death were: "Let not my epitaph be written 'Ireland'."

Quote, Unquote

If you want to see how government has grown, come to Jackson. For a while, the old Capitol was the scene of a ghostly apparition that was quickly filled, and now they are building a big overtopping to house the new legislature.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressman Mundt, who is known as the "Merry-Go-Round" because of his habit of jumping out of windows, said today that he would not be a Communist.

Memo to Congressman Mundt of the Un-American Activities Committee

Dear Mr. Mundt: The body of Larry Duggan crashed to the pavement from the 16th story of a New York building, you announced that Duggan was on the list of State Dept. spies who have given confidential data to Whittaker Chambers. You also stated to the press: "We will give you the names of any who jump out of windows."

Remember, Congressman, that trial by jury and grand jury is a priceless heritage built up by our forefathers through centuries of struggle, not something to be tampered with lightly.

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