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ASKING FOR TOO MUCH POWER

DISPITE the disagreement about details of the Foundation Plan for education, it was obvious in Raleigh this week that both proponents and opponents agree on the ultimate objectives of the Plan - a better educational opportunity for all the children of North Carolina, no matter their race or place of residence.

FOR several years a stirring sentiment has been kindling in the hearts of the people of this State. It was a gradual growth, reflecting step-by-step the efforts of educational leaders, parents, teachers, groups, newspapers and other organs of public opinion - enlightening people about our urgent educational needs.

By the time the General Assembly met in January public opinion was so strong that, properly controlled and directed, it could be forced to larger appropriations that the educational leaders would not readily accept of concentrating on the one goal of obtaining a bigger share of the State's budget surplus and its expanding revenues.

THERE are many objections to the Foundation Plan and above the baffling bewilderment resulting from the complexity of its proposals.

ROUND ONE IN OLEO FIGHT

THE gentlemen on the House Agriculture Committee this morning for the first time since the passage of the bill that is "unfair" for them to buy yellow oleo in the stores, they are either naive or plain stupid, or both.

The Agriculture Committee this week passed a measure which would remove all Federal taxes from oleo, but prohibit the sale of yellow-colored oleo in interstate commerce.

Commented Rep. Anderson of Minnesota, "It is a measure which would remove all Federal taxes from oleo, but prohibit the sale of yellow-colored oleo in interstate commerce."

LO THE LITTLE PRETZEL

SCORN not the noble little pretzel. Or, if you would have it so, the pretzels. For the pretzel has as much chance as he is proud of his part in the success of the companion piece of Mayflower passengers. And in its early days in Rome it was known as the pretzola - or "small reward."

Let us consider for a moment the twisted, swirling little string of dough. It is a sconer of beer on a braunhaus bar, the pretzel is an unrepresentative little piece of pastry, brown in color and flecked with bits of crystalline salt.

But to return to the ancestry of this pretzel it was created originally in the monasteries of Southern France, by devout monks laboring in prayer.

State Board to determine each county's share in the program, the act would just much it would have to levy in local ad valorem taxes in order to get a penny of State money.

The amount of local county-wide funds received by each county for financing the foundation program ... shall be determined according to an index of the relative taxpaying capacity of each county to support public schools as approved by the State Board of Education in co-operation with the Institute of Statistics at North Carolina State College.

The hard-headed County Commissioners of the State object to surrendering such wide authority to any State Board, and rightfully so.

Furthermore, it is extremely unwise to write back into our law the principle that ad valorem taxes should be levied on any kind of a statewide basis for the support of the schools. We abandoned that principle in 1933. If it should again become the law, it is virtually certain that, in times of business recession, a General Assembly would be hard pressed for State revenue.

Finally, the indices used so far to determine each county's share are clearly loaded against industrial areas. Such areas already pay into the State Government many times what they get back, and would be doubly penalized.

WHILE preparing their arguments for the Foundation Plan, educational forces have overlooked the obvious way to improve our schools. There was available, in State surplus, almost \$10,000,000 in 1948. It would have been possible, without any new taxes, to divert enough of that surplus to education in the next two years to equal the amount of the surplus which the Foundation Plan would revolutionize the present school system.

By now, however, most of the surplus funds have already been earmarked in one way or another, and it is not likely that the General Assembly will at this late date, throw out the recommendations of its Advisory Budget Commission and its various committees. There is still the \$30,000,000 cushion fund, if the Legislature can be persuaded to use it.

Nothing is basically wrong with our country's education. It can be cured by more money. But we are not apt to get even that as long as the leaders upon whom we rely for guidance are themselves so insistent in their attitude that they in spiteful confusion instead of confidence and antagonism instead of action.

IRON CODE OF CONDUCT

WHAT was handed down from on high to Marx now has been "solidified" into an absolute rule by the French. It is shown particularly in Burdshaw's discussion of the Communist parties of the world.

The iron curtain around the Kremlin is almost impenetrable and it means a Government investigation; it also means to be hated by some people, to be envied by others and to be skinned by still others.

Our competitor states that he has brought against us for under our own investigation; it also means to be hated by some people, to be envied by others and to be skinned by still others.

DRUG PEARSON'S Merry-Go-Round

THE real truth about the Soviet Cabinet shakeup is that no British or American observer really knows what's going on inside the Kremlin - and this includes our super-secret spy.

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"Help your wife," advises a home economics editor. "When she washes the dishes wash the dishes with her; when she mops the floor, mop the floor with her."

Burmese Ambassador U No Nyum spoke to the people of Boone the other night. Well, he certainly was more high 'em in Boone than he was in Burma.

Roadside Reminders



James Marlow

Ideals Vs. Realities

PRESIDENT TRUMAN says it's through education alone that Western people can fight Communism. "We must have leaders inspired from earlier than we have had."

The Declaration of Independence has shining phrases about all men created equal and the inalienable right to liberty.

But liberty was only an ideal, not a fact, for many for almost 100 years after the words of the Declaration were written.

And even now, for a lot of Americans who shout about democracy, the fact is that all they really get is equal in a fact.

But I wonder how many boys, today, are present, busy memorizing the words, have thought of the difference between the ideal and the reality.

VAST DIFFERENCE And I wonder how many teachers have been acute enough, or felt deep enough about it, to point out the difference.

Design For Peace

WHICH North Atlantic alliance, which finally has been formed in form by all parties, is generally described as a defensive pact.

It is designed to be a powerful means of maintaining peace. Canadian Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent says that the pact is the most important step in the history of the world.

"For my part, I am convinced that this pact will be a step towards the realization of the nations' desire for peace."

There is no doubt that war is avoidable - and I am sure that if we follow our present policy we will have to lack the most elementary realization of the nations' desire for peace.

So the Atlantic alliance is calculated to bring about a new era of peace and stability in the world.

BETTER ENGLISH

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "His wife is more friendly than I am." 2. What is the correct pronunciation of "digest" (noun and verb)?

1. Say, "I'm more friendly than you." 2. Noun, pronounced the same as the verb. Verb, pronounced the same as the noun.

Narrowly Escaped Expulsion

ALTHOUGH, Blanton escaped being expelled from the House by only an eight-vote margin. A total of 293 Congressmen voted to expel him.

The objection was that Blanton had inserted in the House a letter to the French, an employee in the Government Printing Office, addressed to George H. Carter, Public Printer.

Post-Election Notes

SEN. KENNETH S. WHERRY won re-election last Fall with the help of a \$28,750 election campaign fund of which he himself put up only \$2,000.

Blanton left the floor of the House and he collapsed in the corridor, struck his head on the marble floor and had to be assisted to his office.

Marquis Childs

Communism Requires Obedience

EACH time there is evidence of undue movement in the murky darkness of Soviet Russia, the outside world sits in a flutter of speculation.

The latest proof of the unshakable singleness of purpose in the Kremlin is a remarkable document which is being studied and re-studied for its bearing on the present, it is a long article in the Soviet magazine, "Bolshhevik," by E. Burdshaw.

"What makes the article especially significant is the evidence that Stalin takes a personal interest in every word that goes into 'Bolshhevik.'"

"The author quotes Lenin with approval as having said 'that the revolutionary class must first master all methods of combat without any exception whatsoever, and second, must be ready for the most rapid and least expected substitution of one combat method for another.'"

People's Platform

Plane-For-Scott Scored

NOTICE from your good paper that our new Senator Albyth is catching on to modern politics fast. It seems that all you have to do to get a politician is how to spend the taxpayers' money.

Imagine wanting to spend \$100,000 for a plane for Governor to travel over the State of North Carolina. This would necessitate a pilot, co-pilot and numerous other expenses.

Abbreviation No Defense

Blanton was given one hour to defend himself and he argued as his main defense that he had abbreviated the objectionable words.

Blanton told us that he had abbreviated the objectionable words. "Exactly in the same manner as a done on the official record in Texas."

House Rebuked 'S. O. B.' Urner

THE Vice-President of the United States isn't denouncing it, but he once participated in a severe vote of censure of a Congressman who used the same initials recorded in the official records of the United States.

The vote of censure was taken against Rep. Thomas H. Urner of Texas. Passed unanimously by the House of Representatives when Alben Barkley was a member, the resolution stated:

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The People's Platform is available to any Congressman by only an eight-vote margin. A total of 293 Congressmen voted to expel him.

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