

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1949

SOLUTIONS TO AN IMPASSE

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THIS stage it appears that the North
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Carolina Blouse of Representatives and
the State Senate are at a road block over
the 2000 million bond issue election for
Governor Scott's rural road program.

Legislation for the program originated
in the House. There were two separate
billis—one authorizing an election on the
bond issue, the other providing an increase
of one cent on the gazoline tax.

The Senate tabled the two House bills,
then adopted its own original bill which,
tied the two propositions together, making
the gas tax increase contingent upon approval of the bond issue with the ballots should read that approval of the
bond issue would cause an increase in the
Senate went so far as to provide that the
san tax. This was done in the belief it
would help defeat the bond issue.

But when the House received the Senade; measure this week, it amended it to
the specifications of the original House
bills, separating the two proposals once
again. Apparently she Senate size is good to
sead firm. Defeat the should be send of the
season salarmate.

**TWEERE are two ways to bring the Houses
tocsether.

THERE are two ways to bring the Houses

together.
The first, and most obvious, is for the nate to relent and let Governor Scott and the House have their way.

THE NEWS supports this solution for

and the House have their way.

The News supports this solution for their reasons:

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with the General Assembly, and should remain there. It would be a shirking of responsibility and a questionable precedent for the Legislature to permit the people to vote on new taxes, as they would be doing indirectly under the Senate bill.

2. There is, an urgent need for a belief State road program, separate and spart from the Scott urual road scheme. Should the bond issue be defeated, the need for the state of the state o

that if we vote the bonds we're going to have to raise the taxes to pay for them.

The News believes the \$200 million bond same is a fantatie proposition, thoroughly impractical, that it relies on deficit-financing instead of a sounder pay-a-y-ou-go method, and that it unjustly perallizes urban residents who pay approximately half of the gasoline tax without-getting any help in building city streets. Yet all in authority—Scott, House and Senate—have

agreed in principle that there should be a vote on the \$500 million bond issue). But in the enth that this Benate is so firmly resolved against the Scott-House version that it would kill both the bond election and the gasoline tax increase rather than compromise, we would suggest a second solution:

Kill the gas tax increase entirely at this session. Let the people vote on the \$300 million bond issue this Summer. If they approve it, let the 1951 General Assembly pass the one-cent increase on the gasoline

. . .

Ouch a solution would be workable, as a evidenced by the Highway Department's own chart showing the schedule and cost of retiring a \$200 million bind is sue. The chart is based on an interest rate of 2 per cent, and assumes that the bonds will be sold in blocks of \$50 million each—one between 1800, and the solution and the schedule of \$100 million each—one between 1800, and the schedule of \$100 million each—one between 1800, and the schedule of \$100 million each—one between \$100 million each of \$100 million

Fiscal Ye		Carrying Charges
1949-50		
1950-51		
1951-52		3,000,000
1952-53		4,000,000
1954-55		8,000,000
1955-56	A	11,000,000
Mate 41-	-4 466 4-4-1	tine annuting the

Note that the total cost of carrying the \$100 million bond issue for the first four years totals only \$10 million. A one-cent gasoline tax boost will produce a minimum of \$7 million a year. If the tax hike should

of \$7 million a year. If the tax like should be voted now, it would produce at least \$28 million in the next four years—slinost three times what it will cost to earry the bonds.

On the contrary, if the tax boost is delayed until the 1951 General Assembly, it would still produce \$14 million dollars in contrary to the produce \$14 million dollars in contrary to the produce \$15 million dollars in the produce \$15 million cost of the bonds in that period.

enough to meet the 810 million cost of the bonds in that period.

Such a solution conceivably could satisfy both House.

1. The House might like it, since it does not directly the the bond issue and the gas tax increase together;

2. The Senate might like it, since the volers would be aware that approval of the bond issue would mean a tax hike two years from now, and be guided accordingly.

If the bond issue should be voted down under this arrangement, we would be right back where we started, and the 1981 Cenzell Assembly would have to decide wheth-

eral Assembly would have to decide whether er it is advisable to increase the gas tax anyway for an expanded pay-as-you-go system of highway development.

IT'S STILL A BAD BILL

THE N. C. Senate bill providing for an election on a \$50,000,000 bond issue for state grants-in-aid to counties for school buildings is a more equitable measure than it was in its original form, but it

ship basis.

This is just half as bad as the original bill. It should be amended still further when it gets back to the Senate to eliminate such disportionate grants as these:

THE FIRST STEP

NOT until our nameless boulevard which cuts agross town is completed — all three sections of it — will Charlotteans be able to decide for themselves whether the big street is going to do everything its engineer-designers hoped it would do.

From the very first—long before the City Council signed an agreement with the State Highway Commission and the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads—local residents have argued their own theories about the robus it spisoud follow, Few of them have agreed with the engineers.

ret the boulevard was laid out by a scientific and modern formula, according to Pederal and State specifications for such thoroughfares. So far one asegment has been paved and open to traffic. Another

foreign corporations.)

Camden County, with 1,103 school children, will receive \$280,147, or an average of \$35453 per child, or more than six times as into the general fund in 1947-48 \$18,233 exclusive of foreign corporations.)

In other words, Gulford County, which pays into the State 527 times as-much money as Camden, will get back slightly more than three times as much in total money, but less than one-sixth as much per school child.

money, but less than one-sixth as much per school child.

It appears inevitable that the General Assembly will insist on agene kind of flat appropriation to each edunty. That's the best way to get a majority of the legislators to vote for it. But the \$25,000,000 so allocated should be sharply reduced—to \$10,000,000 or even \$5,000,000 if the discrimination against the more populous counties is to be minimized.

Unless the proponents of this school bond issue—which establishes, incidentally, a radically new and questionable departure from State policy—recognize this discrimination and do something about it, they may find that the residents of the more populous counties will oppose this bond issue at the polis under the real that the state of the county of the state of t

segment will join with the Monroe-Lawyers Road area to the east, and a third with the

segment will join with the Monroe-Lawyers Road area to the east, and a third with the Wilkinson Boulevard to the west.

Even then the boulevard will be merely the first step in a master plan for the whole city which will eventually include several other major street projects.

Thus it is difficult at the moment to assess its impact on Charjotte traffic. But it is not too early to give proper recognition of the control of the proper proper proper proper proper proper proper proper proper form of the proper proper proper printen for the boulevard.

Mr. Douglas accepted the opinion of the engineers as to the routes and stood firmly behind the project at a time when it was a so well along with it is a tribute to his willingness to accept criticism and to throw his influence behind a project he believed to be in the best interest of the city and the state.

'Let's Be Sure To Make Good On This Part Too, Huh?'



People's Platform

Buying Stock In Government

ation of your precinct, closing once, etc., see awapers.

If you wappers, or voting age and full to resister and a voter without some walld secure, absence, the same of the same walld secure, absence, the same of the same the same term, "slacker". You decide for yoursell sole word is more descriptive. You are negligent, old word is more descriptive. You are negligent of we and your friends, your neighbors and the committy in which you live. You are setting a bad ample to those about you who may look upon you different sitting to want to the same your way to work the work of the same your way to work you want to the same your way to work you want to want you want to work you want to work you want to want you want to want you want

Life And Death Matter

got one routin vaccount and the service.

This service is being broadcast, is being sent to be countries of the world, and Great Britain has ansmitters on the air. None of the eight North ina stations that I can reach have even a word to about this vital pact. In a short time this will be dismissed and many of our youth

will rush for the ball fields. But the next genera-

same treaty.

And as our own Marine Band plays "Hall to
the Chief" not one North Carolina station is tuned
in and the yould does not get the very program that
may be the state of the state of the state of the state of the world, but in North Carolina nothing but
soap operas and Jazz. I'll bet the Hotentota have
stopped their Hoten Truter to listen.

stopped their Hot'en Tot'en to listen.

How can the youth of North Carolina know anythink about the Atlantic Pact, or the U.N. If they
cannot get the broadcasts over their local stations?

Why should the children of other nations be better
informed than our American children?

—MISS JESSIE M. BOYD, R.D.

Editorial On Politics

SOUTHERN PINES

MY wife is a very quiet, dignifred—sound, just the
MY wife is a very quiet, dignifred—sound, just the
41 years of happy married life.
Last Saturday night, after I had gone to bed,
the came into my room and asked if I were awake,
said she had something that, she wanted me to wake,
said she had something that, she wanted me to wake,
said she had something that, she wanted me to wake,
said she had something that wanted me to wake,
said she had something that wanted me to wate,
said she had so wanted to be a sound to

News. Shee polance to your access from their in a non-time that I have seen her take that much him lines in non time that I have seen her take that much him lines in many their take that when their take in the constraints of the clearers and been to be comparabled on such clear thinking and word pettures of what is happening. oncervative and I am a liberal, sihe would cancel my voice every election; that is, if she could remember to register and on tention to election day—that is one time she is on her own. -CALVIN H. BURKHEAD.

Quote, Unquote

NEED A HANDLE
Waddya call people who live in Opelousas? Opelouslans is one thing, that we know. But when most considered that the considered that

Fortunate is the man who has a pleasant job and the good sense to know it.—Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.

Marquis Childs

Get On With The Job

CIVEN the fumbling of the party
In power and the obstruction
for obstruction's sake of the party
cut of power, the wonder is that
anything gets done. And the answer,
all too often, is that it doesn't.
A minor but nevertheless significant example conservations.

mince but nevertheless significant in the content of the content o

James Marlow

Economy And Isolation

other pact-aigners feel we're letting them down. The foreign now see at down the pact and now see at down the pact and now see at down the pact want mean an exercise in penmanally unless Congress breathes the breath of the pact wont mean any more than an exercise in penmanally unless Congress town all in the hands of Congress now, all in the hands of Congress now, minders of nations — includior retained to the pack the pact was mindered to the pact was not all in the hands of Congress now.

All the ceremony about signing the pact work mean any more than congress never the congress breaths the breath of life into it. It's all in the hands of congress never the congress of the congress never the congress of the congress never the

READ and REMEMBER By W. L. Gordon

my rt. n. uspress
During a "siorm in Nakal South
Africa, in 1876, hallstones fell which
weighed a pound and a half. They
passed through a corrugated from
per. Hallstones 16 inches in circumterence fell in New South Wales.
Australia, in the Stitle South wales.
Australia, in the Stitle of the same stake in the British conttended to the same stake in the British contland. Scotland, and Ireland prespectively.

new allies equip themselves against attack.

And Congress may vote only a little of the money, or none at all, even though that might make the area of the world.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

No Grudge Borne On Pension Stand

A HANDFUL of World War II Congressmen who dared to oppose Rep. Rankin's multibillion-dollar pendon scheme had a showdown the other day with Perry Brown, national commander of the American Legion. The table-lighted the sand-pendon voting stand of the war veterans in Congress.

Decreased in the threats, Congressman Olin "Tiger" Teague Treas wired the American Legion commander and brought my to Capitol Hill. While Brown waited in the House State Line. Those Johns the House Line Line. Those Johns the huddle Included Congressman ten Davis of Wisconsin, Jack Kennedy of Masschusetts, m Nolan of Indiana, Harold Patten of Arizona and George mathers of Piorida.

Truman Won't Go To Dinner

NT TRUMAN really let a friend down when he is scheduled speech at the testimonial dinner Weizmann, first president of the new state of

The man who originally arranged for Truman's appearance as the dimore in New York was Col. Louis Johnson forthright new Secretary of National Defense Serveral months ago, Johnson dropped in at the White House and asked:

"Mr. President, do you remember when things were considered to the president of the president of the president of the president of the president for any of the first man was to stand up and say," I pridge \$100,000 to re-elect President Truman's Well, the president who have been supported by the president for the president of the president of the president for the president with the president of the president for the p

"All right Louis," said the President, Till do it. You call up Abe and tell him it's OX."

call up Abe and tell him it's OX."

MI could be and tell him it's OX."

MI could be an out to the presidential secretary and country of the Abenders are right. Perinber, was about the happiest man in the USA—until saddersly Trundscaped his mind, decided he couldn't go to New York to New York to the Couldney of the Abenders of the Couldney of the President has indicated to intimates that the Jeres let him down in the November campaign. He points out they failed to carrylewer York.

Better Than 83 Per Cent Prediction

Capital News Capsules

DUSINESS Recession—The Prededret's Council of Exoconds of Exoconds