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Loophole In Liability Insurance Law

A CHARLOTTE lady who was injured in an auto accident asks, in PEOPLE'S PLATFORM, a question most appropriate on Saving Driving Day. "Is it," she asks, "a North Carolina law to carry liability insurance or not? If it then why isn't it enforced for everybody?"

The answer to her first question is "No." The 1953 General Assembly included many North Carolinians to carry auto liability insurance. The legislature passed the Motor Vehicle Responsibility Law, which became effective on Jan. 1, 1954. It provides that operators of all cars involved in accidents that result in injury or property damages in excess of \$100 must immediately report the accident to a policeman on duty.



The Debt Will Rise Again

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON
WHEN Treasury Secretary George M. Humphrey acknowledged Dec. 6 that the Eisenhower administration "cannot balance the budget for fiscal 1956, he quickly drew blood from Sen. Harry Flood Byrd (D-Va.).

Humphrey has already estimated a budget deficit of \$4.7 billion for the current 1955 fiscal year. And as of Dec. 3, the debt had mounted to \$273.3 billion. \$3.3 billion more than the permanent ceiling. Moreover, the debt had jumped nearly \$4 billion within the first three months after the ceiling was temporarily raised.

Byrd consistently has opposed a permanent increase in the \$275 billion limit, and only went along with the temporary \$6 billion boost approved in August with great reluctance. He said Aug. 13 that the "temporary authority to exceed the permanent debt limit should not be renewed. The administration can prepare the next budget for fiscal 1956 so that deficit spending began 'we have increased the federal debt from \$16 billion to approximately \$29 billion.'

Hodges: A Blow For Majority Rule

IN A political climate of timidity and vacillation about legislative redistricting, Gov. Hodges' words were like a breath of fresh air. I would like to express my interest in the proper redistricting of our state, as provided for by the constitution of North Carolina. As you know, the 1951 and 1953 sessions of the General Assembly did not comply with this requirement. If we are to continue to have representative government, under the constitution of our state constitution, I believe that the General Assembly should act upon this matter during the next session.

could even use to abuse and tax the majority. But because legislators have neglected to implement a constitutional mandate ("each senate district shall contain as near as may be an equal number of inhabitants"), a rural minority of people has gained enormous power in the state Senate.

A Life Is Saved

From "Spotlight" published by the Naxos Federation of Independent Business.
TOMORROW a life will be saved. Tomorrow an accident which would have happened will not happen. A driver will glance at his speedometer and ease his foot from the accelerator—and an accident will have been prevented.

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OUR TREELSS JUNGLES

SOME years back it was the fashion for small towns to want to be as civilized as possible. Noting that cities had almost universally shunned down every tree in sight to enjoy the advantages of telephone lines, electric lines and blistering hot pavements, the country cousins were not long following.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THIS week happens to be the 22nd birthday of the column which whirled under the above caption; also it's the natal anniversary of the author of the column. It's also his four years since Joe McCarthy delivered an hour-long diatribe on the Senate floor demanding that this column be boycotted; and when first employed Indian Charlie, the howl-belted tactics in the man's cloakroom of the Silverage Club.

How McCarthyism Hurt 'Little People'

Unfortunately they forget that Joe didn't start on communism until 1950, by which time the Justice Department had already indicted the top Communist leaders of the nation. I had exposed the Soviet spy ring in Canada in February, 1946, the year McCarthy was elected to the Senate. I had warned the State Department about Alger Hiss, also in 1946; and exposed the Russian blueprint laboratory in a Silver Spring, Md., basement in September, 1947.

Joe was four years late waking up to this danger, but when he did wake up he started a wave of terroristic tactics in government that sometimes out-McCarthyed McCarthy. That is one of the worst results of McCarthyism, those who are afraid they will be exposed by Joe if they don't outdo Joe.

For instance, in July, 1953, the Navy Department suspended Abraham Chasnov, after 20 years' service. No charge was placed against him. For one whole year he couldn't even find out what the suspicion was. Finally the Washington newspapers took up the case, and the Navy belatedly reined Chasnov with a formal and public apology.

From The Wrightsville (Ga.) Headlight

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Joe's Defenders

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Late 'Loyalty Oath' Was Neither Oath Nor Pledge

From The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

A DISPATCH to the Virginian-Pilot from New Orleans dealing with the meeting of the Democratic National Committee, quoted the statement of Stephen A. Mitchell as announcing that "the idea of requiring a personal pledge of convention delegates to support the national nominees—a move that threatened to split the party in 1952—had been abandoned."

The dispatch quoted Sen. Humphrey of Minnesota, who led the fight for the so-called "loyalty oath" at the 1952 convention, as saying that "any such pledge is 'out.'" He referred also to "the obvious victory for the southern wing of the party, which has balked at committing itself to any candidate in advance of its actual choice by the convention."

People's Platform

Please keep letters brief, and give name and address. Names may be withheld. The News reserves the right to condense.

Is There A Loophole In Car Accident Law?

Editor, The News: Charlotte
I HAVE been reading the "People's Platform" for some time and enjoy it very much. People seem to respond to your column very well, and I wonder if some of your readers might have for me an answer to something I have been wondering about for some time.

McCarthy's Impact

It will take a long time for the government to set over its present Gestapo-NEKVD tactics toward its own public servants. Even more important, it will take State Department diplomats a long time to get away from the habit of reporting to a McCarthy committee rather than reporting on what they consider to be the truth.

Instead of the resolution's being one which required a personal pledge of convention delegates to support the national nominees, it is a statement of belief in majority rule and (2) a statement that every delegate, in order to be the best of people, has assurance that he would exert every honorable means "in any official capacity" to have the party nominees listed as Democratic nominees on the official ballot.

To argue that this resolution constitutes a "loyalty oath" in the normal sense, or that it binds delegates in advance to support the nominees, is to disregard the words of the resolution. The only basis for such an argument is the statement of belief in majority rule and show it in nearly every action they take. It is just as obvious that such a belief does not pledge or bind a delegate to follow the majority to every crossed T and dotted I.

People's Platform

It was not a "loyalty oath" in any real sense of the phrase. It was not a pledge to be taken by the delegates. It was not the nominees of the convention. It did not require the southern wing of the party to commit itself to any candidate in advance of its actual choice by the convention.

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