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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1954

Put The Question To The People

HOW WOULD you like a job... it's a position over in the eastern part of the state? It involves travel. (Unfortunately you will not be reimbursed...)

Alabama pays \$20 per day plus mileage for one round trip. Florida pays \$17.50 per day plus mileage for four round trips.

As you may have surmised, the job under consideration is that of North Carolina state legislator. Despite all one may say about the prestige and intangible benefits deriving from membership in the Raleigh delegation, legislators are grossly underpaid.

Were it only legislators who suffer from this poor pay scale would not be concerned. For they have largely themselves to blame. Legislators can initiate a constitutional amendment providing for an increase in their salaries...

It is not that way in all states. New York and Illinois legislators get \$10,000 a year plus expenses. California pays \$7,200. Wisconsin \$4,800 and both add expenses. Some other southern states pay more than North Carolina...

It is for these reasons that we resent rather than applaud the statements of legislators, usually voiced as a session draws to a close, that they will not advocate burdening the taxpayers further with a pay raise for assembliesmen.

It's A Dun, But It'll Be Fun

THIS newspaper shares the ardent wish of many members of this community that all could be done with this business of solicitation... so that the vastly more enjoyable work of community service could be concentrated on.

It will be much more than a televised request for money. It will be a presentation of top flight and varied entertainment. Production costs are minimal...

How 'Dixiecrats' Got Their Name

WHAT President Eisenhower needs is not another public relations adviser. It's a harried headline writer.

South started by "Thad" Stevens, Stanton and other haters in 1867 when they succeeded in having the "Reconstruction" act declared unconstitutional.

It isn't just that laborious catchwords themselves to derive parody. (Onward, upward, more inflation, with progressive moderation.) Slogans have to be short and clear.

But the term stuck. AS NIEMAN REPORTS noted in its October, 1948 issue: The test of Bill Weisner's innovation is the way it immediately caught on.

During the 1948 campaign the states Rights Democrats were winning it in Dixie. Bill Weisner, The News' telegraph editor, tore a story about him off the printer and scratched his head.

To get back to 1954—and 1956—even a headline writer won't be able to fit the President self "progressive moderation." "PM" is too reminiscent of prime ministers, district left-wing newspapers, post mortems, provost marshals, post-masters, police magistrates, post masters and pattern makers...

ALAS, POOR COOKIE

WHAT has happened to the American cookie? The kind that mother and grandmother, a snow of flour on the hands, made in a warm kitchen redolent of spice and chocolate...

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Oh, where are the tropic oceans, Dresden delights, orange crescents, coconut jumbles and marmalade triangles of yesterday? Where has the traditional chocolate cookie vanished?

The saying that you can't keep a good man down was written before the government took over everybody's business.—ELLAVILLE (GA.) SUN.

Gas Stations, Bus Line, Merchants All Win This Way

By JOHN J. CLARKE

In The Baltimore Evening Sun

THE PRIVATE bus company which services metropolitan Providence, R. I., has come up with an unusual plan for increasing its patronage and for easing some of the city's downtown traffic problems.

Basically, the plan involves the use of numerous gasoline stations in outlying sectors of the city as parking areas for motorists with business downtown.

Downtown merchants stand to benefit greatly from "Park 'N Ride." Traffic woes, coupled with high rates at midtown parking lots, have been chasing motorists away from downtown shopping centers.

The scheme is designed primarily to boost the number of persons riding buses in Providence as in most American communities, bus patronage has been dropping steadily since World War II.

The plan is to have the bus stop at one of the many gas stations in the city. The plan could have come up with a worthless stub from a downtown parking lot. During the second month of operation, 31 per cent of the drivers taking advantage of the plan made purchases at the stations where they are now much less skeptical.

The average "Park 'N Ride" patron is a woman shopper, she will enter the "lender-scraper zone," who uses the plan approximately 1.2 times a week and is downtown and back in an average of 3 hours and 20 minutes.

There is also hope that "Park 'N Ride" will reduce considerably the traffic snarl caused by too many automobiles on downtown streets. Traffic woes, coupled with high rates at midtown parking lots, have been chasing motorists away from downtown shopping centers.

The motorist realizes that it is convenient to have the tank filled or the car garaged while he is downtown shopping. In the end, he has more to show off his money than just a worthless stub from a downtown parking lot.

During 1953, the Providence company built a parking lot of its own at the Providence-Cranston city line. Situated along one of the city's major traffic arteries, this lot was comparatively large, handling about 150 cars.

The UTC set out to operate freight express buses from this lot into downtown Providence. At first there was no parking charge for the first four hours and a 25-cent fee for nine hours thereafter. Later, all parking charges were dropped.

The plan also offers a ready-made answer. They were ideally deployed for the UTC's purposes and many had small adjacent areas which could be utilized for parking.

The UTC surveys have turned up other interesting facts. The figures indicate that the plan has not been a drawing week-long "freeloaders" — all-day parkers looking for a place to park in the downtown area.

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People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

Thanks To Those Who Support The Telethon

Editor, The News: AS PRESIDENT of the United Community Service of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, I would like to publicly express the gratitude and appreciation of the many thousands of people who believe in our United Appeal, to WBT and WBTV, and each and every member of their staff for the wonderful contribution they are making in presenting the Telethon this Saturday and Sunday.

Shouldn't UA Support The Cancer Drive?

Editors, The News: I NOTED with interest the recent account of the failure of the United Appeal to meet its goal of \$261,688. The drive was even extended because it fell short by \$115,600, and attempts are still being made to collect funds.

Quintuplicate

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Who Promoted Van Fleet?

Gen. George Marshall, who was given credit for the head of a government to make a formal request of a U. S. military man. However, he acted anyway, and later sent Gen. James Van Fleet to reorganize the demoralized Greek army.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

CIVIL defense has now decided the President's air raid shelter, built for the FBI during World War II, is not completely safe. It is no secret to anyone that this is buried on the White House grounds, so it's feared that a direct H-bomb hit would scoop the vault-like shelter right out of the earth.

Eisenhower Assigned A Different Gae

He will have to take his chances in the White House shelter. This is a small, compact, subterranean shelter, encased in four feet of solid concrete, reinforced with steel. It is equipped with its own heating system, power plant, communications network and water supply.

U.S. Policy Toward China Likely To Be Debated Again

WASHINGTON CHANG Kai-shek "These were the so-called 'Shiang' policies attacked by the Democrats during the 1954 Congressional campaign. So far as concerns Chiang Kai-shek, Democrats will have ample opportunity to ask questions when the Senate considers the recently negotiated mutual security pact between the United States and the Republic of China."

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