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A Dramatic Program For Better Roads

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER's call for a 10-year, \$50-billion-dollar highway program raises a new question that has long been in controversy: To what extent should the federal government participate in highway construction?

of government that properly belong to the states and local communities. Road-building, however, is a rather special category. There should be overall planning of great national highway systems at the national level. There should be greater uniformity of design and of safety regulations. Most important of all, new highway systems should meet the needs of national defense in the century of the atomic bomb.

A number of the governors attending the Bolton Landing conference think that road building is the function of the states. They want Uncle Sam to stop levying a gasoline tax of two cents on the gallon and leave that source of revenue exclusively to the states.

Hence, we are resigned to a continued federal role in road building as a practical necessity, even though we may object to it in theory. The individual states can't get together on so simple a thing as establishing uniform truck weights. It would be too much to expect them to build an adequate national highway network without guidance and stimulation from the federal government.

President Eisenhower seems to lean toward the congressional viewpoint. Although Vice President Nixon, who delivered the address by proxy, stressed "cooperation" and "local management" in deference to those governors who are hostile to federal participation in road building, the inference was clear that Uncle Sam would pick up the ball and carry it if the states neglect their responsibilities.

That having been said, President Eisenhower's goal of a 10-year, \$50-billion-dollar road building program is certainly worthy. And the increased economic opportunity and activity which always follow sensible road building programs would make the program a real bargain.

In general, The News favors minimum federal interference in those functions



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.

Give Negro A Break, Says Southern G.I.

By BRAGG EDITOR: The News... I'm not disturbed by the recent Supreme Court decision. Certainly, one of the South's most fundamental traditions is challenged.

Going To Leave N. C. Soon As He's Free

Gastonia Editors: The News... WELL, it looks like the old days are coming back to North Carolina, like it was in 1930, but there's lots more money here than there was in those days.

Dewey Is Tired Of Albany, Galled By Brash FDR Jr.

By DORIS FLEESON famous name that Mr. Dewey resents. He is not so bitter even in the case of Gov. Dewey of New York graduates into acerbity.

Matusow's Story Points Up A Problem

A CONFUSED young man appeared before a House committee this week. His story illustrates a real problem for the government, particularly the congressional committees which created the problem.

Actually the committee needs only to look at congressional committee files to conclude whether or not Matusow is a liar. On Oct. 8, 1952, he wrote before the Internal Security Subcommittee that "In New York City today there are approximately 600 dues-paying Communists working in the newspaper industry."

Weeks Was Wearing Rose-Colored Glasses

Charlotte Editors: The News... SECRETARY Weeks is so choked up that he can't even remember the facts of his own life. He stated that the pessimists and certain political dopsters had

Amazing Facts

Despite this handicap, however, and with the strong support of Senator Langer, a Republican, the Senate committee has already uncovered some amazing facts. Here are some of them:

Democracy - Utility Deal Exposed

Questioned by senators as to why Gibbs & Hill exited so suddenly, Von Tresckow said that officials of the company had come to see him on May 6 and said they were sorry but they had to pull out.

Battle For Better Health Goes On

CHARLOTTE'S significant place in the national health picture is brought into clear focus by the Bureau of Medical Economics of the American Medical Association. Sitting data from 48 states and the District of Columbia, AMA experts placed the Queen City among 88 "prime primary" (we suppose that's a new way of saying "A-1") medical centers in the nation—spots where every type of medical treatment and surgery is offered.

In this instance, then, as in other cases involving imaginative informers, an irresponsible and unscrupulous person originally permitted injustice to be done. False impressions were created; people and organizations unjustly accused. The decision of the House Committee on Un-American Activities to question Matusow indicates that the committee may be becoming more aware of its responsibility.

The work has been done almost single-handedly by Sidney Day, former law clerk of Justice Hugo Black, whom Sen. Gordon had an excellent record on who was immediately snatched up by New York City at a higher salary to handle its power problems. Eisenhower

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But it is enough merely to guard against future injustices caused by rockless witnesses? No, not these committees and the Justice Department, several of whose professional informers are now under investigation by the department itself, have a responsibility to re-evaluate the testimony of those who have used them, to prosecute the liars and make amends to unjustly accused persons and groups?

Surely, if the government is to have the confidence of the American people, these further steps must be taken.

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