

Political Palliatives Will Not Do

WHERE surgery is needed, an aspirin has been prescribed.

Sen. C. V. Henkel proposed certain reforms this week designed to plug some of the loopholes in North Carolina's absentee voting law.

In introducing his bill Thursday, the freed-lens legislator predicted that it would "correct the majority of the misuses of the absentee ballot."

His suggestions undoubtedly represent earnest efforts to remedy a bad situation. For instance, under present law a member of the family of a person planning to vote absentee may go to the county elections chairman, fill out a voting application, obtain the ballot, take it to the voter for marking and then return it to the chairman.

Under the Henkel plan, a member of the voter's family could still fill out the application for the voter. But the chairman would have to mail the ballot to the voter or deliver it in person. The voter would mark it and

either mail it or deliver it back to the chairman in person.

This is all very fine. But instead of correcting "the majority of misuses," why not correct them all?

The provisions of the Henkel bill would indeed make it more difficult for votes to be sold. But it would still be possible to cheat. The absentee ballot would still be the source of trouble and suspicion. It would still be a weapon which a disgruntled, losing candidate could seize upon to belabor all election officials, his county and his state.

No political palliatives aren't enough. The entire civilian absentee ballot law should be repealed. The problem should be attacked at the source.

The state had the good sense to abolish the absentee ballot in primaries back in 1939. It should have sense enough now to extend that action to general elections.

Fair Play: A Philosophical Gap

LIKE a genie rising from a bottle, Twilight D. Eisenhower's famous Wild Bill Hickok remark came back to haunt Washington.

Perhaps it was one of those spur-of-the-moment asides but it seemed, at that time at least, to represent deep conviction.

In praising what he called the Hickok code, Mr. Eisenhower spoke of "the right to meet your accuser face to face, your right to speak your mind and be protected..."

It has been more than a year since those sentiments were expressed. There is still little resemblance between the administration's security rules for government employees and the fair play principles the President mentioned. It re-represents another disturbing philosophical gap between the general and his lieutenants.

The new security setup unveiled by the administration leaves much to be desired. There are a few changes in procedure, but the methods are fundamentally the same. There is still little or nothing to protect government workers from malicious and anonymous charges.

To underline the administration's position, we find Atty. Gen. Brownell vigorously defending the system of anonymous informers before the U. S. Supreme Court.

But this is not all. The well advertised "improvements" have other sogg spots. For instance, the new program requires only that charges be "specific enough to be meaningful." It is merely "suggested" that a personal interview with an employee prior to his dismissal "is helpful in most instances."

An employee does not have to be fully informed now of the reasons for his dismissal at the time of suspension, however. This was not necessary before. Old regulations provided simply that charges be made "as specific and detailed as security considerations permit," including "all derogatory information except that which will reveal the source of the information or the identity of confidential informants." In practice, this was meaningless.

We might share Mr. Brownell's enthusiasm for the anonymous informer if we had not seen the kind of people the government usually relies on—the Harvey Lowmans, the Paul Crouches, the Marie Navies.

There are simply not enough safeguards in such a system to prevent ignorance, carelessness and malice from entering into the delicate judgment of a citizen's reliability.

Women's Legs & What They Inspired

IT SEEMS that American women became somewhat fatigued with pulling nylon full fashioned hosiery up their legs. There was some talk that the seams would not stay straight (perpendicular).

Several years ago, the full fashioned hosiery producing industry became aware of the sad fate (sad for knitting mills, at least) that women in large number had adopted "the bare leg fad."

The hosiery producing industry, which North Carolina leads, began trying to do something about this bare leg fad.

introduced "stretch" nylon line was leading a "revolution" in the women's hosiery producing industry.

That prediction is proving well founded. More and more mills are offering "stretch" nylon full fashioned lines. The number now is relatively large — with the lapse of only a few months for design development and machinery change-over.

Prices drop, not sagging sales alone, have contributed to the hosiery maker's present speaker of the House of Representatives was in his thirties and a very green congressman, he brought a new bride to Washington. They remained married five months. Then she confided that she had made a mistake, that she had been in love with another man. Sam was heartbroken. But he got her back to Texas to the man she loved.

From The Sanford Herald

THEY'RE MAKING HISTORY

THE trouble with the General Assembly passing a resolution declaring "the mixing of the races in the public schools within the state cannot be accomplished" is that the members don't know whether it can or not. The statement, which the attorney general asked for to support the argument he will place before the Supreme Court against full and sudden integration, may well reflect the convictions of both the lawmakers and members of the general assembly, but a future historian may find its dogmatism amusing—or perhaps ironic.

Declarations of what can and should and can't be done about the Negro are not new to Raleigh. They punctuated proceedings during the constitutional convention of 1868. They dominated the Democratic convention and legislative debates preceding adoption of the disfranchisement amendment at the turn of the century. Some of them have proven less than prophetic.

For instance, George Roundtree, chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, told the legislature of 1899 that "fitness of self-government was largely a matter of heredity. It must be obtained by inheritance and not by schools and learning."

only accepted but courted. (And it ought to be remembered that Mr. Roundtree was just as ready to snatch the ballot from ignorant whites as from Negroes, that he and his associates wanted was Bourbon control.)

When it was suggested that the Supreme Court might reject the "grandfather clause" he advocated, Mr. Roundtree replied slyly: "Your committee did not think this worthy of consideration."

A tremendous history book ought to be placed at the date of each presiding officer of the General Assembly. It would remind legislators that when they make amendments, both formal and informal, they are leaving a record to be perused by generations in a position to separate the sound from the silly.

People's Platform

Editors, The News: In regard to the article in Tuesday's News concerning the parking situation of downtown Charlotte as proposed by Mr. Herman Hoese, city traffic engineer, I think it would be wise for him and a few of our more wide awake city officials (Mayor Van Evert, Councilmen Jim Smith, Herman Brown, Herbert Hatters) to make a survey of the bottlenecks in the outlying suburbs.

While on my way home from work Wednesday, April 13, a great many of us motorists sat at the railroad crossing at East Blvd. and Camden Rd. from 4:26 p.m. until 5:24 p.m. or a total of 28 minutes. The freight train was blocking the crossings at Tremont Ave., East Blvd., Park Ave., Bland St. and probably Palmer St. It would seem likely that something could be done to improve this situation and would surely relieve the problem downtown.

If these fine men and the officials of Southern Railroad could get together and move the train schedule to 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. I am sure traffic would move at a much faster pace.

Maybe in this way the merchants will not be denied a few dollars by taking the parking of the streets at the suggested hours of Mr. Hoese.

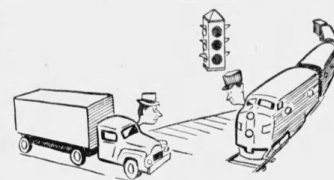
—GEORGE RAYMOND WILSON P.S. The train incident mentioned above is an everyday problem and did not just happen on the day indicated.

Non-Striking Workers 'Proud To Be Scabs'

Editors, The News: IN VIEW of the telephone strike which is affecting employees in nine southern states, I would like to say a few words in behalf of the "scabs" at work.

I am a Southern Bell employee and proud of that fact. I reported for duty the first day of the walkout on March 14. My

Traffic Strymed At Charlotte's Rail Crossings



THAT OLD FAMILIAR BOTTLENECK Is A Schedule Change The Answer?

co-workers and I, in endeavoring to render the public good telephone service at this time, have been berated and spoken of in a derogatory manner that is typical of a class of trouble makers who are infiltrating themselves into most of our union groups!

The majority of working people today respect organized labor. "Big Business" wants collective bargaining, but naturally they expect fair treatment in return. Southern Bell has been more than lenient in past years regarding CWA just about anything they asked for within reason. In return they are asking for a "no strike clause" for the duration of the contract, which in all fairness to the company, should be accepted. It is grossly unfair to the CWA union members for their union leaders to keep them off their jobs with pretentious propaganda that the company is trying to "hust up their union" by taking away their right to strike.

"Scabs" are rebuked daily for working without a contract. We are happy to say that we can tell no difference in company policy. We receive the same rate of pay (according to the basic salary of each individual employee) as we did before the walkout. The company has been more than fair in every detail and working conditions have not changed since the contract terminated.

We, who are working, have taken time to look at the picture from both sides! Having made the decision to stay on the job and perform the duty entrusted to us by our company, we sincerely feel that we are fulfilling a sacred obligation to our community. The calls must go through and we intend to see that telephone service is not disrupted during this emergency!

We wish to thank the kind people who have written letters of commendation, sent flowers and called to express their appreciation for our being on the job!

—MRS. MARGARET BURNS Service Assistant, Unit 1 Southern Bell Telephone Co.

Capital Punishment: 'Barbarous Practice'

Editors, The News: CAPITAL punishment does not cure crime. Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Rhode Island and Wisconsin have abolished the death penalty. All states among the ten with the lowest homicide rates. Abolition of the death penalty both in American states and abroad has been followed by a decrease in the murder rate. Its elimination has never caused an increase in crime.

The whole concept of capital punishment is scientifically and historically on a par with other medieval medicine and a belief in witchcraft. It is a barbarous practice which has failed to accomplish any good result. In fact, it actually has had the opposite effect in that it makes conviction slower and more difficult.

He who commits any capital crime is a diseased person whom it is wrong for society to destroy. Study is needed in the realm of sociology and psychology to determine intelligently the causes of such crimes. Then, the conditions that produce crime should be attacked with vigor.

If there are those who believe in it, let them be given the opportunity to say that a lifetime bond—such as I would hope any high school graduate could be—could speak in the highest court of the land, prophesy for the people of this state, under any circumstances, "racial tensions and animosities unparalleled since those terrible days which gave rise to the original Ku Klux Klan."

—ORA WILBERT EADS

Since FDR's Death, 'Persistent Erosion'

Editors, The News: THERE HAS BEEN a persistent erosion of our liberties since Roosevelt's death. The only period in our American history was the era of the Alien and Sedition Laws following the French Revolution—a time of which we are all ashamed. Our friends throughout the world must be asking the question raised by George F. Kennan, former ambassador to Moscow, in an article in the New York Times on March 6, 1955: "Are there really people in our government, who believe that our own political philosophy is so unconvincing, our attachment to it so weak, our youth so ill-informed and glib, and the outlook of our adversaries, on the other hand, so forceful, so logical, so persuasive — that we must shield our people physically from every confrontation with Communist thought?"

Indeed, there are such people, but we reject their counsel of fear. We hold no doubt for the future of our free institutions in an open competition. As F. D. I had said: "We have nothing to fear, but fear itself."

—S. DIENGELEWSKI

Keep Outsiders Out Of Southern Affairs

Editors, The News: WHAT GOOD is a ruling by a court if no one has the will to enforce it?

The people of the Southland feel that the Negro should have less than the betterment of life for his family and himself, good schools, churches, homes, jobs and pay for his work; homes if he wishes to build, good medical care, good hospitals, anything he wishes as long as it's done honorably by him or anyone else.

—HARRIET DOAR

New Movie Theater For The West Side?

Editors, The News: WE would like to see someone build a movie theater on the west side out there on the park or shopping center. We have to leave all the way to another section of all the way uptown now. We want an indoor, air-conditioned, plush neighborhood theater.

—FRANCIS GAYLORD EDNA WEBSTER

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Sam Rayburn Has One Love: Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Speaker of the House of Representatives was the only man to rule the unruly House of Representatives as they sat on the Speaker's dais at a press club dinner the other day.

Turkey, the King of Greece. He knows almost every hook of worn white and black material between his office and the Speaker's rostrum. And on his shelves are copies of the laws he has enacted and the debates which enacted them.

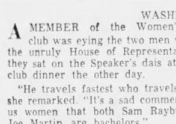
"The other is the big business sycophant. Your real friends from Missouri will come to testify and you'll buy so they'll go back home. But the big business boys will hang around for months, you're careful, you're gonna get a lot of advice from them. And their advice isn't gonna be like the fellow from Missouri."

—FRANCIS GAYLORD EDNA WEBSTER

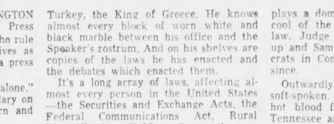
He knows every barber in the House barbershop by name. He knows the district gavel which he has called the House to order — when Queen Elizabeth spoke, when MacArthur spoke, the President of France, the President of

Turkey, the King of Greece. He knows almost every hook of worn white and black material between his office and the Speaker's rostrum. And on his shelves are copies of the laws he has enacted and the debates which enacted them.

"The trouble is he doesn't know any more what's going on than Ulysses S. Grant was a fine man until he got elected President. When Lee surrendered (Sam's father served under Lee), he told Grant: 'My men are starving. They will have nothing to eat but hot tomatoes.'"



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