



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Taxes: A Cat For Wayward Mice

FISCAL experts for the county and city do most of their work in the thick underbrush of six and seven-digit figures. In this kind of terrain, a few dollar bills in lost taxes may not seem to matter much.

But, bundled up, the dollar bills would become considerable sums. Bundled up, they also would have a considerable impact on the tax rate.

For years, tax evasion in Mecklenburg has been easy and popular. Because this was true, the honest citizen—the one who always lists his taxes correctly, pays the bill on time and buys the required number of licenses and permits—has been made to suffer.

It is good, at long last, to see a new day arriving.

One hopeful symptom of the new vigilance on the part of government is the crackdown on Mecklenburgers who buy their automobile licenses in South Carolina to evade local taxes.

Robert Alexander of the county tax supervisor's office estimates that there are 1,000 or more local violators. City and county policemen have gone to ferret them out.

The significance of the crackdown is this: North Carolina automobile registrations are the only records local tax authorities have to check persons who are found to list their automobiles as taxable

property. If the car is not registered in North Carolina, officials are badly handicapped in their efforts.

But many Mecklenburgers with North Carolina tags also fail to list their automobiles for taxes—hoping to escape detection somehow. Too many have indeed escaped in the past. These escape routes should be plugged and should remain plugged.

Tax evasion is not solely a Mecklenburg malady. It's a statewide problem. This is one reason why we were anxious to see a withholding system installed by the 1955 General Assembly for the collection of individual state income taxes. For obvious reasons, it would unmask thousands of Tar Heels who have been carefully paying their federal income taxes all right but carefully evading their state income taxes.

The withholding tax plan had mechanical defects, however, which legislators were unable—or unwilling—to iron out.

This cat-and-mouse game with taxpayers is a distasteful but necessary. By cheating their community or their state, Tar Heels are actually cheating themselves and their neighbors. When one individual ignores his civic responsibilities and obligations it simply means that the burden on another must be increased. The entire tax system must then be adjusted to take up the slack. This is unfair and, incidentally, undemocratic.

'Yeas' & 'Nays'

Tar Heels Score High

By JULIAN SCHEER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

NORTH CAROLINA'S two senators and four of 12 House members have compiled exemplary roll call voting records in the 84th Congress.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. of Morganton has been praised at 90 per cent of the roll calls. Sen. W. Kerr Scott of Haw River at 86 per cent, while Reps. Jonas, Bonner and Jones have not missed a single House roll call.

The figures cover a period from Jan. 5 to April 15 and have been calculated by the Congressional Quarterly.

The roll call records indicate only those votes recorded as "yeas" and "nays" and do not include those merely indicating presence when a roll call was made.

All other members of the Tar Heel delegation scored well with only Rep. Chatham of the Fifth district falling below 90 per cent. He answered "yes" or "nay" to 86 per cent of the questions.

Congressional Quarterly figures show 28 roll calls during the period in the Senate.

Sen. Scott was present for all but one.

Sen. Ervin answered 25 of the 28 roll calls.

Rep. Jonas answered all 21 of

the House roll calls, bettering his record of 93 per cent for the same period in 1954. CQ reported that Mr. Jones believes CQ's 1954 figures are in error. He maintains that his voting participation score was 100 per cent for the first three months of last year too.

Rep. Alexander of the Ninth District answered all roll calls in this session and is far ahead of his 79 per cent for the corresponding period last year.

Reps. Bonner and Jones, of the First and Eleventh Districts respectively, have perfect marks for both sessions.

Here is how Tar Heel representatives have answered the 21 roll calls:

Congressman	Ans.	1955	1954
Alexander	21	100	79
Barden	19	90	86
Bonner	21	100	100
Carlyle	20	95	79
Chatham	18	86	64
Coleby	19	90	93
Deane	20	95	86
Durham	20	95	79
Fountain	20	95	100
Jonas	21	100	83
Johnson	21	100	100
Sturford	20	95	100

Now that they control Congress the Democrats are putting on a better voting performance than

Republicans. An analysis by CQ of the 49 roll calls — 28 in the Senate and 21 in the House—reveals a 50.9 per cent figure for the Democrats.

Republicans have only an 80.1 per cent figure, reversing last year's Republican Congress which saw the Republicans leading at this point, 90.5 to 89 per cent.

Behind these high average scores lie heavy turnouts in both Senate and House for roll-call votes in the present session. In the House, 12 of the 21 roll calls have drawn 400 or more of the possible 435 votes. In the Senate, 86 or more of the 96 members have voted "yes" or "nay" on 13 of 28 roll calls.

HOUSE TALLY TELLS

Scores for Republican and Democratic senators fell to 86.1 and 86.2 per cent, respectively, off some 3 per cent from the 89.4 per cent recorded by each group during the first three months of 1954.

The higher overall score for Democrats in 1955 was accounted for by the House record. There Democrats scored 92.2 per cent (against 88.8 last year), while Republicans averaged 88.8 per cent against 91.1 last year.

Eighteen senators, equally divided between the two parties, voted "yes" or "nay" on every

DELEGATION'S REPORT CARD

Voted On 28 Senate Roll Calls in 1955

NAME	TIMES	%
SENATE AVERAGE		86.2
ERVIN	25	89
SCOTT	27	96

Voted On 21 House Roll Calls in 1955

NAME	TIMES	%
HOUSE AVERAGE		90.6
JONAS	21	100



one of the 28 roll calls. Republicans were William F. Knowland (Calif.), Eugene D. Millikin (Iowa), Henry C. Dworshak (Idaho), Frederick G. Payne (Maine), J. Glenn Beall (Md.), Carl T. Curtis (Neb.), Clifford P. Case (N.J.), Irving M. Velde (N.Y.), and Frank A. Barrett (Wyo.).

The nine Democratic "100 per centers" were Hiram F. Baldwin Jr. (Calif.), Charles M. Teague (Calif.), William C. Cramer (Fla.), Perkins Bass (N.H.), and Russell B. Long (La.).

Lowest scores for GOP representatives were those of Oliver P. Bolton (Ohio), 14 per cent; Lawrence H. Smith (Wis.), 33 per cent; Robert B. Chaperfield (Ill.), 38 per cent; Edmund P. Radwan (N.Y.), 58 per cent; and J. Harry McCreger (Ohio), 45 per cent.

On the Democratic side, lowest scores were Hiram F. Baldwin Jr. (Calif.), 34 per cent; William L. Dawson (Ill.), 33 per cent; Charles A. Buckley (N.Y.), 43 per cent; and Governor Charles P. (Dick) Brewer (Mo.), 52 per cent.

Four Democratic representatives had scores of 57 per cent or better. They are chairman, respectively, of the House Government Operations and Public Works committees. Their low voting participation scores helped to pull the average for chairman of House committees down to 87.2 per cent, compared with the 92.2 average for all House Democrats.

In the Senate, likewise, the lowest scores were those of Russell Green and Kilgore, all committee chairmen, worked to lower the average for Senate chairmen to 84 per cent from 92.2 per cent for all Democratic senators.

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Review Of U. N. Charter Is Necessary

AFTER exchanging glares and stares for a decade, East and West are not likely to come to any easy agreements about changes in the United Nations Charter. Last week, ex-President Herbert Hoover told a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee that he did not think the document can be "effectively amended."

Ex-President Harry Truman later voiced substantially the same opinion.

Perhaps they are right. But U. S. faint-heartedness and doubt should not be permitted to strangle a worthy project.

A review of the charter is needed and needed badly.

It must be admitted that high hopes born in San Francisco 10 years ago have not been fully realized.

The world has been divided by iron and bamboo curtains.

Furthermore, new countries have arisen.

Former enemy states are moving back into the family of nations.

Others, such as India, are achieving great stature in global affairs.

The task for member states, then, is to determine what changes in the charter can strengthen the United Nations so that it can better serve the cause of international peace and justice.

Maybe U. S. pressure alone could accomplish little at a review conference. After all, amendments of the charter require the assent of all the permanent members of the Security Council. Soviet Russia would naturally be the stumbling block. But even the Soviets might accede to suggestions for strengthening the United Nations provided there is enough support for these suggestions throughout the world.

Experience has shown that on occasion the Kremlin might be forced to ignore the full weight of international public opinion.

Even if the charter is not amended, the United Nations can continue to be an important instrument of peace.

There have already been changes in U. N. operations without any revision of the charter. Stalemates in the Security Council, for instance, have led to a shift of this activity in the direction of the General Assembly.

Whatever the results of the charter review movement, the United States, as President Eisenhower has said, is committed irrevocably to the support of the U. N. It still represents the best hope to strengthen the United Nations at the conference table for the battlefield.

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'Really, Don't You Notice Anything?'



BY HERB WILSON FOR THE POLY

People's Platform

A Collector's Middle Name Is Diplomacy

Phoenix, Ariz.

I HAVE been collecting delinquent accounts for many years. It's a hard game and sometimes get a little rough, but it has its compensations too and ever since a fellow runs into a situation that makes him glad he has chosen this difficult profession, because collecting delinquent accounts is really and truly a profession, and takes years of training the same as that of a lawyer or any other professional man. But you don't get this education in a college. You get it through trying door bells, tramping through ploughed fields, going down into mines, and sometimes getting up at 4 a.m. to catch a fellow who works early and late.

In this game, you must be a good judge of human nature and you must be able to read people

and size up situations and conditions at once. Above all, you must be human and learn to treat others as human beings. If our highly paid diplomats possessed one half the diplomacy that a successful collector of bad accounts must possess and use, we would have avoided many wars.

Once I had an account against a farm laborer and found him unemployed and in most destitute circumstances, with a wife and a novel store 15 miles from town. I told him what I was there for, and when he started to tell me of his hard luck, I asked him to get in the car with me and when he complied I drove him to a grocery store and bought him \$20 worth of groceries, a pair of shoes and a new shirt and overalls, and gave him bus fare and asked him to come to my office the next day, and I promised him I'd find him a job if there was one to be found anywhere. In two hours, I had found him a job at \$1.50 per hour

and I talked a friend of mine into renting him a small house near his job at a moderate rental and I guaranteed the first month's rent.

Today, he's on a much better job, owns his own home and it's paid for and has one son in the service, one back from service, a married daughter, and he has a sizeable bank account. If anybody would speak an evil word of me, I have helped many people to get over the hurdles and have made

making friends of whom I am very proud indeed.

—BILL WILLIAMSON SR.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

A lot of people have been writing me suggesting a reward to Dr. Jonas Salk—a big cash gift to the man who found the way to stop that dread baby killer, polio. Some readers even check for me to forward to Dr. Salk.

So the other day I called him up. I had never met Dr. Salk, though I knew his background. He's a man who might not have been able to discover the vaccine for polio had the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act then been on the books. The folks here in New York, his father's garment worker living in New York's tenement Manhattan. He graduated from the City College of New York, where S. J. Carthy branded a breeder of communists.

I found Dr. Salk, as I suspected a humble man. He was not interested in money for himself, nor publicity. I had another great discoverer of his faith shared the other day, Albert Einstein.

But he was interested and concerned that the children who now have a

chance to get the protection of his vaccine should all definitely get it. And the tragedy is that under present circumstances, all of them won't.

This is partly because there is not yet full vaccine production—though there will be soon. It's also because the March of Dimes—the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis—which has done such a stupendous job of battling polio through the years didn't reach its goal this year. On the eve of a great triumph, the contributing public fell short.

Salk's Greatest Reward

Dr. Salk indicated that if anyone deserved reward for the long years of battling polio, it was Basil O'Connor, head of the Polio Foundation, and the thousands of tireless workers who have so patiently raised money to help his research and the children already stricken with polio.

It's partly also because the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington—Mrs. Hobby's department—was slow in acting to guarantee a fair distribution of the serum.

How To Ship An Elephant To Your Nephew In Madrid

By ROBERT C. RUARK

YOUR BOY was stumbling around Schiphol Airport here, trying to figure out some kind of way to get out of it, when his hunting sense picked up a growl, a bark, a chirp, a haw, and a meow or so, and I wound up as usual, with the animal.

As a matter of fact, I wound up in an animal hotel.

The Royal Dutch Airlines people have got themselves a special animal department, into which a guy killing time can stumple. As a matter of fact, space is so short in Europe at the moment that I was about to tell some sort of blood-hilly goat to move over, or else I'd give him up to Korea with 60,000 Dutch duck eggs. Right now animals are traveling better than people.

BOVINE BRUISER

It's kind of an amusing story, actually. The KLM started this business as far back as 1924 when they took a blooded bull to a Paris exposition, and the bull trampled all the furniture, and created another situation as well, before they got him unloaded.

Then they started transporting tigers and lions and elephants for European zoos, which were depopulated of animals because of the war and they also started hauling the Aga Khan's race horses, and they haul anything now except giraffes, for the obvious reason. A giraffe just can't fit himself into an aircraft.

RECORD LOAD

The boss, whose name is Theo Bontebal, tells me the record load was three baby elephants, a

tiger, a parakeet and a lot of birds. There is no truth in the old legend about snakes and tigers and elephants not getting along. It's all the way you load them, with the Jumbos getting aboard first.

A man named Harry de Winter, who looks after a variety of things for KLM, was telling me that he had invented a foolproof way of keeping elephants quiet on the deck of a ship. The elephant and this I know for true—is sensitive about where he puts his feet, and so when you check on the deck, the elephant keeps his feet still.

STUFF 'EM

It makes some sense, like carrying fish in a plastic bag, and putting a pin of grass seed to keep the transient dogs from getting overly nervous. When you walk the dog, you just walk the dog, you just walk the dog.

And about snakes. Harry tells me the way a man'll knock himself out with sea-Martin is to get a pin of grass seed, and you use the same idea on snakes. Stuff 'em with food and they'll eat it and they'll stop eating and you can file a box with the management.

It's really easier with canaries. Sometimes KLM carries 1,000 pounds of canaries a week, and that, as one man said, is a helluva lot of cheery travel. I didn't see the gag myself, and so the gag and I went away.

However, with a well-stocked pantry the modern family can be just as self-sufficient as Grandma used to be. If you add a first aid kit, a flashlight and a portable radio to this supply of things, then your family will have taken the first important step in a civil defense preparedness for the United States.

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