



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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After 23 Years, Time To Take Stock

IS North Carolina's tax system the rickety, creaking hulk some say it is? The time has come to find out.

Reps. Jack Love of Mecklenburg and B. T. Falls of Cleveland have provided the means. It is a joint resolution offered this week authorizing the governor to appoint a commission to study the Tar Heel tax machinery and make recommendations to the 1937 General Assembly for revisions.

The proposal is sensible. There is indeed reason to believe that the tax lever has not been working properly, that some of the patchwork done in recent years has thrown the entire system off balance.

Something new is tackled on or ripped off every two years. But no long, hard look has been taken at the whole system in several decades.

In fact, there have been no basic revisions in the Tar Heel tax structure since 1932.

Booming 1935 in no way resembles mid-depression 1932. There have been enormous technological and social changes in the past 23 years. Many of the exciting scientific and agricultural processes have been deeply affected. Many new industries have been developed.

Yet the state's revenue system has not been significantly altered to meet the changing conditions. This fact is important because the tax lever is important. It is perhaps the prime regulator of the dollar circuit. It has tremendous effect upon the day-to-day push-pull of economies.

In a well-balanced economic system it is imperative that the tax mechanism be completely fair. It must meet the tests of stability and equity, while, at the same time, it must give the proper economic incentives to individuals and business enterprises to encourage productivity.

A tax system that is carelessly made up simply top—a more easily understandable system of revenue laws.

Most of these items would be taken care of in the Love-Falls plan. The survey would include scrutiny of tax machinery in other states too.

Immediately the study commission would be composed of one member each from the Revenue Dept., the attorney general's office and the North Carolina State Bar, as well as the Finance Committee chairman of the House and Senate and two private citizens—one from the production field and the other from the mercantile or distribution field.

Such a study has been sought by Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and its taxation committee, headed by David M. McConnell, for years. One of the principal interests of the chamber is in seeing that the tax system does not discourage individuals and business enterprises from settling in North Carolina. This is important, of course. But it is also important to see that individuals and business enterprises already rooted in North Carolina's economic soil get fair treatment from Raleigh.

An Old Malady Needs New Medicine

SEN. E.W. Sumners' bill to reform North Carolina's justice of the peace system emerged from committee battered and bruised but still recognizable. Fortunately, its central objective was still intact when the measure reached the Senate floor. It was simply this: To remove the profit motive from justice convictions.

With the old fee system in effect, the initials "J. P." too often meant "Judgment for the Plaintiff". For years, jaypee abuses have been the shame of the North Carolina judicial system.

The Sumners bill plan: A magistrate will collect \$4.50 for each criminal case in which a conviction is obtained—the full amount to be turned over to the county's general fund. For each case he handles the county will reimburse him by \$3.60—but the total he gets back must not exceed the amount turned in.

Mental Illness: Light In The Darkness

CELEMECEAU once said that war was too serious a business to be left to the generals. Since the Age of Anxiety dawned, the feeling has been growing that mental health is too serious a business to be left to the psychiatrists.

So it is that Mental Health Week is being observed in Charlotte and 10,000 other U.S. communities this week. More than 5,000 organizations—including Charlotte's own Mental Health Clinic—are busy today bringing mental illness to the attention of the public and rallying the public to combat and conquer it.

Certainly the problem deserves great attention. Last year mental illness took the highest toll in the history of the nation. In just 12 months 2 1/2 million more women and children were treated for some form of mental disorder in hospitals, psychiatric clinics or in the offices of private psychiatrists.

The bill would also authorize removal of jaypees for misconduct by resident Superior Court judges and would require jaypees to maintain adequate office facilities.

A companion bill would relieve the governor of appointing jaypees. Still another measure would require jaypees to use serially numbered warrants and receipts.

All of these reforms—and perhaps even more—are needed. The only trouble is that jaypees have considerable political power in some nooks and crannies of North Carolina. Legislators from these areas began clamoring immediately to have their counties exempted from the act.

But the North Carolina public, we firmly believe, has had its fill of the jaypee system in its present form. If it is to remain a part of the state's judicial structure at all, rigid controls are needed.

Nearly three quarters of a million were treated in mental hospitals alone—constituting more than 50 per cent of the 1,400,000 patients in all hospitals for all diseases in the country, according to the National Association for Mental Health.

But today Americans can view the problem of mental health with courage and hope instead of fatalism and despair. There is every reason to believe that mental illness can be conquered—provided the people everywhere throw the necessary manpower and money into research, help provide adequate treatment for patients in mental hospitals and make professional training available to more and more individuals.

Charlotte with a mental health clinic of its own, is fortunate. But more—much more—can be done in the community and in the nation to combat what is truly America's No. 1 health problem.

GRIPES FROM TEENAGERS

TEENAGERS live in a world all their own. They are a wonderful set. For every failing youngster, there are thousands of others who lead perfectly normal lives. Normal for teenagers, of course, means a series of exciting, fascinating experiences. Their lives are reflected through a labyrinth of merriment but ever so significant problems typical of the age.

The maturing young mind craves independence, and one of the natural conflicts encountered by youth is what it calls parental interference. Teenagers love freedom and success, and any attempt to curtail them are considered personal setbacks.

This is why it was interesting to see just what the teenagers had to say when asked, "Do your parents do things you wish they wouldn't, and if so, what?"

Most of the complaints revealed in the AMERICAN MAGAZINE recently amounted to gripes typical of any teenager. But on at least three points it appears the youngsters are justified.

When thinking about observing the strange ways teenagers dress, it must be remembered that fads are a part of teenage life. Their dressing places them in a very definite category. As long as modesty and good taste prevail, these young people ought to be able to typify their age.

In the Russian zone of Berlin a parrot's cage door was accidentally left open and the bird escaped. The owner promptly inserted an advertisement in the local paper, reading: "If anyone finds my parrot, I want it definitely understood that I do not share its political opinions." —WALL STREET JOURNAL

Young man—I've called to ask you consent to marry your daughter, sir.
Father—Have you seen her mother?
Young man—Yeah, but that's all right. We'll be living out of town. —GREENEVILLE (TENN.) SUN.

People's Platform

It would like to ask the 20 Club members of the Scabbe Club (People's Platform, April 29) why they are scared or ashamed to list their names? If the Scabbe Club is so right, then it should be proud to list its members instead of being ashamed to be known as the Scabbe Club.

They said that the union has blown up cables and buildings, cut and shot cables and many other things. Well, if the CWA union is so right, then it should be proud to list its members instead of being ashamed to be known as the Scabbe Club.

It is a known fact that the so-called Proud Scabs will not turn down anything that CWA wins. When something goes wrong on their jobs, they will be the first to complain to the CWA union. They should be glad that there are some proud strikers that still have the guts to stick up for what they think is right.

When the strike started, I thought CWA was right. I still do. There are other ways of the same opinion. —D. F. MCMILLAN

Scabs Are Ashamed To Disclose Names

WHEN I read the letter from the Scabbies of Club No. 20, I realized more than ever that there is something wrong with the dollar above principle and the Golden Rule. They proved this by refusing to publish their names with the threatened letter. I know I would not want to be in their club for it is how they appear to the rest of the world.

ESAU sold his birthright for a mess of pottage; Judas Iscariot sold his Savior for 30 pieces of silver. CWA is right to let its scab country for promise of a commission in the British army.

But you of Scab Club 20 have sold your birthright for country, your family and your fellowmen for the dollar—not loyalty to your company as you put it. For we scabbies would be pleased if you had allowed your names to be published. You were asked: May God have mercy on your soul. —ELLA KINNEY

Scabs Are Like 'Hungry Rabbits'

FOR years the men of the Krumpholtz have proposed a dismantling of those on strike were destroyed by their atom and hydrogen bombs. No safeguards would be provided to guarantee that all nations would carry out their promises and build no bombs in secrecy.

These fellows are on the wrong track and so is the telephone company management who expect to accept a strike clause. They expect the union to disarm itself by destroying the only weapon it has as defense against malicious treatment of workers.

The company boasts of its 75 years of good uninterrupted service with few labor. Why does it want a change now? If it's slave labor they want, they could find laborers and more ideas for working them from Russia. This can be accomplished in North Carolina by simply flashing a leaf of green paper to the south.

Maybe some of the employees receive fair and just treatment.

E EQUALS MC SQUARED

CIVILIZATION as of our fathers knew it was shaped according to the physical concepts of Sir Isaac Newton as expressed in his De Principia. Civilization as we know it today is being radically altered by the physical concepts of the late Albert Einstein.

The press has been full of his views in atomic physics and of his "unified field" and "relativity" theories. Less attention has been called to the gentle philosophy of the man:

"To know that what is invisible really exists, manifesting itself as the highest wisdom and the most perfect beauty, is at the heart of

Picket Line Echoes: Strikers Vs. Non-Strikers



but it is impossible for all of us to be the fair-haired sons and daughters of Ma Bell. —D. C. HELMS

Right To Strike Vs. The Right To Work

A striking episode of Southern Bell says she is exercising constitutional rights" by going on strike.

Surely she has the right to strike, but no more right to strike than the people who are working have the right to work.

It is in answer to the completely ridiculous charges of "Communist" yelled by one badly misled Western Electric worker who was the first to be let out that we're not such bad people after all.

'Communism' Charge Resented By Striker

Another milestone has been marked in the long, hard struggle the CWA-CIO telephone workers have waged for freedom from Ma Bell.

My own reply is this: I am not a Communist. I am not a Communist. I am not a Communist. I am not a Communist.

I have nearly eight years' service with Southern Bell. I am a charge operator, and one of those really fortunate people who love their work!

I also, am a member of the striking CWA union. My belief in their rights is so strong that I'll be right there on the picket line until this is settled!

Not because I am a "Communist" as the scab charge says, but because I am (thank God) an American! And as an American I have certain inalienable rights bought and paid for by con-

Whose Colors Does Senator Ervin Wear?

AT LONG last, Sen. Ervin has discovered what most of us knew many years ago—that for 20 years under Democratic administrations, Supreme Court justices have been selected on the basis of political beliefs rather than on judicial ability.

To make his political hobby complete he quotes the words of that arch Federalist, Alexander Hamilton, to wit: "It is the sense of the handwriting on the wall and is making a bid for the Republican nomination in 1937."

For News Coverage, A Note Of Thanks

THE members of the N.C. Florence-Crittenton Home board and staff are indeed grateful to you newspaper for the assistance you gave us in our annual-observance of National Florence-Crittendon Week.

The articles and notices were very helpful to us in reminding our readers of the services of our home.

Again, many thanks. —MRS. CHARLES CONNELLY, Chairman, Public Relations, Florence-Crittendon Home

Crittendon Story Told With Understanding

WE WISH to thank you for an excellent cooperation during anniversary provided us an opportunity to inform the public about the need for Crittenton services and the work of the Florence-Crittendon Home.

The interest you showed in our program and your understanding of our need for dignified, sympathetic, and cautious interpretation are commendable.

—MRS. C. A. TROUPE, Executive Director, —ETHEL HONEYCUTT, Field Secretary, Florence-Crittendon Home

The South Must Safeguard Heritage

THE Charlotte News' editorial views concerning the recent edict of the Supreme Court, the flouting of the state's medical society's constitution by the Mecklenburg branch and the timely remarks made by Sen. Ervin about the qualifications of judges on the Supreme Court bench, all seem to hold a hint of the far brush.

What can the editorial "we" have against the white race that they do not wish to keep it white? We owe a debt to our progenitors and responsibility to our posterity to safeguard our racial heritage.

The same ideal which inspired all races, the colored included.

—D. M. HOWELL

How About Calling It 'East Jefferson'?

REGARDING the publicity about Jefferson Place, Jefferson Day, etc., and in expressing our gratitude to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co. for all it has done for Charlotte, shouldn't we just change the name of the town to Jefferson City?

He wants cards and letters so badly. Do you think some of your kind readers would send him a card or a letter?

Only address needed. "Pepper," Gardena, Calif. Thank you so very much. —MARGY BLETHEN

'Mr. President, Meet Mr. Eisenhower'



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

IT was the New York Herald Tribune's rock-Gibraltar Republican newspaper, that finally pressured Oveta Culp Hobby, secretary of health, education and welfare, into considering federal control on Salk vaccine.

Mrs. Hobby Prodded Into Salk Action

Mrs. Hobby's eyes were finally jarred open by a front-page, Herald Tribune editorial, calling upon her to intervene so young children and pregnant women would get their shots first as proposed by Senator Morse of Oregon three weeks ago. To make sure she read it, the Herald Tribune sent her a copy. Two copies were also distributed to each senator and congressman, together with telegrams calling their attention to the editorial.

More Carriers

Despite the growing Soviet submarine menace, the Navy has placed first priority on big aircraft carriers instead of submarine killers. Real fact is the big carriers are being designed to deliver the atomic bomb against an enemy, a mission that has been assigned to the Air Force while the Navy has complete responsibility for keeping the oceans safe for American shipping.

Party Fund

Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks, champion of the balanced budget, believes in economy for everyone but himself. While he has cut everyone else's budget around the Commerce Department,