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Driver Training Must Be Expanded

The mangling and maiming of motorists on North Carolina highways cannot go on. Tar Heels are not blood-thirsty barbarians.

They are thinking, reasoning, civilized human beings who think in terms of cause and effect relationships.

It is not like them to approach butchery with apathy and indifference. An important test of the sentiment of this community regarding the gigantic problem of traffic safety will come Monday when, at 8 p. m., a public meeting on driver education will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Charlotteans who attend will have an opportunity to make practical, effective contributions to the cause of safe driving. At the meeting, the rank and file of Charlotte citizens will be invited to expand the teaching of driving in the city's public schools.

Taking part in the session will be Ed Scheidt, North Carolina Motor Vehicles commissioner, Dr. Allen A. Harlbert, assistant superintendent of the State Dept. of Public Instruction; John E. Noe, the department's safety education adviser, and George D. Maddrey, associate adviser in safety.

It is the sincere hope of a citizens committee sponsoring the event that solid community support can be mobilized for a system of driver training that will reach practically every Charlotte youth who will operate a motor vehicle on our streets in the future.

Obviously, here is one way Charlotteans can do something—now—about traffic safety.

EDUCATION, engineering and enforcement make up the "Three E's" of safety. Engineering and enforcement have been receiving enormous emphasis during the past few years. But formal driver education has not kept pace. Charlotte, particularly, has been doing an inadequate job in this vital field—with too few instructors, reaching too few students. Enlargement of the program is essential to meet the life and death requirements of the motor age.

At least 6,000 high schools are now offering complete courses in driver education (including behind-the-wheel practice training) to more than 300,000 students annually. The average cost: \$30 per student.

Is driver training worth this expense? In an effort to find the answer, an analysis was made recently of all the known studies on the results of driver training.

Says the traffic engineering and safety department of the American Automobile Association: "The results, while varying greatly and sometimes negative, clearly indicate that complete driver education courses reduce traffic accidents at least one-half and in many cases much more."

FOR INSTANCE, in Arizona, the number of high school students involved in 1944 accidents dropped from 23 in 1941 to 2 in 1947. High school driver education was started in 1944 and by 1950, 50 of the state's 70 high schools had both classroom instruction and behind-the-wheel training.

AAA's traffic engineering and safety department also reports that a 1950 survey in Delaware showed that untrained drivers had nearly five times as many accidents and five times as many arrests as a comparable group of trained drivers.

Two hundred trained drivers in Washington had one accident and eight arrests for moving violations compared to 11 accidents and 42 arrests for an equal number of untrained drivers.

In the Bloomington, Ill., high school, the untrained boys had over twice as many accidents as trained boys. Untrained girls had about four times as many accidents as the trained girls.

Similar results have been noted in other cities and states across the nation. There are, of course, exceptions to the rule. But they are rare.

The modern automobile is a triumph of engineering. It is a sleek, powerful motor vehicle that is a killer in the hands of a driver who does not know how to handle its power. Since the automobile is almost an indispensable part of daily life, it is the duty of the community to provide some basic training in the wielding of this deadly weapon. It is, after all, education for survival.

Ike Off, Russians On The Spot

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER's dramatic arms inspection proposal at Geneva has met its expected and perhaps most fortunate fate in Russian refusal of it.

There is no reason to believe the President ever expected or hoped for any different result. As anything other than a psychological and propaganda device, as which it was a tremendous success, the plan had serious drawbacks for the U. S.

Russian acceptance would have required a wholesale revision of U. S. security laws which almost certainly would have sent new shock waves of hysteria through Congress. As the chief executive like is sworn to uphold a batch of laws that just don't permit the swapping of blueprints or photographing of U. S. military establishments he proposed. Penalties for violations range from 30 years imprisonment to death.

Asking Congress to abridge these laws to make the inspection plan workable on this side of the Atlantic would have been an open invitation to the now-leashed McCarthy clique to crank anew the engines of fear and demagoguery. There also would have been room for conscientious opposition to the plan since it supposed a gamble that benefited accruing to us would at least balance the dangers involved.

Bitter congressional debate of the plan would have destroyed its atmosphere of sincerity and the backwash of disappointment in the world would have flowed on this nation.

As it worked out, Russia gets the blame for refusing, with a note of ridicule, what lay on the surface was the freshest and most appealing plan voiced on the summit.

Its doubtful workability did not in the least damage its success as a demonstration of peaceful intention.

Even in the ashen, the plan represents the beginnings of the type of bold advocacy of peace that America has long lacked.

Until there is a body as well as facial shield of Russian attitudes there can be no hope of effective disarmament. But that day can only be speeded by a U. S. policy that keeps the Kremlin in the defensive.

Fowl Threat

CANNONADING by county police of an angry little bird who was flying at children on Heathwood Dr. suggests the need for a thoroughgoing investigation of our feathered friends (?). Probably long bills, cutting wings is one of many who wait in trees and vines with sharpened claws and hate-filled eyes to add their weight at times strategic to the destructive forces of halitosis and H-bombs.

Delay could be deadly. Let's call in the stool pigeons and get to the bottom of this incident.

Pete Ivey: A Colorful Pen For UNC

SINCE the untimely death of Robert W. Macy, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been looking for a successor to the Colonel as director of the University News Bureau.

They needed a man of integrity, of imagination, of ability and experience, of love and devotion to the University, and perhaps most of all, a good writer.

Pete Ivey, the Shelby editor and a veteran state newsman at the age of 42, hit the qualifications on the nose. He is an alumnus of the University who has kept close ties in the 20 years since he was graduated. He was a leading campus figure as a student, he edited the Student Review and he has been active in alumni affairs.

Pete Ivey knows whereof he speaks when he talks Chapel Hill, and the News Bureau should enter a new era of service and recognition under his leadership.

We congratulate the University and send our best wishes to Mr. Ivey. However, he'll be missed on the North Carolina editorial writing scene for he has a colorful pen. How can anybody forget that it was the Ivey touch at the typewriter that raised the lowly persimmon tree to such poetic heights of glory on the pages of several Tar Heel newspapers? It suggests that, in no time at all, he will be gloriously tired, weather-beaten old Dave Poplar with the same vigor and imagination.

From The Lancaster (S. C.) News

THERE'S A LOT TO A BALE

EVER wonder what you could make out of a single bale of cotton? The number of textile items that can be obtained from one bale is amazing. For instance the amount of cotton in a bale is sufficient to manufacture: Seventy-five hundred handkerchiefs, 650 shirts, 2,500 shorts, 8,000 brassieres, 500 dresses, 4,000 gloves, 3,500 pairs of full-fashioned hosiery, 4,900 pants, 250 sheets, 115 bedspreads, 1,500 bath towels, 108 automobile tires, 2,700 flour

bags, 6,000 office machine ribbons, 3,200 laundry nets, 2,400 pairs of men's socks, and 1,840 men's undershirts.

Approximately 3,108,000 bales of cotton were used to make wearing apparel last year. The value of \$5,900 bales were used in the making of girdles, bras, and other feminine unmentionables. More than 1,200,000 bales go into mattresses, pillow cases and other products which we used just to sleep.

Awakening, isn't it?

Wages Batting Score Down Sharply in 84th Congress

WASHINGTON Eisenhower, who vetoed 446 of his 1954 legislative program, slipped to 483 in 1955.

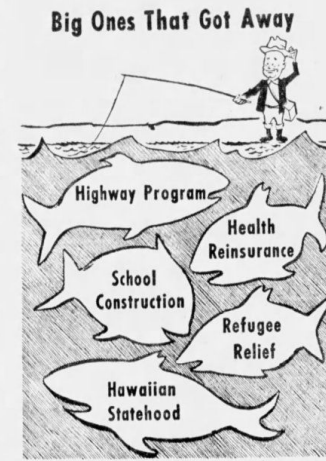
Congressional Quarterly tabulated 207 Presidential vetoes of the Democratic-controlled 84th Congress, which adjourned its first session early Wednesday. Included were 21 requests cleared by the 83rd Congress and resubmitted to the 84th.

Of the 207, Congress approved 96, or 46.3 per cent. In baseball terms, that's a 463 batting average for the President. Congress rejected another 14 requests, or almost 7 per cent of the total submitted. Partial progress in one or both chambers was recorded for 51 requests, while two suffered setbacks in one house but were passed over in the other. No action was taken on 44 requests.

CONTRAST In contrast, the Republican-led 83rd Congress in 1954 dealt as follows with Mr. Eisenhower's 232 legislative requests: Approved 150, or 64.6 per cent; rejected 49, or 21 per cent; and failed to approve 33, or 14 per cent.

CO's Boxscore is based solely on specific requests for legislative action—or inaction—submitted to the President. It does not include requests from Administration subordinates. When Congress modifies a Presidential proposal, the resulting compromise is weighed to determine whether on balance, it strikes closer to the President's mark to count as favorable action.

Not all Presidential requests were equally important. However, major proposals generally incorporated seven specific points, all tabulated as separate requests.



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People's Platform

Basic Wage Hike Will Benefit All Americans

Editors, The News: Charlotte INCREASE of the minimum wage to \$1 an hour is in the interests of the American people, and the welfare of all segments of our economy, particularly American agriculture.

Agriculture has a stake in the increase \$1 an hour. Simply and directly, it is this: the sale of \$18 million more in farm products approximately 20 per cent of the \$497 million increase in mass purchasing power will be spent for food. The estimates of the amount of additional purchasing power released at the \$1 minimum wage level are taken from uncontested testimony presented during the hearings on this bill. They are not based upon theory, but upon actual buying patterns as studied and reported in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Consumer Expenditures.

WHAT HAPPENS

This is what happens. This is how urban families spend their earnings. Food is the first and biggest item. Food is the first item that income consumers buy more of as their incomes rise. The other parts of the income are used to pay for other necessities and services vital in our entire economy, for example:

Clothing, nearly 11 per cent; repayment of debt, 13.9 per cent; house furnishings, 10.3 per cent, etc.

A table showing the purchasing power added by a \$1 minimum wage is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Type of Disposition, (Millions) Pct. Total 497 100.0, Personal Care 13 2.6, Housing 23 4.6, Fuel, light, refrigeration and water 7 1.4, Household operation and equipment 51 10.3, Clothing, Total 54 10.9, Women's and Girls' Outerwear 11 2.2, Men's and Boys' Outerwear 14 2.8, Automobile Transportation 65 13.1, Other Transportation 4 0.8, Personal Care 11 2.2, Medical Care 19 3.8, Recreation 15 3.0, Reading 5 1.0, Repayment of debt 69 13.9.

(Source: Dollar figures computed by applying percentages reported by BLS to increased payroll cost of specified minimum wages.)

Our problems in this blessed land are problems of abundance, an abundance of food, an abundance of manufactured goods, an abundance of services, an abundance of talent and skill and genius of a free people who are one people.

How shall we distribute and share and consume and enjoy

this abundance so that, instead of dangerous and, in the present tense state of the world—possibly a deadly cycle of boom-and-bust, feast-and-famine, challenge-and-never we can take steps to insure a healthy, stable and continuing prosperity. We have started the distribution by increasing the minimum wage to \$1 an hour; we should now establish farm price supports at 90 per cent of parity, we can improve and extend Social Security; we can see to it that we not only promote the general welfare as proposed in the preamble to the constitution, but, as we are commanded in Article I, Section 8 of the constitution, that we provide for the general welfare.

Increase of the minimum wage to \$1 an hour effective in 1956, establishment of 90 per cent of parity farm price supports in 1956, will put floors under the incomes of farmers and of wage earners who are each other's greatest and surest markets and who, together, comprise the vast majority of the American people.

DOUBLE INTEREST

Labor knows clearly and unequivocally that such farm price supports are not only in the interest of farmers but also in the interest of wage earners. How can labor continue to make implements, cars, trucks, other farm and household equipment, building material, clothing, shoes and other necessities if the incomes of farm people are allowed to shrink?

The additional \$497 million will be spent, almost to the last dollar, as rapidly as requested for the purchase of necessities of life for the repayment of debt and for, yes, perhaps a touch of comfort, of color and of leisure time.

Similarly, it would be equally legal for North Carolina to search South Carolina cars for gasoline, fireworks, or even a pint of liquor being carried into this state.

This state of affairs could then spread to other states so that border guards and customs inspectors would be found on all state lines.

How pleasant it now feels to be able to go from one state to another and cross state lines without red tape or interference. How sad it would be to be searched at the border of each state or subjected to search on the highways of 48 states.

Even friendly foreign countries have a reasonable 'unit of items which may be taken across their borders free.

South Carolina should therefore reconsider its position. It will certainly do more harm than good if for one and many others I know of are not going to South Carolina except if necessary. We are not spending anything there, especially for gasoline, which we will always try and buy in North Carolina.

We all sincerely hope that South Carolina realizes the danger it is near and awakens before too late.

W. F. HAMILTON

S. C. Should Remove Blockade

Charlotte

THE SEARCH of North Carolina automobiles by South Carolina and seizure of their property is not being taken lying down by North Carolinians.

If it is illegal to put a pint of alcoholic beverage or a package of cigarettes, then it would be equally within South Carolina's power to arrest a citizen for having in his possession a soft drink, a few gallons of gas in his tank, etc., purchased out of the state.

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Gets Support

The conference committee between the House and Senate, Sens. Johnston and Jennings backed him. They knocked out the windfalls to the insurance companies and Monsanto chemical but left in payments up to \$25,000 to those who suffered from the explosion and had not received insurance.

Sen. Daniel, who has been the faithful champion of big business in Texas, refused to sign the conference report.

Ike Straddled

Note—The Eisenhower administration put itself on both sides in the Texas

City disaster. It sided vigorously against Sen. Daniel and against payments to the insurance companies. On the other hand, Eisenhower appointed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals John Brown, the Houston attorney who tried the Texas City claims cases and was rebuked by the same Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals on which he will now serve.

Backs Up

Whereupon Sen. Daniel introduced a bill to do what the courts refused to do. Whereupon also President Eisenhower appointed the defeated lawyer, John Brown, to the court of appeals which had rebuked him.

Quote, Unquote

The recipient of free advice should shake it well before taking. — Hamilton County (Tenn.) Herald

Mathematically the four-powr talks should be equal to the square of the double-talk.—Dallas Morning News.

Korean War Cost Taxpayers Plenty

Richmond

THE EDITORIAL in The News of July 29 ("A Question About the 'Turncoats'"), if the Army has given them dishonorable discharges I can't see where the Army has any right to drag them into court. If they have to, why not go out to Independence, Mo., and drag old cashif-mouth Harry in for starting World War III without the okay of Congress?

This war put down old Uncle Sam in the red just \$18 billion. This small sum would give each man who took part in World War II

in the earlier year, Congress approved 71 per cent of Mr. Eisenhower's 44 recommendations, making the composite score for the two years of the 83rd 65.9 per cent.

These figures, however, do not reflect the relative importance of requests accepted or rejected. Prominent among the requests approved little in the way of major legislation in 1953, received a great deal in 1954 (when he outlined the main features of his Administration's program), and proposed somewhat less in 1955.

Major Presidential victories in 1955 appeared to include the important items: A 10-year, bonded-financed highway program; a \$1.1 billion Upper Colorado River reclamation program; statehood for Hawaii; revisions in the Refugee Relief Act; a health reinsurance program; and a plan to stimulate school construction.

All of these subjects are in line for renewed debate and action when the second session of the 84th Congress gets underway next January — 10 months before the Presidential election.

A. H. RIVENBARK

Do You Think Atomic Bombs Affect The Climate?



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THIS period during a Congressional session when the public is most likely to get rooked the most is during the mad rush to close, when the solons are anxious to get home. The newspapers and public-minded senators don't always have time to watch these sneak bills, and business risk deliberately wait until the last days of Congress to shove them through.

Therefore, credit should go to Sen. Olin Johnston of South Carolina and Tom Jennings of Missouri, together with Reps. Jack Brooks of Texas and E. F. Butler of Georgia, for blocking a big insurance company raid on the Treasury in regard to the Texas City, Texas, explosion.

Not To Blame

Sen. Price Daniel of Texas had sponsored a Senate bill which would have reimbursed \$41,200,000 to the insurance companies which paid damages in the Texas City explosion; plus about \$50,000,000 to Monsanto Chemical—despite the fact that the highest courts had found

that the U. S. government was not to blame for the explosion of nitrate in the Texas City harbor.

However, Congressman Brooks blocked the bill in the House. He urged that small claimants be reimbursed but that the insurance companies which had assumed a business risk not be paid at the expense of the taxpayer.

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Woods of Georgia was quietly withdrawn from appointment to the Subversive Activities Control Board.

Woods had been ok'd by the White House, had been cleared by the FBI after an investigation, and had been approved by a subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee.

However, when it was revealed in the press that the ex-congressman from Georgia had introduced a bill to compensate a boy hit by an Army truck for which his administrative assistant had taken a fee of \$1,000. Senate opposition developed. Neither a congressman nor his staff is supposed to benefit in any way from the introduction of legislation.

Woods was up for appointment to one of the most important semi-judicial bodies in government, the Subversive Control Board, which decides which organizations in the U. S. are Communist, Fascist and subversive. Yet Woods had been appointed to this key post obviously without careful investigation.

In the end, the White House decided it was better that his name be withdrawn.