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FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1956

**Why A Hike In Charlotte's Taxes?**

**I**N FISCAL planning, Charlotte's bark is often worse than the bite. Huge municipal tax hikes are invariably "in prospect" at this time of the year when departmental budget requests are submitted.

For instance, yesterday's total ran just under one million dollars in excess of the current city budget. That would indeed mean a fat increase in the tax rate should the figures stand.

It must be pointed out, however, that the men with the pruning shears have yet to go to work. A good deal of careful trimming will have to be done before the new rate goes into effect.

Last year about this time, City Council members began to speak with appropriate fearfulness of a tax rate of about \$1.90 per \$100 valuation. After considerable herring, the figure was scaled down to \$1.77. It almost seemed like a reduction in taxes. It wasn't. The previous year's rate was \$1.65.

All of this hocus-pocus is lightly amusing but it seems to us that Charlotte's fiscal destiny would be served better by some straight talk by city fathers on why taxes are going up—however slightly—and what can be done to bring them down.

We would like to see a comprehensive study made of the municipal tax situation—with our weaknesses clearly exposed. With the complete picture before us some concerted effort could be made to correct those weaknesses systematically.

A few needs are rather obvious. Charlotte could use more manufacturing industries to share the ad valorem tax burden, for instance. More factories could mean more work, more jobs, more population and a wider division of the tax bill.

Extension of the city limits would also provide a broader tax base for Charlotte. But surely there are other fiscal elements to be considered. Where pocket-books are involved, the citizen wants a look at the whole picture, rather than the scattered jigsaw fragments.

**Vote — But Don't Vote In The Dark**

*The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.* —Burke.

**A**FTER all the last minute clang and clatter, one may wonder how any registered Democrat could possibly fail to do his duty in tomorrow's primary.

More than a few will, however. There are some people who would rather cry from their neighbor's shoulder about "those awful people" who sometimes get into office than say it at the polls.

But we will shed not a single tear for them. The nonvoter rate is no sympathy. It is an old political adage that the people get the kind of government they deserve.

But equally as awful is the citizen who goes dutifully to the polls, all right, but without the least notion of who to vote for after he is there. By marking his ballot rather absent-mindedly he thinks he is a fine citizen.

He, too, is an uncitizen in citizen's clothing.

Part of every good citizen's responsibility is to study the candidates and the issues—and make up his mind to vote intelligently.

In other words: Vote—but don't vote in the dark.



**Wrecks, Rain And A New Day Coming**

**N**AME the most significant event of the week?

After giving ourselves a wrong answer (the armed forces' squabble) we put the question to ten reporters and deskmen in the newspaper and got nine other bad guesses. These included the Crameron train wreck, Senate approval of the farm bill, reports on the Nike, and disagreement among administration officials on the meaning of the Soviet disarmament announcement.

One reporter, busy all week remembering local political utterances, remembered something "really big that happened early this week," and then named it. Sunday was the date and the event was a flash of fire over the Pacific equal to 500 suns.

The first U. S. air drop of a hydrogen bomb yielded that equivalent in light, and, in force, that of 15 million tons of TNT. Yet the light was insufficient to illumine and the force was not enough to jog the memory of 10 of 11 people who live on the earth beneath which the force and light was lost.

A train wreck is comprehensible and if the farm bill isn't, at least can be remembered.

A New York Timesman who saw the bomb-drop recorded "the most startling and incredible phenomenon of all—a giant superheated cloud of radioactivity that kept climbing and spreading outward until it appeared as it would envelop the entire earth."

Possible, some have said, but the clouds remembered here are those that brought a good shower at Wednesday dusk.

While scientists on the Pacific were exploding the deadly sun they made, another group in California was proclaiming the dawning of a new civilization. Technology will be king, they said, providing food, clothing and shelter for all in a rapidly increasing population. Air, sea water, ordinary rock and sunlight will provide all but one of the raw materials needed.

The matter lacking is "brain power." We'd rather put off the new civilization and have the scientists of high I. Q., exploding suns over the Pacific, use their "brain power" to save the shaky civilization we're stuck with now.

**Listen, My Children**

**I**N NEW ENGLAND, there's a story making the rounds about a race-track ruler's refusal to contribute to a fund for raising a statue in honor of Paul Revere.

Revere doesn't deserve the "credit," he explained indignantly. "He had a great horse under him."

Political pundits are advancing similarly far-fetched arguments today about who deserves the credit for the "compromise" farm bill just handed the White House. Naturally, it took both horse (a Democratic Congress) and rider (President Eisenhower) to turn the trick. Fate is fickle, however. Who remembers the name of Revere's horse?

From The Reporter

**TAKING NO CHANCES**

**N**EXT to subversion, chance seems to be the American's worst enemy. Insurance, of course, is the first line of defense against accident or chance. You can insure against almost anything you can think of.

The latest is Vacation Rain Insurance: "The answer to the chance you take with the weather when you invest in a vacation," to quote an ad of the Fireman's Fund Insurance Group.

It goes on to explain that this new policy "can soothe your disappointment and can help restore your 'washed-out' vacation funds. . . . This is fine as far as it goes, but just think of the further possibilities. Life is full of washed-out moments of various sorts, and maybe insurance can help. Think of such possibilities as these: "My marriage fell flat on the rocks, and Cloudy Time Insurance covered half the alimony," or "When our son went delinquent, the Fratities Fund paid the psychiatric," or

**People's Platform**

**I**N YOUR May 11th editorial relative to our current primary in the judgeship race, you raised a most pertinent point regarding the true issues deserving of the attention of both the candidates and the electorate.

You further requested that we "get at them without further delay." To me, it appears that the issue in this campaign is purely and simply one of the fitness of the two candidates for judgeship. It would follow then that perhaps one should briefly analyze the nature of the tasks that a superior court judge is called upon to perform. Basically, what is a judge? What does he do? What links his preparation and training and how will an improperly qualified judge affect the lives of the citizenry?

In examining the personal qualifications records of both eminent gentlemen, there does not appear to be any basis whatsoever for measuring or personal vilification. Both are eminently upright men, both given to public service, both have fine personal backgrounds, of which one can be proud.

Mr. Goodman's adherents would point up his humanitarianism, his liberal social philosophy, and his record as a legislator. Judge Campbell's proponents rightly emphasize his record as a consistent barrister and his thus far excellent record as a novice judge of the Superior Court.

At the outset, it would seem that the attributes attributed to Mr. Goodman are the things that would not be particularly impressive as "Judge" Goodman. Our American form of government has widely provided for the separation of legislative, administrative, and judicial powers. One who has trained himself in advancing social philosophies may find it difficult to restrict his judicial actions to the "fine quills of the law" and may unwittingly find himself engaged in legislation by judicial interpretation; by adjudication, based by what he thinks the law should be, not by what it actually is.

The main purpose of a court is to resolve moral and legal conflicts. Its primary function is to enjoin, acquit, or condemn. A judge's review is a limited investigation. It is limited to the case before it and a judge considers the facts and the law. He is not an administrative determination and the law, even though he may, at times, doubt its wisdom or its correctness.

Edmond Cahn, in his excellent book, "The Trial Decision," states "It is true that mostly the rules and procedures are patterned to the normal generic fact and are difficult to adjust to one that is idiosyncratic or swollen. Lawyers point to this fact with some measure of pride, claiming that it shows that the law is no respecter of persons and no one is exempt from its standards."

The law and the interpreters of the law are not designed and should not be designed to experiment in social legislation. The law is to a definite extent a codification of past social experiences. As Cahn further points out, "Indecisiveness and groping in social and personal fields is the familiar and human technique for escaping the compulsion of one's conscience. We expect to find the judge at the opposite pole from this kind of self-indulgent indecision. The community confers his office on him precisely in order to obtain an authoritative decision, which though highly imperceptible in many cases, will at least set disputes at rest."

"The groping for perfection, that is found in the creative legislative mind, is often found in the action of legislatures themselves. They have a way of making themselves sound by measuring in concerns beyond their competence and insisting on nostrums that were proven useless generations ago."

"In the present era, epidemic with indecision, American society looks to its judges and expects them to serve as living examples of prudence and resolution."

Here then is our problem, here then the facts on which our individual decisions as voters must be made. To the selection of any Hugh Campbell has had a training from early childhood, educational application and opportunity, diligent adherence to the techniques of the law, even temperament with keen mind, and has shown himself as one who will "hear the evidence, take counsel, deliberate, reach a decision, and then go

**The Judgeship Race: Arguments And Rebuttals**

forward with an easy heart." We need decisiveness based on past experience and knowledge on the bench. We perhaps need social experimenters in the legislature, but we should never again make judgements as to a reward for having served well in another field.

—CHALMERS R. CARR, M.D.

**'Listless' Campaign Has A Lively Spot**

**T**HIS lively fight for Superior Court judge in an otherwise listless campaign has been enlivened by smears such as we haven't seen in a long time.

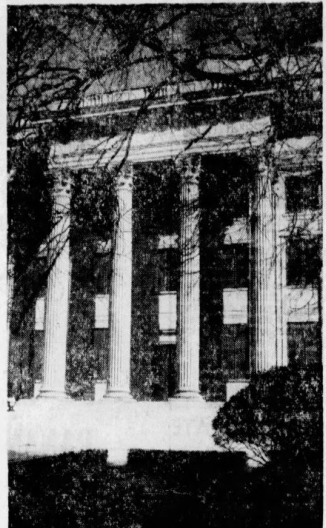
In attempting to decide for whom to vote, I would vote for whom the Saviour would vote were He to show up suddenly and announced at a polling booth. In assessing the qualifications and personalities and the backgrounds of these two candidates for judgeship, I'm sure the vote would be for Goodman. . . .

If I were an insurance company owner or executive, I would vote for Campbell. . . . But as an owner of a couple of insurance policies, my vote will go to Goodman who fought our battles in the legislature at Raleigh.

This is really a struggle between the Hamiltonians and the Jeffersonians, the latter represented by the disabled war veteran, Arthur Goodman.

I can't conceive of divinely causing the defeat of him who has done so much for his fellow citizens, and who carries permanent disabling wounds in his body, attesting in his sacrifice in defending his country.

—Name Withheld By Request



MECKLENBURG COURT HOUSE  
A Contested Seat Within

**Bar Selections Based On Ability**

**I**BELIEVE the people of Mecklenburg County know and deeply appreciate what the Mecklenburg Bar Association has done over the years in seeking promotion for her ablest and most respected members. For the benefit of the younger women and men, I wish to point out that:

In November, 1952, our Bar endorsed and unanimously appointed Platt D. Walker to the Supreme Court. This was done, and blessed the people with honor and distinction for many years.

In 1952, upon our recommendation and endorsement the governor appointed Charles H. Duls Superior Court judge, who served well but soon resigned due to ill health.

In 1953, William F. Harding was appointed and petition of our Bar. His record is well known.

In the early part of the term of President Calvin Coolidge, there appeared a vacancy on United States Court of Appeals, Fourth District, and upon the recommendation of Mecklenburg, Union and other bar associations President Coolidge appointed John J. Parker. He has served with unusual distinction and is now the chief judge.

In 1938, a majority leader of our Bar asked the citizens to vote for William H. Bobbit for Superior Court judge, and he was overwhelmingly elected. He has served with great distinction, and in 1953 he was elevated to the State Supreme Court, where he is now serving.

In 1953 the Charlotte lawyers petitioned Gov. Hodges to appoint Francis O. Clarkson to the Superior Court, which he did, and Judge Clarkson is ably serving the people.

In 1954, our legislature gave Mecklenburg two judgeships, and when the governor asked the Bar for a recommendation, we named Hugh Campbell as our favorite. He was named by Gov. Hodges to serve until the 1956 general election. He has served with excellent distinction and is now the chief judge.

ment results, and because of our knowledge of his unusual abilities and high character, we recommend to the electorate that he be elected for a full term.

It is with the same interest and motive practiced by our Bar over the years to give you our best that we endorse Hugh Campbell.

Incidentally, I would like to tell you Hugh Campbell located in our city for the practice of law. Some 22 years ago, just prior to the death of the late Charles W. Tillett Sr., his son Charles was looking for a young lawyer to become his associate, and after carefully looking over the field he called the dean of our law school at our state university for advice. And in response, Dr. Van Hecke named Hugh Campbell as his most distinguished student, and suggested to Charlie Tillett that he could not do better or make a wiser selection. Hugh Campbell was at that time practicing in Goldsboro, N. C.

—B. F. WELLS

**Keep Mecklenburg Sanatorium Open**

**T**HE purpose of this letter is to present the other side of the issue on Mecklenburg Sanatorium—the side which has been pushed into the background. As you know, this issue will be put to a public vote on May 29. There are those who say that by closing the sanatorium, the taxpayer will be spared a few extra dollars. This argument simply is not valid. It is true that the sanatorium is an expense but there is another side of the financial aspect which seems to have been overlooked.

First of all, the public has been given the impression that the sanatorium has been supported partially by the state, and that without its aid taxes will be raised. This is not entirely true. Out of approximately 30 years of existence, only two years have been supported by the state. In all other years the sanatorium has been supported by county funds. Thus the argument that taxes will be raised if the state withdraws aid is unfounded.

If Mecklenburg established a sanatorium 30 years ago and supported it through a depression and war, certainly in this prosperous age it can afford to keep up that maintenance.

In the second place, Mecklenburg will still have to support each of its patients whether here or in the state sanatorium. Granted, it may cost a little less to send patients to state hospitals, but it means another kind of economy—the economy of keeping Mecklenburg healthy.

A public misconception is that tuberculosis is conquered. While great strides have been made in controlling the disease, it is still a major cause of death. Doctors will say that the only hope to conquer tuberculosis is in the discovery of a vaccine to give to children. This may come in the next generation, but meanwhile the disease is ever present. If either tuberculosis or a respecter of class or race. Anyone is subject to the disease. Mecklenburg has kept tuberculosis under control by constant hard work, but it is still among the leading causes of death in our nation. If the sanatorium is closed now, and the patients are forced to go to the state hospitals, there will be an untold setback in progress. The sanatorium has been a constant reminder to the people of Mecklenburg that the fight against tuberculosis is not over.

Briefly, this is the other side of the story. This is an appeal not to the emotions of the public, but to the common sense—an appeal to think before voting. Think of an economy in the health of the community. Let's don't throw away years of progress for a few extra dollars.

—AMANDA ADAMS  
A Patient of Mecklenburg Sanatorium.

**'Hello — Mr. Hammarskjold'**



**Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round**

**I**F I WERE like and truly wanted to rescue the disastrous skid of American foreign policy, I would bring Clare Boothe Luce back to Washington and let her lead the way in the State Department, perhaps even as secretary of state.

**Nixon Next**

And if her health would not permit Mrs. Luce to work full time, I would appoint Dwight D. Eisenhower as secretary.

Some readers will probably figure that I have been smitten with the lady's charm and beauty; and that I want to get Nixon out of the vice presidential race. But the fact is that Mrs. Luce has shown more imagination and statesmanship than any other woman in the world. Nixon has developed a shrewd showmanship and knack of winning friends abroad.

**Limit Reform**

It was, I believe, because of some initial mistakes, heaped by the galloping communism into pro-western pro-democratic channels. She steered American arms orders to Italian factories

**Luce Deserves Top Diplomatic Post**

in such a way that the giant Fiat Company's labor unions voted to throw out Communist leadership; and she deftly, unobtrusively helped the Italian government put across land reform and revamp its tax system so as to put a proportionately greater burden on the rich than on the poor.

Mrs. Luce, also, who saw in President Gronchi a new, moderate leader of Europe; and she persuaded Eisenhower to invite him to Washington. Here Gronchi was the first to warn our heads-in-the-sand John Foster Dulles that NATO was falling apart and must be broadened with economic and political functions.

**Great Asset**

Mrs. Luce's husband's Time Magazine has castigated me almost every week with weird distortions of the truth I have no reason to be prejudiced in her favor. But I have watched her work for years—in Congress and in Rome—and she is a person of judgment, brilliance, and imagination. She would be a great asset to the nation if used to guide our entire foreign policy in Washington.

When President Sukarno of Indonesia

concluded his drive down Constitution Avenue and his reception at the hands of Vice President Nixon, and when he was alone with the Indonesian ambassador, he wept.

He wept because of one great factor which most Americans do not understand about Asia and Asians — the color line.

**Visit To Grave**

Sukarno is brown, we are white. And before he came here he was fearful that this color line would humiliate him. Every Asian worries about this. That was why he nervously went to the grave of his father to pray before he left, and to the home of his mother for her blessing.

But in Washington he found Americans warm, friendly, honorable people. He felt his welcome was genuine. And so, alone with the ambassador, he wept. He had been treated as an equal.

Sukarno, who is a powerful force in southeast Asia, will go home a real friend of the U.S.

The American who deserves large credit for Sukarno's warm reception is Vice President Nixon. He had visited In-

donesia, understood the psychological factors, made that a real welcome was planned for Sukarno.

Nixon, himself, made a big hit in Indonesia. He kissed babies, shook hands with people, but to the common sense, Sukarno got his idea of talking to American children and blessing a matron on the chest.

Whether you like Nixon's domestic diatribes and divisive tactics or not, he has been a great success on his trips abroad.

**Burma Says No**

It was carefully kept from the public, but John Foster Dulles on his recent trip through Asia was not invited to one of the most important countries of all—Burma. Khrushchev and Bulganin had received a friendly welcome there. The American ambassador had clamored for a top-level U. S. personage to come. Dulles wanted to go. He angled for an invitation. But he never got one.

So, John Foster Dulles went to Burma to Thailand where he stopped for a visit. But he did not stop in Burma.

Why? Premier U Nu would not invite him.