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Editorial Correspondence

State System Of Technical Institutes Will Promote North Carolina Progress

RALEIGH

"GIVE US MEN," said the poet in phrases ardent as a patriot's plea or a lover's sigh.

"Give us men! A time like this demands strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands. . ."

North Carolina, poised hopefully on the threshold of a vast new age of technology, has need today for both the sense and the sentiment of that cry. It, too, needs men—but trained men with the knowledge and ability to guide the state toward a promise of vast productivity and fruitfulness.

In Raleigh yesterday, we watched more than 150 Tar Heel leaders in industry, agriculture and the professions resolve firmly to find a way to meet this need swiftly and effectively.

Given the opportunity, Charlotte can help in both the search and the solution.

The problem is quite simple. To prosper in an era of increasing mechanization, North Carolina must have an army of trained technicians. These are workers in the highly important "middle field" between skilled trades and professional engineering.

But neither high schools nor colleges can satisfactorily produce them.

What is clearly needed is a statewide system of technical institutes to prepare thousands of Tar Heels in their own localities for specific duties in specialized fields of engineering.

Charlotte, the state's greatest population center, should be the site of one such institute.

* * *

YESTERDAY'S meeting in Raleigh to explore the problem publicly was called by the Development Council of North Carolina State College. It fell to Robert M. Hanes of Winston-Salem, the retired banker and one of North Carolina's most distinguished citizens, to outline the urgency of the situation.

"Today, machines are the basis for our civilization and our way of life," he said. "We face this kind of a future unprepared to meet its demands."

With commendable vigor, Mr. Hanes urged that immediate steps be taken to establish a program of technical institutes "to promote the advance of technical efficiency and industrial development."

His words were echoed by many another Tar Heel leader and it is a tribute to their eloquently persuasive sincerity that plans were made on the spot to launch a survey of "ways and means."

The study committee will not be striking out blindly into unexplored territory. In 1947, State College pioneered in technical institute training with the establishment of the Morehead City Technical Institute. In 1952, the institute was moved to Gastonia and became the Gaston Technical Institute. Although only a "pilot plant" operation with limited facilities, it has been performing a significant educational service to the state, its people and its industry.

The Gaston program, with certain improvements, could well serve as a model for state-supported technical institutes in seven or eight other population centers in North Carolina—including Charlotte.

* * *

THE problem cannot wait, however. The trained manpower is needed now. Technical knowledge and skill are readily translatable into economic strength for the entire state. As matters stand today, the greatest factor for economic change in North Carolina, the greatest component of our social well-being and the most powerful determinant of the future are all comprised in the basic and applied sciences. We cannot allow sluggishness or hideboundness to stand in the way of using new tools and techniques. A failure to seize this important educational opportunity can only lead to the nourishment of mediocrity.

Firm plans for technical institutes in Charlotte and other strategically located areas should be prepared immediately as a part of North Carolina basic educational program. Confronted today with both the need and the opportunity, the state must rise to the occasion.

People's Platform

Withholding Tax Gnawing Away At Liberty

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

YOUR ISSUE of April 9, 1956, contained an editorial under the heading of, "Tar Heel Taxes Should Be Withheld," in which you highly praised the mode of collecting federal income taxes from wage and salaried workers of the United States and severely criticized the last General Assembly of North Carolina because it did not enact the necessary legislation to provide for such a mode of collecting state income taxes from such wage and salaried workers of North Carolina.

Due to the fact that this federal legislation was enacted during the war time when we were all anxious to cooperate and had our attentions focused perhaps much more on the distant war front than on the home front, I am inclined to believe that the editors of The News have never looked beyond the misleading title to carefully examine and consider its operating effect. In your editorial, you gave, as you called them, three good arguments for pay as you go taxation which I will now take in order and deal with each one separately.

"A $64,000 winner. He won't pay unless we answer the same questions."

First, "The modern economy operates that way." To this argument I would agree. I would support pay as you go taxation, but this is not what we have.

Second, "It is more painless for the taxpayer." This, I believe, is generally true; however, since the total cost is the same, the burden is not lightened. It is necessary to closely examine the ways and means by which it works this miracle which I will now describe. Draped in its deceptive misleading title, it stealthily approaches its many victims, gently relieving them of their responsibilities of providing to meet their tax liabilities, obligingly sparing them of the pain of parting with their money which it has already viciously prohibited them from receiving. To the deceived victims, this has a soothing effect, typical of the primary stages of many of the cunning devices of Satan.

Third, "It helps to scotch tax dodgers." To this I agree. Being a licensed doctor I naturally would have a counteractive effect to the dishonesty of tax dodgers; however, since the protective shield of the Constitution extends to all, even the traitors that would destroy this government by force and violence, and as deplorable as tax dodgers may be, there is no honest means by which we can deny them of its protection.

I will now unmask so-called "pay as you go" withholding. The United States Internal Revenue code contains a provision which has the operating effect of relieving the employer of his liability for the payment to his employes and holds him liable for the payment of a part of their earnings to the United States Internal Revenue Service. Such part is determined by amount of earnings and status of personal and dependency exemptions of each individual employe. Of course, the employer does withhold this predetermined amount of earnings from each employe on their pay days when paying them their wages or salaries; however, since he retains their money in his possession for only sort intervals and is acting under compulsion, withholding is an unfitting title. This process begins on the employe's first pay day in the taxable year, when none of them owe any taxes. Here we have the true act and a fitting title. Not withholding and not pay as you go, but a seizure of their money before they owe.

Now let us take a look and see how harshly this provision of law does deal with the many citizens within its scope. It deprives them the opportunity of a hearing to ascertain whether or not they owe any taxes. It deprives them of the opportunity to pay their taxes as all honest patriotic citizens would desire to do. It reduces their status to that of victims of a vicious seizure of their property. It violates their constitutional rights secured by the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. Its very acts cry out in shrill despotic voice that can be clearly heard above the many choruses "Come, let us deal harshly and unjustly with all of them so as to diminish the opportunities of the least of them to be dishonest tax dodgers."

United State Constitution, Article 6, Third Paragraph, "The Senators and Representatives beforementioned and all members of the State Legislature and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this Constitution." This is a very impressive and solemn ceremony that I have personally witnessed on several occasions. To treat it lightly as some unimportant routine formality to take an office, I am persuaded to believe is unpleasing in the sight of our Heavenly Father. History teaches us that kingdoms and nations have prospered and grown great when obeying the laws of God and keeping His Commandments. It also teaches us that they have slowly but surely disintegrated and been brought to desolation when violating His laws, boldly defying Him and keeping not His Commandments.

There it is, Mr. Editor, stripped of all of its humane hypocrisy. I feel reasonably sure that you will look and see here and understand and will not again use your good newspaper to spread a form of propaganda to the people of North Carolina that might be instrumental in causing many of them to accept as a gentle caress further gnawing away of their liberties by the vicious wolf that has been for too long and too successfully masquerading in the clothing of sheep.

—H. L. HAITHCOX

The Mint Museum Must Be Preserved

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

YOU ARE to be commended for your illuminating series of articles on the physical plight of the Mint Museum.

You have told with clarity a story that has needed telling for some time.

Let us hope that your words will not fall on deaf ears. Let us hope that they will bring a few more people to a realization of the community's responsibility to this fine institution. If so, you should be in line for a medal of honor for meritorious service to the community.

All of us need to be reminded of what it means to have these wonderful cultural organizations in our city. They are vitally important to us—but perhaps more important—to our children and to future generations.

The Mint Museum of Art has survived thus far because of a few who have been dedicated to the task of keeping it alive. They have given unselfishly of their time and energies to assure us of a worthwhile art museum. Their names are known to most of us but somewhere they should be enshrined for their contributions to humanity.

They have helped to guide the Mint through its most difficult and precarious periods as an art museum. They have seen it emerge on a higher plane of efficiency and service to the city.

But the time has now come for others to hearken to the needs of the Mint Museum. We must now recognize that we are all concerned with the future of the Mint Museum.

The Mint is an indispensable part of our cultural structure. We cannot afford to risk its loss. Nor can we afford to lessen our efforts to build it into an even more potent influence for the future.

Charlotte is on the threshold of its greatest period of growth. We are looking into a new era of prosperity, business expansion, industrialization. Our boundaries will be pushed outwards. Our census will demand it.

To keep pace with this bright future, we must think in terms of expanding, developing, promoting and supporting our cultural assets.

So far as the Mint Museum is concerned our vision must go beyond the mere patching of some cracks in the plaster, the mere stopping of leaks, the mere replacement of tile.

Facilities must be provided for adequate storage space. The correct climate for keeping valuable paintings so they will not deteriorate is imperative.

To do this job the urgent need is for an air conditioning plant that will guarantee controllable temperatures against the summer's heat or the cold of winter.

These are the things we must keep in mind in a far-seeing fine arts program. Only in this way can we develop an art museum with the resources and a permanent collection that Charlotte can be proud of in the future. We will need this type of museum to keep pace with our growth in other directions.

The City Council and all of us would do well to be concerned about the welfare of the Mint Museum.

Beyond this, we might remind ourselves of the rich history of the Mint Museum building. It is steeped in the traditions and sentiment of this part of the country. It is a building of which we can be justly proud. It needs and deserves our care. The signs of deterioration must be eradicated.

Let us preserve and protect and safeguard the things we should. Let us hold fast to those things that ought to be cherished.

—JEFF PLACE

Background Sketches Valuable To Voters

Lowesville

Editors, The News:

JUDGE CAMPBELL, his many followers and supporters, and I want to thank you for giving biographical sketches of the candidates who were running in last Saturday's election.

It is our belief that when the people get the facts, they will come up with the right answer. Last Saturday, they did so in an overwhelming and convincing fashion. When this happens, the entire community is the winner.

—CHARLES M. LOWE
Campaign Chairman for
Judge Hugh B. Campbell

Series On Budgets Helpful To Reader

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I AM writing to extend my compliments to The News on the fine series of articles you have been running by Ann Sawyer. Her stories about the county and city budgets and about the schools are factual and interesting, and contain the kind of information we people in the community need to have.

— O. R. ROWE

Leadership: The Constant Challenge

WHETHER it is among mountain goats in the Rockies or cities in the Carolinas, leadership bears the burden of competition.

Among goats it is a simple, if noisy, matter. The goats with the hardest heads and the stiffest necks come together once a year and butt it out for the prerogatives of leadership.

Among cities, leadership is constantly challenged. Hard heads and stiff necks help not a whit in maintaining it. What is required instead are broad, ever-renewed forces for betterment, and the resources and determination to make that betterment known so that others may be enlisted in contributing to it.

One of the major forces in Charlotte, the leading city in the Carolinas, is the Chamber of Commerce. Seven new manufacturing plants that located here last year, spending $7 million annually in payrolls alone, are ample evidence of the Chamber's dynamic activities.

These new injections of growth into Charlotte's economy mean $840,000 annually in new receipts for local grocery stores; $540,000 for department and dry goods stores, $600,000 for automobile dealers, $324,000 for clothing and shoe stores, $360,000 for eating places, $240,000 for gasoline service stations, $180,000 for building material dealers and $1,260,000 for firms in other categories.

They mean, in addition, a new diversification in the economy and commensurate safeguards against recession. They mean expansion which invites other expansion and thus keeps the reins of leadership in Charlotte's hands.

The Chamber is the prime force in this progress, but it is a force that needs renewing in terms of dollars, ideas and cooperative effort. Thus the annual membership drive now in progress. The stakes in increasing the effectiveness of the Chamber are high. Other cities —including Greensboro and Raleigh—already are investing more per capita than Charlotte in attracting new industry and commerce.

That is not to say they are investing more effectively, but that they are competing earnestly with Charlotte for business dollars.

For Charlotte, the choice is simple: Compete or lose.

The Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, on its record and in its potential, deserves the broader support it seeks.

Yes, Virginia, Bull Fighting Is Bloody And Dangerous

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain

I DID NOT need robins or crocuses to tell me that spring had come this year. The outraged correspondence over the fact that Miss Grace Kelly had attended a bullfight says that summer is a-comin' in loudly. As I will be in Spain for some of the summer, I might as well save myself and do the bullfight piece again. It usually saves me a lot of loud defense, patient explanation and other time-killing exposition.

MISS KELLY

There is no law in Spain or Mexico forcing any tourist to go to a bullfight. As a matter of fact, good seats are at a premium, especially around festival times, such as Holy Week, Ysidro, or San Fermin.

Fights go on all week, and people do not go to bed at all. A five-day hangover built on dry sherry and cigarette smoke is quite colossal.

Yes, Virginia, there is a lot of blood in bullfights, because the bull is there to get killed, or to kill the matador — and his friends if possible.

SOME TERMS

A bullfighter is called "torero" or "bullman," whether he is a banderillero, a picador, or the man with the gold suit and the sword. This fellow, the star of the show, is called "matador," or "killer." Never "toreador," which is an Italian corruption for opera.

The fight is divided roughly into four parts. The first, with big cape, is to find out whether the bull hooks left — or right-handed, high or low, if he can see well, and to give the matador a chance to display some fancy cape-work.

BULL CHARGES

The next part is the thing of the horses, which most Americans and English find so unpalatable. The picador sits on a crowbait of a padded horse with a long lance. The bull charges into the horse, the pic leans on the iron, plunged supposedly into the bull's hooking crest of muscle. Two or three pics in the neck and his neck muscles get tired, making him carry his head low, otherwise you couldn't fight him with the little cape, the red-flannel muleta.

Unfortunately, most picadors abuse the bull by planting the lance too deep, too far back, too much to one side, seriously wounding him and robbing him of fight. The pic is the man to boo and hiss.

PRETTIEST PART

The prettiest part, to most newcomers, is the next portion in which banderillas—lightly barbed wands with decorative frills of colored paper—are planted three times, in sets of twos, in the bull's shoulders. This can be beautiful, graceful and very dangerous, if the banderillero knows his business and doesn't cheat when he plants the toothpicks.

This doesn't really punish the bull, but it riles him and prepares him for the final phase, the work with the little red cape and the killing.

GRACE AND DANGER

This is what the spectators come to see, because it's the bull's best chance to collect the man. A good man with a good bull can be a miracle of grace and danger. A bad man with a good bull is a scandal. But often a good man can make a bad bull put up a passable, if not inspired, performance.

When the bull—and the man—are tired, the bull's head is low, his feet planted. The killer sights along his blade, rises, and goes—supposedly straight in over the horn, crossing with the cape in his left hand to keep the bull's head low.

If the bull lifts his head as the man crosses the horn, the man gets 18 inches of horn in the groin or chest cavity.

The bull is not a he-cow but a wild animal who has spent four years eating his head off in preparation for this "moment of truth." He has never seen a man on foot before, at close range, and from the second he boils out of the toril, he wants to kill anything he can catch.

'It's Not In The Plane-Spotting Manual At All'

Puerile Chapter In Pentagon Debate

DEFENSE Secretary Wilson may yet have to serve a cease fire ultimatum on the warring brass in the Pentagon.

Wilson first tried to pooh-pooh the splashy sound of leaking documents. This failing, he spoke firmly of the necessity of keeping the acquisitive nature of the services within limits dictated by earnest debate on high strategy.

With the solemnity of it all still echoing, the Army has pushed the "disunification" of the services into the realm of puerility by leaking an Air Force document.

After pilfering the Air Force paper, the Army added its own marginal notes so that the debate between the two services is presented in this manner.

The Air Force says ". . . our air power maintains the free world's safety today." The Army says: "What guff!"

The Air Force says "it is our air power that gives us and our allies the best chance for staying safe in the future," and the Army asks: "Says who?"

To the Air Force assertion that it "must continue to be the mightiest air force in the world," the Army says sarcastically: "Don't stop the dollars."

"Scares the pants off some allies" was the Army observation on the Air Force statement that it "helps make friends for the U. S. through its mercy missions. . ."

If his lectures on constructive debate are heeded no better than this in the future, Mr. Wilson should march the combatants out into public for a spitball battle at 20 paces.

From The Providence Journal

'OFF TO BOLSHOI'

"AN APPPROPRIATE Russian saying," Bulganin said recently, "is that Moscow wasn't built in a day."

There was a Rome before there was a Moscow, and the Romans have good reason to get sore at the Premier for being so bold as to claim it took longer to build Moscow than Rome.

But the really alarming thing about the Bulganin bon mot is that it may spread. Nikita, for instance, with 15 martinis or so under his belt, might essay a czardas and yelp "Off to Bolshoi." Then there could be "Like hauling coals to Yakutsk" or "Byelorussian Baked Beans" or "Tiflis Scrapple" or the "Main Line of Magnitorsk." Just no end of possibilities.

A man who swipes a cliche just can't be trusted with *anything*.

With the cost of living still going up, and the cost of dying even higher, the average citizen doesn't know what to do.—SPARTA (GA.) ISHMAELITE.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Swing Plans Defense Against Mexico

WASHINGTON

THE House Government Operations Committee has been probing, rather gingerly, into the ramified operations of Gen. Joseph Swing, Ike's classmate at West Point, who as immigration commissioner got a modest-salaried Mexican maid sent from the border to Washington, and also keeps his daughter on the federal payroll at $4,500.

Border Defense

Latest Swing wrinkle being probed is the general's plan for the defense of the Mexican border—a job which falls under the Defense Department with the advice of the State Department. By no stretch of the imagination is it the job of the Immigration Service.

However, Swing, a military man, has two generals working for him—Gen. Frank Partridge and Gen. Edwin B. Howard. Their minds naturally run in military channels.

Plan 'A'

So, at about the time Gen. Swing's classmate, Gen. Eisenhower, and the President of Mexico were meeting in White Sulphur Springs to congratulate each other on the peaceful amity of their two nations, Swing's generals were evolving "Plan A" for the defense of the hitherto peaceful Mexican border.

None of the immigration generals will talk about Plan A, but it provides for an elaborate system of roadblocks constructed from telephone poles and railroad ties; demolition squads; high pits in highways; machine-gun emplacements; and a volunteer militia of 8,000 men recruited by the border patrol.

Classified

When queried by the House Government Operations Committee about Plan A, Gen. Swing's office replied: "The matter is classified."

Note — The United States has long boasted that it has the longest peaceful, undefended borders in the world.

Sen. Bricker Ducks

A secret session of the Senate Commerce Committee was about to get under way when Chairman Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.) noticed that one of the members had stepped into the next room.

"While we're waiting," Magnuson said with a grin, "we have an important matter here to occupy the committee's time."

He then read a resolution from the Duck Hunters' Association of Stuttgart, Ohio, inviting the committee to send a delegate to a duck-calling contest.

Spreading Corn

"Oh-oh," piped up Ohio's GOP Sen. John Bricker, who had kicked up quite a fuss after several of his Ohio hunting friends had been nabbed by the Fish and Wildlife Service for luring wild ducks with corn.

"Don't nominate me to go or Drew Pearson will be after me for duck-baiting!"