

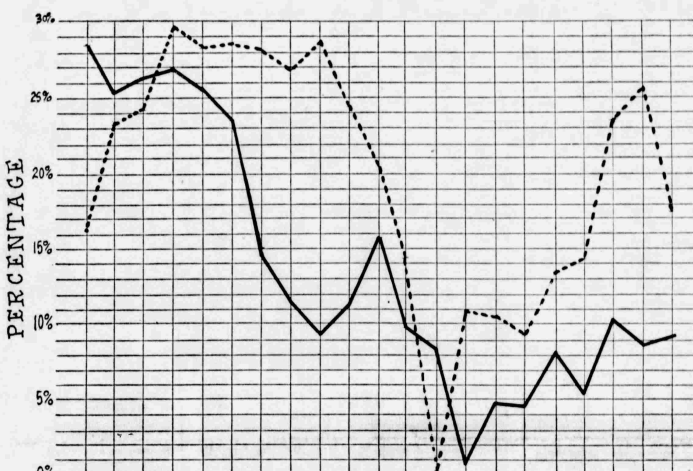


Fires Follow Tremor

QUAKE AFTERSHOCK JOINTS FRISCO

A SPENDING PARADOX

Our Debt Mounting, But Its Tax Share Falling



By CHARLES KURALT
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The city's bond debt is \$33.2 million. The county's bond debt is \$25.9 million. They have never been higher, as any disgruntled taxpayer can tell you.

If he is also an analytical taxpayer, he might rock you with figures like these:

Per Cent Of Taxes Required For Bond Interest And Principal

compares with \$1,117,000 issued between 1936 and 1946. The county bond debt is eight times larger than it was 20 years ago. The city debt is about 3 1/2 times greater.

There are about twice as many people around to help pay the debt, earning several times as much money and enjoying countless more facilities and services.

Viewed that way, maybe this bond situation isn't quite so grim.

Time was when bonds were issued in sums like \$60,000 (1940) or \$150,000 (1942) mostly for purposes like street improvements. Rural Mecklenburg held bond elections only twice in the 12 years from 1936 to 1947.

The Bomb — Then The Boom

Then, like the A-bomb that ended the war, came the postwar boom. It was a boom in people as well as money. The people had children who had to go to school.

And all of a sudden, school construction bonds became the biggest item in the budget.

In 1936, Mecklenburg's general purpose bond debt was

Debt-Wise, You're Well Off

No matter how many gags you hear about how Charlotte citizens would approve a bond issue to move the town to Indian Trail, the truth is you're well off.

The percentage of your taxes that goes to pay off the bond debt is practically at a low ebb despite the millions of dollars worth of bonds that have been sold since World War II.

Back in 1939, for example, about 28 per cent of your taxes went to pay off the bond debt.

Now, only nine per cent of your city tax dollar goes to bonds, 17 per cent of your county tax dollar.

Looking at it another way:

In the 1930's, you were paying about 39 cents per hundred dollars of property evaluation to retire city bonds. In the county, Mecklenburgers were shelling out about 27 cents on the hundred dollars.

Today, that figure has dwindled to 15 cents in the city, 16 cents in the county.

We're Just Wealthier Now

The reason, of course, is that your property is worth more today than it was in the cautious, tight-money Thirties. Property evaluation has zoomed from \$140 million in 1937 to close to \$800 million today.

In the meantime, the jet-speed expansion of Charlotte since V-J Day has called for new streets, new sewers, new water mains and school buildings and hospital facilities, new recreation buildings and parks and playgrounds.

The way to get them: Issue bonds.

Compare the decades 1936-46 and 1946-56 and you get a pretty good picture of what's happened to the old town:

In the past 10 years, the city has issued \$31,873,000 in bonds — almost exactly 10 times as much as in the preceding 10 years.

Bigger Debt But More To Pay

Since 1946, the county has issued \$25,249,000, counting the \$5 million approved in January but not yet sold. That



THE LIVING ROOM fireplace took a beating yesterday at the Westlake, Calif., home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Martinelli as a heavy earthquake rocked the San Francisco area. The Martinellis survey the damage with Joe Scafidi (center), a neighbor. A sharp aftershock rocked the area again early today.

30 Injured, Damage Is Extensive

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A sharp aftershock of yesterday's big earthquake series jolted San Francisco and the Bay Area early today.

A three-alarm fire in midtown San Francisco followed on the heels of the tremor that jolted many residents out of their sleep shortly after midnight. But Asst. Fire Chief Bruno Bassi said the fire "was probably not" caused by the quake.

The aftershock, followed by several less severe, hit at 12:14 a.m. Yesterday's quakes jolted San Francisco and the Bay Area, injuring 30 persons and causing minor but widespread damage almost impossible to assess.

Chief Bassi said the first alarm today came eight minutes after the 12:14 shock was reported.

He listed the cause officially as "unknown" pending an investigation later today. Fifty persons were injured and three suffered slight injuries in the fire.

Father John Weber, S. J., seismologist at Santa Clara University said this morning's aftershock had a Richter magnitude of 4.

Yesterday's tremor was the worst since the disastrous 1906 quake here.

Tall buildings and the great bridge spanning the Golden Gate swayed. In South San Francisco and adjacent Daly City, plate glass windows shattered and superimposed shelves spilled their contents onto floors. Stiles blocked parts of State Route 1 along the ocean.

HEAVY SHOCKS

That was the result of two rapid-fire heavy shocks at 11:45:20 a.m. and 11:46:30 a.m. The aftershock continued throughout the afternoon and night. At 11:30 p.m., the seismograph at the University of California — across the bay at Berkeley — had recorded 49. Most of those were so weak their tremors couldn't be felt.

The center of the quakes appeared to be in the Daly City area, populated by more than 30,000 people.

The tremors extended nearly 100 miles eastward to Sacramento and 75 miles southward to Hollister, below San Jose at the base of the San Francisco peninsula.

The quake originated in the San Andreas fault, San Francisco sits on the edge of the fault, which runs diagonally from the Salton Sea area of southern California through California and into the Pacific off the Oregon coast.

The major quake had a Richter magnitude rating of 3.5 compared with 8.25 for the 1906 quake. The scale progresses on a logarithmic pattern, meaning that a rating of 3.5 is as great as a rating of 1.0 is 100 times as great as 1. Hence, yesterday's quake was one one-hundredth of the 1906 convulsion.

But it was violent enough to alarm the entire region and destructive enough to cause cumulative damage probably ranging into millions. In addition to minor damage to countless homes and visible road damage, several reservoirs were cracked.

Schools in southern San Francisco were emptied for the day. At San Jose, 30 miles south of here, plaster fell in the old Santa Clara Courthouse. There the tremor excited a brief but rolling movement.

Strictly Political

By JULIAN SCHEER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Frank Sims, the Mecklenburg man called "the staff of life lobbyist" by Burke Davis, turned animal trainer the other day.

Or, you might say alligator trainer.

The Charlotte ABC man received a couple of alligators from a friend and stashed them in his hotel room for "entertainment."

The alligators caused much furor on the Sir Walter's fifth floor. The hellboy won't come near the place, the clean up guy won't make the beds — why, it is even hard to get someone to bring ice in to help Frank entertain his buddies.

TROUBLE really broke out this week when Frank — a Red Skehan — type comic at times — slipped one of the 60-inch reptiles into the bathtub of Rep. W. W. Wall of Marion.

Rep. Wall, who has as good a sense of humor as the next guy, spotted the alligator in the tub and reached in to grab it. Surely, he thought, this was a good joke — a stuffed reptile. Looks 'nuff like a real one to be real.

When he jerked back his arm — still intact — back from the mad alligator, he recovered quickly enough to think this would certainly be a fine prank to pull on Rep. W. D. Reynolds of Robeson, who is affectionately known to his compatriots as "Frasine."

So Wall deposited said reptile in the shower of Mr. Reynolds; but was not agile enough to break from the room before he was passed by a frightened Mr. Reynolds.

Wall yelled innocently, but with feigned terror, "What is it? It is a lizard?"

"Lizard, heck," says the man from Robeson, "it's a gallavator!"

With that he passed Mr. Wall who was doing 90 himself.

It shook up Rep. Reynolds to a point where he reportedly paced the floor all night.

The world loves a joker?

CANDIDATE Wallace Osborne, the young attorney, hasn't given up the idea of running for City Council. He may make the

See STRICTLY ON Page 3A

TV Basketball Rosters & Numbers On Page 4B

World News Roundup

Beck 'Deals' Point Of Rackets Probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate rackets investigators said today Teamsters Union cash kept going to Dave Beck even after he was promoted from the union's West Coast boss to its presidency in 1952.

Robert F. Kennedy said this is one of the points that will be brought out when Beck is called the witness stand Tuesday. Kennedy is chief counsel of the special Senate committee probing alleged racketeering in labor and industry.

Ike, Macmillan On Last Round

TUCKER'S TOWN, Bermuda (AP) — President Eisenhower and Prime Minister Macmillan worked to wind up their fast-moving Bermuda conference today with evidence that the worst wounds of the British — American relations had been healed and a working partnership in world affairs restored.

Officials said there was a possibility the two Western leaders would hold a final meeting tomorrow morning, but it was hoped the main work could be concluded by tonight. Eisenhower plans to leave for Washington tomorrow, but it had not been decided whether he will go by plane or sail aboard the U. S. Guided missile cruiser, Canberra.

Hunt Continues For Plane

TOKYO (AP) — A U.S. Navy destroyer plowed through choppy seas today to investigate a report of "yellow objects" as a possible clue to the fate of 67 Americans aboard a military transport that vanished yesterday off the coast of Japan.

Officials conducting what was described as the greatest air-sea

Segregationist Back In Jail

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Segregationist John Kasper was back in jail today, charged a second time with stirring up racial disorders at nearby Clinton.

He was arrested last night at Clinton after attending the funeral of a fellow segregationist.

Already, Kasper is appealing a year's sentence to federal prison on a similar criminal contempt

Carolinas Harvard Men Set For Local Dinner

More than 425 Harvard alumni, their wives and guests will attend the Harvard dinner which will begin with a social hour at 6:30 p.m. today at Radio Center, 3229 South Blvd. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m.

President Nathan M. Pusey and Mrs. Pusey of Harvard University arrived in mid-afternoon. They were met at the Charlotte airport by George B. Cramer, vice president of the Harvard Club, and Thomas L. Robinson, president. Mr. Cramer heads the reception committee for distinguished visitors.

Twenty-three university and college presidents from the two Carolinas and their wives are coming to Charlotte to attend the dinner in honor of President and Mrs.

Dr. John R. Cunningham, president of Davidson College, will give the invocation.

WORD PICTURE

Dr. Pusey, speaking on the subject "Harvard and the Impending Crisis in Education," is expected to give the large dinner audience a picture of the program of development which Harvard University has embarked upon for the next three years.

John P. Marquand, the noted author and overseer of Harvard, will introduce Dr. Pusey.

Professor Fred Morton of Davidson, head of the Harvard Business School group in this area.

See HARVARD on page 3-A

What's Inside

- Books 5A
- Classified 3-8C
- Comic 4-9C
- Crossword Puzzle 5A
- Earl Wilson 5A
- Editorials 4A
- W. A. Casar 6B
- Obituaries 3B
- Radio-TV 7A
- Serial 5B
- Sports 5B
- Theaters 4-5B
- To Your Good Health 8B
- Wages 1-3B
- Worry Clinic 5A

Our Weather

Partly cloudy and somewhat warmer today; increasing clouds; a heavy rain with rain tonight and early Sunday.

Low this morning 44

Low tomorrow morning 45

High today 65

High yesterday 50

High tomorrow morning 60

Sunrise today 6:23 a.m.; sunset today 6:37 p.m.

See WEATHER DATA on Page 3-A

Dellinger Offering For Fourth Term

Councilman Steve W. Dellinger today announced his candidacy for reelection to the City Council.

Mr. Dellinger is the third of the incumbents to announce formally for reelection.

All members of the Council are expected to put in bids this year for return to the Council.

Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem James S. Smith has already announced and filed with the County Election Board for the mayor's race to succeed Mayor Van Every who is not running again.

This is the fourth time Mr. Dellinger has offered for the Council, having been elected on his first try in 1951.

Engaged in the automotive parts business here since 1927, Mr. Dellinger heads the Charlotte Auto Parts Co. which he organized in 1933.

In making his announcement, Mr. Dellinger said, "I have enjoyed serving on the Council and in all humility I ask to be permitted to serve another term.

If reelected I will serve all the people to the best of my ability.

Mr. Dellinger has long been a member of the First Methodist Church and at the moment is vice chairman of the official board (stewards). He is past master of Temple Lodge of the



MR. DELLINGER

Masonic Fraternity and is a member of the Scottish Rite body, Oasis Temple, Shrine, Eastern Star, Red Fez Club and Azusa Grotto.

The deadline for candidates to file with the election board is April 19.

The primary will be conducted April 29 with the election to be held on May 7.