



By EULA H. GREENWOOD

As of last week the three leaders in the race for Speaker of the House in the 1963 session of the N. C. General Assembly were Clifton Blue of Aberdeen, Algernon Augustus Zollicoffer, Jr. of Henderson, and Thomas H. Woodard of Wilson.

Although, as some have sagely said, it is mighty early to begin talk about a Speaker for two years from now, it is not too early.

At this time four years ago Addison Hewlett had things pretty well lined up—though not as well as Clifton Blue has at this time. Joe Hunt, 1961 Speaker of the House, had enough commitments two years ago to put him in this time.

We hear that Blue has a definite 40 members lined up on his side. That is one-third of the 120 members of the House.

Zollicoffer is in his third term in the House; Woodard is in his third term; and thus with eight terms under his belt, Blue has more legislative experience than his two opponents combined.

To us, it looks as if Clifton Blue and Lt. Gov. Cloyd Philpott will be the big bosses of the 1963 Legislature.

Two Changes?

A few days ago when we wrote here of some big changes upcoming in the ranks of the appointees hereabouts, somebody suggested that we name names.

Well, we are not in the business of mind-reading or name-calling, but it is known that there will be some turnover of personnel this summer and fall.

We have heard that D. S. Coltrane, one of our really great men in N. C. State Government and Director of the Dept. of Administration, may retire this year. He will be 68 on July 27. Then Hodges-appointed Highway Director Willard Farrington Babcock might also be found among the missing before frost.

We will mention some other possibilities later.

With The Alphabet

Well, we see by the press that Statesville people have decided to let their drinkers continue to go to Claremont (Catawba County), Cleveland (Rowan County), and Charlotte (Mecklenburg County) for their legalized booze.

Knowing Statesville as we do, there is serious doubt here that ABC stores will come soon to that Iredell County city. Defeat of the

whiskey stores in the election held there June 3 is a serious blow to former Sen. C. V. Henkel's five-hundred-thousand-dollar program to make Statesville a Piedmont convention center via the Vance Hotel.

And, while in the alphabet, we note some attempt is being made to get organized whiskey sales in Perquimans County. In reporting on it last week, the press said straight-faced that ABC board members terms would be "staggered". Careless talk, it seems to us, in view of the item under discussion.

Little Craze

It is easy to fall into foolish thinking via the headlines. Most of the big papers last week ran at the top of page 1 these words:

"19,000 WORKERS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW WAGE LAW"

The story underneath referred to the fact that the State Minimum Wage Law was changed last week in this way. Firms having as many as four employees must pay at least 75 cents an hour. Until the law was changed, firms having five or less were not covered.

Now it is estimated that lowering the figure will affect 19,000 more employees. This is true. But virtually all of these employees are already getting 75 cents or more per hour—and the mere passing of the law will not add one cent to their pockets, will mean nothing.

So to say that "19,000 workers will benefit" . . . or words to that effect . . . is only headline mouth-ing.

The Prize

Sam Regan in "Southern Accent" recently ran these lines written by Mrs. Edith Earnshaw of Wake Forest, widow of the long-time dean of the college, E. B. Earnshaw:

"The Prodigal Son was overweight and a fatted calf he could not rate. So all the people watched him quaff a tin of fatless Met-recalf."

We know a person who did not, and does not, take Metrecalf. She never has been much of a drinker—but found herself taking on several cocktails, etc., each week at various parties. Last December, around Christmas time, she decided to become a tee-totaler. No special diet was involved. Although about 30 pounds overweight, this person is not a scale—or weight-watcher. In other words, she "eats what she wants".

Know The Weather

By E. H. SIMS

In climbing up, or driving up mountains, in the United States, it is important to allow for lessening oxygen?

It is very important to understand the composition of the atmosphere in ascending mountains—as it is in flying. While most of the gas that surrounds the earth (the atmosphere) is not oxygen, the supply of this gas is vital to our breathing and health.

As we ascend, the air gets thinner and we do not breathe in the normal supply of vital oxygen. If you reach an altitude of 10,000 or 11,000 feet, climbing or driving, you have reached a dangerous altitude. In a few places in this country our mountains rise this high.

Even at 8,000 or 9,000 feet, the effects are considerable. Above 9,000, extra oxygen should be used. Vision at night is very poor at this altitude without additional oxygen. If in doubt whether you are suffering from anoxia, look at your finger nails. They should be pink, and if they are turning bluish, you are experiencing anoxia.

FOILED!

London, England—London police tried to put John Coleman on the witness stand for trial on a drunkenness charge. They failed. Coleman, who weighs 391 pounds, stood outside the stand and was fined 70 cents.

A few days ago she idly stepped on the scales, found she had loped off a solid 15 pounds since December.

Incidentally, we understand the inventor of Metrecalf is in line to receive the Nobel Prize.

On The Floor

As we pointed out here several weeks ago, the 1961 version of the N. C. General Assembly will probably wind up its work on June 17.

Nevertheless, a lot of peculiar winds are blowing around the legislative halls. There will be floor fight over the tax program. Tempers are short. The food tax has not been adopted as yet—tobacco and four per cent are still looking in at the door.

Just a lot of the legislators left Raleigh last weekend, hot-under-the-collar. They knew what they did not want, but could offer nothing better. Still, June 17 looks like the date—with a lot of feelings left unfinished.



LONG WAY FROM HOME.—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Stoker, of Pamona, Calif., begin their first night of camping on the Price camping grounds near Blowing Rock Saturday, by getting a fire going to cook over. Mrs. Stoker, who is interested in plants, trees, and birds, was looking forward to adding many names to her already long list of nature she had made during her trip from home. They had spent four weeks visiting relatives in Alabama and other Southern states, and said they had found "southern hospitality" to be genuine. They said they were impressed with the greenness of the countryside, and Mrs. Stoker hoped they would spend a week in the area.—Staff photo Joe Minor

Working Of Soil Group Explained By Official

By B. L. FOUTZ

What is a Soil Conservation District? It is a central source of help and information about soil and water conservation in every community in North Carolina and nearly every community in the United States. These districts are legally constituted units of State Government.

Each soil conservation district is directed by a board of local people, usually resident land owners, elected or locally appointed. In Watauga Soil Conservation District, this governing board are called supervisors.

The board of supervisors prepares a "district program" for each district. This prepared program describes the conditions and the problems affecting land-resource conservation in the district. It states the district's soil and water conservation goals and tells what the district proposes to do to reach these goals.

After the district program is prepared, State laws authorize the

board of supervisors to arrange for assistance from public or private source to put its program into effect. This service is gotten through formal working agreements.

Under this formal working agreement with the district, the Soil Conservation Service provides without charge the services of soil conservationists to help plan and apply conservation measures.

Other agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture have their own working agreements with districts to suit their various functions and services. Many non-Federal agencies and organizations also contribute to district activities according to their separate arrangements, some formal and some informal.

Any farmer can get conservation information and assistance tailored to the needs of his own land by applying to the local district office.

The board of supervisors for Watauga Soil Conservation District are Clyde Moretz, chairman;

Sanford Creed, vice chairman; Tom Jackson, secretary-treasurer; Ferd Michael, member; and Harvey Trivette, member.

Nearly four tons (7,775 pounds) of aphids have been found infesting a single acre of alfalfa. In many areas, 1½ to two tons of alfalfa hay per acre is considered a good crop.

Chamber Commerce News

By HERMAN W. WILCOX

This year's "Horn in the West" program will go to press very shortly. So that your name may appear in this program and be included in our permanent records, it is very important that your membership of \$10 be mailed to Mrs. B. W. Stallings at once.

In making the announcement, Herman W. Wilcox, executive vice president of Southern Appalachian Historical Association, Inc., says that perhaps this \$10 does more to help build our future historical park than any one other fund coming into the treasurer of the association. "In fact," he said, "this is all we have at the present to build cabins, promote and preserve other attractions in the future Daniel Boone Village."

Every citizen in the county is invited to join the association.

CHECK THE WANT ADS

Traffic Toll

Raleigh—The Motor Vehicles Department's summary of traffic deaths through 10 a. m. Monday, June 5, 1961:

Killed to date: 432.
Killed to date last year: 459.

RETRAINING BILL

President Kennedy has sent Congress a bill to provide for the re-training of unemployed workers so they can "become productive members of our society once again."

The four-year program would help hundreds of thousands of workers "whose skills have been rendered obsolete by automation and other technological changes," Kennedy said in letters to the House and Senate.

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Mr. John T. Howell, Principal
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