

The Washington Report — Attempt To Stabilize Social Security

By Congressman
Walter B. Jones

Of interest to practically every family in the United States, the House attempted to stabilize the Social Security program in legislation passed on Wednesday, March 9. As many of you know, it has been proven that the Social Security fund was getting actuarially unsound. This threatens the future of about 116 million persons who work in covered employment or self-employment and who have been paying into the Social Security fund for a number of years. In addition to this figure, there are currently around 36 million people drawing social security benefits. So, to protect this large number of our citizens, something had to be done. The House passed legislation which supposedly fixed up the financial status of the Social Security fund. The bill provides, among other things, postponing this year's cost-of-living increase from July 1 to January 1984. It also provides for a slight increase in the social security tax rate which had already been approved, but for later years. For the first time, it would tax half the social security benefits for higher income recipients. And perhaps the most controversial item was the provision to bring all new federal workers into the system along with Members of Congress, Judges, the President and Vice President. This proposed action caused a great amount of concern among many of our postal and civil service employees. But the required social security participation will not apply to anyone presently employed, but only to those who come aboard on or about January 1, 1984. In other words, those federal workers presently employed should experience no differences whatsoever from that which they have every reason to expect.

Another controversial feature of the bill was increasing the maximum requirement payments to age 67 rather than the present age of 65, but this increase in age will not come into full effect until the year 2010; it will be a gradual phase-in.

The proponents of the

legislation predict it will increase revenues and cut costs to a total of \$165 billion over the next seven years. This should be enough to take care of the system's short term problems.

It was not pleasant to have to make these changes in the social security program, but when we consider those now receiving benefits and those who will receive them in the future totalling over 150 million people, it became necessary to take remedial action. In spite of the need for the legislation, it was still a very close vote of 228 to 202.

Nader To Be Featured Speaker At E.C.U. — March 21 - 23

Ralph Nader is scheduled to report next week on the effects of more than two decades of increasing concern about the safety and reliability of consumer products and services and the direction the consumerism crusade should now take.

The nation's best known consumer advocate, Nader will be the featured guest speaker for East Carolina University's annual spring Lecture - Seminar series March 21-23. He will deliver two major public lectures and participate in seminars conducted by panels of university scholars.

Dr. John D. Ebbs, series coordinator for the ECU division of Academic Affairs, said all events on the program are open to the general public.

The lectures and seminars will be held in Hendrix Theater at Mendenhall Student Center on the ECU campus.

Nader's first lecture is to be given at 8 P.M. Monday, March 21, with an update on the consumerism movement which his book of the mid-1960s, "Unsafe at Any Speed," helped to spark. The topic of the first lecture will be "Consumerism Update: Where Has It Been?"

The second lecture of the series will be at 8 P.M. Wednesday, March 23, on "Consumerism Update: Where Is It Going?" as the concluding event of the program.

On Tuesday seminar par-

At this time of the year when many of us are struggling with income tax returns and many having to make additional payments to the Internal Revenue Service, I think it is timely to report to you that an article published in Washington, D.C. disclosed that the General Electric Company in 1982 net increase grew to \$1.82 billion, but the firm got a net tax refund of \$146 million. This is due to loopholes in the tax laws which many companies use to avoid paying taxes, but I am happy to report that the Congress last year corrected this

Edenton-Chowan Menus March 21-25

Participants selected from the ECU faculty will conduct panel discussions of the points and issues raised in study of the consumerism movement and in Nader's lectures.

Nader has continued to be active in consumerism causes and studies, including a recent study and report on the uncertain future of the postal service.

Edenton-Chowan Menus March 21-25

MONDAY—Breakfast-Fruit Juice, Cinnamon Bun, and Milk. Lunch-Ham & Cheese Sandwich w/Lettuce & Pickle Chips, Buttered Corn, Mixed Fruit, and Milk.

TUESDAY—Breakfast-Fruit Juice, Cheese Toast, and Milk. Lunch-Sloppy Joe/Bun, Potato Rounds, Ketchup, Peaches, Peanuts, and Milk.

WEDNESDAY—Breakfast-Fruit Cup, Scrambled Eggs, Buttered Toast, and Milk. Lunch-Bar-b-que'd Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Limas, Rolls, and Milk.

THURSDAY—Breakfast-Apple Sauce, Cinnamon Toast, and Milk. Lunch-Pizza, Tossed Salad, French Fries - Ketchup, Peanut Cluster, and Milk.

FRIDAY—Breakfast-Fruit Juice, Doughnuts, and Milk. Lunch-Meat Loaf w/Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Prunes, Rolls, and Milk.

error, and this is the last year the so-called "corporate sales tax" will be permitted. There was a provision whereby companies could purchase or absorb smaller companies who actually had tax credits

—The Carolina Review—

NOW ANOTHER??

Though it seems unlikely, add another name to North Carolina's 1984 gubernatorial sweepstakes, Terry Sanford, former governor and president of Duke University.

"Bench talk" around Raleigh about a Sanford candidacy had grown enough in recent weeks that he almost had to be included as a possibility. Then, last week, the twice-failed presidential candidate announced that he would be working for Sen. Fritz Hollings' presidential campaign in a formal capacity.

"That's a good way to get back out there (on the campaign trail) and warm up," said one old-time politico, "and Terry knows how to raise money, too."

A former moderate to liberal newspaper reporter, comparing notes with a more conservative cohort, found common ground, that both could admittedly support Sanford. "Well, if he can get both of us to think about supporting him...you know he could be formidable," he mused.

No doubt Sanford, who served as North Carolina's governor from 1961 to 1965, could be formidable. Like Bill Friday, UNC president, Sanford would be an immediate front-runner if he entered the race.

Friday, though, has been more adamant in his refusals to consider the race. Some say, however, that Friday would jump if "certain movers" could get enough money pledged for such a race. Someone else said Friday had been offered such financing and had turned it down.

"Lord, I wish he (Friday) would," said one senator a couple of weeks ago. Offered Sanford as an alternative, "He's better than anyone else

by losses in their corporate profits; however, let me repeat again that the Congress corrected this error and this avoidance of paying taxes will be averted in the immediate future.

we've seen—if Bill Friday won't run," he said.

As unlikely as a Friday or Sanford candidacy sounds, the reason their names are mentioned apparently is that the current field of candidates continues to flounder. The list now includes: Rufus Edmisten, Lauch Faircloth, Thomas Gilmore, Jimmy Green, John Ingram, Eddie Knox, Charlie Rose, and Lacy Thornburg. And maybe Terry Sanford.

Picture each one of those candidates trying to raise one million dollars or more while Jesse Helms and Jim Hunt slug it out for money in the Senate race. Then pity any other candidates trying to raise money.

NOT REALLY...Though it threw a scare into more than a few. The governor's DUI package was never really in danger last week.

When Sen. Robert Warren, a Democrat from Benson, offered an amendment from the Senate floor to raise the legal purchasing age for beer and wine to age 21, a shudder went through the bill's sponsors. The amendment carried on the first reading.

Then Senate power Ken Royall revealed the enlightening information that the amendment would cause the bill to be returned to the committee process—and to probably await revenue figures in May before final action.

The sponsors didn't want to wait that long—and give opponents more time to chip away at the laws. They convinced Warren to withdraw the amendment, perhaps to resubmit later as a single bill.

But according to a source close to the governor, there never was any cause for worry. "It would have passed with age 19 or 21. Ken Royall just wanted 19," the source said.

Open House Activities Set For March

The Pasquotank-Perquimans-Camden-Chowan District Health Department is pleased to announce its upcoming Open House activities March 29, 1983. The event will be held in each of the four county health departments and at Home Health and the Developmental Evaluation Center. The activities are planned as a "kick-off" event for Public Health Week which will be observed April 17-23, 1983.

The Open House is considered an opportunity for the public to become more familiar with the many services provided by their local health department. The District Health Department administers programs to detect and prevent disease, to solve health problems of individuals, and to promote good health behavior by citizens. It is also hoped that

the public will take this time to become acquainted with the staff of their health department and develop an increased awareness of their duties.

Open House is the public's day, held in hopes that the public will attend and take advantage of the services available at the health department.

Elizabeth City State

Students Attend Conference

Taking advantage of the Spring Break, seven area students represented Elizabeth City State University at the Kappa Delta Pi Southeast Regional Conference, March 11-12 at Asheville's plush Great Smokies Hilton. The ECSU delegation was headed by Kappa Delta Chapter President, Marcia Davis, senior Special Education major, Moyock, N.C.

Joining Miss Davis in attending the regional conference were: Janice Cummings, junior Special Education major, Columbia, N.C.; Thomas Eichler, senior Industrial

Arts Education major, Elizabeth City, N.C.; Roger A. Griesinger, senior Industrial Arts Education major, South Mills, N.C.; Letitia Hendricks, junior Special Education major, Henderson, N.C.; Judy Rankins, senior Special Education major, Edenton, N.C.; and Cathy

Sharber, senior Special Education major, Elizabeth City.

By giving the invocation during the Saturday morning Laureate Breakfast, Miss Rankins joined representatives from Georgia State University, the University of Virginia, Clemson University, Tulane University, the University of Central Arkansas, West Georgia College, Denison University, and other regional institutions in participating in activities of the regional conference.

During Saturday's day-long series of forums, the Kappa Delta Pi Southeast Regional Conference focused attention on such issues as "The Dropout Problem: Will They Be Here to Teach in 1984?" "The Consequences of a Technological Society: The Tyranny of Expertise," "Classroom of the Future - How Will You Use Your Computer?" and "Beyond 84: Motivation to Master the Challenge."

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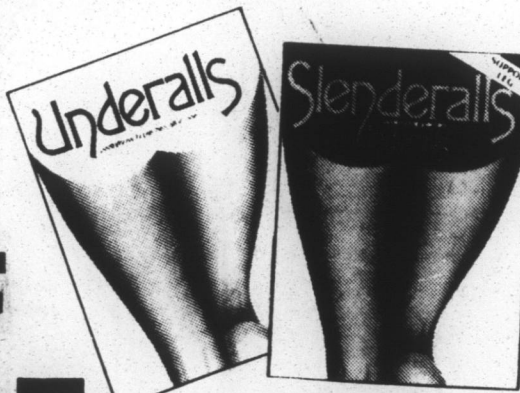
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