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Raleigh Roundup

NOTES ON RACE . . . When you speak of "race" in the current events sweeping like a late-winter snowstorm over all North Carolina, be sure you know where of you speak . . . and what you have in mind.

The dictionary defines the word thusly:

"A contest of speed" . . . "a group of persons connected by common descent."

Until about thirty days ago, the matter of race did not get into the Governor's race. Then came the sit-down situation. Now it seems certain that an issue hardly mentioned as 1960 came into view will become the main question, the chief force, in the campaign.

DIFFERENT . . . In the other Southern states, the racial question has been dragged into the picture by politicians wanting to capitalize on the emotions and prejudices of the voters.

When John Larkins and Terry Sanford announced for Governor, they dwelt on education, welfare, per capita income in their statements. Neither said anything to stir up racial hatred or trouble. They saw the need for better highways and less centralization of power in Raleigh.

In Virginia, in Alabama—and certainly in Arkansas and Georgia—the matter of racial prejudice was brought out as the main thing to be discussed by the candidates for Governor. If it was not a question already, as in the case of Arkansas, Orval Faubus would make it one.

It takes real statesmanship to walk the high road, but as of March 1 Sanford and Larkins were still on it. The racial firecracker in North Carolina was not touched off by political candidates. The

match was struck by street-walkers and sign-carriers in an election year which found the two principal candidates for high office trying desperately to keep North Carolina out of the pit of racial prejudice.

IN THE RUNOFF . . . Until Beverly Lake announced for Governor last week, it looked as if there would be no second primary in the gubernatorial battle. Now there is certain to be one. Whose support will go to whom?

In 1948, the last time we had an important three-cornered race, R. Mayne Albright's supporters in the first go-around flocked to Kerr Scott in the runoff. Thus it was that Charles Johnson, who led in the first, was defeated in the second.

Now it is recognized here . . . and elsewhere . . . that Terry Sanford will make some wholesale changes in State offices here should he be elected Governor. In other words, soothsayers have tied the strong hand of Luther Hodges to various candidates and would-be candidates . . . but never to Terry Sanford.

So, if the runoff should be between Sanford and Larkins, it is felt Hodges would lean to Larkins one way or another, Seawell too.

Now suppose the second primary were between Larkins and Malcolm Seawell, where would the Lake strength and the Sanford strength?

Well, since Seawell and Lake are apparently both in the racial picture, Lake's strength would go with Seawell and Sanford's with Larkins.

However, it best be noted that when Lake said he would not be a candidate for Governor about a month ago . . . he took

a haymaker at Governor Hodges and was immediately attacked by Seawell. So, Lake might try to swing his people to Larkins rather than to Seawell, the latest man said to have Hodges' blessings.

We can't see a second primary between Beverly Lake and Seawell, because by and large they will be pulling water from the same well. Lake has been making noises like a candidate for Governor almost as long as Sanford . . . and has made friends at crossroads corners all over the State . . . so don't count him least just because he announced last.

UNTIL NOVEMBER . . . Until Lake and Seawell announced for Governor, we could see a mid-summer breathing spell for political bombast. At least there would be June—and a portion of July.

Now here is the way she shapes up: Primary latter part of May. Second primary latter part of June. National Conventions, Wars and rumors of wars from there right on through frost and into November and the General Election. This should be a bellful for anybody.

If by that time you can count on the fingers of both hands your friends, count yourself lucky.

DREAD . . . For this Governor's race in North Carolina this year may get hot enough, vitriolic enough, and demagogic enough not only to turn the best of friends into enemies, but members of the same family against each other.

Frankly, we rather dread it . . . and have a hunch that you do, too.

NOTES . . . In 1956, there was no second primary. In the first, the candidates were Luther H. Hodges (401,062 votes); Tom Sawyer, 29,248; H. P. Stokely, 24,416; and C. E. Earle, Jr., 11,908. In 1952, there was no runoff. In the regular, the votes went this way: W. B. Umsted, 294,170; Hubert E. Olive, 265,675; and M. R. Dumaway, 4,660. Olla Ray Boyd did not run either time.

In 1948, we only remember easily, Johnson, Scott, and Albright. Here is the list, and the votes received by each candidate in the first Primary: Johnson, 170,141; Scott, 161,293; Albright, 76,281; Oscar Barker, 19,871; W. F. Stanley, Sr., 2,428; and Boyd, 2,111. In the runoff, Kerr Scott received 217,620 to Charles Johnson's 182,684 . . . But second primaries are tricky!

We have just received from Kenneth C. Beene the annual report of the Chemstrand Corporation, soon to establish a research center at Research Triangle. It is beautiful, comprehensive, and . . . believe it or not . . . downright interesting. Congratulations to Beene and crew.



THIS WEEK —In Washington With Clinton Davidson

The nation's top farm economists agree that if production controls were removed and price supports lowered to the free market level over the next 5 years farmers would be out of the frying pan and into the fire.

That is the conclusion reached by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Land Grant College economists in separate surveys made in response to a request by Sen. Allen Ellender, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Results of the studies are published in a 30-page report entitled Senate Document No. 77, free copies of which are available through the U. S. Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Both reports emphasize that the studies are the independent conclusions reached by the economists, and not necessarily the view of policy officials, in response to this question:

What would the effect be on farm production, prices and income if government production controls were eliminated and price supports lowered to the free market level over the next five years?

Production Up, Prices Down
Both surveys are in agreement that removal of production controls and lowering of price supports, as advocated by Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson, would result in an increase in production along with lower prices and reduced income for farmers.

Department of Agriculture economists think total farm production would increase at an average of 2% a year, somewhere near the average of the past 10 years. They think that by 1956 farm prices would decline another 14% but that cash income would drop only

9% because of increased marketings.

They estimate that by 1965 beef cattle would average \$15 (down 25%), hogs \$11.50 (down 20%), corn 80c a bu. (down 25%), wheat 90c a bu. (down 50%), cotton 25c (down 30%), eggs 29c (down 20%), broilers 15c (down 10%), and soybeans \$1.60 (down 25%).

The report does not explain how the 14% average decline is arrived at in view of the much larger decline predicted for commodities which make up 80% of all farm marketings.

College Conclusions
The college economists expressed the belief that USDA's projections of probable 1965 prices and income were "somewhat higher" than justified by the expected increase in volume of farm marketings.

They estimated net farm income would drop from about \$11.5 billion last year to about \$7 billion in 1965, a decline of about 40%, including both cash marketing receipts and government payments.

Other estimates include a 60% to 75% drop by 1965 in net cash receipts by wheat growers, 35% lower for cotton producers, 37% lower for corn-hog producers, 13% lower for dairymen, but not much change for beef cattle ranchers.

"The reduction in realized net income (40%) would be borne largely by the 2.1 million farms which market 90% of all farm products," the economists figure.

The college study groups included George Brandow of Pennsylvania, Willard Cochrane of Minnesota, Harlow Halvorson of Wisconsin, Maurice Kelso of Arizona, James Plaxico of Oklahoma, and John Schnittker of Kansas.

Senator Jordan Reports

By: SEN. B. EVERETT JORDAN
WASHINGTON—Once again I have asked for action on a bill

CE LAST YEAR WHICH WOULD introduced last year which would enable those people who receive Social Security benefits to earn more outside income without being penalized.

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Under the present law, a person 65 years old who receives payments cannot earn more than \$1,200 a year in outside income without losing part of his Social Security benefits. I introduced a bill last year which would increase this limitation on outside income to \$1,800 a year.

After the bill was introduced, it was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. It took consid-

erable time for the Committee to obtain a report from the Administration on the measure. It is a matter of routine procedure for the administrative agency involved to analyze each bill that is introduced.

The Administration report filed on my bill was unfavorable. The Administration took the position that my measure would create additional demands on the Social Security fund from which benefits are paid. It was reasoned that if the outside limitation was increased, it would mean that more people would draw full Social Security payments.

As a matter of literal fact, this probably would be true, but I do not feel that is any justification to keep the proposal from becoming law. After all, the payments individuals make into the Social Security fund were from their own earnings and they should not be penalized because of any outside income they may be able to make.

I sincerely feel that there is an urgent need for some changes in the present law, and the modest increase in the outside income limitation I have proposed is certainly a minimum requirement in view of the increased cost of living in recent years. As a matter of fact, I see no reason why there should be any limitation on the amount of outside income a person receiving Social Security benefits may earn.

There are many thousands of people who are not able to continue full-time work after they reach the retirement age under the Social Security Program. Many of these people would like to do part-time work in order to make enough money above their Social Security payments to earn a decent living and avoid being dependent on relatives and friends.

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Words of Life

THE PROBLEM OF SUFFERING
By R. T. HOUTS

The problem of suffering is a difficult question to discuss. There is no possibility that we could discuss it at all adequately within the limits of this column, but let us at least look at the question honestly. There are not any of us who will reach middle age without being seriously concerned with this question. Our concern may come out of some personal experience when we are engaged by sickness, accident or tragedy, or it may come as we become aware of the suffering around us and begin to ask why a God who loves us would allow suffering to exist.

If we are going to make an honest effort to answer the question of why we live in a world in which there is suffering, we would do well to begin with what our reason tells us. The first thing we can say is that pain has played an important part in man's struggle up from the mud and the muck of pre-historic existence. The evidence is overwhelming that our remote ancestors lived life on a level little above that of the animals. Life in the dawn of time offered little in the way of comfort or security. Pain was the great teacher. In his efforts to secure enough to eat, to find shelter from the biting cold and security from his enemies, man learned to cooperate and to work together with other men.

The same story is repeated in the life of the baby who comes into the world with no knowledge of danger or pain. It doesn't take a child with a superior intelligence to soon learn that fire burns, that cold is unpleasant, or that automobile traffic is dangerous.

No child would even survive if he did not learn through his experience and often that experience is painful. The lessons that are taught by pain are usually learned more quickly and last longer.

Whether we like it or not, we live in a world in which men must cooperate together to bring about the greatest happiness for all.

Everything we do in life is blessed by the love and the labor of someone else. When you sit down to breakfast your coffee is served by a South American, and your cereal comes from a mid-western wheat farmer. The clothes you wear may come from half-way around the world. The car you drive to work is a mechanical marvel made possible by the genius of such men as Ford and Kettering. Of course, the fact that we are so closely bound together brings with it the possibility of suffering. If a pilot makes a mistake thousands of feet in the air, a plane may fall on a crowded city street and bring death and suffering to scores of people. The mistakes of man cannot be localized. All of us must bear our share of the suffering for the mistakes and the ignorance of men. But the good far outweighs the bad. Life on an individual basis is unthinkable. The deepest satisfactions in life are found in our ability to love others, and the ability to love others would not be possible unless we're bound together as one human family.

Let us remember, too, that our world is not yet complete. Jesus said, "My father worketh hitherto, and I work." The meaning is that God is still at work in his world to perfect it according to his plan. St. Paul has said, "We see not yet all things subjected to him." There are still powers of darkness, there is still sin, there is still human ignorance and selfishness. One writer has said, "God leaves no finished tasks on the workbenches of the world." In other words, God has not given us a world in which everything is complete. In our same moments we would not want it to be complete. We would not want to live in a world where God has answered every question

and provided for every want. Such a world would be a dull place in which to live. We may often wish that God would wipe out all slums, prevent immorality, hinder evil and provide enough material comforts for all, but in the end it is up to us to see that these things are done.

Jesus reminds us, too, that God knows all about our needs. "Be not anxious what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, or what ye shall put on. Your heavenly father knows that you have need of these things." Jesus was not counseling the housewife to be unconcerned about what she is going to cook for her family, or the father to disregard his responsibility to feed and clothe his children. The deeper meaning here is that we can trust God to provide enough for all. But God depends upon us to act as brothers in order that his goodness may be mediated to all men.

Most of us have difficulty in believing in a God who cares. Somehow God seems so remote that it is difficult to believe that he has anything to do with our suffering. We often ask the question "How can God know about me and about my problems?" The power and wisdom of God concerned about each child of his, ability to set the planets in orbit, but in his ability to be actively concerned about each child of his. There may well be times when we must trust where we cannot see. Job wrestled with this problem. Finally, he was moved to say, "Though he slay me, yet I trust him."

The story is told of two missionaries who went to a foreign land to serve, taking with them their beautiful little girl, the object of all their love. One day she was suddenly stricken with a tropical illness about which the doctors knew little. When it became evident that she was going to die, the father said to the mother, "If God is going to take her, let's kneel now and offer her back to him." Together they knelt and offered back to God the dearest girl he had given them, because they had faith in a God whose love could be trusted. The faith which they expressed was not fatalism. It was the only kind of faith which can help us to meet the problems of suffering. Your personal faith in God will not help you to escape suffering, but it will enable you to look up and see God.

A S C NEWS

By L. L. KISSELBURG

A program for the purchase of sweet potatoes for distribution to the School Lunch Program and other eligible outlets was announced today by H. D. Godfrey, Administrative Officer for the North Carolina ASC State Office.

Sweet potatoes must be of the "Puerto Rican" variety, or varieties of similar varietal characteristics and packed in new tub bushel baskets, containing not less than 50 pounds net weight. The sweet potatoes must be of U. S. No. 1 Grade or better, with not more than 1% tolerance for soft rot or wet breakdown, and must be inspected by the Federal-State inspection Service.

The price will be \$2.30 per bushel, loaded on cars or trucks at the option of U.S.D.A. at the point of purchase, for sweet potatoes purchased and accepted under the program. Purchases will be limited to growers, cooperative associations of growers, or growers' authorized agents.

Further details of the program may be obtained from the county ASC office. Growers desiring to sell sweet potatoes under this program should submit their offer to the county ASC office not later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 15, 1960.

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