

Editorial And Opinion

FOR The Pearsall Plan

On Saturday, Orange County citizens, along with those throughout the State get an opportunity to vote on one of the most momentous questions the electorate has been called upon to decide in several generations.

Opinions vary widely, but by and large, we feel, the sentiment is preponderantly in favor of the so-called Pearsall School amendment, which in a special called session of the legislature in July, the Senate approved 19 to 0, and the House of Representatives by 116 to 2.

The News has previously gone on record in favor of the plan as the most moderate approach to the school integration problem yet devised by a Southern State, and the most democratic since it leaves the most vital decisions involve to people most directly concerned—the citizens in a given school or school area.

The recent violence in Tennessee and Texas accompanying attempts to integrate has confirmed our earlier conviction that the Pearsall Plan is needed to provide the state-wide flexibility so badly needed. We want no riots, no mob actions in North Carolina. This plan, we feel goes a long way toward preventing them.

We respectfully, as we have done in the past, urge every citizen to vote on Saturday as an act of good citizenship, and recommend that the ballot be cast FOR the school amendment.

What Responsible Leaders Say:

Dr. Charles Carroll, State Superintendent of Public Instruction:

"We are of the decisive months and years that lie ahead. I subscribe to the recommendations (of the Pearsall committee) for these basic reasons:

1. A more realistic, workable proposal than that offered by the Advisory Committee has not been submitted.
2. What is contemplated seems to provide a minimum interruption with our present public school system.
3. I am confident North Carolinians will find a way to educate their children.
4. I have faith in the intelligence and integrity of the chosen representatives of the people to the point of knowing they will periodically correct any weaknesses in the legislation that might be revealed by time and experience.
5. The legislation provides for the citizens of this State and of each community within the State to decide by majority vote the course of action they desire. I have profound respect for the democratic process."

State Treasurer Edwin Gill, a member of the State Board of Education:

"The Pearsall Plan is a sincere, frank, and practical answer to the crisis in education created by the destructive effects of the decisions of the Supreme Court.

"As a life-long friend of the public schools and of a system of education which has been such a blessing to all races in North Carolina, I am for it."

Col. William T. Joyner, prominent North Carolina attorney and member of the Pearsall committee:

"The plan is a moderate and constitutionally sound step toward solution of North Carolina's school problem."

D. Hiden Ramsey, prominent North Carolina educator:

"It should spare us the disorders which have developed in other states and which have embittered the relations between the two races to the injury of both.

"The public school system must be preserved. The destruction or grave weakening of the system would be a frightful calamity, blighting the lives of the children of both races and cursing the future of the state.

"The majority of the white people of North Carolina are not yet ready for any general desegregation. Any determined or widespread attempt at this time to impose any considerable integration would wreck the public school system. I have learned from long experience and extensive observation that our public schools can not be better than or different from what the people wish them to be.

"Unhappily, there is no obvious road which we can choose in the confidence that it will carry our public school system safely through the present crisis. We must take calculated chances, never losing sight of the supreme objective of saving the public school system for the children of both races.

"After weighing carefully the argument in favor of and against the Pearsall program, I have decided to vote for the constitutional amendment which the general assembly has submitted to the people for ratification or rejection.

"The plan appeals to me personally as being the best that has been contrived or suggested. I think that it carries less dangers than any alternative. It should buy for us the time which we desperately need if we are to produce a wise, lasting and peaceful solution of the problem created abruptly for us by the Supreme Court. It should spare us the disorders which have developed in other states and which embittered the relations between the two races to the injury of both."



(Continued from Page 1)

would now be planning to go into the Governor's office next January.

As it turned out, his man lost. Pearsall and friends were accused of putting on an ineffective campaign, and the man who was moving up so fast gave up political life (he had served four terms in the Legislature) and returned to Rocky Mount to his widely varying and successful business interests.

LUCK AND PLUCK ... That he is now on the political move again is attributable to Tom Pearsall's fine appearance, contacts, political know-how — and the fact that the late Governor Umstead made him chairman of the Governor's Advisory Committee on School Segregation.

You see, all this racial business we are face-to-face with today in our schools began developing in the U. S. Supreme Court shortly after W. B. Umstead was elected Governor — and is to a great extent responsible for his untimely death. His friends still talk of how he worried about it, losing sleep over it, as he lumped it into the educational Pandora's box with other educational ills.

Governor Hodges reappointed Pearsall. Then came the Pearsall Committee. It came to be referred to as that rather than the Advisory Committee. The committee worked out a program. It became known as the Pearsall Plan. Tom Pearsall and his cohorts fought for the project. The Legislature met and adopted it with little difficulty, virtually no change.

Thus it is that by luck—and by pluck—Tom Pearsall's name has become a household word in North Carolina. Not since Junius Powell came up with the famous Powell Bill five years ago has a name been so synonymous with a plan.

Since the area east of Raleigh has not had a man it could claim as native son in the Governor's chair in twenty years (J. C. B. Ehringhaus, elected in 1928, was the last Governor from east of Raleigh), it might pay you to keep an eye on Tom Pearsall of Rocky Mount.

The vote on September 8 will have political reverberations in 1960.

VOTE ... Information we received over the weekend is that those carrying the ball for the Pearsall Plan now anticipate a much larger vote than they had figured on a week ago.

Reason: the racial troubles in nearby Clinton, Tenn., and down in Mansfield, Texas, last week. These incidents could well increase the size of the North Carolina vote by ten per cent—possibly even more than that.

NOTES ... E. C. Daniel, Sr., who has been one of Wake County's most prominent citizens and merchants—a druggist for more than 50 years and now the father-in-law of Margaret Truman—is in line for another honor shortly.

The word we get is that scores of schools from one end of the State to the other opened their doors for the new term this week still short of the number of teachers needed for a full staff.

What's the answer? Weather Note: The six-week period from July 15 to August 30 was one of the wettest ever-known for this time of year in Raleigh area ... but in North western North Carolina — and in areas around Asheville — the green hills you associate with that section are a brassy brown. Don't forget to vote on September 8. The school you save may be your own.

Staff members of the Agricultural Marketing Service announce that fluid milk and cream sales to consumers by North Carolina distributors were up approximately eight per cent over the first six months of 1955 and right at 20 per cent above sales for 1954. Monthly gains were greatest in May and June, but 11 six months were above 1954 and 1955 levels. All sales gains were above four per cent.

As late as 1870 it is reported that there were less than 150 hospitals in the U. S., and they were confined chiefly to the eastern seaboard cities.

Booze In The Knight



An Open Letter To Drivers Of Orange County And Area

Dear Driver:

You don't know my little daughter Sarah who is just a few days under six and has started her first year of school.

You haven't seen how she can turn from eager enthusiasm to solemn unconcern to youthful wisdom. No, you couldn't know her or love her as I do—that's why it seems strange that I have to trust her very life to you!

Yes, to you—because as she marches off to a new school on a busy highway regularly she'll be crossing streets, playing along the way, frolicking around the school.

I hoped I was preparing her when I threw in some advice about the safe way to do these things—in answering her questions about all the wonders of the first grade.

But this is pretty new to her and she may make mistakes. Sarah isn't irresponsible, yet she is not responsible. For her, the crushing dangers of traffic are not real. I can tell her, but it would be like describing the Giant in the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

But you know and you can watch for her. You can watch for her as she plays on the way home from school, and you can use caution when you see her ready to cross the street.

You can be ready to stop if she should dash out from behind a parked car or follow a rolling ball into the street. If you remember how dear she is to me you'll drive slowly through every school zone.

Since you have been granted the privilege to drive, I have to assume that you will do these things. But will you? Will you drive carefully wherever there are children, not only because it is your legal responsibility, but because you care as much as I do that the frightening roar of traffic death—of the Giant—never becomes real for a little girl who has so much ahead of her to learn?

Sincerely,
Ed Hamlin
Box 247, Hillsboro, N. C.

Bill Whitley Writes

High Stakes In Congressional Elections Coming This Fall

ELECTION. The stakes are unusually high this year for North Carolina and the South in the Congressional elections. If the Republicans gain control of Congress, it will mean that the South will lose a majority of the major committee chairmanships in both the House and Senate. When committee chairmanships are considered in light of civil rights and other legislation in which the South has a deep interest, this year's elections become even more important.

SENATE. In the Senate, for example, if the Republicans gain control of Congress, it will mean that Sen. James Eastland of Mississippi will be replaced as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee by Sen. Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin. This is the committee that handles all civil rights legislation.

Just as important is the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, which handles most of the social legislation other than civil rights. If the Democrats lose control of Congress, Sen. Lister Hill of Alabama will be replaced as chairman of this committee by Sen. Alexander Smith of New Jersey.

Other Senate committee chairmanships that would be taken from southerners if the Republicans win Congress are:

Agriculture, now held by Sen. Allen Ellender of Louisiana would go to Sen. George Aiken of Vermont; Armed Services, now held by Sen. Richard Rus-

FUEL CENTER

About one-half the U. S. natural gas supply comes from Texas.

Tar Heel

PEOPLE & ISSUES

By Cliff Blue

SCOTT ... A paragraph in the Moore County News last week had this to say: "Local friends of Senator Kerr Scott are slightly miffed over the manner in which he was ignored at the Chicago convention by both Governor Stevenson and Governor Hodges. His views were sought by neither gentleman although Senator Scott was a vociferous Stevenson man four years ago. The Scott friends are disposed to overlook the Stevenson slight on the grounds that the Democratic presidential nominee was too busy to look up all of his old friends in the 48 states, but they are not charitably disposed toward Governor Hodges."

As a matter of fact, both Scott and Stevenson are conscious of the fact that there may appear to be a coolness between the two when such was not intended by either. In Chicago, Scott explained to a mutual friend that while he had not been saying it from the house-top that he had been strong for Adlai all along but thought it better to let others (meaning the Hodges group of course) take the lead this time. Later the same night, Mrs. Ives, Adlai's sister told the same person that she and Adlai hoped that Senator Scott would take no exception to the fact that neither Adlai or she mentioned Scott when they appeared before the Tar Heel caucus in Chicago at different times. Mrs. Ives assured the mutual friend that it was absolutely unintentional.

There is no question but that the Hodges faction was in the majority in the Tar Heel delegation. Hodges was for Kennedy for vice-President while Senator Scott supported Kefauver. The North Carolina vote on the second ballot was pretty typical of the line-up with Kefauver receiving 9 1/2 votes to 17 1/2 for Kennedy. Gore of Tennessee received 7 1/2.

NOT UNUSUAL ... The fact

that Senator Scott was the dog in the Tar Heel caucus was nothing unique for the Haw River. Four years ago when he was Governor, he had been nominated primary, to give him a delegation elected by the Merrimon Morrison as chairman of the delegation, but Scott was to win the Senate election two years later. He comes to party meetings and conventions he is almost the minority, but when the people back him for total vote, he has always been able to come out on top. He has been able to march ahead on slightly top party brass.

HODGES ... Ever since he became Governor, Hodges has been a bit displeased with the State Commission set-up. One of the first things he did was to cancel the Highway Study which had been made. Last week Hodges took the Highway Commission again, saying that it had a "deplorable job" of informing the public on the State million interstate highway program. Many informed over the State could do little ground for the other than to needle the Commission and Chairman in particular.

Chairman Graham came with a strong statement, he said: "In my opinion, people of the State are fully informed of the fact that the 20 (meaning Federal funds) provided solely for the system." Don't be surprised, Chairman Graham heads for Hillsboro before his pipes next spring. (See PEOPLE & ISSUES, 10/10)

Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

I have just received a copy of the N. C. State Fair catalog which reminds me that many community and county fairs will be held during the next six weeks.

Every gardener should take an interest in the local fair and the State fair. If you have anything worth exhibiting, you should take pride in showing it. How many times have you stood in front of a prize winning flower, vegetable or fruit at a fair and said, either to those with you or to yourself, "I've got a better one than that home in the garden right now."

You may be absolutely right. Only having it winning a blue ribbon on the show table and having it growing in the garden are two entirely different things. The point is to get it from the garden to the show table and still have it good enough to win over the other entries.

Before you enter an exhibit, read over carefully the instructions in the catalog. Be sure to enter the exhibit in the proper class. If the class calls for a plate of 12 specimens be sure that you have 12 — no more and no less.

In vegetable exhibits, specimens should be of best marketable size except where the catalog calls for the "largest," as in the case of pumpkin. Where the class calls for a plate, tray, peck or bushel, the individual specimens should be as nearly alike in size, shape and color as possible, and they should be free from blemishes and have the true characteristics of that particular variety. Potatoes need not be washed unless it will improve their appearance. However, if not washed they should be brushed with a soft brush or cloth.

Flower exhibits call for per-

fection. Good stems, healthy foliage, and a perfect bloom are essential. It is important to have flowers in good condition at the time of judging. A rose bloom should be from one-half to three-fourths open—a tight bud will not be considered by judges.

Fruits, such as apples and pears, should have true varietal characteristics, should be well colored and not over-ripe. They should be free from disease and insect damage. Stems must not be removed from apples and pears. All specimens in a plate or tray should be uniform in size, shape, and color.

WASHINGTON—Red tape is not exactly new in matters pertaining to the Federal Government.

Lack of Authority When Dolly Madison was the First Lady of the Land, she bought a small looking glass in a gold frame in France for \$40 and charged it to the government of the United States. She apparently did not have written permission or authority to purchase it, so an argument follow-

ed as to whether or not the Government should honor the Congress argued the matter two weeks before agreeing to let the Federal Government for it.

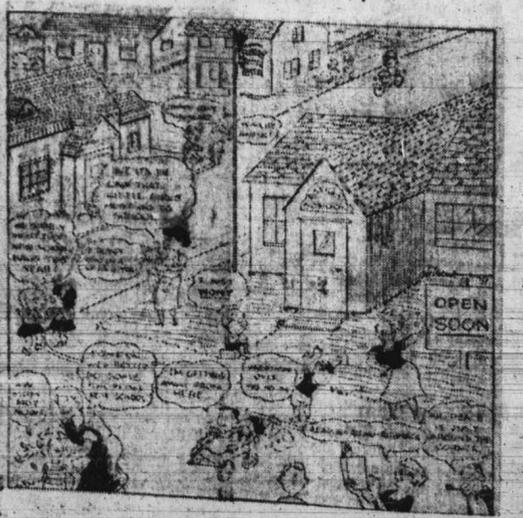
Visitors to the Vice President's Room at the Capitol building the Senate Floor level, the mirror which caused rumpus so long ago and on governmental red tape past era.

Vice President's Room The Vice President's contains a wealth of memorabilia. There is a portrait of George Washington by Rembrandt Peeters, considered by scholars as a painting of the first President owned by the Government is a bookcase from the Buchanan, a French clock from the native North Carolina James K. Polk's administration.

One of the most attractive features of the room is the chandelier removed from the White House by Theodore Roosevelt. The story is told by Roosevelt didn't like the chandelier's tinkling noise when he ordered that it be taken to the Capitol, placed in the Vice President's room to keep him from being bothered by the noise. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the motive, but I do know that the White House chandelier still remains in the office.

One Vice President's office—Henry Wilson's "Dolly" or "Dollery" I wrote a moment ago Dolly Madison's looking glass and the trouble it caused long ago. Now I want to tell something that I learned about her. Mrs. Madison christened "Dorthea." "Dolly" is said to appear marriage certificate. She wrote her name Dolly she signed her will. History so point out that the signing appears to have been in the report of settlement her estate, and also on the document that marks her Montpelier, Virginia.

We are, of course, very of Mrs. Madison's North Carolina connections in Guilford County.



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