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DOUGALD COXE, Editor-Manager

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Carnival Trouble

With money so plentiful and so many folks seeking ways in which to spend it, it seems that the carnivals must have doubled their old-time take. Most people realize that these gambling contraptions are rigged so that the operators take a very large percentage of the money played on the devices. But in former years there were always a few individuals who were able to leave the show lot saying they had beaten the man at his own game.

This year, however, the operators must have been particularly greedy. Reports say that a group of Camp Mackall soldiers were pretty closely trimmed by a carnival operating in the good city of Aberdeen on the show's opening night. Then, the reports say the soldiers came back and gave the show a decent time in which to pack up and travel. Fayetteville, too, seems to have had trouble, and the board of aldermen over there met in special session to pass a ruling which would entirely prevent carnivals from playing in that city because of complaints about gambling devices and "hoohies."

It seems that Hoke county's government officials who long ago ruled out carnivals probably saved the present board of commissioners some trouble this fall.

A Natural Elimination

When a thorn becomes imbedded in the human body, the place festers about as a natural method of ridding the flesh of this foreign matter. As in Nature, the body politic of North Carolina has been harboring within its side a vicious thorn which progressively became more obnoxious. First a scarlet patch of inflammation, then a festering sore, it was in the course of becoming an angry boil. Yet, again as in Nature, the self-healing power of this democratic body proved entirely too great for even this enlarged and ostentatious slug of poisonous foreign matter. The inflamed boil burst this week, casting out its pernicious impurity.

Though many of us who were instrumental in the induction of this befouled spine had hoped to enjoy the operation scheduled by the master surgeons of the Tar Heel State in the May primaries, it is probably best that the natural, nauseous eruption should come now. Then the voters of North Carolina can pay more particular attention to the selection of the self-eliminated's successor in this important office.

The Turning Tide

It's beginning to look as though the "ins" of Washington should be picking themselves out a place to go, and the "outs" of these United States who want Government jobs may be taking up leases in Washington come 1945.

The turning viewpoint of the people of the country apparently started about the time Wendell Willkie captured the political eye of a sizeable minority during the 1940 campaign. Later, more and more Republicans have been winning out in elections in scattered parts of the country.

Last week hardly a Democrat was chosen for a state or a national office in a fair-sized group of election-important states. Even Kentucky, stronghold of "Jug-band Happy" Chandler and Majority Leader Alvin Barkley, has forsaken the New Deal. The Republicans, or shall we say the conservatives, have now elected governors of 26 states. The electoral vote of these states is 342, or 76 more than the required 266 which are necessary to control the election of the president next year.

Mr. Roosevelt might have sufficient vote-getting power to win the vote for himself and an exceedingly-popular choice for the vice presidency, but it is hardly possible that, even should he do so, he would have a Congress that would be at all amenable to his legislative demands.

We doubt that Mr. Roosevelt will choose to run in 1944, nor do we believe that any hand-picked successor from the New Deal would have the slightest chance of election. The tide seems to have turned some years ago, and is now gaining that momentum that will sweep the New Deal out of office.

OPINIONS and SENTIMENTS

From Other Editors

The C. I. O. Goes Into Politics

By Richard L. Scott In
 The Christian Science Monitor

Here are three points about the C. I. O. convention which I covered at Philadelphia:

First, the C. I. O. leaders pledged themselves again and again to "no strikes." They pledged increased production, harder work. There was not a day in the week's convention when this promise was not repeated. And yet, the deep-seated dissatisfaction of labor over wage freez-

ing and the Little Steel formula found that almost equal expression. The two points came together in President Murray's comment that try as national leadership might to prevent shut-downs, it might be difficult to "prevent disruption and local strikes and local stoppages while we have a National Board in the City of Washington attempting to do the impossible."

The second point is the depth of labor's irritation. Just why is labor upset? Statistical averages indicate that the workers are getting a larger "take-home" wage now, with longer hours, greater family pay, time-and-a-half overtime, than before the war, even despite higher living costs. Then why do they object?

It is hard to emphasize the degree of labor's resentment. It is steaming there, looking for a channel of expression, in the first place, a lot of workers are not much better off, or are worse off, whatever statistical averages show, particularly groups that are bound by long-term contracts. In the second place, there is resentment over bigger profits believed to be achieved by other groups.

There is resentment by workers bound by long-term contracts, like miners and rail men, over what they regard as tardy wage increases compared to the big money being paid shipyard, airplane factory, and munitions workers. Then long-term contracts and orderly negotiating procedure are a handicap for wage equalization, they feel.

But more particularly there is resentment over the supposed high profits of corporations, big executives, and the like. Here Congress comes in for constant blame. I am trying to put down the attitude, not appraise the rights and wrongs of this situation.

Here is a typical comment: Railway labor asked for a minimum \$3-a-day wage increase; a Presidential board after interminable delay scaled this down to 32 cents a day. The average railwayman points to last quarter's profits of railways of \$159,000,000 (after tax deductions) and last year's estimated profits of over \$500,000,000 (after taxes). In such terms, proposed workers' increases of only 3 cents an hour cannot satisfy grown-up men, they assert.

There are all sorts of replies to this. It can be pointed out that small increases to 1,000,000 men are more inflationary than big returns to a few top executives. But then why, bitterly demand the workers, are big individual profits and corporation profits permitted in wartime? How about "taking the profits out of war? Why didn't Mr. Roosevelt's \$25,000 salary limitation order go through? Shouldn't we have equality of sacrifice? Why doesn't Congress vote appropriate big taxes and the subsidy program to make it easier for workers' wives to fill the market basket? Government figures, they cry, indicate corporations are making the biggest profits in all history. Why don't newspapers attack them?

Not only fighters would be allowed to vote illegally but also all civilian employees of the government away from home, mostly political appointees of course. The Merchant Marine, Communist suspect, is also especially mentioned as being allowed these extra-legal rights.

Indeed, the bill throughout gives "other branches of government," the right to manage and collect votes of all non-military men, beyond army or navy jurisdiction. (The government politicians thus managing their own re-elections.)

Other details of the proposal reveal an equally elephantine insensitivity to any semblance of political justice generally associated with elections, in laws and theories at least. Now everyone knows 10,000,000 fighters must be allowed to vote; also the Merchant Marine and government officials in various parts of the world. But a fair presentation of the political alternatives and a just collection of the ballots must be offered.

The governing commission may contain two Republicans and two Democrats, but should be chair-manned by some nonpolitical legal personality such as the chief justice of the supreme court.

The ballots must be cast under the state election laws in order to be legal. Local election agencies should mail out ballots to the men in the armed services and the votes should be cast by mailing back the marked ballots to the local officials. Opportunities to qualify should be offered by mail by local authorities.

The names of eligibles could be obtained from draft boards and the war department could furnish addresses, in accordance with recognized absentee ballot procedures in most of the states. In states having no absentee ballot system, special state laws should be passed or regulations adopted to allow soldiers to vote.

Information as to candidates should be presented by both sides to the controversy, the Republican and Democratic candidates. They should have equal radio time, equal space in any OWI political propaganda, and allowed equal quantities of printed material.

Any election gained under the circumstances which the Green bill provides would not be worth much to the winner if he be in the party Mr. Green represents. Such an election would only further destroy faith.

There is one way, only one, by which these swollen war incomes could be trapped. The people who have the money are spending it. A sales tax would certainly reach them.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS
 By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

10,000,000 FIGHTERS' VOTES

There are going to be about 10,000,000 in the fighting services.

Whoever controls those votes should win the next election. While there has been no public discussion of this most important matter, the forward looking men in the political business here have been devoting thought to it.

Coming forward now with a complete plan of how to do it, is Senator Theodore Francis Green, Democrat of Rhode Island, whose autobiography reveals him both as an instructor in Roman law at Brown university back in '94 to '97, and a delegate to all Democratic national conventions since 1912.

Mr. Green dropped a bill into the senate committee on privileges and elections last week to provide for gathering our fighters' ballots, but which inadvertently disclosed the extent to which he, as a Democrat, would like to capture them.

All in very high-toned legal language and fair sounding words, is his trick bill. He would have the voting conducted by five commissioners to be appointed by the President, with senatorial confirmation, saying "at least two shall be Democrats and at least two shall be Republicans." This would simply allow the President to select three New Dealers and two Republicans of, say, the Winant school of New Deal thought, to conduct the election.

To help them in their work, the Green bill would destroy all state rules for qualifications of voters as to age, eligibility, registration and poll taxes.

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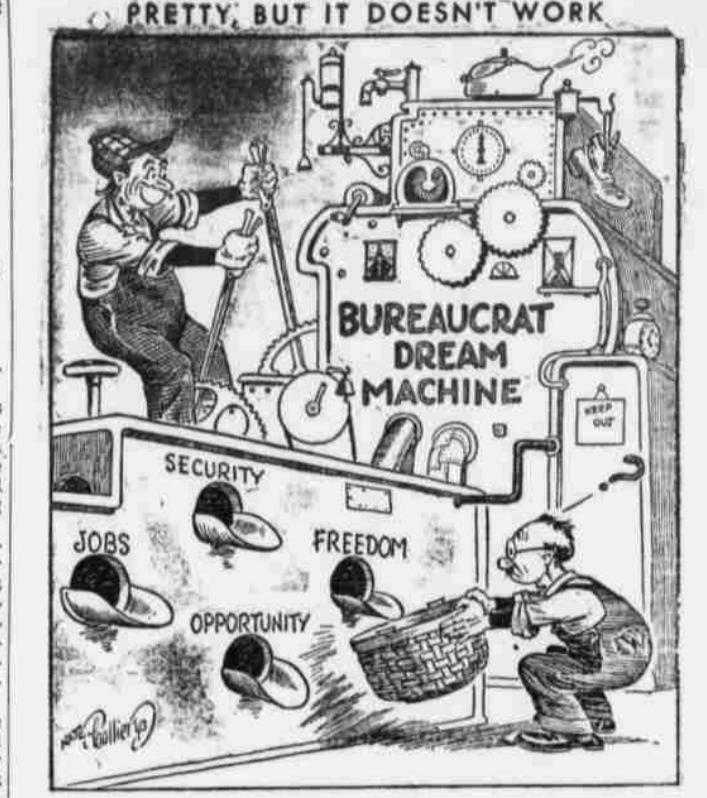
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POOLE'S MEDLEY

By D. SCOTT POOLE

The man who invested in some automobile manufacturing plant forty years ago is now wealthy, even though he took but a few hundred dollars stock. But he that farmed is no better off, perhaps. It depended upon what he grew.

Men traveled all over the country selling stock in the Ford company around the turn of the century, and those citizens have no need to labor since the first few years after making the investment.

I don't mind the miners getting more pay, but I despise for John L. Lewis' having grounds for thinking he won.

Contractors of war work will have so much wealth they may be above each other, even, so they will have to spend the remainder of their lives with themselves.

Russians may exaggerate, when they are reporting German casualties, but they are gaining territory the Germans do not want to yield. And it is Russia's domain, too.

No I am not opposed to education. Rather, I would all were much improved educationally—or able to understand what they read. Lots of people do not. Not so many know the why of problems.

I remember well when there was not a cook stove in the section of country round about where I lived. Squire Daniel McKenzie bought the first cook stove brought into our neighborhood. The kitchen fireplaces were broad enough to burn four foot wood, and pots and ovens were used.

Ladies discussed which cooked more

palatable food, pots and ovens or cook stoves? By the turn of the century there were stoves in every home with-in my knowledge, unless it was in some sawmill or turpentine hut used for temporary residence.

McLaughlin Co. sold approximately a quarter million dollars a year of merchandise the first year I published a paper in Raeford.

The lowest prices I recollect was in the years 1893 to 1895. Prices gradually rose after 1895, but a dozen eggs for a quarter, and two frics for fifteen cents is cheap enough, and from 4 to 6 cent option does not bring prosperity to farmers.

Had Bill Grooms of Old Stores gotten over 10 cents an hour for his work, he never would have moved his family to Rockingham to work in a cotton mill at 30 cents a day, back in 1870.

Japanese soldiers get 30 cents a month for fighting in a vain effort to lick the world. A Raeford man said if he were fighting for that much a month, he would fight till he died as soon as possible.

Ten cents a pound for pork, hog around, was a good price and I have bought as good beef steak in Raeford for 15 cents a pound.

I believe judgment follows wrong doing, and our countrymen are chargeable with three national sins: The liquor habit, Sabbath desecration, and in many instances bad morals. Much is being said about women, but men are much worse than women, and always have been.

I meant a sales tax by the Federal Government would increase the cost of living, and that would be an excuse for strikes all over the land. The world should rise above such unprincipled taxes as sales taxes. It would be tolerable if they were put on the

(Continued on page eight)

OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat

