

Duplin at the Crossroads

Last week we began a series of editorials entitled Duplin at the Crossroads, on the need for an agricultural and industrial development program in Duplin County.

In counties that have such programs they are financed by county tax funds. In 1959 the General Assembly passed a bill allowing counties to use up to five cents on each one-hundred dollar valuation of property in the county for industrial development.

An annual budget of \$15,000-\$20,000 is needed to finance a successful program. This includes salary for a full-time executive director, office expenses, car and travel expenses, postage, publicity, etc.

In addition to a full-time director and possibly a secretary, a development association would need a board of directors made up from representatives from each community in the county.

Economic development is by no means a one-way cause and effect program. It is truly a long range, time consuming effort that must be accomplished gradually and not overnight.

competitive business that counties without it will be left far behind.

In hiring a full-time executive director, the association should be selective in the person hired. The director should be a man experienced in community development, preferably with chamber of commerce or industrial development experience.

The directors first year should primarily be engaged in laying the necessary ground work such as familiarizing himself with the geographic and economic features of the county plus the people and their habits. This man should have thorough knowledge of the aims, methods, practices and resources of an industrial development organization plus the knowledge of tax and other laws concerning development of industry in the county.

Realizing Duplin is predominately agriculture in nature our efforts should fall in that general area and our efforts geared to that end. We should work on related industries like agriculture implement manufacturers, grading, packing plants and food processing facilities.

Next week we will discuss the role of community development clubs in establishing a county-wide program.

Is Court Reform the Answer?

Jones County Journal

On November 6 North Carolina will have the opportunity to vote on a number of items, including a so-called court-reform amendment to the State Constitution.

Among the principle promises proponents of this amendment have held forth to the voter are:

- 1. That it would make court costs uniform in every county of the state.
2. That it would make justices of peace salaried rather than fee officers.

These are promises that have a great deal of emotional appeal, especially when they are harped upon at great lengths by those who support this change in our court system.

The public is being told how great the discrepancy is between the cost of court one has to pay for a speeding ticket in one county when compared to another county.

The public is being told how a justice of peace has a vested interest in convicting all those who appear before him because he only gets a fee in criminal cases when there is a conviction.

Both of these statements have an ugly sound, but the public ought to be told also that full and complete control over both of these admittedly bad practices is already in the hands of the General Assembly.

Article Four, which is the Article dealing with North Carolina courts, says: The General Assembly shall prescribe and regulate the fees, salaries and emoluments of all officers provided for in this article; but the salaries of the judges shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Proponents of the court amendment also speak of the need for district courts to handle the volume of work that is created by traffic violations and domestic relations.

Section 2 of Article Four says: The judicial power of the state shall be vested in a court for the trial of impeachments, a Supreme Court, Superior Courts, courts of justices of the peace and other such courts in accordance with the Supreme Court as may be established by law.

Section 14 of Article Four says: The General Assembly shall provide for the establishment of special courts for the trial of misdemeanors...

nors, in cities and towns, where the same may be necessary.

The question naturally follows after having read these sections of the State Constitution: What does the proposed amendment offer that is not already possible under the existing law?

First the proposed amendment offers everyone of the 100 counties, whether they need it or not, a district court, which would include a judge, solicitor, clerk and other such clerical personnel as might be needed.

Smaller counties would "share" district courts, while some of the larger counties might have several of these "district courts". The General Assembly under Section 10 of Article Four has the power to solve this so-called congestion problem.

This section says: The General Assembly shall divide the State into a number of judicial districts which number may be increased or reduced and shall provide for the election of one or more superior court judges for each district. There shall be a Superior Court in each county at least twice in each year to continue for such time in each county as may be prescribed by law.

Under an expansion of the Superior court bench it would not be necessary to create new courts of lesser jurisdiction, nor to employ additional clerical personnel.

Secondly, the proposed "improvement" of the courts would make all justices of peace appointive, rather than elective. At present 85 per cent of the criminal cases arising in North Carolina are handled in JP courts. Removing courts which handle the vast majority of the criminal cases from control by electorate is not a step in the direction of better courts.

Under the proposed amendment justices of peace would be appointed by the resident superior court in the county which the JP is to serve.

Both the judge and clerk of superior court are elective officers, whose best judgement in the appointment of JP's could not be expected to ignore political considerations in the recommending and making of such valuable appointments.

So rather than making the justice of peace answerable to the voting public, as he is at present, this



Quips And Quotes

What else but a blockage do you put around a country run by a blockhead.

When the politicians start talking nicer than the preachers you know its close to election time.

A former Democrat from Wilmington who is now a Republican says "I'm not a Turncoat, - I've turned in the whole suit."

One thing about it - old age hasn't mellowed former President Harry Truman or his frank speaking manners either.

A big song on the Hit Parade this summer was Mashed Potatoes Dittie Peanut Butter last summer. Maybe next year we can look forward to a good old Liver and Onions ballad.

The Cold War suddenly has become awfully hot.

Unless Carolina starts winning some more football games the school may be the first in history to tear down a stadium to make way for a parking lot.

Last night some of the spooks had on Halloween masks that weren't nearly so scary as the faces they wear the rest of the year.

It seems only natural to assume that it would take Quality Government to provide Quality Education.

Said a private to General Custer as the Indians were attacking at Little Big Horn, "Ser, does this mean that all leaves are cancelled?"

THE WAYSIDE PULPIT

Let these eyes look ahead.

Proverbs 4:25 I am interested in the past because I was born back there, but when I was trying to get Social Security I couldn't prove it.

It is dangerous for me to stir up the past because so many people "remember me when."

Our salvation started in the past, continues and develops in the present and looks for a glorious transformation beyond the grave.

I knew some hillbilly religionists who sang lustily of the future only. On one of their missionary trips they asked a ride of a stranger, killed him during the trip and forgot that they had been him in the past.

My daddy was asked to preach on heavenly recognition. He complained that he was having difficulty trying to get people to recognize him here, and figured that he could do without them after he reached heaven.

system would make the JP the political vessel of the superior court clerks and judges.

The addition of superior court judges in those areas where court calendars are behind, the addition of sufficient prosecution staff to permit

Civil Service

To meet the need for additional personnel, made necessary by the recently approved 48-hour work-week, the District of Columbia Fire Department has intensified recruiting efforts to obtain qualified firefighters.

The salary for Private, the rank at which new recruits enter the service, is \$5,650 a year. Periodic increases are given to those whose service meets certain standards of efficiency.

To qualify, applicants must pass a written test and be in excellent physical condition. They must have reached their 21st birthday but must not have passed their 29th birthday; they must be at least 65 inches tall and weigh at least 145 pounds. While they are employed as firefighters, they must reside within a radius of 20 miles from the U. S. Capitol Building.

Applications for Fireman-Firefighters, Form 5000-AB, will be accepted until further notice and must be sent to the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. Announcements and application cards may be obtained from many post offices or from the U. S. Civil Service Comm. Washington, D. C.

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Public Forum

Oct. 16, 1962

Dear Editor:

Although our area might not be considered a "target" in the event of war, we still must plan for the many emergencies that would occur if our nation is ever attacked and must prepare now to assure the continued functioning of effective civil government.

I am referring to Amendment No. 3 of the proposed six constitutional amendments which will be voted on by the people of North Carolina Nov. 6.

I urge that all voters approve this amendment to our state constitution so that continuity of legal authority in such an emergency can be assured.

Amendment No. 3 will authorize legislation to establish automatic lines of succession for our public officials, help assure that our state government will be prepared with emergency authority to operate effectively during and after an enemy attack, provide protection for essential records, establish control centers and alternate sites for government emergency operations, and insure the protection and maximum use of government personnel, resources and equipment. It should also be noted that Amendment No. 3 is non-political and calls for NO EXPENDITURES OF MONEY from the taxpayer.

When you vote Nov. 6, I again urge you to vote FOR Amendment No. 3.

Ralph M. Cottle, Dir. Duplin County Civil Defense

Uncle Pete From Calum Switch SAYS

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

I see by the papers where this new Secretary of Labor says it ain't that we got so much unemployment in this country, that what we got is a "readjustment."

The fellers at the country store Saturday night was trying to put this double talk together and git it to fit. Ed Doolittle said he figured it was a "readjustment" when your neighbor lost his job, a depression when you lost yours, and a panic when your wife lost hers.

Clem Webster allowed as how this "readjustment" might be hay-rides that's in the papers lately. Clem claims he was reading about five men killing themselves in one day in North Carolina. Zeke Grubb didn't agree, argued that we ain't never had a time in history when a man had more to live fer. Fer instant, claimed Zeke, the average feller ain't got his house paid fer, his car paid fer, his TV paid fer, and the chances was 10 to 1 he was

behind with his taxes. Everybody agreed with Zeke they wasn't no excuse for a feller killing himself on account of not having nothing to live fer.

But Hookum reported that he had saw in the papers where the Internal Revenue folks in Washington has announced official that, starting this year, the cost of medicine fer hay fever is full tax deductible. Ed allowed as how that was mighty good news on account of all the sickness in his family this year come original from hay fever.

The session, as usual, final got around to wimmen and they was one or two comments that might be worth putting in the minutes. Fer instant, John Clodhopper said he saw a piece in the paper by some fashion designer saying the new fashions fer wimmen was going to try to make wimmen look like wimmen again. Personal, Mister Editor, what they been wearing ain't left much doubt about the matter.

And one feller said he saw a piece in the papers where a man in Atlanta the other day donated a loudspeaker to his church in fond memory of his wife. On account of my old lady reading my little piece here ever onct in a while, I ain't got no comment to make on this last item.

Yours truly, Uncle Pete

School And Your Child

By John Corey Education Department Appalachian State Teachers College

King Triplett came close to being the perfect student in high school.

He made all "A's," except for one "B plus" in physics. We was an All-American high school football player. He started each year as a baseball and basketball first-stringer.

Greatly liked and highly respected by other pupils, he was class president in three grades — 9, 10, and 11.

King (it's his mother's maiden name) was elected president of the student body without opposition in his senior year.

And at graduation last year he was awarded a \$2,000-a-year scholarship to Harvard University.

When King Triplett returned this summer to Boone, his small home town in the mountains of North Carolina, I called on him for an interview.

I told him frankly that I wanted to learn his secret for being such a successful all-round student and person, so that I could pass it along to other young men. In the 1920's a group of psychologists studied the characteristics of famous men of the world in an effort to discover what they had in common that's basic to success.

Why not do the same for an outstanding student? Some may reply, Why bother? The simple answer is intelligence!

This is true to an extent. But there are other factors. Many a prison inmate has a high IQ, but lacks these other qualities.

King admits that he is no genius. School records show his IQ to be 126 — a good score but not exceptional.

When King took time off from his summer job as a radio announcer to visit with me, he answered questions frankly and simply.

Here's what he said about his success in school:

1. I get all school work completed as soon as possible after it is assigned. I feel better and do a better job when I don't wait until the last second.

2. I utilize every spare minute

in school preparing homework. Much can be done in those few moments before a class bell rings and during library and study periods. By not wasting time at school, I have never had to study much at home. This has given me more time to play ball and socialize with friends.

3. Pay attention to the teacher. A ways ask questions, about things not understood. Students shouldn't fear being called dumb if they ask questions.

4. Show interest in work and be courteous to teachers. They're more than willing to help.

5. I've had no pressure from my parents to excel. But they've always told me that they will be proud of my accomplishments. I must admit that it pleases me to make them proud.

6. I don't like to be beat. This may be 1 underlying motive that pushes me to do my best in anything I do when others might say, "What difference does it make?" I've often hear my father comment that he likes to win. He was once on the St. Louis Cardinal ball club and played outfield for them in the 1942 World Series.

7. Only once have I worked at being popular. I wanted to be elected student body president and I had noticed a former president always made it a point to say "hello" to every student. I did this for a few days but soon stopped. I felt hypocritical. I continued to greet people but it was done sincerely and not for effect.

Has this philosophy helped at Harvard, one of the world's leading institutions?

"Yes," King replied. "My grades weren't as high as those I made in high school, however, I got five "B's" and three "C's" the first year.

"Tougher competition is one reason for this," he explained.

"Still, I could have done much better if I had put in more time studying. But being from a small town, I found there were many more things that I wanted to learn than one doesn't learn from books. I thought these were more important than the "A's".

For The People

Mr. D. was a tenant farmer who, although he had never accumulated any savings, had provided a decent living for his wife and nine-year-old son. When he became physically disabled because of serious heart condition and could no longer work, the family situation became acute. One by one he sold his possessions—his farm equipment and his two good mules. Then, when all his resources were depleted, he applied to the county department of public welfare for help.

It was possible, because of his physical disability, for the family to receive an aid to dependent children grant, which helped maintain them. Mr. D. died suddenly and Mrs. D., who suffered acutely from elephantiasis of both legs, was unable to shoulder the responsibility of making a living for herself and the son.

This goal. He talked with his teachers, principal, neighbors, and caseworker from the county department of public welfare. The caseworker told him that the public welfare department would help with his plan, and work was started towards securing a scholarship for him. Eighteen months elapsed during which the caseworker, through determined effort, was finally able to help him get enough money through scholarships for his first year in college. At present he is a junior, and although neither he nor the county department of public welfare is sure that he can secure scholarships to see him through the next two years, the agency has every reason to believe that with his continued determination, hard work, and good college record, he will graduate in 1964.

Because an aid to dependent children grant enabled him to remain in school until he finished high school, instead of quitting to take a laborer's job, this boy was able to set his sights on college. As a college graduate he will be in a position to make a good living and provide for his mother. At the same time he will be a contributing, tax-paying citizen—all because of a few years of help and guidance from the public welfare program.