

The Rocky Mount Herald

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Where Your Treasure Is—

Williamston Enterprise. James B. Duke, the great tobacco king, knew men. He knew that the easiest way to handle them was to buy their souls and pay no attention to their brains. He knew that he could shape and change that faculty of man at his own will.

Now, Mr. Duke's philosophy proves itself true. The churches, the schools, the hospitals, are all for Mr. Duke's dividends. Men's thinking powers are warped because of prospective dividends.

Where your treasure is, there is your heart also.

Thank President Roosevelt

Williamston Enterprise. Three billions more money in banks July 1st than on January 1st, fewer tax sales, fewer execution sales, fewer bankruptcies.

Thank Mr. Roosevelt. Don't thank the big bankers. They wanted less money, so they could have more tax sales and more execution sales in order that they might get more mortgages and charge higher interest rates.

Don't forget, farmers, that President Roosevelt is charging you the lowest interest rate obtainable in the whole history of the nation.

Stick to him; he is for you.

A Proposal

Scotland Neck Commonwealth.

With the first and second primaries things of the past in this state for 1934, we have a proposal which we wish to submit to the legislators for their consideration for enactment into law at the 1935 session of the General Assembly. An amendment striking out an amendment in the Australian Ballot Law will accomplish the desired change.

All qualified electors are entitled to vote in an election—primary, general or special—but they should be allowed to vote only one time during the day, and this has not been the case with many electors during the past first and second primaries. Many people voted more than fifty times during a single election, not in their own names but in the names of other voters who "requested assistance." This was made possible by the Attorney General's interpretation of the law which allowed a voter in the primary election to be aided in the preparation of his ballots by (a) any election official or his voting precinct, (b) any member of his family, or (c) any other person requested by the voter. Assistance granted under sections "a" and "b" should be permissible, but section "c" should be struck from the law.

Progress has been made along this line with amendments to the law which denied the appointment of official markers or assistants to aid the voters in the preparation of their ballots.

Any elector who cannot get sufficient aid in preparing his ballots from the election officials or members of his family should be denied the privilege of casting a ballot, for if any Tom, Dick or Harry gives the assistance the vote will not represent any true or valuable opinion of the person in whose name it is being cast.

Changes In Legislators

Evening Telegram.

The determination of voters to change office holders is evidence of unrest existing in a country. This year none of the State Senators who live west of Durham and who served in the 1933 Assembly will return. The House will be made up of dozens of new men who are serving their first terms. Nash county, for example, discarded both Representatives in the House and selected new men in voting in June. Other counties followed a similar course. Consequently, it will be difficult to form any correct impressions in advance about how the Legislature will deal with the accumulation of difficult problems scheduled to be handled during the term.

This newspaper cannot recall a period within recent years when the enthusiasm of voters for replacing office-holders has reached such proportions as in the past few years. In fact, it is doubtful if the demand for change in the affairs of government have ever been more pronounced. Normally settled communities have kicked over traditional traces with resounding noises and at the expense, in many instances, of veteran elective officials. In not all cases are the changes to the full advantage of the public, but they are, at least, indicative of the public's willingness to oust men who have held office for years and to experiment with new men.

Matters confronting the past two legislatures have been extremely difficult to deal with; it is not incorrect to say that the coming session will be even more difficult and one that will have a powerful influence on the State in the years to come.

Almost Persuaded?

Greensboro Daily News. However much a patriotic North Carolinian may hate to come to that conclusion, developments at least strongly infer that President Roosevelt does not rate the testimony of our Will Neal exactly at the top around Washington.

Mr. Neal, first kicking along with Mr. Darrow and now waiting around on his own for the death of the NRA, has had few, if any, kind words for either General Johnson or Donald R. Richberg, general counsel for national recovery headquarters. In fact, the debate between the Darrow board and the blue eagle aviary has been conducted on the latter side largely by Mr. Richberg. The things that have been hurled in his direction by Chairman Darrow and Chief Follower Neal would hardly be included in a book of testimonials or preserved by Mr. Richberg for bestowal upon his grandchildren, if any.

But, in the face of the Darrow-now-become-Neal strictures, Mr. Roosevelt, prior to departing on his vacation, selected the NRA general counsel as chief aide and co-ordinator in problems of relief, public works, labor disputes and general industrial recovery during his prolonged absence from the capital. The magnitude and scope of Mr. Richberg's new position, the board of which he is director, shown in the executive order from F. D. R. himself: "To make recommendations to the President, through its director, with respect to problems of relief, public works, labor disputes and industrial recovery and to study and co-ordinate the handling of problems affecting these activities."

That, particularly in view of Mr. Neal's non-recommendation of Director Richberg, is a man-sized order. The more one cogitates upon it, the more he is driven to the idea that the President has not paid much attention to our Will's remarks. Or else the chief executive is niffed because W. W., quite inadvertently, of course, let a birthday, a Christmas or an anniversary of some sort—perhaps the first of the NRA—slip by without depositing a box of socks on the White House doorstep.

The Governor Vs. the Facts

Winston-Salem Journal. "We cannot afford to be afraid of the facts," Governor Ehringhaus is quoted as saying in a Greensboro speech. "By these facts we must stand."

But he continues thusly in speaking of education in North Carolina: "There is no place for propaganda. My patience runs low when I see the so-called juggernauts presenting distorted facts and figures before the people of this state. Nor do I have any patience with the person who tries to tell us that North Carolina ranks 41st among the other states of the nation in educational enterprise. There is no sense to such a comparison. North Carolina is on the way on and upward, and I firmly believe that we shall soon see this commonwealth at the top in progressive education."

The ranking of North Carolina, to which the Governor objects, has always been made by our own State Department of Education, except one time when Governor Aycock thanked God for South Carolina, because she kept us from being at the foot of the ladder in public education in this country. In arriving at this State's rank, North Carolina's school system has been measured by the same yardstick used to measure similar systems in other states—the amount spent per pupil, the salaries of teachers, etc.

We do not know who has been distorting facts about education in this State. Maybe the Governor could answer this.

We do know that at the peak of this State's expenditures for schools we spent only \$35 per pupil, as compared with an average expenditure of \$70 plus per pupil in this country. We do know that when teachers' salaries were at the peak in this State, they were only about \$900 against an average teacher salary of \$1,400 in the country as a whole.

Below are some facts which we assume are not distorted. They are taken from the University News Letter, a publication sponsored by the State, of which Mr. Ehringhaus is Governor. They offer some comparisons regarding teachers' salaries. At the risk of exciting the Governor's "impatience," we present them with the purpose of allowing them to tell their own story:

North Carolina, 8 months, \$498. Alabama, 6 months, \$520. Arkansas, 6 months or less, \$440. Connecticut, 9 months, \$1,580. Delaware, 9 months, \$1,413. Florida, 8 months, \$800. Illinois, 8 1-10 months, \$1,000. Indiana, 8 months, \$1,100. Iowa, \$547. Maryland, 9 months, 10 per cent cut. Massachusetts, 8 and 9 months, \$1,838. Michigan, 8 months, \$994.35. Minnesota, 8 months, rural, \$500; 9 months high and graded, \$900. Mississippi, 7 months, \$406. Nevada, 8 months, \$1,200. New Mexico, 8 months, \$400. Ohio, 8 plus months, \$1,415; \$1,642; \$792; \$1,100. Oklahoma, 7 to 8 months, \$630. Pennsylvania, 9 months, little reduction. Rhode Island, 9 months, \$1,680. South Carolina, 7 months, \$462. South Dakota, 8 2-3 months, \$459; \$658; \$1,533. Texas, 8 1-2 months, \$722. Utah, 8 months, \$950. Vermont 8 to 9 months, \$797. Virginia, 8 months, \$601. West Virginia, 6 1-2 months to 8 months, \$728; \$1,026. Wyoming, 7 1-2 months, \$600; \$1,200.

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Public Forum

VICTIMIZED TEACHERS

Greensboro Daily News. Editor of The Daily News: So far as North Carolina is concerned "the forgotten man" is the fellow, male or female, who, having spent years of time and thousands of dollars in study and preparation for the vocation of teaching, now get a pay-check of less remuneration than that of a second-rate illiterate bricklayer. We have cast a net which is holding the minnows and letting go the big fellows! Already hundreds of our ablest educators have asserted their self-respect and deserted the profession of their devotion and experience, while hundreds of others are seeking vocations wherein they may earn a decent wage for the support of their families. It is a stigma on the fair name of the great state of North Carolina. It is a condition which is bound to warp and stunt our moral, educational and economic growth.

Our state and our teachers are victims of "peanut statesmanship." Our leaders haven't the brains or the courage, one or the other, to get us out of this blighting mess of false economy and faulty taxation. Our children are our invaluable assets, incomparable with our investments in roads or other public projects. Our first and highest duty is to them. If through the handicap of proclaimed civic poverty, something or somebody must bear the bruises and slashes of the pruning knife and decapitating axe, let it not be our primary public school educational system. We have builded magnificent school houses on every contacting hill and valley of the state. Shall we now turn them over to incompetents who are satisfied with a scale of remuneration far beneath the dignity and requirements of the teaching profession?

If all sources of taxation have been dug and drained, which is a subject for disputation, then, divert some of our present taxes from roads to schools. Take out gasoline taxes, or, better yet, rid us of the unjust discriminatory prices on gasoline and give the difference to the increase of pay to our underpaid school teachers. If no other remedy can be found or devised, increase our sales' tax, but deliver us from the pernicious evils and damnable fallacies of the present sales' tax system, which is neither fair nor honest, sound nor competent. It is tragically ludicrous that a great state should adopt a "hit and miss" system of collecting revenue. If we must have a direct sales' tax, revenue stamps can be printed in lots at fairly cheap rates. Then, when I purchase ten-cent packages of cheap cigarettes for \$1.10, I will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that my 10-cent tax-mulch has gone to the coffers of my state. The system will no longer be a farce, even if it will remain burdensome to a poor devil who gratifies his desires for a few luxuries instead of purchasing tax-exempt municipal, state, county and national bonds.

Gentlemen of the oncoming legislature, the paramount issue is the preservation of our primary educational system and the retention

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of our teachers who are qualified through preparation and experience to instruct, guide and inspire our boys and girls.

I am not a school teacher, but I am the son of one who for nearly 25 years, during the darkest hour of our educational history, rode the red-mud holes of Caswell at three dollars per diem, covering expenses, lovingly "carrying on" in helping to keep the light of hope burning in our one-room log school houses.

TOM HENDERSON
Madison, N. C.

RAILROAD MEN GET PENSION

President Roosevelt Thursday signed the bill passed during the closing hours of Congress providing for a pension fund for retired railway employees.

The bill is considered a preliminary step in the administration's program for old age pensions and unemployment insurance. It calls for percentage payroll contributions from workers and carriers to assure pensions to retired employees over 65.

The bill fixes 65 years as the retirement age and places the program under a three-man board to be appointed by the President.

Employees would contribute two per cent of their annual wages to a special fund held in the U. S. Treasury. The carriers would pay

twice the amount contributed by the workers.

Supporters of the measure said it would assure an \$83-a-month pension to an employee who, earned \$1,667 a year before retirement. On the basis of present pay rolls of \$1,500,000,000, it was estimated initial contributions into the fund would amount to \$90,000,000.

After two years' operation, the special board would be required to submit a report to Congress with recommendations for any changes that might be necessary in the system.

PLANS NEW WARSHIPS

London.—Preparing for new battleship construction in 1937, the Admiralty is studying many tentative designs for new dreadnaughts, radically different from all fighting ships now afloat. Guns firing twice as fast as the fifteen-inch guns now in service and a new armor belt to defy and form of air attack are among the new provisions.

WORLD EMPLOYMENT UP

Geneva.—Unemployment has decreased in the United States, Germany, Canada, Britain, Italy, Japan and many minor countries in 1934, according to statistics gathered by the International Labor office. Conditions became worse in Bulgaria, France, Ireland, Portugal and Poland.

Farmers of Polk County, who are digging trench silos this summer, have planted Ribbon cane to be used as ensilage.

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