

The
ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina
HALIFAX COUNTY'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER
North Carolina's Only TABloid NEWSpaper



CARROLL WILSON, Owner and Editor

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EDITORIAL

IT WILL FAIL, UNLESS

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A brave legislator will soon present a bill to the present General Assembly which would provide for the legal sale of whiskey in North Carolina.

The salient features of the Virginia system are incorporated in this bill. The State would operate the stores, get the profits and tax. No store would be put in any town or city unless so desired by the citizens. The stores would be operated by a State board similar to Virginia's ABC. Goods would be sold in packages only for consumption off the premises.

The bill is so written and can be so enforced that dry communities can remain dry while those communities desiring the sale of legal whiskey could have it. Operated by the State, the graft and politics of the old license system is eliminated. There would be no saloons or drinking places for the public with the ever-present temptation of the old corner saloon.

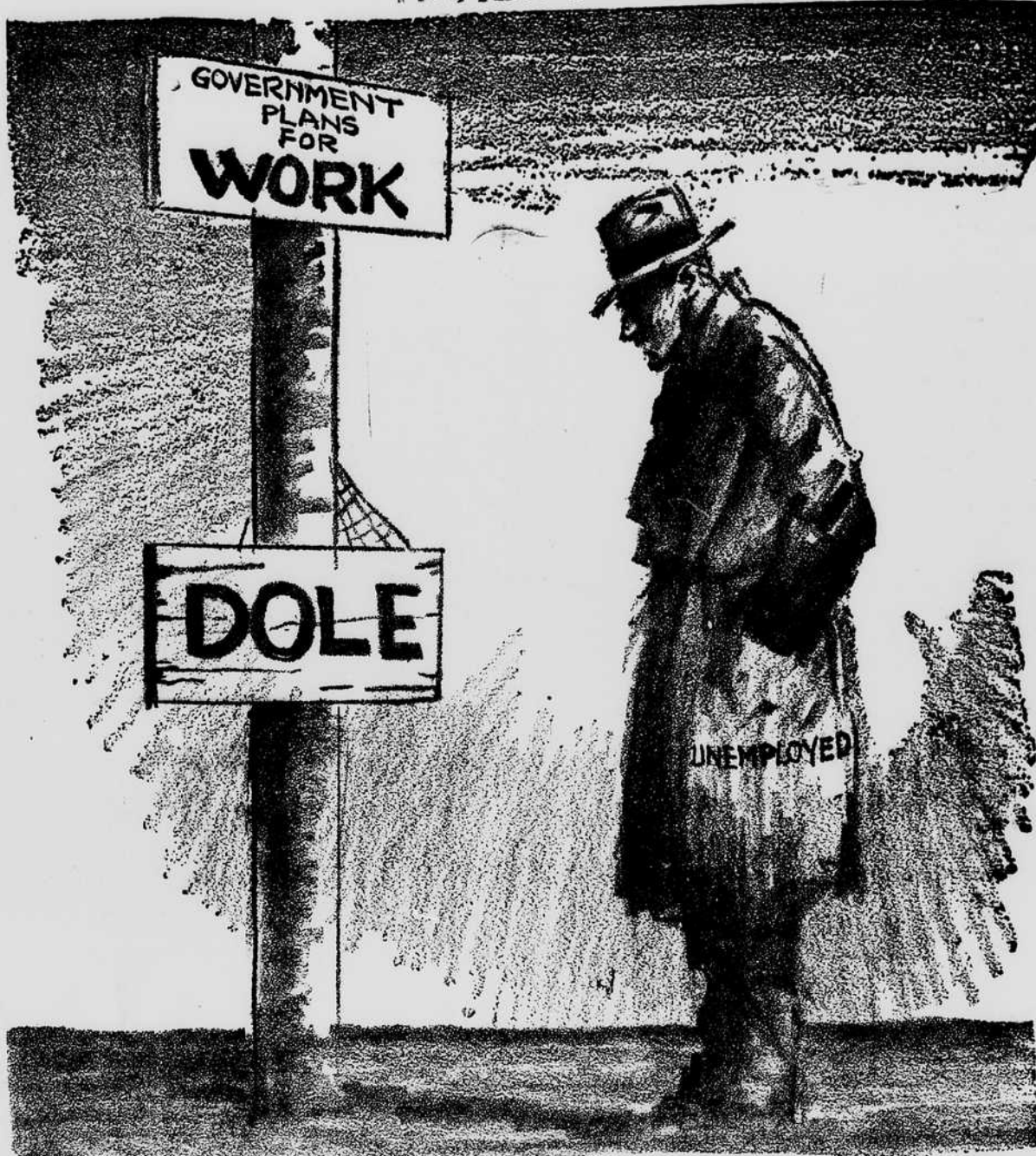
We have watched the operation of the Virginia system with much interest and, with a few minor changes, that system seems the most sensible and business-like that could be adopted.

It's success is best typified by the conductor on one of the crack C&O trains who told us the other day that there were more people drinking on his train, due to the fact liquor could be bought on the train, but there was less drunkenness than before repeal. People are now drinking moderately because they know it is legal and they can get it whenever they want it, was the observation of the conductor.

We know the fireworks will start when this bill drops in the legislative hopper at Raleigh. This is the calm before the storm. The drys are militant and well organized. They proved that in the repeal election when they surprised the nation and even themselves. The most powerful lobby of the present session will probably descend upon the luckless legislators, pointing with pride to North Carolina's record of aridity and demanding that the es-cutcheon remain unblotted.

It is our opinion, at present, that the bill will be defeated. We are sorry to say this but, as usual, we are looking the facts in the face. It is unfortunate that North Carolina should continue ridden with moonshiners and bootleggers, while every surrounding State has or will

HEADS UP!



soon have some form of legal sale for liquors.

We predict the bill will suffer defeat because of the strength of those who will oppose and the weakness of those who will favor it. Altho we believe that the majority of the State is in the latter class, they lack unity and proper leadership.

Only a militant and aggressive movement on the part of those favoring legalizing liquor will save that bill. As yet we fail to see any indication of any such movement on a large scale.

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OUTLAWING CHILD LABOR

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The General Assembly of North Carolina should ratify the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Outlawed temporarily by NRA, child labor might come back if NRA is changed or dispensed with. It should never return to a country which prides itself on freedom and advancement.

All children are entitled to full, free education in our public schools and every child should be permitted to at least finish High School before going to work. And as many who desire and have any inclination should be permitted to continue their studies and specialize in the vocation of their own choosing.

They cannot do this with no child labor laws to protect them, for it is easy for both children and their parents to overlook the advantages of an education when there is a chance to yank the children from school and put them to work.

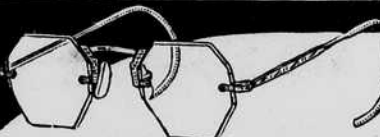
There is also the angle of unemployment, which has always been with us but to a greater extent today than ever before.

Let child labor return and many adults would be displaced by children, increasing unemployment among those who are heads of families and who deserve to work.

There is not one single argument in favor of child labor that should appeal to a civilized country.

More than twenty States have already ratified the amendment and North Carolina can hasten the day by a ratification vote in favor of the amendment by the present General Assembly.

1936 should see the amendment adopted and made a part of the uniform laws of the land. North Carolina has an opportunity to set the pace for the Southland.


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