

TODAY and TOMORROW

By DON ROBINSON

BORDERS shooting
It is to be hoped that the national unity inspired by war will be instrumental in ending the legislative state border wars which have been growing more threatening every year in the United States.

So far there have been few instances of people being shot at for the crime of crossing from one state in our Union to another, but there actually have been cases of that.

In the midwest, for example, a bridegroom who crossed, in a small truck, from his home state to his bride's state was shot at when he went over the border without stopping. Charged with attempting to violate the highway tax, he was questioned for hours before being released.

We expect such things as that to happen in the Balkans, but when they take place in the freedom-loving U. S. A., where all citizens are supposed to be able to ignore borderlines, it's time for the public to look into it.

A brief analysis shows that the trouble all results from so-called trade barriers—state legislation passed to give the people in one state a business or financial advantage over the people in another state.

For years we've known about tariffs between countries. We know that some countries can make things cheaper than our own manufacturers, so we impose a tariff on their goods to protect our own business. But a lot of us don't realize that that same type of international barrier is now being used by the great majority of our states.

TRUCKING barriers
One of the most glaring examples of difficulties created by state barriers is the situation in the trucking industry.

Every state has trucking legislation. The state laws include taxes on trucks, regulations as to the trucks and license requirements for trucks.

These regulations are usually passed for three reasons: to preserve the highways; to promote highway safety, and to raise money. But they are so lacking in uniformity that a truck driver practically needs to be a lawyer and an expert mathematician to figure out how to drive his truck any distance. In fact there are many cases where it is impossible for him to comply with one state's regulations without violating those in a neighboring state in which he wants to go.

Take the matter of weight alone. The weight limits in our 48 states range from a maximum load of 57 tons to a maximum of 7 tons. The average is around 35 tons. But if a load is to be taken from a 35-ton state to a 7-ton state, the load would have to be changed from one truck to five trucks when it reached the state border.

Because of the conditions of roads and other local problems, there may

125-Year-Old Feud Is Settled



Julio Donoso, foreign minister of Ecuador and Dr. Alfredo Soli Y. Muro, foreign minister of Peru, are shown here as they signed the pact between their two countries at Rio De Janeiro. The signing of the pact settled a 125-year-old border feud between the two nations. Senor Donoso is at the left.

be some need for slightly different regulations in different states, so far as size and weight are concerned. But there is no need for the drastic differences which exist.

FOOD shackles
Trucking is only one example of trade barriers which are a menace to the unity of our states and which are probably violations of our constitution.

In the agricultural field we have many state laws which are direct tariffs on the products of neighboring states.

In Washington and Wisconsin, for example, there is a direct tax of 15 cents per pound on oleomargarine in order to protect the farmers in these dairy states against the sale of a product which competes with butter.

These laws undoubtedly are a help to the dairy farmers; in these particular states—but the inevitable result will be retaliatory legislation with each state gradually enacting new measures to prevent competitive products from being sold.

In 14 states there are laws stating that an egg cannot be called "fresh" unless it is laid in the home state.

The question of the wisdom of protecting one country against another country by tariffs has always been debatable, but the foolery of shackling interstate trade in this way in the United States has never been questioned. Freedom of trade between states is one of the foundations of our form of government.

ROOSEVELT warning
Over two years ago President Roosevelt demanded that something be done to end the state trade barrier situation. At that time the President said, "Interstate barriers, if allowed to develop and multiply, will constitute social and economic problems even more serious than economic tariffs."

Since he made that statement various federal departments have tried to do something about the situation and have made some progress. An

interdepartmental committee on interstate trade barriers has been organized which is trying to cope with the situation and which already has shown many specific examples of how state barriers are seriously hampering the progress of our national armament program.

Bethel School News

With the assistance of Miss Virginia Jones, county health nurse, a course in home nursing and the care of the sick is being taught to the junior and senior girls of Bethel high school. Women in the community are invited to attend the course given on each Wednesday from 11 to 12:30. The course covers all phases of home nursing and gives many helpful methods of caring for the sick.

The high school schedule has been re-arranged in order to allow one hour daily for physical training for junior and senior boys and girls, as has been directed by the government as an aid to the defense program.

Junior Class News
The cast for the junior play has been chosen and plans are in progress to give the play, "Aaron Slick from Pumpkin Crick," during the latter part of March.

The members of the junior class have chosen their class rings for 1943.

Senior Party
The senior class gave the junior class a party on February 14. Many games were played and refreshments were served by the seniors. The decorations were of white and red, bearing out the general theme of Valentine Day.

Invitations Ordered
The order has been placed for senior class invitations. Plans for commencement have not been completed, but will be published with the next school news submitted to The Democrat.

Year Book
Miss Laura Bell Burrell, representing Printograph Company, Kansas City, Mo., is at Bethel high school this week gathering material for the 1942 year book to be published by the high school seniors this year.

Basketball
After being victorious over hard-fighting Cranberry teams, the Bethel high school teams are now centering their interest on practice for the coming Appalachian high school basketball tournament. Bethel girls are scheduled to meet Blowing Rock in the first game, while the boys will meet Appalachian high in their first tournament game.

School Program
The elementary grade chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Norman Wilson, gave the assembly program Thursday, February 12. Washington and Lincoln's birthdays, and the Valentine phase was the theme of the musical program.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER EXECUTION

North Carolina, Watauga County; in the Superior Court.

W. T. Raleigh Company vs. Richard Hodges, Wm. M. Hodges and C. M. Hodges.
By virtue of an execution directed to the undersigned from the superior court of Watauga county, in the above entitled action, I will, on Monday, the 2nd day of March, 1942, at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the courthouse door of said county, sell to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said execution, all the right, title and interest which the said Richard Hodges, one of the defendants, has in the following described real estate, to-wit:

Beginning on a stake in North street, corner to Gene Holt lot, and runs with Gene Holt lot north 23 east 150 feet to a stake; thence south 86 east 46 feet to a stake in the Richard Hodges line; thence with Richard Hodges south 23 west 150 feet, more or less to a stake in the margin of North street, corner to Richard Hodges; thence with North street 58 west 46 feet to the beginning. This being the western part of the lot conveyed to Richard Hodges by Irene C. Winters. See Book 54, at page 342.

This 30th day of January, 1942.
A. J. EDMISTEN,
2-5-4c Sheriff.

Births On Increase In State During '41

Raleigh, Feb. 4.—There were 85,366 babies born in North Carolina last year, as compared with 80,971 in 1940, according to figures released last week by the vital statistics division of the state board of health. Deaths reported last year numbered 32,154, which was 53,212 less than the number of births, and 40 less than the total number deaths occurring in 1940.

The 1941 birth rate was 23.6, as compared with 22.7 the previous year; while the death rate dropped from 9.0 to 8.9, the lowest ever recorded in North Carolina.

There was a noticeable increase in the number of deaths among babies under a year old, the 1941 total having been 5,073, as compared with 4,676 the preceding year, which raised the rate 56.3 per one thousand live births to 59.4. Maternal deaths showed a decrease, however, there having been only 354 of these last year, against 438 in 1940, bringing the rate down from 5.3 to 4.1.

Deaths from what the state board of health terms preventable accidents numbered 1,862, which was 427 in excess of the number reported in 1940. Added to these were 297 suicides and 382 homicides, swelling the number of violent deaths last year in North Carolina to 2,541.

Deaths from diphtheria during the year dropped from 119 to 89. Figures now are beginning to reflect the compulsory immunization law passed by the 1939 legislature. Pneumonia deaths fell from 2,041 to 1,896, and tuberculosis deaths from 1,782 to 1,769.

There was a pronounced decline in the number of deaths from purpura (childbirth) septicemia. The total last year was 53, as compared with 112 in 1940. The decline is attributed to board of health physicians to improved methods of treatment.

MINISTERS MAY OBTAIN TIRES

Raleigh, Feb. 14.—Clergymen are now eligible to purchase new tires or retreads for their automobiles, if the cars are necessary for the performance of their duties, T. S. Johnson, state rationing administrator, announced today.

Johnson said the rule giving priority ratings to clergymen is contained in revised regulations effective February 19, covering both new tires and retreads.

The administrator also announced that application forms for delivery of new cars purchased prior to January 1, but not delivered before the freezing order went into effect, were received here today and were mailed to local rationing boards.

Persons establishing claims to such cars will receive certificates from their local boards entitling them to delivery. Claims must be made before February 26, when new car rationing begins.

Musico: Either that, or I'm getting used to it.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

North Carolina, Watauga County; in the Superior Court—Before the Clerk.

The defendant Robert K. Bingham, Jr., will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the superior court for Watauga county, North Carolina, for the purpose of obtaining a decree of divorce absolute from the defendant, the defendant will take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the clerk of the superior court of said county in the courthouse in Boone, N. C., on the 10th day of March, 1942, and answer or demur to the complaint or the relief demanded in the complaint will be granted.

This 31st day of January, 1942.
A. E. SOUTH,
2-5-4c Clerk Superior Court.



Penny Wise says...
"Pinching Pennies is Practical Patriotism"

GET acquainted with the cow! You'll save money if you know cuts of beef—their most economical and successful use. Your butcher can supply you with such information.



Spend the pennies you'll save for DEFENSE SAVINGS STAMPS—you can buy them for 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents, \$1, or \$5. Suggest to your husband that he enter into any pay roll savings plan his company may consider for Defense.—War Needs Money!

North Carolina Operates School Buses at Lowest Per Capita Cost in U. S.

Raleigh—If per capita expenditure in the transportation of school children has any important bearing on safety, the wonder is that there are not more school bus accidents in this state.

North Carolina's annual expenditure on each child carried to and from school last year was \$7.20, according to figures compiled by Bus Transportation. That was the lowest of any state in the union—Alabama was second low with \$10.38—and just about one-third of the average for the nation.

When the state school commission met here last Thursday to hear Motor Vehicle Commissioner T. B. Ward's suggestion for a school bus safety campaign, the members found this latest comparative study on what the various states are spending on their buses. Regardless of what more should be done, the report proved beyond a doubt that for the money it has to spend, North Carolina's school bus transportation system is the most efficient as well as the largest in the country.

This state transported 345,435 children back and forth, school day in and school day out, over 81,600 miles of rural bus routes last year at a total cost of \$2,490,494. Next in number of children carried was the state of Ohio. It transported 290,587 children, approximately 55,000 less. But Ohio spent \$6,998,150 on the job or almost three times as much as did North Carolina. Its per capita cost of \$24.03 compared to \$7.20 in this state.

Another figure which showed the comparative riding comfort and ed to North Carolina was that the

safety of an Ohio child as compared to a North Carolina child, though 55,000 fewer in number, had 6,844 buses at their disposal as compared to 4,746 for the Tar Heels. Indiana, which hauls only 221,429 school children, used 7,003 buses.



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	Quarterly	Yearly	Benefit
One to Ten Years	.10	.40	\$ 50.00
Two to Twenty-nine Years	.20	.80	100.00
Thirty to Fifty Years	.40	1.60	100.00
Fifty to Sixty-five years	.60	2.40	100.00



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Save your Fertilizer Bags as they are going to be scarce.

Yours for better farming,

C. M. CRITCHER
Boone, N. C.