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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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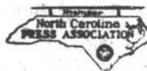
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Monday, June 6, 1949



If You Can Afford To Smoke

Speaking before the Council of the New England State Medical Societies, Clem Whitaker had this to say about the medical care issue: "We have better medical care in this nation than in any other nation on the face of the globe—and we are well on the way, under our voluntary health insurance system, to a solution of the problem of budget-basis protection for all who desire it.

"Certainly we don't need or want the assembly-line medical systems of sick Europe in healthy America.

"If a man can afford to smoke, he can afford health insurance; the cost is about the same. If a family can afford to go to the movies once a week, that family can afford the finest kind of prepaid health protection."

When it comes to costs, compulsory government insurance would in all probability be the most expensive possible method. One authority has estimated the ultimate expense at \$10,000,000,000 year. Another believes the Federal program would necessitate a nine per cent payroll tax—and any worker or employer can figure what that would mean in these days of pyramided taxes of all kinds. In Britain, estimates of the cost of her "free health system have proved woefully short of the actuality. In the light of all this—and in the light of the remarkable growth of the voluntary plans—what excuse can there be for starting this country on a road that can only end in socialization of medicine?

Borrowed Comment

Terrifying Crime Wave

(The Richmond News Leader)

It is a rare day now that does not find in the papers some such monstrous crime as that of the sex murder and attempted incineration of a 6-year-old boy in East Lansing, Mich. The country appears to be subjected to a succession of the most brutal forms of homicide, nearly all of which indicate some mental distortion. It is possible, of course, that the extension of news coverage and the candor of reporting now bring to public attention many crimes previously passed over if not deliberately suppressed from the news. These cases, we suspect, represent a small part only of the sickening addition month after month, to the most bestial offences the mind can conceive.

The offenders are not the exservicemen whose training in commando methods was thought by some to represent a national danger. Instances there have been, of course, where veterans have slain men who stole their wives or sweethearts; but when it is remembered that there are more than 15 million former servicemen of 1941-45 in the United States, many of them still within the age groups most apt to commit crime, we think the record will show that the "commando complex" has been a negligible factor in these hideous homicides. The behavior of the veterans has been better than average.

Some of the worst offenders appear to be sex perverts of an age below that of servicemen. No less alarming than the concentration of this type of crime among youth is the frequency with which it is the work of boys who have been paroled from institutions to which they have been committed. Still another startling fact is the affrighting increase in crime of delib-

erate murder by women of all ages.

What is happening in America? Did the savagery of the Nazis, their unimaginable cruelty and their mass murder destroy the restraints that had been built up in the human soul? Has there been a wider and deeper spread of mental disease during the war period than we have thought? Is greed more rampant? Are we to attribute some of this crime to the leniency of courts and to the loss of fear of punishment after death? Has the breakup of many homes and the absence of working mothers put into the streets children easily tempted to violence of the sort they see in the movies? Are firearms too easily accessible?

To ask these questions—and many others suggest themselves—is to make it plain, we think, that the circumstances call for a study at the highest level by the best qualified authority. We accordingly ask Mr. Truman to give consideration to the crisis and to name a presidential commission to investigate the new prevalence of crime.

LIFE'S BETTER WAY

WALTER E. ISENHOUR
High Point, N. C., Route 4

THE KING OF LOVE

I do not dwell with earthly kings,
Nor walk with princes here,
Nor own a mansion grand that brings
A lot of things that cheer;
But what is better far than this
I'm walking with my Lord,
Who fills my heart with peace and bliss
That's free from all discord.

O bless the Lord, the King of Love,
Whose grace 'tis sweet to share;
Who watches o'er us from above
With kind and tender care;
Who keeps us by His pow' er divine
Along life's rugged road,
Is now preparing us to shine
In heaven's blest abode!

He blesses us along life's way
And saves us from all sin;
He hears us when he kneel and pray,
And gives us grace within;
He strengthens us for ev'ry task
He gives our hands to do,
And lifts our burdens when we ask,
And always proves so true.

'Tis sweet to be a child of God—
A pilgrim for the skies—
Though some may think it seems quite odd
Because of broken ties
That bound us once to things of earth,
From which we now are free,
Which we esteem of little worth
Compared to what we'll see.

BUILD WELL

If you would make of life the best
And in the end find Heaven's rest,
Don't waste your precious days of youth,
When you should build on right and truth,
By forming habits that are wrong
Because it's common with the throng,
But purpose in your inmost soul
To seek in life the highest goal.

Take Christ into your early life
That He may help you through the strife,
As man within himself is frail,
Apart from God is sure to fail;
For he must keep aloof from sin
If he would stand with those who win,
Therefore you need the hand Divine
To lead you all along the line.

To build a life both great and strong,
That can't be broken by the wrong,
Start well within life's early day
And guard your footsteps all the way;
Build well upon God's holy grace
And seek to fill a worth-while place;
Be strong in will and aim and plan
If you would be a stalwart man.

Build well, and when life's storms shall beat
You shall not have to make retreat;
You'll stand when wrong shall meet its doom
And foes are hidden in the tomb;
You'll rise and greet the heav'nly sun,
And sing when all your work is done
The songs of triumph evermore
With saints and heroes gone before.

Boston Daily Record: "Alky Fatal to Gob." Six companions were critically ill from the same wood alcohol the men drank in Portsmouth, N. H.

N. C. New Plants Top In Southeast

Raleigh, N. C.—North Carolina's industrial establishments, with a total of 5,320, increased by 2,162 from 1939 through 1947, the largest of any of the southeastern states, according to an analysis of the 1947 census of manufacturers made by the Division of Commerce and Industry, and released by Paul Kelly, assistant director of the N. C. Department of Conservation and Development.

Next to North Carolina in new industries recorded is Georgia which gained 1,698 establishments during the census period; Alabama with 1,352 is third; Virginia with 1,149 is fourth; and Tennessee with 1,120 is fifth. In grand total of operating industries in 1947, Georgia with 4,752 was next to North Carolina; Virginia with 3,643 was third; Tennessee with 3,345 was fourth, and Alabama with 3,334 was fifth.

In value added by manufacture, North Carolina continued to occupy the top position held in 1939 and prior thereto. The 1947 census showed a total value added by manufacture of \$1,646,000,000, a gain of \$1,102,000,000 (over 200 per cent) over the \$544,000,000 reported in 1939. Second in volume of value increase in manufacturing was Georgia with \$731,000,000, with

Maryland third, and Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, and South Carolina following in order.

North Carolina also continued to lead the field in total number of workers employed with a grand total of 381,000 in 1947. Total industrial employment in 1939 was 270,000, showing a gain of 111,000 between the enumerations. In numerical gain in industrial employment, Georgia was second with 93,000 and Alabama and Tennessee were tied for third place with a total gain of 90,000 each. Maryland and Virginia were next in line.

Cotton, still far in the lead among textile fibers, supplied 57.4 per cent of the nation's textile needs in 1948, compared to 58.4 per cent in 1947, 65.8 per cent from 1940 to 1944, and 60.6 per cent during the period 1935-39.

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IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear sister, Ada Redmond Shumaker, who passed away one year ago June 6. She is sadly missed by her brother, Walter, and sisters, Lona, Pearl, Blanche and Era.—Contributed.

Pasture and oat crops in Hoke county have been heavily damaged by recent attacks of the army worms.

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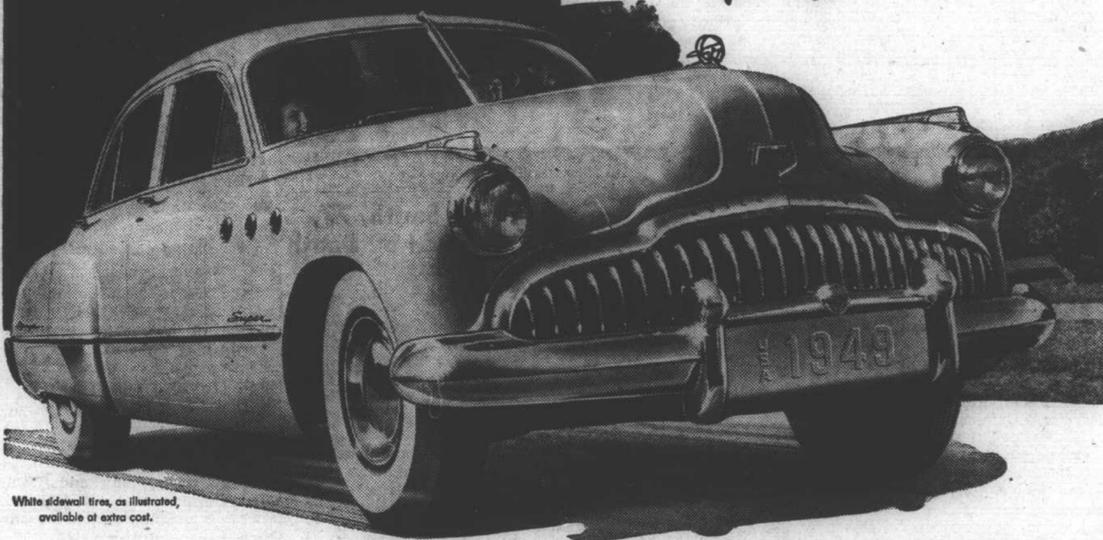
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