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VOTE FOR SCHOOL BONDS SEPTEMBER 30



Raleigh, N. C.—A tobacco sales holiday may be called soon (perhaps by the time this reaches print) if the situation doesn't ease on the weed markets in the State soon.

Redrying plants are jammed and some of the big tobacco companies have pulled buyers off the markets. The result has been less competition and a drop in prices. In at least one instance, sales were halted because of complaints by farmers over the prices bid on their offerings.

A tobacco sales holiday was called by the late J. Melville Broughton several years ago while he was governor. And Governor Scott is reported ready to call a sales holiday if the situation doesn't change for the better soon.

Among tobacco men there's a feeling that major tobacco companies are pulling strings to force weed prices down. On the face of it, it's a problem of buying more tobacco than the redrying plants can process, with tobacco piling up at the warehouses. But these men say that the big companies could stop the piling up and keep buyers on the markets if they wanted to—thus keeping prices up through more competitive bidding.

The Edwin Gill appointment as Collector of Internal Revenue for North Carolina—predicted by CAPITAL REPORTER three weeks ago—brought a lot of comment from the experts. Some tried to make it look as though President Truman was "agin" the Scott administration and National Committeeman Jonathan Daniels. Some said Governor Scott didn't know anything about it. Fact is, the Governor knew about it and did not try to stop it, despite the fact that he invited Gill, a Charlie Johnson-for-governor to quit his job as State revenue commissioner. The job for Gill was engineered by some Washington smoothies, this corner hears, and they weren't Senators.

The appointment of Charlie Johnson, ex-state treasurer and opponent of Scott in the gubernatorial race, as customs collector at Wilmington caused a lot of raised eyebrows. He was named by Senator Hoey, never a bosom buddy of the Governor's, and objection by Scott could have caused a further rift in the Democratic party in the State—

or at least added fuel to the flames.

Some folks were surprised that Johnson would accept the job, which reportedly pays \$6,400 year to start. Reports from Charlotte indicate:

1. That Johnson was not too happy in his job there, despite a salary estimated at anywhere from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year.
2. That Johnson's boss and the former State treasurer were not exactly pals.
3. That other Charlotte bankers did not cotton to the addition of Johnson to their ranks.

The new job will give Johnson plenty of leisure time and he is expected to live on his farm, some 12 miles from Wilmington. The new job should hamper him politically, since technically his hands will be supposedly tied by the Hatch Act. That's the law prohibiting federal employees from messing around in politics, it says.

North Carolina bankers are moving to head off at least one Yankee invasion. A bunch of New York money men recently came to the State to investigate possibilities of a time-payment plan for cattle buyers.

It would work just like buying a car or refrigerator. So much down, so much a month or week. In some instances, they said, no down payment would be necessary.

The New Yorkers like what they saw, went back home for their moneybags, and said they'd be back this way soon.

Well, sir, Tar Heel bankers reacted like a heifer jabbed with a pitchfork. The North Carolina Bankers Association has called a meeting of "representative agriculture-minded bankers." They'll meet here in Raleigh, October 17 with State Commissioner of Banks Gurney P. Hood, C. B. Ratchford of the N. C. State College Extension service, and other interested people.

Their aim? It's to set up a committee and begin work immediately on a livestock-financing program.

Mebbe we could stand having some more Yankees coming down to show the way. If you're gonna borrow money, it's always nicer to owe somebody you know.

Over at High Point there's a gasoline price war going on. Some folks started a self-service station, where you fill up your



Governor Chester Bowles of Connecticut, and twenty-four other Governors, issued proclamations for Union Label Week. The Governor is seated and those present (L to R) are: Timothy M. Collins, Pres., Connecticut Federation of Labor; Andrew Christensen, Secy., Hartford Central Labor Union; Eugene J. St. Pierre, Vice-Pres., CFL; Francis Devine, Bus. Mgr., IBEW Local 35; Francis Ford, Bus. Mgr., Pipefitters Local 218; Joseph M. Rourke, Secy.-Treas., CFL; Michael Misenti, Vice-Pres., CFL; and Wm. F. Fargo, Vice-Pres., CFL.

own tank, and were able to lower prices.

The result, believe it or not, has been that every major gas company slashed prices some four cents a gallon in High Point. For example, the same gas that sells in Greensboro for 31c a gallon sells for a neat 27c in High Point.

That has revived some talk last heard during the Better Schools and Roads campaign. Then the gas companies were fighting the \$200,000,000 road bond issue. It was suggested that since the gas companies raised prices without apparent rhyme or reason (incidentally another price hike of about a penny a gallon is reported coming soon), and since gasoline has become a public necessity, that perhaps it might be a good idea to put the gasoline industry under the State Utilities Commission.

That brought a howl, of course, but no explanation of how gas prices were determined by the big companies.

Now, some folks are wondering how the same gasoline can be sold by the big companies, some four cents a gallon cheaper in High Point than it is in near-by cities.

Operators of the High Point self-service station charge that the price cut is being made by the major companies in order to run them out of business. If that isn't the reason, they charge, then the big boys would cut prices all over the State.

It has raised the distinct possibility of a bill being presented to the legislature calling for the Utilities Commission's control of the gasoline industry in North Carolina, however.

Since milk has become a necessity for families with children, it also has been suggested that the dairy industry should be put under the Utilities Commission. The argument is that milk,

at least, could easily be classified as a public utility. It may not be possible under the law, but it makes interesting conversation, anyhow.

One rather prominent dairyman, now living in Raleigh, was asked about the idea. He said that if he were allowed the same margin of profit as the power companies, he would welcome such a move.

"The dairy industry would make more money than it does now," he said. "And the cost of milk would go up to about 28c a quart here in Raleigh, making milk cost as much as Coca-Cola."

CAPITAL REPORTER hears that several prominent N. C. State College alumnae will ask the 1951 Legislature for \$5,000,000 to move the railroad tracks which now run through the middle of the college's campus. The trains have killed several students in the past, and also damaged delicate instruments used at the school.

Another nearly \$4,000,000 will be asked to build a center to house the State Art Gallery, the Museum of Natural History, the Hall of History, and State Archives. All now are scattered, and the proposed building would put them under one roof and more accessible to the more than 200,000 people who visit them every year. One argument to aid in the financing of such a building may be that the space now used could be turned back into offices, perhaps eliminating some of the proposed new offices building.

If the 5,000 farmers here for the State-wide Farmers Co-operative Exchange meeting can be used as a barometer, Kerr Scott has not lost strength with the folks down on the farm. His speech, asking their support for flood control, was well received.

Seemed like everybody wanted to shake his hand.

In fact, these folks from all over the State were of the opinion that farm people generally are stronger than ever in their support of the Governor. This was particularly true of the western part of the State, they said.

A number of farm women and men, interviewed by CAPITAL REPORTER, expressed the same opinion. It was reminiscent of a public hearing on roads at the 1949 legislature. Farm folks streamed in from over the State to tell the lawmakers how they felt about voting on the road bond issue. They summed up the situation, as concerns the Governor and his program, with the same words heard at the FCX meeting:

"Kerr Scott's our boy. We want what he wants."

In another speech at Wilmington, Scott said \$80,000,000 in new industrial construction now is on in North Carolina. In 1949 construction of new industrial plants in the State totaled above \$300,000,000. He sees this as a vindication of his often-repeated claim that road-building and expansion of utilities will bring prosperity, and see a possible new industrial building total of \$450,000,000 by January 1.

"Mr. Fair"—Dr. J. S. Dorton of Shelby—staged his fall "coming out" party this week. He ramrodded the Cleveland County Fair at Shelby. Two weeks hence he'll be in the middle of the Southern States Fair at Charlotte, and October 17-21 he'll be here in Raleigh managing the 1950 N. C. State Fair—the granddaddy of them all.

Next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the N. C. Communications Study Commission will meet in Raleigh with its advisory committee of 30 business men, industrial people, educators, newspaper men and radiomen.

The Commission was created by the 1949 General Assembly to study the part audio-visual facilities (radio, motion pictures, and other media) should play in formal education.

The report is expected to cause quite a fuss, particularly from the N. C. Education Association. It seems Mrs. Ethel Perkins Edwards, NCEA executive secretary, doesn't like some of the provisions.

Speaking of NCEA, I hear that the rank and file of the classroom teachers are not disturbed about their failure to get a hunk of the State's \$13,000,000 bank balance as of last June 30.

As you know, the legislature had written a rider on the appropriations bill giving the teachers a bonus raise "if the State had a surplus." Well, the decision was made that the State

November Elections Will Decide Fate Of Taft-Hartley Congress

CHURCH COUNCIL SAYS LABOR AIDS HUMAN WELFARE

The following is the "Labor Sunday Message 1950" of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America. The Council requested that it be read in the churches on Sunday, September 3 or Sunday, September 10.

"There are those who would have us believe that insecurity and suffering are the price that we must inevitably pay for freedom. But the Christian can never accept the doctrine that unemployment and hunger are inevitable any more than he can accept the doctrine that war is inevitable. Man can live nobly even in want and adversity, but no man can live nobly who is responsible for keep another in that condition.

"Too few church people realize that the labor movement through development of the co-operative spirit has helped advance human welfare. Too few church people are familiar with the struggle of organized labor to raise standards of living for its members, their families and all workers. Too few church people are familiar with labor's contribution to industrial progress and peace through collective bargaining."

WHO'S A COMMIE, SENATOR BRIDGES? LOOK WHERE YOU STOOD

On September 7 Senator Styles Bridges (R., N. H.) took up most of the Senate's day with a speech in which he tried to pin the Communist label on the National Farmers Union.

The National Farmers Union is a liberal farm organization. About 400,000 farmers belong to it. Most of them live in the Midwest and the West.

But Bridges didn't mention in his speech that on May 25, just a month before the Reds invaded South Korea, he voted against a bill giving economic aid to Western Europe and the Far East, including Korea.

Bridges also neglected to point out that the Communist party line opposes the American program of aid to the Far East and Western Europe.

You probably are hearing a lot of Pats and Mikes talking like this these days:

Pat: Who are you going to vote for this year, Mike?

Mike: Well, I'll tell you, Pat. I don't even think I'm going to bother voting.

Pat: Why not?

Mike: It's like this. I went out and voted in 1948. I thought my vote would help get rid of the Taft-Hartley Act. But we still got it.

Pat: Yeah, we have. Maybe it doesn't do any good for us guys to vote.

Not wait a minute, Pat and Mike.

The Taft-Hartley Act was only the first chapter in the reactionary book. Chapter 2 was to have been repeal of the wage-hour law. Social security was high up on their hatchet list. So was the farm price support program—the farmers' minimum wage.

Republican Senators Robert Taft (Ohio), Eugene Millikin (Col.), Homer Capehart (Ind.), and their friends had plans for 1949 and 1950 all set by the summer and fall of 1948. But you upset those plans by going out and voting Nov. 2, 1948.

Former Republican Congressman Fred Hartley of New Jersey, who didn't have the guts to run for reelection, explained the blueprint for reaction in his book, "Our New National Labor Policy," published in October 1948.

Now, let's look at the Taft-Hartley votes in the Senate and the House in 1947 and 1949.

On June 23, 1947, the Senate passed T-H over President Truman's veto. The vote was 68-25. We were 23 votes short.

On June 28, 1949, the Senate passed the Taft-Smith-Donnell omnibus amendment to T-H (nothing more than a restatement of T-H). The vote was 49-44. We were only three votes short—a long way from the 23 votes of 1947.

Register—then vote for the men who will guard your freedom.

UAW-AFL Issues Poster

Get Rid of These Headaches!

WHAT THE UAW-AFL LOCAL UNION CAN DO ABOUT IT

1. Make the National Action Committee work.
2. Break down the responsibility for world and general union and support work. The National Action Committee should be organized to get out the vote.
3. Develop publicity and membership in local action meetings, speakers program and other ways. Develop the unity and strength of the responsible leadership of the rank.
4. Make certain that all members, their families and friends, work.
5. Use each member to contribute financially and participate actively in all programs of Labor's League for Political Education.

GET OUT THE LABOR VOTE

Milwaukee, Wis.—The AFL United Auto Workers issued this poster to stimulate rank and file participation in the 1950 elections.

RULES

FOR SAFE WALKING ...

1. Carry or wear something white at night to help drivers see you.
2. Cross only at crosswalks. Keep to the right in the crosswalk.
3. Before crossing—look both ways. Be sure the way is clear before you cross.
4. Cross only on proper signal.
5. Watch for turning cars.
6. Never go into the roadway from between parked cars.
7. Where there is no sidewalk, and it is necessary to walk in roadway, walk on left side, facing traffic.

AAA
Traffic Engineering and Safety Dept.
AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION

Honorable Okey L. Patteson, Governor of West Virginia, signing Union Label Week proclamation with President E. A. Carter and Secretary-Treasurer Volney Andrews of the West Virginia State Federation of Labor witnessing the signing.