

### Business In Government

Big business has an exceptionally heavy representation among the appointees of President-elect Eisenhower.

In fact, the non-big business appointee is so rare as to be almost the exception that proves the rule.

The President elect is represented as seeking the best brains in the country, and nobody, surely, can take exception to that. There is nothing wrong, furthermore, with big business men, per se. It is reasonable to believe that a big business man is just as capable of honesty, patriotism, objectivity, and a desire to serve as a little business man or a lawyer or a college professor or what have you.

The assumption, in some quarters, that the Eisenhower appointments represent a Russian holiday for big business during the next four years presupposes that there is something wicked about business when it becomes big. That is subject to question, to say the least.

There is a danger, however, of another shift in the overwhelming predominance of big business men in the Eisenhower appointments. That danger arises out of the fact that operating a business and operating the business of government, especially when it is a democratic government, are quite different. The finest business executive will bog down in public service unless he recognizes the differences, and adjusts himself to them.

There was a time, it is worth recalling, in the late 20's, when a business man was supposed to be able to perform any and every task better than anyone else. So we elected a big business man as President. He was an intelligent man, an honest man, a patriotic man, but he made a poor President—and he had run into difficulty long before the depression struck.

### Bouquet

Congratulations to the Franklin Garden Club on the success of its 1952 Christmas lighting decorations contest.

Spurred by the club, more and more Franklin households enter this contest from year to year, and each year sees better decorations than the year before—more imagination and originality of design, and more painstaking effort in execution.

It is a fine thing, for the folks who enter the contests as well as for the community.

### Others' Opinions

#### HE LIVES AT FLAT

I appreciate the flat that I live in. I moved here immediately after returning from the mountains such as I made this past week. No curves on curves to navigate, no long steep slopes to climb, no sharp turns, but good big roads to drive on. It is a flat life.

#### THE NEW SOUTH

The changing Southern area was described recently by Herb Lee Carter the Greenville, Miss., editor of the fashion Cotton has gone west, live stock crowing has come east, the Negroes have come North and Yankees have come South.

#### PROSPERITY

If people compared their financial condition as freely now as they did in the days of the depression, they might find that the principal difference is that the average person now owes more than the most prosperous person could have borrowed twenty years ago.

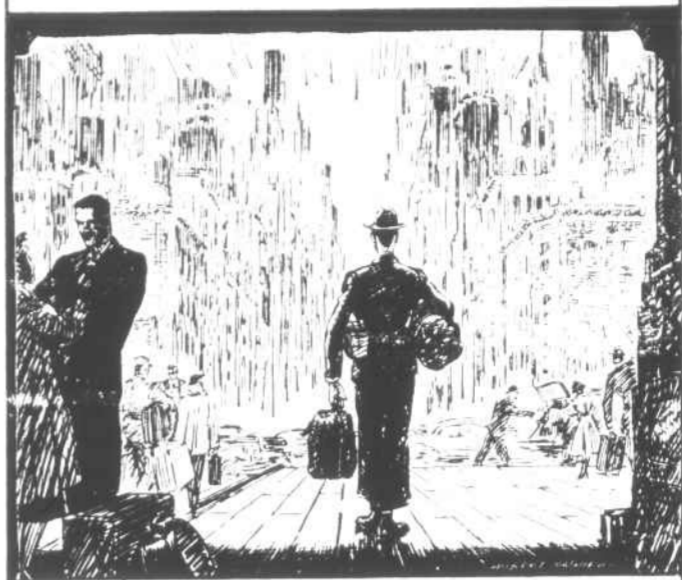
#### KINDNESS TO TOURISTS

I see where some of the Georgia cities are placing poles on the highways and arresting tourists and carrying them to a safe and serving them with lunches. Now that is a nice thing to do. Clayton did that years ago and brought in all who would come and served them lunches, apple and cider. They enjoyed it and we made some friends by the little act of kindness. It pays to be kind to tourists.

#### SERMONS IN TREES

There is a sermon in every tree that grows in this country. I have seen one in a pine tree in the mountains. It was a tall, thin tree with a single branch that reached out to the southwest. The pine needles were green and the sky was blue. I had the feeling that the tree was talking to me. And it was. It was saying to me, 'I am here for you. I am here for you. I am here for you.'

### OUR DEMOCRACY



THE ANONYMOUS IMMIGRANT WHO WALKED OFF THE BOAT YESTERDAY, OR LAST WEEK, OR LAST YEAR, EAGER TO BREATHE THE SWEET AIR OF FREEDOM, MAY NOT BE ANONYMOUS FOR LONG. BECAUSE THERE IS NO CEILING HERE ON OPPORTUNITY, HE MAY BE ANOTHER CARL SCHURZ.

### SOMETHING ROTTEN IN PRISON CAMPS?

No American can read about the killing of 82 Chinese prisoners and wounding of 120 by American soldiers without an uneasy feeling that there is something not right on these Korean islands where prison camps have been set up under UN commanders.

Most of these prisoners were unarmed civilians. They are described as using rocks, but what chance has a civilian with a rock in his hand against a trained soldier armed with a machine gun or bayonet?

No American parent can picture his son using a bayonet on a civilian, even an unruly one, without a feeling that if investigations are to be kept up, an official and public investigation of these allied prison camps in Korea is much in order.

There have been so many reported outbreaks and rebellions on the islands in question that the American public is entitled to a truthful report as to what is going on. Military life in any country opens the way to brutality and sadism on the part of men who in civil life would be squeaked.

The American people do not want to see their armies engaged in anything that remotely resembles what the German Nazis did in their prison camps during the late world war. If there is something wrong in Korean prison camps, let's have the truth now before the whole world finds another reason for being suspicious of American methods.

To give something for nothing is to weaken the giver. John J. Astor.

### PERSONAL

#### NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

I resolve... When the other fellow breaks his New Year resolutions almost as soon as they are made, to try to remember how short-lived mine often are.

When youth seems a bit biddy, at the same age, I was, on my intellectual and spiritual feet.

When I am inclined to feel superior to the man who does something reprehensible, to try to remember that maybe that was his weakness, and that I probably do little better when my weak spot is touched.

When I meet somebody I don't like, to try to remember that the trouble probably is not in him, but in me.

When the other fellow disagrees with me, to try to remember that he probably is not as stupid as it appears to me. I am in haste and just as likely to be right.

The New Year always sends me the memory backward. On this New Year I will try to do that. I will try to do that. I will try to do that.

### News As It Looks To A Maconite

Last year I began the year by advocating, among other things, that an all weather road be built from Franklin to Nantahala. I was pretty lucky, I guess. I understand that the survey on this road will be started this month.

This year one of the main things I think that Macon County citizens should concern themselves with is making sure that we get a revaluation of the taxable property here and that the revaluation is done by an outside firm which specializes in that type of work. This is the year set aside by law for that purpose. If a proper valuation is not set this year, it will be five years before the matter can be considered again. Many counties have found that after taking such action that they were able to reduce the tax rate and still have much larger revenue. Part of the reason is this. Here in Macon County we have the custom of listing taxes at 60% or less of its proper value. This process does not mean very much to the small tax payer but it reduces the tax bill of the large taxpayer by a large amount. If I own some property that is worth about \$100,000.00 and I list it at \$60,000.00 there is \$40,000.00 worth of property that I am not paying taxes on. If on the other hand I own \$100,000.00 worth of property and I pay taxes on \$60,000.00 worth of property that is going tax free—quite a saving. The present system is inefficient, poor business, and unfair.

The reason I think that a firm of experts should be employed is just this: What would you or I or any other average citizen who might be called on to serve as tax assessor know about computing the real worth of such large firms as Nantahala Power and Light Company, Van Raalte, or Zickgraf Hardwood Company, or Southern Railroad properties? Under the present system these companies may be paying more than their proportion, or less, and I don't believe we can get a true answer without having a qualified and impartial board make a study of the situation. Personally I have an idea that a study of the tax situation here in Macon County would find that our few industries are paying more than their share, but that a large group of well to do farmers and small business firms are not paying their part in proportion to their income.

Well my New Year's wish for this column is that here in Macon County we get a fair survey made of our tax structure by a board composed of a group of people who make a business of doing this type of work.

### Do You Remember?

#### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Miss Lily Franklin returned from a visit to her brother, in Washington, D. C.

Postmaster Furman Jamett and his sister, Carrie, went Christmas to Dilshoro last week where they have relatives.

#### 25 YEARS AGO

Mr. Steve Porter assumed the management of the Scott Griffin on January 1 under a four year lease.

On public occasions when a good quartette is desired we suggest Jim Morrison, Frank Henry, George Brown, and Frank Leach, with Jack Striding as coach.

#### 10 YEARS AGO

George W. Dowdle, Jim Berry, and Mann Ray, who are doing defense work near Portsmouth, Va. are at home for the holiday with their families. Mr. Dowdle's son, Glenn, works for the...

Woolrow W. Gandy, who is in charge of the... date before at Camp...

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### The Filibuster Again

Three Democratic senators, Lehman of New York, Douglas of Illinois, and Humphrey of Minnesota have announced they will spearhead a drive, at the opening of Congress Saturday, to outlaw the filibuster.

The announced purpose of this proposed change in the rules of the Senate is to pave the way for enactment of civil rights legislation.

The filibuster—the literal talking to death of a piece of legislation—seems a silly method for grown men to employ. It probably should be outlawed.

The complete lack of honesty on the part of its opponents, however, hardly qualifies them to call the kettle black.

In the first place, the rule either is good or bad, and should be retained or abolished on its merits. These senators and other filibuster opponents have become morally shocked, however, only when they found it standing in the way of their pet legislation. They want to change the rules in the middle of the game.

In the second place, the sponsors of civil rights legislation have given the public the impression that no civil rights legislation ever can be enacted so long as the filibuster is permitted. That is untrue. Civil rights legislation can be enacted any time enough senators want it. A two-thirds vote in the Senate always can shut off debate.

They also have created the impression that the filibuster is an evil invention of a few Southern senators opposing civil rights. That, too, is untrue. The filibuster has been an old device since the memory of man immemorial in the Senate. It has been used by minorities to block legislation by those minorities.

Finally, the idea has been repeated and reiterated that rule by minority is a basic tenet of democracy is right and proper on all subjects and all times, that a minority, a lone senator, has the right to dictate to any and all majorities on any and every subject in any and all times.

That, of course, would be something, really akin to mob rule.

And that, if it were correct, would make the men who wrote the Constitution of the United States look pretty stupid, for they very carefully fixed the limits of government, furthermore, they specified cases where a bare majority may not rule.

The Constitution expressly requires that a bare majority, but a two-thirds vote, pass a member of Congress.

It requires not a bare majority, but a two-thirds vote, to pass a piece of legislation over the President's veto.

It requires not a bare majority, but a two-thirds vote, to ratify treaties.

It requires not a bare majority, but a two-thirds vote, to remove a Federal Judge or a Federal official.

It requires not a bare majority, but a two-thirds vote, to impeach a Federal Judge or a Federal official.

It requires not a bare majority, but a two-thirds vote, to pass a bill of impeachment.

Success is not an accident, according to the man who has his work a little better than the other fellow. Irvin E. Bush