

DOLLAR CRISIS

It's Like Jack-Rocks

We're seeing a lot, these days, about the "dollar crisis". Most of us probably pass over those items without reading them, on the theory that the situation is too complicated for us to understand.

No doubt it is complicated. But, in its simplest terms, it seems to boil down to the fact that we've been sending more dollars overseas than we get back. If the trend should continue, the time would come when other nations had all the dollars and Uncle Sam had none.

It's a good deal like the old game of jack-rocks. When boys played that — in the days when boys did play so simple a game — if one boy consistently won the rocks, the time soon came when the other boy had none. When that happened, the game was over.

The same sort of thing is constantly happening, too, to the individual in this country. He can't buy the things he needs and wants without dollars; and he fights a constant — and sometimes, it seems, losing — battle to keep the other fellow from getting all his dollars.

Which suggests something the economists haven't exactly shouted from the housetops: Weakening the dollar at home, via inflation, can hardly be expected to help the situation. Yet inflation continues; the latest figures show the cost of living at an all-time high. By cheapening the dollar at home, as well as abroad, we're creating all sorts of domestic problems. And, generally speaking, it is these problems, rather than the basic one of inflation, that our government attacks.

Perhaps what really makes the situation hard to understand is that we've been spending more than we had, nationally and individually, so long, we'd come to believe we could get away with it indefinitely. Suddenly we find we can't — and we're puzzled to understand why.

Nothing New

Who says there's nothing new under the sun?

Here's something that was new — and a little flabbergasting — to us: In New York City, they have a school for — what do you suppose? A School for Santa Clauses. There elderly men take a regular course in how to play the role of Jolly Old Saint Nick, and the other day a class of Santa Clauses was "graduated".

Well, no wonder! In today's world, the kids spiel off so much scientific jargon it takes a liberal education for us to understand what our own are talking about; much less be able to answer their questions. The man who must be able to talk with and understand and answer the questions of hundreds every day surely must need a special course.

It won't surprise us, in fact, if, in a few years, there are **graduate** schools in how to be Santa Claus. One of these days, no doubt, there'll be a new educational degree, D. S. C. — Doctor of Santa Clausing.

Tar Heel Secretaries

When Luther H. Hodges next month becomes secretary of commerce in the Kennedy administration, it will be the first time in 40 years—with one brief exception—that North Carolina has been represented in a President's cabinet. The exception was Kenneth C. Royall, who served for a short time in 1947 as secretary of war.

Except for his brief tenure, the last Tar Heel to hold a cabinet post was Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy under President Wilson, 1913-1921. Mr. Daniels, incidentally, had the distinction of being the first man ever to head the navy department for two full four-year terms.

Governor Hodges will have the distinction, too, of being the first North Carolinian—again excepting Mr. Royall's brief service—to occupy

any cabinet post other than secretary of the navy.

By strange coincidence, all the others appointed from this state to a President's cabinet were named to the navy post. There were five of them:

James Branch (who served under President Jackson), George E. Badger (under Presidents William H. Harrison and Tyler), William A. Graham (under Fillmore), James C. Dobbin (under Pierce) and Daniels.

(Following merger of the three armed services under a single secretary of defense, Mr. Royall served as the first secretary of the army, but that is not a full cabinet post. Later Gordon Gray, another Tar Heel, held that sub-secretaryship.)

Nowadays everything gets smaller and smaller — except the price you pay for it.

But Reputation Suffers

(Arapa, Colo., News)

The fellow who laughs last may laugh best, but he gets the reputation of being pretty dumb.

The Gentle Quaker

(Jim Parker in Chatham News)

A gentle Quaker roused from sleep by a strange noise investigated and found a burglar at work. The Quaker went for his gun and returned to the room where the burglar was occupying himself with the family silver. He stood in the doorway and announced quietly, "Friend, I would do thee no harm for the world, but thee standest where I am about to shoot."

Sanford Faces Road Problem

(Greensboro Daily News)

Already speculation centers around governmental re-organization which may take place after Governor-elect Terry Sanford assumes command in Raleigh.

The incoming chief executive repeatedly declared that the highways, especially secondary roads, should be brought closer to the people. Expectation is that the commission's membership will be enlarged and that district commissioners will be given more of a say in their bailiwick than at present.

The problem here, as Governor-elect Sanford doubtless recognizes, is to maintain balance and perspective. Roads do mean much and do come mighty close to the people. They are so closely tied in with North Carolina life that they cannot be left in the hands of impersonal, professional engineers.

Yet highways are essentially an engineering assignment. The job will be to interpose understanding lay representation between the engineers and the people. But even beyond that there are delicate questions of balance. Interstate highways and heavy traffic areas press for attention in an expanded and modernized highway system which sees North Carolina whole and as a part of the national travel and defense pattern. There is no place for highway compartmentalization of North Carolina as under the old district czar system which ruled so long.

It is no easy task to bring roads closer to the people, in all their political implications, and at the same time to give engineering and state-wide and even interstate systems their places in the picture. On the horizon may well be a responsible enlarged commission and a clearer delineation of the duties of its members on a split-level basis of secondary and primary roads.

LETTERS

About Power Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Jones:

I have received the notice sent to all users of Nantahala Power and Light service advising of that company's petition to the North Carolina Utilities Commission for permission to make a general increase in all of its rates.

Even though some of the figures set forth in this notice are misleading, no one would object to an increase in rates if they can be proven to be necessary in order that the company earn a reasonable return on its plant investment.

However, the relationship between the Aluminum Company of America and the Nantahala Power and Light Company is the problem which must be investigated be-

PUZZLING PARALLEL

Why Do Christianity And Crime In U. S. Grow Simultaneously?

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
Associated Press Religion
Writer

Statistics are at an all-time high today for the two "C's"—Christianity and crime.

It's a puzzling parallel.

Measured numerically, both elements have risen simultaneously at a rate far faster than the relative growth in population, and totals last year hit new peaks—112 million church members and 1½ million serious crimes.

Why would the proportion of criminal behavior and religious affiliation both be on a sharp upcurve at the same time?

Church sources offer various clues to the puzzle, such as world tensions, greater mass concentration of people in cities, the higher rate of moving from place to place.

But they also wonder why the expanding scope of churches isn't providing a counterbalance.

claims to be it cannot escape from a tremendous sense of accountability in the light of the appalling comparative statistics," says the Seventh-day Adventist journal, the Review and Herald.

For over-all U. S. church membership, the increase has been 28 per cent since 1950, and 76 per cent since 1940. Crime, as reported by the FBI, has risen 69 per cent since 1950, and 128 per cent since 1940. Church membership now stands at 63.4 per cent of the population, 15 per cent more than 20 years ago.

Yet with a bigger share of people going to church, a bigger share also are courting a jail cell. Why the seemingly contradictory combination?

"Superficial religion," say some. "Inadequate religious education," say others. Or: "Overized institutions," "watered-down preaching," "secular influences," "television crime." And a host of other possibilities.

"As the nation's religious

scare the need for increased rates has been determined.

Furthermore, the proposed sale of the Nantahala Power and Light Company's distribution system to the Duke Power Company must be considered as a part of this request for a rate increase. Otherwise, why has the petition requesting approval for this sale been so long in being filed?

If one can refer to electric service as a commodity, there is no difficulty in finding many utility companies whose rates are much lower than they were many years ago.

I hope that the "more than 2,000 industrial and commercial customers and public service bodies" in the Nantahala Power and Light service area offer some form of constructive resistance to this combination RATE INCREASE-DUKE POWER deal.

Franklin.

LEE SKIPWITH

From Alaska

Editor, The Press:

The mail arrived by dog team on November 19, after a six weeks' spell without any. We, of course, received several copies of The Press, and were thrilled to be able to read up on everything, including the political scene.

Although I do agree with what Mr. Rollman had to say, in his letter in the November 3 issue commending The Press for its fairness in covering politics, I do not agree completely. For in the same issue I find jests and contemptuous language used, for the most part, against Republicans.

Now, I have no quarrel against publications with a Democratic slant immediately preceding elections, even though repeated favoritism toward one party or the other indicates a deeply rooted prejudice. In fact, I have no quarrel against prejudice, because to have such would mean that I have qualms with humanity itself. For certainly all men are either prejudiced for or against something. And they have every right to be.

But what seems most silly to me are those who help elect Mr. John Doe, then spend the following four years opposing moves he makes toward fulfilling the promises of his campaign and his platform. In other words, it seems silly to help elect a man then help make a hypocrite out of him.

Scammon Bay, Alaska,
Nov. 24, 1960.

WILFORD W. CORBIN

DO YOU REMEMBER?

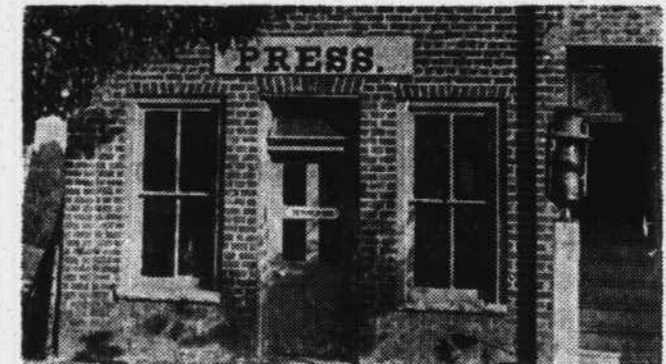
Looking Backward Through the Files of The Press

65 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
(1895)

Some people act as if their debts were like coffee, and would settle themselves in time by standing.

S. J. May, esq., was in town Monday and renewed his subscription to The Press.

There are a few individuals left about Franklin that



don't seem to know what to do with themselves these days.

We have been requested to announce that a meeting of citizens interested in the improvement of cattle stock will be held in the courthouse Saturday.

35 YEARS AGO
(1925)

A special election has been called in Highlands on the proposal to issue \$70,000 in bonds to build an electric power plant and to install a sewer system.

Friday afternoon the Iotla girls defeated the Sylva girls in a basketball game on the Iotla court.—Item from Iotla High School News.

15 YEARS AGO
(1945)

The \$80,000 Franklin bond issue for street, water, and sewer improvements was approved by a vote of about 4 to 1 in Tuesday's special election.

Three to four inches of snow fell here Thursday morning, the first of the winter for Franklin.

5 YEARS AGO
(1955)

Holly Springs last Saturday was announced as the winner of the 1955 W. N. C. Rural Community Development Contest. The 63-family Holly Springs community pioneered the development program in this county in 1952.



STRICTLY
PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

"I haven't got time."
How often, every day in the week, do you and I say that! We complain about it, as though somebody had cheated us of time.

Yet each of us has exactly the same amount of time as all the rest of us. Each of us, in fact, has all the time there is.

And time is a strange thing. It is constantly flowing past, constantly being exhausted, whether we use it or not. But it never really is exhausted; when today's time is all gone, there's always tomorrow's waiting for us. Time really runs out only when life does.

Why do we never have enough time? And why does that seem truer today than ever before, when today we have more and ever more time-saving devices?

In my own case—and I'm probably little different from others, in this — I've found there are two culprits—and both of 'em are me.

First of all, I spend a lot of time doing things that don't need doing, or more time doing them than there's any necessity for, or really doing nothing. Up town on an errand, for instance, I'll decide I'll soon be time for the mail to be up, so I spend half an hour waiting for that. Or I idly glance at the newspaper, looking at everything in general and nothing in particular. Or I spend five minutes, ten minutes, twenty minutes, deciding what to do with the time I have on my hands.

Even worse, I spend three or four or five times as much time on a dreaded chore than there's any need for. Because it's something I don't want to do, I postpone actually starting just as long as I can. Then I study it carefully, debating which is the easiest way to start. Then I make elaborate preparations; if it's a writing chore, I change the ribbon on my typewriter and get my desk in order and glance over the newspaper for ideas and wonder if there's not some other job that I ought to do first. When my conscience answers that last with an emphatic "no," I sit and look at the blank sheet of paper in my typewriter a long, long time before I put down the first word.

Are you like that?
Finally, I make a start. What happens then? I finish the job in a half or a third of the time I've spent dreading it and try-

ing to find ways to avoid it and getting ready to do it.

The tragedy of all this is twofold.

The first part of the tragedy is that, while time is, in a sense, inexhaustible, it also is limited. We have all there is, but there's only so much. It's much too precious a commodity to be frittered away.

The second part of the tragedy is that most of us spend our lives doing not the things we want to do, but, because we're always pushed for time, being driven to do the things we don't want to do. And since we never seem to get time to do things when we first have the impulse to do them, and so want to do them, even the things we originally wanted to do have become hated drudgery by the time we get around to them.

Yet surely time is something to be enjoyed. We are given so much of it so there'll be plenty for us to do all the things we want to do—or, at least, most of them. If we used time wisely, life could be a continuing series of pleasant experiences.

It's the very fact that time seems to be pushing us, seems to be running away from us, that makes time such a slave-driver. The answer, then, is to forget time.

If you don't agree, with that, consider the fellow about whom we say, a little tolerantly, "he has no sense of time." He's never hurried. If there's something that needs doing or that he wants to do, he stops and does it, right then, no matter what else may be waiting to be done. It never occurs to him to ask himself: "Have I got time?" So far as he's concerned, watches and clocks, and even appointments, just don't exist.

So what happens? You know what happens! He gets more done than the rest of us. Moreover, he seems to have a lot more fun spending his time than you and I.

He's oblivious of time. Paradoxically, that gives him more of it.

When I think of a fellow like that, I say to myself:

"He's got the answer: Just forget about time. Hereafter, I'm going to do just that."

I say that. Then I look at my watch, note with alarm that "I'm running late again," and complain, "I never seem to have enough time."

BORN INTO 'EM

Why We Belong To Parties

JIM PARKER in Chatham News

What makes a man a Democrat, or a Republican? Do people who take their politics seriously join a particular party after a long and diligent study of the history, philosophy and creed of the parties?

Some folks might, but the average man doesn't. He's a Republican because his Daddy was before him or a Democrat because his folks have always been Democrats.

In Chatham and Randolph counties there are any number of people who are descendants of the original Quakers who settled these parts. Almost all, if not all, the Quakers were Republicans, mostly because of

the slavery question. And their descendants today are still Republicans, even though the slavery question was settled a hundred years ago.

This is not to say that people all belong to the political party of their fathers, or that no one thinks about the issues involved when he affiliates with a party. Some people consider the matter very carefully and then choose the party which best suits them. But far too many of us are what we are merely because of what our fathers were.

Down East where I was raised most folks are Democrats, just as were their fathers. And the reason that their fathers were in the Democratic party is because the Republican party, after the Civil War, got into the hands of carpetbaggers and Negroes, with some counties even sending Negroes to the legislature. When the Republican rule was overthrown in the late 1800's, many of these folks remained in the Democratic party and their children and grandchildren are there today.

Both At All-Time High

crime on radio and television have affected the general populace, particularly the young, more than churches can counteract.

"More people are reached by these and other avenues of carnality and sin than by the 225,000 Protestant preachers in this country in any one week," an editorial says.

On the other hand, it also is suggested that a certain surface piety can make people worse in some ways; instead of better.

"There is not only the fact that every sin of the world creeps into the church, but there is also the fact that religion itself can accentuate sin," says the Rev. Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of Union Theological Seminary.

"There is nothing worse than a religious-sanctioned racialism or nationalism which presents itself piously in the name of God. Piety makes for complacency unless there is a real contact between God the judge and the human soul."

TSK! TSK! WHAT'RE WE COMING TO?

One of the year's most unusual fashion events—a men's fashion show—was heralded as an overwhelming success Friday by Menlo Park clothier Jerry Jacobs.

Over 260 guests attended the show at the Marie Antoinette, featuring the latest in men's wear. Door prizes were awarded to many of those attending. Refreshments were served by the Party Givers.

"We were told by some skeptics that a men's fashion show would flop," Jacobs said, "but judging by the attendance and comments this show was a complete success."—Menlo Park (Calif.) Recorder.