

Raleigh, N. C. — All the fuss about the unbuilt Agriculture Building annex has turned up some interesting items.

It all started about two weeks ago when bids were opened on the annex, and found to be \$187,000 more than the available cash -- some \$1,000,000 appropriated for the purpose by the 1946 legislature.

That brought an explosion from Agriculture Commissioner L. Y. "Stag" Ballentine. Stag was quoted as accusing the Governor, the Board of Building and Grounds and others of sidetracking the Ag Building Annex for the Highway Building -- now being constructed.

And everybody concerned has denied any connection with such a move. In fact, they say nothing of the sort happened.

More than 8 months ago, Governor Scott warned all department heads, members of the Board of Building and Grounds, and others who had anything to do with the state building program that they had better get a move on. He said prices were not likely to get better, and "some of you are going to get caught with your pants down if you keep on waiting around."

Some of the officials were of the opinion they should wait for better prices, so they could get more for their money.

Then came the Korean war, and along with it scarce materials and steadily increasing prices. The outcome has been that many departments find the money appropriated is not enough to cover the planned buildings.

Ballentine says responsibility for erecting the Ag Annex is not his. And, according to the law, it is up to the Board of Buildings and Grounds to see that the building is erected.

Dr. Henry Jordan, highway commission chairman, was responsible for the highway building. He did not wait around, but kept the wires hot and heckled architects and engineers until his plans were ready. He then pushed it through until contracts were let, and work started. Consequently, the highway building will be done with the appropriated funds.

The story behind all the furore seems to be this:

The same engineering firm had the contract for the Ag Annex, the new Health Building and three buildings in Durham. Ag Annex plans -- calling for a five story building -- were ready before the highway building contract was let. But the Board of Buildings and Grounds decided that they had enough money to add another floor or two and sent the plans back for this revision.

The Board claims this should have taken very little trouble, just a repeat on lower floors.

Meantime, the story goes, Doctor Jordan got hold of this same firm and told them to do the plans for the Highway Building, if they would do it immediately and give it full priority. The company agreed, with capitol hill sources saying that the company felt it al-

ready had the other contracts in the bag and could go ahead and grab this quick money.

The company says it had an adequate staff to do all of the jobs simultaneously. Other folks say they think giving the highway building priority slowed down the planning for the other buildings.

If this is so, then the fault lies with the Board of Buildings and Grounds for letting the company get away with such a move. They could have insisted on -- and watched to see that it was done -- the company giving priority, if any was to be given, to the buildings for which they already had contracted.

Ballentine admits that he had not pushed for the building. He said it was not up to him to do so, that it was the responsibility of the Board of Buildings and Grounds to do so.

The Governor denies categorically that he had anything to do with the delay. He says he has not opened his mouth to anyone connected with the building program in an effort to get any building put in front of another. It is a matter of record that he has consistently urged all to do everything they could to speed up their own buildings.

Meanwhile, the Ag Annex still is just a bundle of plans. The Board of Buildings and Grounds voted the other day to ask the legislature to add the extra \$187,000 needed plus a sliding scale to take care of any increase in prices. It also asked contractors to add 45 days to the normal 30-day period for acceptance of bids.

According to the statutes, the Council of State can take enough money from the contingency and emergency funds to finish a building -- if the council decides it is an emergency. Whether this can be interpreted to mean that C&E funds could be used to add the money needed for the building has not been decided. And the Council of State has not been asked to determine whether or not an "emergency" exists in Agriculture Building office space.

The general opinion around Capitol Hill is that plans would have been ready and the contract for the Ag Annex let some time ago if Ballentine had pushed the matter. They admit the legal and technical responsibility belongs to the Board of Buildings and Grounds but think the agriculture commissioner could have exerted considerable influence had he tried.

One member of the Buildings and Grounds said that Ballentine "has never opened his mouth to me -- or at any board session -- about the new annex."

State Treasurer Brandon Hodges has come up with a novel excuse for the \$32,500,000 general fund bond issue not getting a lower interest rate than the 1.41 1/4% they did last week.

He blames it on the telephone strike across the nation -- says members of the buying syndicate could not get in touch with each other for last minute conferences.

That's hogwash, and Hodges should know it.

A representative of one of the firms in the purchasing syndicate pointed out that all of the firms are connected through their own teletype machines, and could confer right up to the deadline of the bond-bid opening.

Real truth of the matter is that the bonds sold for a pretty good interest rate. What kept it from being lower is the "A" rating of the State as to general fund bonds, plus the anticipation of a greatly increased State budget for the next two years.

Capitol Hill forecasters proved themselves right on one count for the general election. They had predicted Willis Smith would either be low or next to low vote-getter on the Democratic ticket. He was low man on the regular ballot -- but was saved from being low Democrat by the fact that Jeff Johnson, Clinton lawyer who was named Supreme Court Justice nominee at

**Cheerful Giver**  
Lesson for November 26, 1950

TAKE a good look at a piece of money. Let it be in any form at all; "hard money," "folding money," a check, a money order, scrip,—anything you can shove across a counter and buy something with. Let us say it is your own money, and that you earned it yourself. Just take a look at that piece of Dr. Foreman of cash. Do you recognize it? You should; for it is nothing less than a piece of your own life.

**Money is Life**  
You got rid of something quite valuable to get hold of that piece of money. Time, certainly; you are poorer than you were 24 hours ago, poorer in time, for you have 24 hours less to live than you had then. But you are richer in money, for you did not have this money for then, if it is the return for your work during that time. You lost time but you gained money; in other words the money represents time, which in turn spells life.

Look at it in another way: You put out a certain amount of energy for this bit of money. You plowed a field or you raised some chickens or you laid some pipe or you taught some children or you sold a bill of goods. Whatever you did to earn the money, it tired you a bit. You put out the work, — and the money came back to you. Money is time, money is energy. Furthermore, money is knowledge.

Why is a skilled workman paid more than an unskilled one? Not because he works harder or sweats more. He is paid more because his work is better, and his work is better because he knows more. Now, what would life be without time, energy or knowledge? Not much! So if a robber ever says to you: "Your money or your life!" you would be quite correct (even if untruthful) if you said, "My dear fellow, you repeat yourself; money is life!"

**Life Comes from God**  
AMONG the many differences between a Christian and a non-Christian is this: the Christian knows too much to say, "My life is my own, to do with as I please." Consider those three elements of life: time, energy, knowledge. Time itself is certainly God's gift, the Creator's gift. None of us can make a moment of it. We can accept it, use it; or we can waste it; but it was given us in either case.

Energy cannot be created by you or me. Each of us has a certain (and a different) amount; we inherit it, we are endowed with it; but only God in the long run is the source of energy. To make a long story short, life is God's gift, not our creation. It is a blank page on which we write, an empty field in which we can sow as we will. But though the writing and the sowing are our own, the page and the field are God's. So the Christian recognizes this as the central fact of his life: I belong to God.

Now if that is true it is also true that our money is also, just as much as life itself, ours only as a trust from God.

**Stewardship**  
"STEWARDSHIP" is the word which recognizes God's right in our lives; it is the word which describes the principle of life for those who honor God as source of all they are and have. When the proverb-writer says, "Honor God with thy substance," he has just said, "In all thy ways acknowledge him." No man is likely to do what is right with his money who habitually does wrong with his life. No man is going to admit his partnership with God in money matters who does not confess God to be the Lord of all his life.

Now there are two principles brought out in our Scripture about stewardship of money in particular. One is this: God looks on what we have, not on what we haven't. A widow who gives one tiny coin, if that is all she has, is more generous than a millionaire who has just given half a million to Charity. Second is the principle of willingness. The Lord loves a cheerful giver, sour givers, regretful givers, stingy givers, no. But the Lord does love the man who gives with a smile.

It isn't how much you give, it isn't the fact that you give, it's HOW you give. Is your heart generous in the first place?

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the last minute, get lower votes. So-called political experts say that Johnson would have gotten more votes, and probably would have topped Smith, if his name had not

What a lot of folks do not know is that a prisoner may be paroled at any time. He does not have to serve a certain time. If the Governor is so inclined, he may parole a prisoner the first day after he starts his sentence.

Paroles Commissioner Dr. T. C. Johnson says this causes a lot of confusion. The law requires that a man be considered for parole after he has served one-fourth of his time. That is to say, each prisoner's case must be reviewed as to his eligibility for parole after he has served one-fourth of his sentence.

This does not mean, Johnson said, that he must serve one-fourth of his sentence before he can be paroled.

Each case must be considered individually, he said, because the circumstances in every case is different. You cannot set hard and fast rules in dealing with paroles. He says, too, that it's almost impossible to keep politics out of the paroles system.

"It's hard, because you're dealing with human beings," he said. "And it's only natural that you would listen more carefully to a friend who's pleading a prisoner's case than you would to a political enemy."

Some folks think that Dr. Johnson has tried to keep politics out, though. But, they say, he's leaned over so far backward trying to keep from showing partiality to political friends, that he's doing just the opposite.

Tidewater Power Company will hold a stockholders meeting Nov. 27 at Wilmington to authorize new financing -- approved by the State Utilities Commission.

But President Warren W. Bell has sent out a letter asking authority to issue preferred stock.

One member of the Utilities Commission said the Commission's approval was for common stock, and that he is of the opinion that an attempt by Tidewater to issue preferred stock would not only be illegal, but also would nullify the recent commission order granting Tidewater a rate increase.

Anyway, it should be interesting to watch.

North Carolina's two senators -- Clyde Hoey and Willis Smith, both Democrats -- are expected to go along with the administration's foreign policy in general. But both of the conservative gentlemen are expected to oppose any "Fair Deal" domestic legislation.

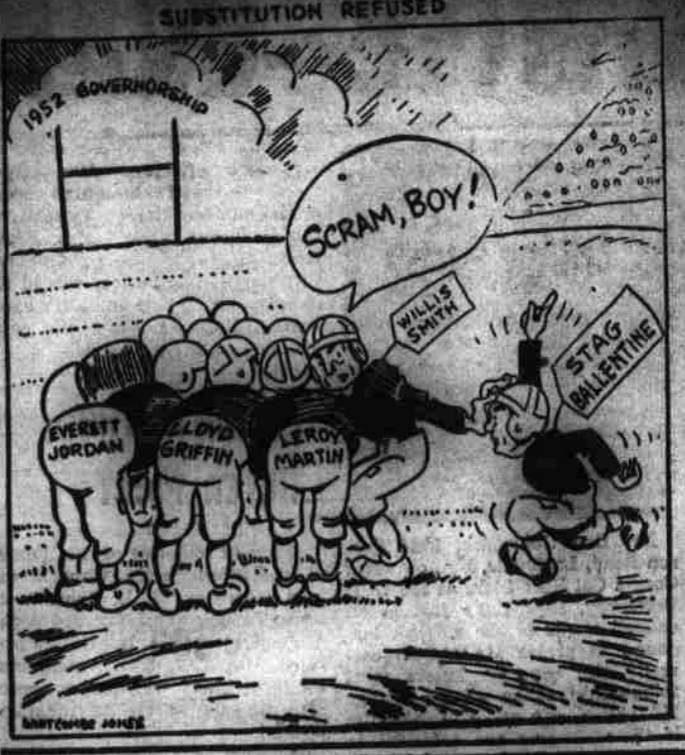
Here's an interesting note from the Nov. 6 issue of Newsweek: "A serious power shortage is developing," the magazine states. "It will get worse before it gets better. Three months ago power output seemed adequate for whatever lay ahead; now both industry and government agree that capacity must be expanded."

That doesn't sound like the song being sung by Louis Sutton, CP&L president and head of the Edison Institute -- power research and public relations organization.

Incidentally, a check with Washington and New York financial sources indicate a division in thinking among the power boys. These sources say he no longer speaks for the entire industry, as some of the big power men have changed their opinions as to a power shortage.

State Personnel Director Henry Hilton, who last week resigned his \$9,000-a-year State job, had confided to friends some time ago that he expected to be "the most hated man in Raleigh within two years."

His job was a tough one, and one he did well. When you classify jobs and cut some salaries while



raising others you are bound to make folks mad -- particularly those whose pay was slashed.

But Hilton, in keeping with the platform of his boss, Governor Scott, did the job. He set up the job classification study; put in the five-day work week; and set up a program of pay increments, which brought a well-done from Scott: "The achievements of the Personnel Department since its origin under his direction have been outstanding" the Governor said.

**Has It Been So Long Ago?**

This week a Times reader brought in a poem that appeared in the Times in 1945 with the request that we publish it again. He said he was showing a clipping of it to some of the younger folks in Warsaw last week and they wanted to know if there ever really was such a thing as a "pot." Does it seem hardly possible that modern conveniences have become so universal that young folks today don't even remember when they won't?

The author of this poem is unknown but to us it smells of James Whitcombe Riley.

**"The Passing of The Pot"**  
As far back in childhood  
As memory seems to go  
One household vessel greets me  
That had never meant for show.

Beneath the bed 'twas anchored  
Where only few could see  
But served the entire family  
With equal privacy.

Some called the critter "Peggy"  
And some the "Thunderbug"  
And others called it "Badger"  
A few just called it "Jug."

To bring it in each evening  
Was had enough, no doubt,  
But heaven help the person  
Who had to tote it out.

Our big one was enormous,  
And would accommodate  
A watermelon party  
Composed of six or eight.

When nights were dark and rainy  
It was a useful urn;  
On icy winter mornings  
Te cold rim seemed to burn.

At times when things were rushing  
And business extra good,  
Each took his turn awaiting  
Or did the best he could.

Sometimes when in a hurry  
To our disgust and shame,  
We fumbled in the darkness  
And slightly missed our aim.

The special one for company  
Was decorated well,  
But just the same it rendered  
That old familiar smell.

Today this modernism  
Relieves me just a lot,  
And only in my vision  
I see that homely pot.

Anonymous.

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**Memorandum**  
from  
Washington  
Bernard A. Goodkind

**FARM WORKERS:** Usual downturn in farm employment started later late harvest at end of October. But for hundreds of thousands of farm laborers, coming months will be different from last year's. Larger percentages of these farm workers will go into industrial employment, where wages are tops. In farming communities today, great fear is that too many of them will remain in the factories. At moment, for instance, aircraft industry is in throes of terrific expansion. Plants are now opening their doors to tens of thousands of unskilled workers.

**IT ADDS UP TO THIS:** In October, total labor force in U.S. was 65,438,000. It was composed of:  
Armed forces ----- 1,734,900  
Agricultural ----- 8,491,000  
Non-agricultural ----- 53,273,000  
Unemployed (lowest since 1944) ----- 1,940,000  
Total ----- 65,438,000

**DEFENSE COMES FIRST:** This is how National Production Authority (NPA) makes available supplies go around. Take steel for example. Certain agencies of the government (Dept. of Defense, Atomic Energy Commission, National Advisory Council for Aeronautics and U.S. Coast Guard) now have right to issue "defense orders" (known as "d.o.s."). With a "d.o." in hand, these agencies or a contractor doing a job for one of them can go to a steel mill and get orders filled ahead of other customers. NPA has also ordered the mills to set aside certain parts of their production for "defense supporting programs," such as freight car construction. Further, in order to prevent mad bidding for whatever steel is not taken up in defense production, NPA has just issued an order requiring mills to furnish warehouses

their unused percentage share, applied to their remaining steel. This is important because warehouses normally supply small customers. The warehouse, in turn, is expected not to show favoritism among its regular customers.

**POTS, PANS and SUBSTITUTES:** Last week's order of NPA cutting civilian use of aluminum by 35% after January 1st, was even more drastic than expected. It's going to put us back a long way toward where we used to be when aluminum for a number of consumer durable goods, electrical appliances and motor vehicles just couldn't be had. Housewives will find aluminum articles harder to get. They will be more expensive, too.

**TWO-HEADED UNCLE SAM:** Attorney General J. Howard McGrath revealed last week how two gov't agencies can go different directions at same time. After Elmer Henderson, a Negro, had lost his suit in a three-judge district court to set aside an order of Interstate Commerce Commission which upheld a railroad's regulation directing racial segregation on dining cars, he appealed to U.S. Supreme Court. Interstate Commerce Commission prepared a motion to dismiss the Henderson appeal but here U. S. Solicitor General (Justice Dept.) stepped in. He notified Chief Counsel of Commission not only that he would not join the motion, but would actively oppose it. Result: ICC did not file motion. Justice Dept. argued against Commission's order in the Supreme Court. Henderson won.

**SCRAMBLED:** Two weeks ago, Army announced system under which Reserves would be given credit for previous years of service, combat awards, overseas duty, dependents, etc., and that those with most credits would be called last. Army now acknowledges it isn't sticking to this system. Says change for worse in Korea has thrown it off track.

**MATTAMUSKEET GOOD SEASON EXPECTED AT LAKE**  
The blinds are ready, the hunters are ready, and it looks as if the geese will be ready. All of which adds up to good prospects for the opening of the 1950-51 water fowl season at Lake Mattamuskeet at noon on November 27.

With only a few days remaining, an estimated 50,000 Canada geese already have established themselves at 50,000 acre Mattamuskeet, one of the world's best-known waterfowl gunning spots.

The news about ducks is good, too. The estimate on them is 18,000, which is more than last year at this time. Most of them are mallards, with a large number of mallards also are some wigwags, mallards, and black ducks. More are expected by opening day.

**NOVEMBER**  
26--Merrill sent to Rome  
27--Army War College established, 1901.  
28--Toll ship sunk Boston harbor, 1773.  
29--Birthday of Wendell Phillips, Louis May Alton.  
30--Birthday of John Bunyan, Jonathan Swift, Mark Twain.

**WEEK SUMMARY**  
1--First treasurer paid, 1855.  
2--Death of Hernando Cortez, San Pedro II, John Brown.

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