

# Editorial and Opinion

## In Which We Go Backward

In 1941 the Legislature of North Carolina became the first governmental body in the world to go on record as favoring a plan of world government. This resolution called for the United States to take the lead in organizing world government based on law, courts and punishment. In theory, wars would be impossible.

Since World War II, the plan has been approved by 21 states and three foreign countries. Great thinkers and leaders all over the world have stated that in their opinion, world government or world federation is the only answer to peace.

Now 10 years later members of the VFW and the DAR are leading a fight in the state capitol to repeal this resolution. Their principal objection being, "It has Communist tendencies."

Here is a movement devoted to one thing, a peaceful world. Here is another movement designed to tear down. Regardless of what the Legislature of North Carolina does on this matter, following World War III, the world, if there is a world will turn to a world community, based on the same principles on which our own Country is founded.

The Tar Heel State has an excellent opportunity to be recorded in the history books as being the first body of government in history to approve the principles of a United Countries of the World. It will be a shame if our state, giving way to the votes of a few minority pressure groups, rescinds its act of courage ten years ago.

## Inflation Menace

Inflation is the most immediate and serious menace confronting our country. If not blocked, it will impair the assets of every bank, insurance company, the bank deposits and dollar securities of every business, harming employees, stockholders and citizens in all walks.

Between 1941 and 1950, World War II inflation cut in half the purchasing power of our dollar. If by overspending and deficit financing we now permit further inflation, our 1941-1950 dollar may be worth only 25c or less by 1960. This would again harm most seriously those thrifty individuals whose savings have largely supplied the better tools and technology \$6000 per worker upon which our high scale of living rests.

Such inflation would again cut in two the value of bank deposits and dollar securities of all business enterprises. It would automatically, without change of our tax laws, increase the tax rates of lower income groups by 40 or 50%.

Lenin said in substance, "We will destroy the free market system of capitalism by printing so many bonds and so much money that the capitalists will choke on them." If we want to preserve constitutional liberty and economic freedom, we must fight now against further inflation as we would to stop a pestilence.

What is needed is education at the grassroots level so that citizens knowing the facts will demand of their representatives in Washington sound financial policies. Prices fixing, rationing, bureaucratic controls - all are the products of inflationary price rises. They can be made unnecessary and maximum production preserved if we balance the budget and pay as we go. No war can be fought with tomorrow's guns and airplanes. Only today's production and the accumulation of yesterday can be used to fight a war. The sacrifice of goods and wealth must be made currently as we apply this current production to defense and war purposes. If we tax into the Federal Treasury a corresponding portion of current purchasing power, we limit the demand for civilian goods and enable the government to pay as we go, balance the budget and avoid inflation.

But, as a first step, we must cut out of the Federal budget, as demanded by Senator Harry F. Byrd, \$7 billions of non-defense and partly wasteful Federal expenditures. Menaced by communism, our defense misuse of taxpayers' money to buy with handouts from the Federal Treasury, the votes of selfish minority pressure groups.

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EDWIN J. HAMLIN, Editor and Publisher

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## Charity And High Hospital Costs

From The Winston-Salem Journal  
The average daily per patient hospital care cost for 1951 and 1952 has been estimated by the North Carolina Hospital Association at \$13.

The rate of \$13 a day for hospital care runs quickly into money. It evokes from people of modest income the protest that hospital and medical costs are altogether too high, and seemingly brings nearer to American private medicine the ominous shadow of "State medicine."

But one of the principal reasons why hospital costs to the patient are so high now, association spokesmen say, is the heavy and constantly increasing load of cha-cha constantly increasing load of cha-cha constantly increasing load of cha-cha must carry.

The hospitals, while they get some help from the Duke Endowment, the North Carolina Medical Care Commissions and the Kate Biting Reynolds Foundation, and some financial assistance from cities and counties in handling charity cases, do not presently obtain anything in the neighborhood of enough funds from these sources to meet all the expense of hospitalizing charity cases, the total costs for which exceed \$1,800,000 a year.

So the paying patient must be charged more in order for the hospitals to provide adequate care for charity patients and at the same time remain solvent and able to remain in operation. The enormity of the problem is indicated in the fact that while the Duke Endowment now pays the hospitals \$1 per indigent patient day, and the Medical Care Commission provides \$1 a day as long as its \$300,000 annual appropriation lasts, funds from these two sources provide only two-thirteenths of the total costs for the care of charity patients.

This is one of the major problems to be solved in North Carolina and American medicine if we are to retain our free system of medical care. The hospitals are seeking a larger appropriation of State funds to meet this charity patient expense and prevent further rises in the cost of hospital care to paying patients.

Evidently, if this "line" isn't held, either through State and local public fund assistance, or otherwise, not only the hospitals but the whole system of private medicine and the health of the North Carolina public will suffer serious hurt.

## Scholastic Frat Initiates Four From County

Chapel Hill — Four University of North Carolina freshmen from Chapel Hill were among 82 students initiated Tuesday night into Phi Eta Sigma, national scholarship fraternity for freshmen only, at ceremonies in the Dialectic Senate Hill.

Local students taken into the organization, which accepts members only if they make A (95-100) on at least half of their courses and no less than a B on the other half, are: Donald C. Carroll, Nathaniel L. Sparrow, John A. Sullivan and Richard B. Wilson.

At the ceremonies Tuesday night, John L. Hazlehurst, III, Henderson, president of the fraternity, presided. Dean Ernest L. Mackie is the faculty advisor.

American farmers were using 410,000 mechanical corn pickers in 1950, compared to 120,000 in use in 1941.

WE HAVE THE KEY — LET'S USE IT

DOORWAY TO UNDERSTANDING, HARMONY, PEACE AND SECURITY

BROTHERHOOD IN PRACTICE

## Legislative Summary

NOTE: This is another of a series of weekly summaries of the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1951. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.

March 1 marked the opening of the third calendar month and the 48th work day for the 1951 General Assembly. The 769 bills introduced by that time included most of the major proposals anticipated. Standing committees have acted on about 45% of the bills, and floor action has kept pace with committee reports. The point appropriations and finance committees, twin barometers of legislative progress, show signs of being ready to draft their substitutes for the Advisory Budget Commission's bills dealing with spending and raising money. The question on which there is most disagreement is whether the decision to spend the appropriations bill to a subcommittee will lengthen or shorten debate on spending; the answer to this question will determine when the legislature will adjourn.

### Appropriations

The joint appropriations committee this week made final plans for getting down to the job of determining who gets how much. In a surprise move an 18-man subcommittee was appointed to make the final study of the appropriations bill. This unusual action followed a public statement by the chairman vice chairmen of the House and Senate committees suggesting that some of the Advisory Budget Commission's recommendations can be exceeded without levying additional taxes. Stating that an increase in state revenues seems evident, the committee heads went on record as favoring a \$2200-\$3100 pay scale for teachers, additional funds for school buses, maintaining the present teacher load, and an upward revision of state employees' salaries. Not as optimistic, however, the assistant director of the budget has questioned the wisdom of increased spending without providing additional revenue sources. Following the recommendation of its permanent improvements subcommittee, the joint committee voted to recommend that \$150,000 previously allocated to the State Fund revert to the general fund, but delayed action on \$794,940 appropriated for state parks until another subcommittee can determine whether the funds have been frozen by federal regulations. Action on the 1948 \$1 million appropriation for a state art gallery

was postponed until the subcommittee considering the whole budget brings in its report.

### Propositions and Grievances

The time-honored House committee bearing this name on Thursday gave HB 186, which would submit to the people an all-or-nothing referendum on liquor, beer, and wine, an unfavorable report by an unannounced vote. A long-shot attempt by proponents to take the bill from the

(Continued to Page 3)

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## CAPITAL REPORTER

Scott Summers

Raleigh — One of the most interesting questions before the Legislature is one that now is in the hands of the Joint Finance Committee. And that is: Is farm machinery manufacturing equipment?

Farm machinery now comes under the three percent sales tax. Manufacturing equipment, such as textile machinery, goes not, but is charged the wholesale tax of one-twentieth of one percent.

Rep. B. I. Satterfield of Person and Rep. John Umstead of Orange last week sponsored amendments raising the wholesale tax. Satterfield's would boost it to one-tenth of one percent, while Umstead's would raise it to one-fifth of one percent. Both would classify farm machinery as "manufacturing equipment", and shift it from the three percent tax bracket to the lesser wholesale tax charge.

If the General Assembly follows its general attitude of "no new taxes" the proposed raises in the wholesale tax will be defeated.

But there is a strong possibility that the agricultural counties' representatives will rally behind the proposal to shift farm machinery into the lower tax bracket.

Rep. Satterfield claims that farm machinery is used in the manufacture of food" and is just limit.

Textile machinery manufactures what goes on the outside of a person," he says, "while farm machinery is used to manufacture the food that goes on the inside of that same person. And this is just as important, if not more so, than the manufacture of textiles."

He has a good arguing point, but you can bet that he will find

opposition from the textile industry and the urban centers, who more than likely will label the proposed amendments as "just another grab by the farmers."

If this reclassification of farm machinery can be effected, with it being placed in the lower tax bracket, the action would have a direct effect on another proposed revenue act amendment. This is the one sponsored by Umstead, Rep. Tom Allen of Granville and Rep. Alonzo Edwards of Greensboro—to raise the sales tax limit on sale of a single article from \$15 to \$30.

Much of the opposition to such a boost comes from the farmers, who don't relish paying higher taxes on their farm machinery and equipment. If this change to manufacturing equipment and the lower wholesale tax goes through, however, it would automatically eliminate that opposition.

Thus, by passage of either the Satterfield or Umstead amendment, the Joint Finance Committee would wipe out a big part of the opposition to raising the sales tax limit.

This would eliminate a valuable ally of the N. C. Automobile Dealers Association and the N. C. Merchants Association in their fight against boosting the sales tax limit.

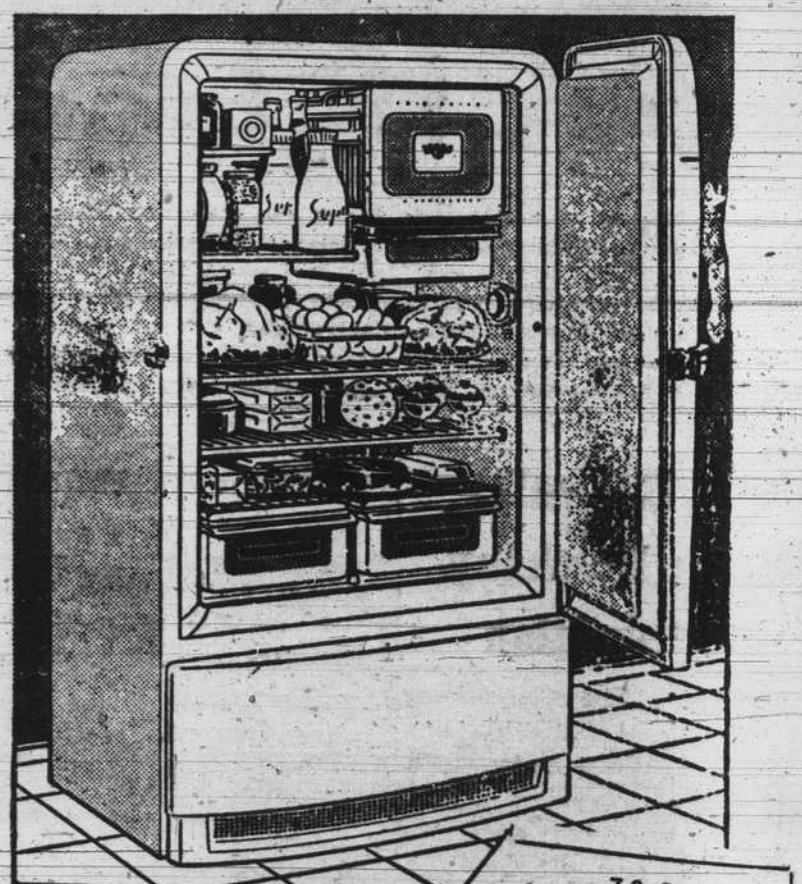
The battle last week between the par and non-par banks, won by the latter, had some interesting sidelights.

First, perhaps, a definition of par and non-par is in order. A par bank is one that cashes a check at face value. A non-par bank is one that makes a small charge for cashing the check.

(Continued on Page 8)

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