

Editorial And Opinion

Coin-Flipping Justice

We think you will agree that a judge's verdict should not hinge on the flip of a coin, whether the decision is on a traffic violation or a man's life. The whole principle of justice would seem to indicate the truth of this premise.

Yet news stories emanating from Clayton recently told of a judge there flipping a coin to determine whether a defendant acquaintance would pay a fine or go free. According to the story, the judge declared: "Heads up the defendant goes free, heads down and he loses." Heads was up and the defendant went free. The story continued that the judge explained that he did not want to place himself in the position of deciding whether the defendant or the arresting officer had given incorrect statement about the incident.

The solicitor of the court is reported to have admonished the judge: "Keep your coin—everyone else will want the same consideration." He was right. Every guilty man who gets into that court in the future would be within his rights to demand that his case be decided on the basis of a flip of a coin.

Needless to say, in our opinion, the Clayton judge has outlived his usefulness as a judge, if he ever had any. If a man does not want to be in the position of deciding whose testimony to believe he certainly has no business trying to run a court, for that is the chief business of a court.

We are glad the judges who serve in Orange County are not of his ilk. Our courts are on a more enlightened plane and conducted in accordance with the more accepted principles of justice.

As another weekly editor has already written, you might wonder why this incident at Clayton should concern us. It doesn't, insofar as the application to Clayton itself is concerned. It is the citizens there want that sort of justice, we'll not complain. But, such doings are a reflection on North Carolina of which this county and this newspaper are a part. A Clayton judge should render verdicts on the basis of North Carolina law just like a judge in Orange or Alamance or any other county. But, our people who might be brought before the Clayton courts of justice in the future would certainly like to feel they will not be subjected to coin-flipping justice.

The Candidates' Meeting

The Chapel Hill League of Women Voters, the Negro Cooperative committee in Hillsboro, and the Carrboro PTA are performing valuable public service in sponsoring open and public meetings to which all candidates are invited for the purpose of stating their stands of various issues and answering questions from the electorate.

The public is entitled to hear first hand from the candidates their views on government or other issues of the day which might affect their performance of duty. Too often people are elected without the people ever knowing what they stand for or what they have done in the past on crucial issues.

This should never happen. The candidates themselves should welcome the opportunities which these forums give them to express their views on government. Often candidates take the position that audiences of voters should lay off certain issues which might embarrass them. This attitude we cannot condone. Such meetings are definitely in the public interest when fairly conducted and should be welcomed by all who have the public interest at heart. For the conscientious voter seeking the candidates for whom he should cast his ballot, these meetings are revealing indeed. We commend them heartily, and the people who have put them on.

Let's Quit Cheating Ourselves

Apparently, the only thing wrong with our roads and highways is that we've been paying for good ones and haven't been getting them.

This is no reflection on our highway departments or legislatures. On the contrary, the fault lies with us voters.

For an explanation of this seeming paradox we refer you to Albert Bradley, executive vice president of General Motors and chairman of the National Highway Users' Conference. Speaking recently before the Fifth Highway Transportation Congress in Washington, he said:

"We are already paying for good highways we don't have. It is estimated that the modern freeway (over which traffic flows steadily without being halted at intervals for cross-traffic) saves its users four cents a mile in lower operating costs, reduced travel time and fewer accidents.

"Not all highways can be freeways, but studies indicate that our present highway inadequacies represent a total out-of-pocket cost of at least three billion dollars a year."

The fact that inadequate highways are costly to all of us, in terms of lost time and wasted gas—to say nothing of bent fenders and frazzled nerves—is easy enough to understand. But it is only possible to comprehend an economic loss of three billions from these causes when we realize, as Mr. Bradley pointed out, that we now have 55 million vehicles on the road for an average of two hours every day in the year . . . and this adds up to 550 billion miles of travel!

Mr. Bradley also told the Congress that we are not allotting as much of our national product to highways as we did sixteen years ago . . . in fact, only half as much. Furthermore, he pointed out, our highway standards are higher today, so that "a dollar does not buy as much highway footage as 50 cents did sixteen years ago."

Fittingly enough, the slogan of the Fifth Highway Transportation Congress was, "Adequate Roads Don't Cost—They Pay".



(Continued from Page 1)

ering running for president of the State YDC's at that time. Upon my return, I found McDonald friends calling me a conservative, while my Hoey friends were pinning on me the liberal badge. I saw fit to deny neither charge.

Ralph Gardner, nephew of Clyde R. Hoey, was pledged to me for the YDC presidency. But in the last go-around we got McDonald to give his support to Gardner and he was elected. Thus it was from 1936 to 1940—four years—Hoey succeeded with his charm in bringing to his side most of those who had opposed him—including the man he had beaten for Governor.

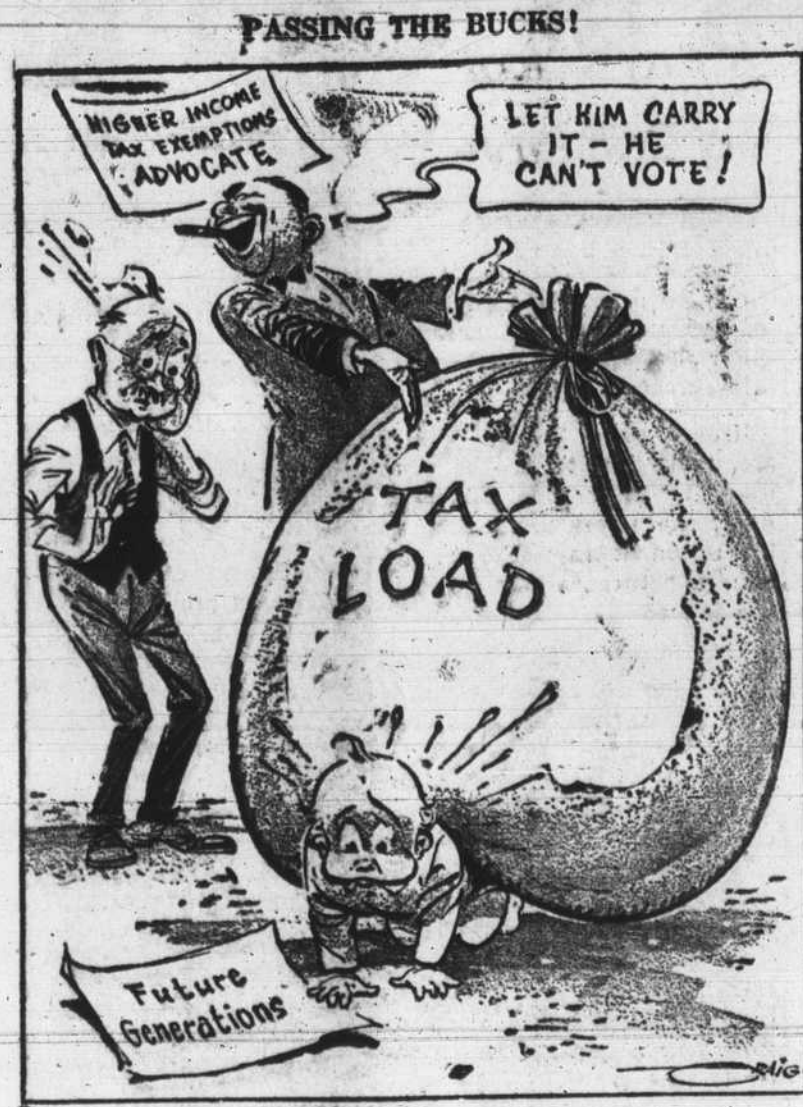
Fifty per cent of the U. S. Senate, greatest deliberative body on earth, broke loose from the Washington maelstrom long enough last Saturday to come to Shelby to pay homage to Clyde R. Hoey. No accusing finger ever pointed in his direction about income tax returns, roads through his farm, and bull calf walks. He united the people of his state. He didn't tear them apart. He didn't set city folks against farm folks, labor against management, and white against black.

With it all, however, he might have returned to Shelby to stay in 1936 had it not been for one man. That man? None other than A. H. Sandy Graham. He was an also-ran in that gubernatorial race of 1936. McDonald had led Hoey pretty well in the first primary. But Graham knew Hoey better than he did McDonald, who was not a native of this State. He cast his lot with Clyde R. Hoey.

The folks, of course, raised the dickens, called Graham this and that, but he stuck to his and that, but he stuck to his and that. All his supporters, save two or three, became ardent Hoey supporters for the runoff. Hoey did more than any other man in this century to popularize the office of Governor of North Carolina. He went here and there, speaking . . . Off at some barbecue, hogkilling, or picnic, you would hear music, and there prancing down the street would be the Lenoir High School Band. And, just as omnipresent, was Clyde R. Hoey.

What became of Sandy Graham, who held enough balance of power to put in McDonald if he had so wished? He went back to his law practice in Hillsboro. When Gregg Cherry became Governor, he made Graham chairman of the State Highway Commission. Kerr Scott kicked him out—or he got out before being kicked out. Governor Umstead put him back in.

These also-ran's are sometimes pretty important fellows. They may be again come May 29.



Women Voters' Query

Congressional Candidates

The League of Women Voters this week released for publication answers received to questions on national policy directed to candidates for Congress of the Sixth Congressional District, which includes Orange County.

Representative Carl T. Durham and Candidate Hugh C. Sprinkle, Democrats, submitted the following replies. Rufus K. Hayworth, Republican, did not reply.

Question A: Please indicate the aspects of U. S. foreign policy with which you are most in agreement; those of which you are most critical.

Carl T. Durham (incumbent): "I am in agreement with the present policy. It is practically the same as that policy initiated by the Democrats and it appears to be a sound and progressive program."

Hugh C. Sprinkle: "I believe, like George Washington, that if we stay at home and avoid all foreign entanglements, we will stay out of wars. Keep our money and boys all at home."

Rufus K. Hayworth Jr.: No reply. Question B: Do you recommend any changes in the procedures of Congressional investigating committees?

Carl T. Durham: "Congressional committees should have regular rules and regulations laid down by the House and the Senate and they should abide by such rules and regulations."

Hugh C. Sprinkle: "I have not had a close-up view of how these investigations are done, but I do think there should be investigations and methods of punishment for all non-patriotic Americans and criminals."

Rufus K. Hayworth: No reply. Question C: What specific changes would you recommend in our federal tax structure?

Carl T. Durham: "With the commitments and necessary expenses for the security of our country so

large, I doubt that it would be a wise move at this time to reduce taxes. I am heartily in favor of the recent recodification of the Internal Revenue Code which simplifies tax procedure and eliminates some of the inequities that existed heretofore. At the same time, this elimination of inequities gives tax relief to individuals without impairing the Federal income."

Hugh C. Sprinkle: "Change our income tax reports so any average citizen can understand it, and tax according to ability to pay."

Rufus K. Hayworth: No reply. Question D: In what legislation are you especially interested? Please state support or opposition.

Carl T. Durham: "I am interested in all legislation. No piece of legislation is too small to command my interest . . . especially am I interested in the development of our atomic energy program. I can see the important part that it will play in the welfare and security of our nation and it is certainly important that we have good and wise legislation so that the program will be administered in an efficient manner"

Hugh C. Sprinkle: "I am opposed to giving our money to foreign governments and foreigners and taxing the life out of our home people."

Rufus K. Hayworth: No reply.

THIS IS THE LAW



By Charles W. Daniel (For the N. C. Bar Association) JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

There are more than 2,000 Justices of the Peace in North Carolina today. Some are elected by the people, some are named by Superior Court Judges, some are appointed by the Governor, and a large number are named in an "omnibus bill" every two years by our General Assembly, some of whom never qualify for office.

Statutes provide that elected J.P.'s and those appointed by the resident Superior Court judge of a county shall serve for two years. Those appointed by the governor have four-year terms. Governor Umstead has adopted a policy of naming about 250 J.P.'s each year during his term.

Limited Authority

Jaycees, by statute, have rather sharply limited authority to try both civil and criminal cases. In civil actions based on contract they have EXCLUSIVE, original authority if the sum involved (not counting interest) is \$200 or less. Other civil matters, within their right to try, are limited to claims of \$50 or less. They can NOT hear disputes over title to real estate. By special law, however, they may try disputes between landlord and tenant over the right to possession of real estate. The amount demanded by a party before a J.P., and NOT the amount ACTUALLY involved, determines the magistrate's power to hear the case.

Justices of the Peace may try, with EXCLUSIVE, original jurisdiction, for which does not exceed \$50 fine or 30 days in "thority," all criminal cases the jail. They have no right to hear charges of assault with intent to kill and assault with intent to commit rape, except to find "probable cause." Upon finding of probable cause, such cases are actually tried later by the Superior Court or a Recorder's Court. Upon appeal filed within 10 days after J.P. trial, the person appealing in most cases is entitled to a completely new trial in a higher court.

May Not Draft Will

A Justice of the Peace may NOT draft a will or draw a deed for another, unless he is a lawyer

Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

Hot dry summer weather soon be with us again and to emphasize the fact that quality of water is essential to the fast-growing leafy plants. If they lack sufficient water just a few days they will be stunted, fibrous and tough. Hot weather vegetables require about one inch of each week, whether it is artificially or by rain. If they will survive without much water but they will be much lower quality because of the stunted growth.

It is a lot of trouble to tomatoes but it pays. You control disease better and will have less sun scald on the plants to two main and tie them to the stakes soft twine or "twisted" mulch will help prevent som-end rot and will increase yields of early crop.

If you like summer green should try New Zealand green. There is still time to plant make a good summer crop not related to common and most people who have it like it. The seeds are hard-fruit. They should be ed in water for a day planting. Drop two seeds with hills a foot apart. This is large and spreading. The harvested is the tender tip—about three inches stem with the young leaves.

Don't neglect insect and ease control for a single on Sundays. Nobody likes a wormy cabbage or greens are full of aphids.

Multiflora rose "living lo on the farms of Dr. H. Fox, hboro, Van Kenion, Schley, Dink Fowler, Chapel Hill, are tinuous lines of white bloom- week.

C. V. Hall and sons, Fair and A. W. Fuller, Orange G had ponds surveyed last year part of their better land plans.

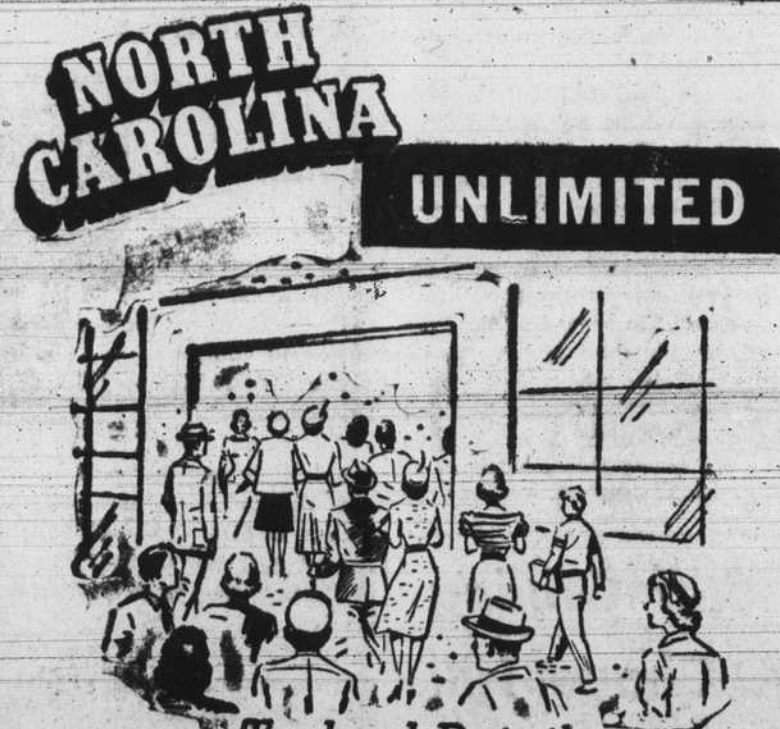
matter of right, to challenge jurors and have them ex from the trial.

ready for a change?



try an ELECTRIC RANGE

DUKE POWER COMPANY



Tarheel Retail Business is Booming!

To the familiar question "How's business?", Tarheel merchants can honestly say it's terrific! While complete reports are not yet available, North Carolina sales tax collections for 1953 as compared with 1952, indicate retail sales were up by 5.46 per cent—or more than TWICE the rate of increase for the entire United States! Busy people are happy people and their activities contribute greatly in making North Carolina a better place in which to work, play and live!

Another contribution to more pleasant living for North Carolinians is the brewing industry's self-regulation program where brewers, wholesalers and retailers—in counties where malt beverages are permitted under State control—cooperate to maintain wholesome conditions for the legal sale of beer and ale.

North Carolina Division UNITED STATES BREWERS FOUNDATION, INC.

THE BEVERAGE OF MODERATION

The Friends of

Henry S. Walker

Will Appreciate

YOUR SUPPORT

Democratic Primary, May 29th

FOR

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