

Editorial And Opinion

MORE IMPELLING THAN EVER

Take Off The 'Whammies'

We heartily agree with the writer of a recent Public Pulse letter that "topping the list of the What's-Drong-With-The-World-Today-Department" is the bill introduced in Raleigh by Reps. White and Turner, aimed at restricting the use of a device designed to cut down on traffic violations and fatalities on our highways.

If the representatives sponsoring this believe that the Whammies are not properly installed, in good condition, or operated by skillful personnel, it appears that this is a matter for Highway Patrol administration, rather than reducing the effective function of the Whammy itself.

For one, don't feel repulsed at the idea of highway patrolmen inspecting vehicles at all times. Are legislators? I have traveled U. S. 29-70 daily for over five years, and would judge that the incidence of semi-hidden patrol equipment to be about 5 per cent—the same percentage Reps. White and Turner ask for Whammy "tolerance."

It would seem that there are more important merit badges to be earned in the General Assembly session than those being aspired to by a two-man anti-Whammy faction.

The Whammies are saving lives in North Carolina, hidden, partially hidden or in plain view. We say, "Leave 'em alone."

Help protect a child from polio....TOMORROW!

This We Can Do Without

Senator Ralph Scott's bill to guarantee profits for the milk industry, come what may, is bad any way you look at it. It is sooner it is sent finally to the grave, the better satisfied we'll be. Things being what they are, if Dairyman Ralph had introduced a bill to guarantee newspaper profits it would have been somewhat more becoming, but hardly more palatable.

Do the people of North Carolina want to be compelled by statute to pay more than is necessary for their milk? We think not.

We are told that in Virginia a milk bill similar to the one proposed for North Carolina is now in effect. A half gallon of milk is available to the North Carolina public for 37-38-39 cents. In Virginia 49 cents is the absolute minimum that a half gallon may be sold.

Except in emergencies we are opposed to setting prices for the people for the benefits of a very few privileged distributors of the most necessary food product sold?

The American way of life has always been based on competition and the cornerstone of free enterprise.

Each senator and representative should figure the cost to him personally and then multiply by the number of North Carolinians that this bill will effect and then vote on this bill according to his own conscience. The outcome, given these conditions, is a foregone conclusion.

Mail your March of Dimes Card.....TODAY!

The News of Orange County. Published Every Thursday By THE NEWS, INCORPORATED Hillsboro and Chapel Hill, N. C. EDWIN J. HAMLIN, Editor and Publisher

All These Things, These Moods

What Is North Carolina?

The Charlotte News

What is North Carolina? she asked. Is it a cropper's house on the edge of a field? Is it the rusty cough of a 'lint head'? Is it Jim Crow hiding in the rear of a bus? Is it crowded prisons and road gangs and murder in Harnett? Is it a 'Gastonia incident'. Is it the homeless and the hungry and the cold?

Her voice mingled with the heavy metallic drone of the engine. The car sped over a wide, black satin ribbon of highway, rolling and tumbling westward from Raleigh.

The sky was yellow with sunset and she squinted into it, all the time talking of leaving the South and going home to the North. It had been a revisit to Raleigh which now lay miles behind her. Off to the left were the Sandhills, to the right a rise called Chapel Hill. Ahead were Liberty and Asheboro and Concord and Charlotte.

Is North Carolina these things? she questioned.

Yes, she was told, they are North Carolina too.

But North Carolina is also Virginia Dare and Kings Mountain, the Courthouse at Hillsboro, Reconstruction, Buck Duke and Billy Graham, Green and Odum, and Kay Kyser. It is the folk music in the mountains and the rollicking chancies of the Outer Banks.

It is the hum and the whirl of looms, the pun-

gent odor of tobacco, the bent fields of grain, a harvest of strawberries, factory smoke and honking horns, a Bible class at Gardner-Webb and an atom smasher at State College.

It is a sociologist explaining away our foibles and a professor discussing ESP, it is vast medical centers and a horse doctor, it is muddy spring-roads of orange and hot, brown-summer days.

It is a debutante ball and a barefooted boy, steaming factories and air-conditioned offices, it is a pot-bellied stove in a one-room school house and a sprawling school plant in a large city.

It is an orator from Buncombe, a barber from the east in the Assembly, it is a high school girls' basketball team and a national champion, a prize-winning poet and great illiteracy, it is a novelist and a songwriter and 30,000 people singing on the side of a mountain.

It is fancy cloths of synthetic yarns, an apron from a flour sack. It is a highway heavy with people to see the scenery and a '32 Ford twisted with six dead.

It is a mind—a troubled, restless, unhappy mind fighting for life. It, too, is a confident, hardworking, happy mind.

All these things, all these moods—all of this is North Carolina.

Then the sun fell behind a distant hill and the evening was still and red.

And she said, I see, I see.

KIDD BREWER'S Raleigh Roundup

(Continued from Page 2) point where public opinion is now such that it is probably going to work to the detriment of the entire program of the State Department of Motor Vehicles at the hands of the 1955 session of the Legislature.

TROUBLE FOR WHAMMY...

As predicted here a couple of weeks ago, a bill is now before the Legislature to clip the wings of the whammy. There is also sentiment to require that all patrol cars be painted the same identifying colors rather than to have some of them carrying the usual "civilian" color and using regular license tags rather than the State type.

BEST? ... There is a difference of opinion as to whether the best approach to safety is through detection and arrests, or through good public relations and advertisement.

The idea of attempting to achieve results through fear of consequences or through encouragement to play the game fairly in cooperation with our fellowmen is something which must soon be decided.

These are the two approaches and the sides are drawn. Which of the two ideas will emerge victorious remains to be seen.

ENTIRE PROGRAM...

Unfortunately, the entire program of the Motor Vehicles Department may suffer as the direct result of bad public relations—or the simple act of making motorists uneasy, uncomfortable and angry unnecessarily.

The people as represented by the General Assembly seem to feel that they are as qualified on the subject of highway safety as the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, Edward Scheidt—and to bear this out they point to the fact that his background is the FBI—and not safety.

WHO IS RIGHT? ... Whether the Legislature is right or wrong is beside the point.

It reminds me of one of my college professors. One of the students asked him: "Professor, you say one thing about this and the text book says another. When we have the exam, which answer should we use?"

The professor said, "Well, of course, you will be technically correct if you give either of the answers but I believe that—under the circumstances—if I were in your place, I'd humor me, because I'm going to be grading you. The author of the textbook won't be grading you!"

LEGISLATURE GRADES

Commissioner Scheidt may or may not be right, but the Legislature is going to be passing out the grades—in the form of appropriations and laws under which the Motor Vehicles Department must operate for the next two years.

Whether Commissioner Scheidt decides to stick to the book or humor the professor will determine to a great extent his future. It is not an enviable position to be in.



In Small Places

At 6 o'clock we left the house for evening services at our church. My wife held a covered dish in her hands, and each of the girls held some other item.

That is just what happened. Several were present when we arrived. The ladies were busy arranging the food on the tables—meats first, then vegetables, followed by sandwiches, salads, cookies, cakes, pies and drinks. The men gathered in little groups to talk over our life and times. Children were in groups, picking at each other and talking and laughing.

It dawned on me, even before time for prayer meeting, that the Christmas in New Testament times set this example for us. They gathered for suppers once a week in some of the early churches. The first miracle of our Lord was at a wedding party. Fellowship is a vital part of life, and some of the finest fellowship we enjoy is at mealtime.

We served paper plates while filling by the table in a single file. Six small boys and five girls about their size sat around the table next to me. They enjoyed themselves immensely.

As soon as we finished our pie and cake the paper plates and cups were collected and placed in garbage cans. The near-empty dishes were placed on a single table to be picked up later in the evening by the housewives who brought them.

Each age group went to a different place in the church for prayer and special study. Our pastor talked to the adults about special services to be conducted soon.

He called for announcements. There would be a meeting of the men of the church next Monday in the school cafeteria. Blotters were passed out, bearing an announcement about the revival services. We were told about a civic musical program. A basketball game was announced. The pastor commended his people for the fine spirit of community cooperation with respect to the coming revival. Then, in an impressive way he called attention to our need for fresh commitment and loyal devotion to our Lord and His church.

When we left I was glad we could go to church on Wednesday night. Attention had been called to my place in the community and the church fellowship. Friends came together who seldom have an opportunity to see one another. Families came together.

I was a new person with a fresh outlook. Eating, talking, singing, praying, listening to the scriptures, and hearing a challenge from my pastor or did something to me on the inside. My soul was refreshed. My outlook was made brighter. My life

Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

Gardeners in eastern and pied-mont North Carolina should be thinking about planting their early Irish potatoes. The land should be prepared as soon as possible but planting may be delayed until in March without any loss in earliness.

It is best to use certified seed if obtainable. Certification is a guarantee that the seed potatoes are practically free from the most serious diseases. Seed pieces should be cut so that they average from 1 1/4 to two ounces in weight and should contain at least one good eye. Small seed pieces will give lower yields. Space the rows about three feet apart and the seed pieces 10 to 12 inches apart in the row. The usual planting depth is about four inches.

MUST BE

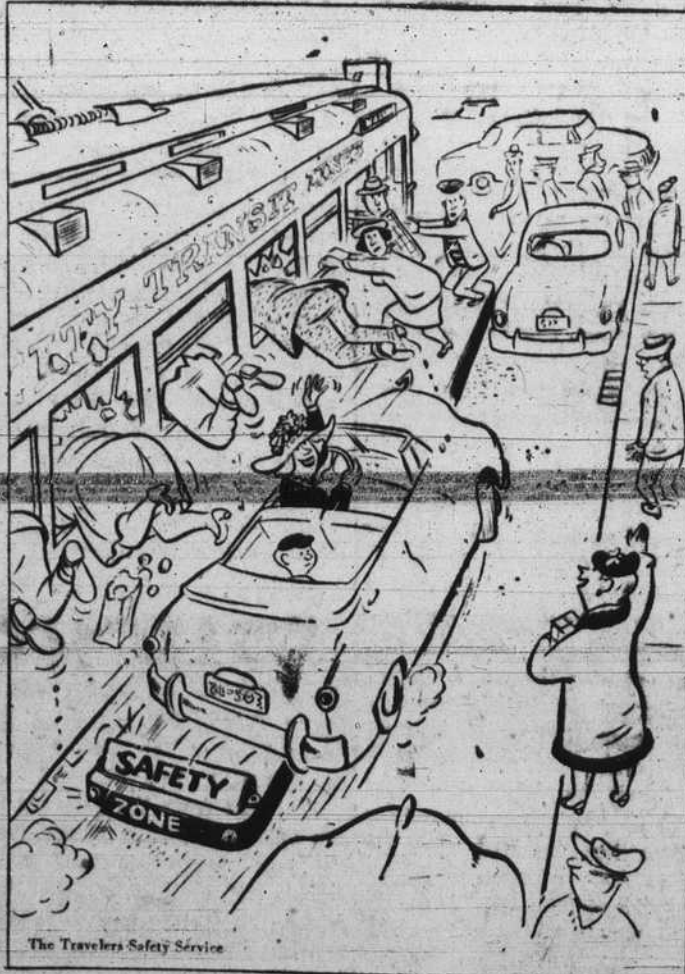
The average kid these days can simultaneously read a comic book and listen to a bloodcurdling story over the radio. He must be ambidextrous in the head.

EFFICIENT

When it wanted to have one of its own safes cracked, the Police Department couldn't find an unemployed safe-cracker who wasn't already occupied at Jefferson City. Some people are just too damned efficient.

Lucky You

by Dick Shaw



Lucky you—you were careless but those in your path were not.

The Smithfield Herald Plugs

For Plain English

"Fine print" in insurance policies is pretty common, but "far worse is the mass of semi-legal language setting out the terms of the policies."

We agree. Some policies could be set in 24-point tenham Bold Extended, which is a fairly readable headline size, but the policyholders wouldn't know about the coverage they had or didn't have than they if the policies were set in five-point solid, which is lettering even for "legal notices" in a newspaper.

Since this is "there ought to be a law" season in North Carolina, we suggest that the legislators consider every insurance policy of any kind to carry, in a few words, a summary of the protection contained in the policy. This, in addition, to the detailed wording of the contract in fine or large print.

If an insurance agent weren't allowed to use words in explaining the terms of policies, but was required to explain policies only by the reading the legal phrases of policies, he would make few sales and would soon be out of jobs or applying for relief at the welfare office.

If the insurance agent can interpret in making a policy, why can't the insurance company interpret, in writing, the face of each policy it issues, the terms of the contract as by the lawyers? A brief interpretation, clearly written, prevent much misunderstanding on the part of a policyholder concerning the protection he has bought.

A two-fold purpose could be served:

(1) Misrepresentations by an unscrupulous insurance agent could be readily detected upon delivery of a policy.

(2) By reference to a "policy interpretation" a policyholder could quickly refresh his memory from time to time concerning the protection he has.

We are all for insurance—in understandable language.

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS. Includes a portrait of Senator Sam Ervin.

WASHINGTON—The National Park Service has announced its purpose to charge a fee for the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway by automobiles beginning on May 1, 1955.

Opposed to Tolls. As a matter of principle, I am opposed to the Federal Government raising revenue by charging people for the privilege of gazing upon the handiwork of Almighty God.

Popular Parkway. During the past year, 2,500,000 automobiles used the Blue Ridge Parkway. If such use continues in the future, and the National Park Service collects the toll proposed fee, i.e., the "day" \$1.00 fee, from each automobile, it will collect through the maintenance cost.

The Blue Ridge Parkway and its counterpart in Virginia, the Skyline Drive, connect the Shenandoah National Park on the north and the Smoky National Park on the south.

A Difference

When the Yellowstone National Park and the other National National Parks of the west were established, they were created out of land areas already owned by the Federal Government.

The Blue Ridge Parkway argument that the toll is justified for the Blue Ridge Parkway because it is used for recreational purposes lacks validity.

Abandon the Idea. The difficulties inherent in the administration alone ought to induce the National Park Service to abandon its plan to collect the toll. There are approximately 500 different traverses of one kind of road in the Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway.

In conclusion, it is worth noting that the National Park Service maintains several roadways in other parts of the country and does not propose to impose any fee for their use.