

Editorial And Opinion

"Too Hot To Handle"

The conclusion is unavoidable, in reading "BILLIONS, BLUNDERS AND BALONEY" by Eugene W. Castle, that the "Yankee Go Home" signs which the author observed "painted on fences from Paris to Tokyo" convey good advice.

Here are the shocking details of how and why the thousands of US payrollers living abroad in princely splendor—who have spent over 40 billion dollars to "aid" other countries, and more than half a billion to tell them what to think—are rapidly making us the most despised nation on earth.

Mr. Castle's expose of overseas waste and ineptitude, says Human Events, "is quite likely to prove the most important book published in 1955. . . The evidence offered will anger those who have been wondering how long we can go on spending—and being taxed—to support the world. . . The indignation aroused by Castle's book could force Congress to stop the overseas spending orgy which, in all its forms, runs to many billions per year. Billions, Blunders and Baloney can be explosive in its effect upon Congress if the voters back home will read it, persuade others to read it, and write Washington about it."

There are, of course, those apologists for Government do-gooding who think that Mr. Castle should not have written and published such a book, but should have presented his case to appropriate Government officials. To one such critic, the author has said, "The fact is that I decided to write this book only after my various attempts to interest top Administration officials in my findings appeared to have failed. . . Mr. Castle further invited this objection to 'check my testimony before three Congressional committees, made long before my book appeared. Not once did the US Information Agency, or the Foreign Operations Administration show any interest in my factual presentations and critical evaluations.'"

We think it is a patriotic citizen indeed who will spend three years of his own time and 75,000 of his own dollars to check at first hand and document these vast and profligate programs—and then refuse to allow his findings to be buried in Washington files—with the rest of our family skeletons.

A Serious Fault

Despite the fact the Motor Vehicles Department jogs their memory 30 days prior to expiration, a great many Tar Heel drivers apparently are forgetting to have their license renewed.

Reports from the state's driver licensing stations say four and five applicants a day show up with expired permits. Assistant vehicles commissioner Joe W. Garrett urged motorists to inspect their driver licenses periodically and not allow it to lapse through forgetfulness.

The Motor Vehicles Department for several years has been addressing postal cards to drivers reminding them of a forthcoming date for re-examination. Such notices are mailed 30 days in advance of the expiration date, Garrett said.

He reminded drivers they may schedule renewal tests at their own convenience. An appointment schedule is in operation at each of the state's 120 licensing stations. Appointments may be secured either by telephone or letter.

Driver's licenses in North Carolina are renewable on the birthday of the applicant every fourth year. The expiration date is stamped on the license. The complete examination with the exception of the road test is given each applicant and the fee is \$2.00.

There is little excuse for drivers to allow their licenses to lapse from carelessness alone. Those who do should be required by judges to pay the full penalty provided by law—without rebates or other allowances which circumvent the law.

Hay-Hay!

While there are no records to prove the point, we would guess that it rained the day the first neolithic farmer harvested the first experimental hay crop to nourish his mastodon—or whatever it was he kept in his barn—through the winter.

At least the wet-weather precedent for the hay-drying seasons seems to have been established a long time ago, and continues to plague today's otherwise modernized farmers. But, at long last, there seems to be a practical and economical means of ending the annual weather-worry, and at the same time preventing loss of nutrition in hay-drying.

This latest boon to the agriculturist is the brain-child of a Miami, Fla. business man, who has developed all-steel hay-drying wagons that may be towed into fields for mechanical loading, and which operate in a train of six wagons. These wagons have floors of expanded metal, a diamond-pattern Wheeling steel grid that is lightweight, strong and freely admits the flow of warm circulating air from the generators. Unlike the wooden floors of earlier hay-drying wagons, which had to be replaced every three years, the expanded metal is immune to rot and mildew. Thus, it is also an ideal material for the construction of ventilating trunks in hay lofts. Incidentally, with those six wagons you can remove about 60 percent of the moisture from 30 tons of hay in 12 hours.

And in case you live in town, and don't have any hay to dry, and are wondering what all this is to you, we need only suggest you consider whether the farmer's prosperity means anything to you. A lot of people all up and down Main Street, we suspect, will be mighty glad to see those new expanded metal hay-wagons at work.



(Continued from Page 1.)

FOOD TAX . . . When the Governor went to the people on the proposed tax schedule, they wrote him they definitely wanted no tax on food. They so told their legislators—by mail, by writing, by visits, and by telegram.

So a tax on food is out—and we doubt that any of us will see for many years any kind of sales tax on food.

ABOUT BARGER . . . Last year's Duke Quarterback Jerry Barger is working at Martinsville, Va., with one of the container corporations. He has decided not to play professional football. In going with the container people Barger is following in the footsteps of Dan Hill, who was instrumental in getting him to attend Duke University.

Flucie Stewart, who coached with me at Appalachian, is also connected with a container manufacturer in Greenville, S. C. There is keen competition in the container field, and the officials recognize master salesmen when they see them.

There were no better football recruiters in the business than Hill and Stewart. And it is recognized that a great deal of Barger's success on the football field was not his physical strength, but the fact that he could take charge and sell his teammates on the one thought that they would win.

MRS. GORDON GRAY? We don't usually pass along rumors, but here is one that—of true—could not happen to two nicer people.

It may be entirely without foundation, but we have heard several times from Chapel Hill recently that Mrs. Catherine Marshall of Washington, D. C., and Greater University President Gordon Gray will soon be married.

Both have lost their mates within the past five years. Mrs. Marshall is better known as the widow of Dr. Peter Marshall, chaplain of the U. S. Senate, about whom she wrote the book, "A Man Called Peter". A film based on this book is now in the formative stages.

COAT POCKET . . . I'm a gadgeteer. . . a sucker for anything of gadget nature.

Last week my friend, L. C. Bruce, who operates the fine little radio station at Siler City, showed me a new one, which I proceeded to talk him out of right off.

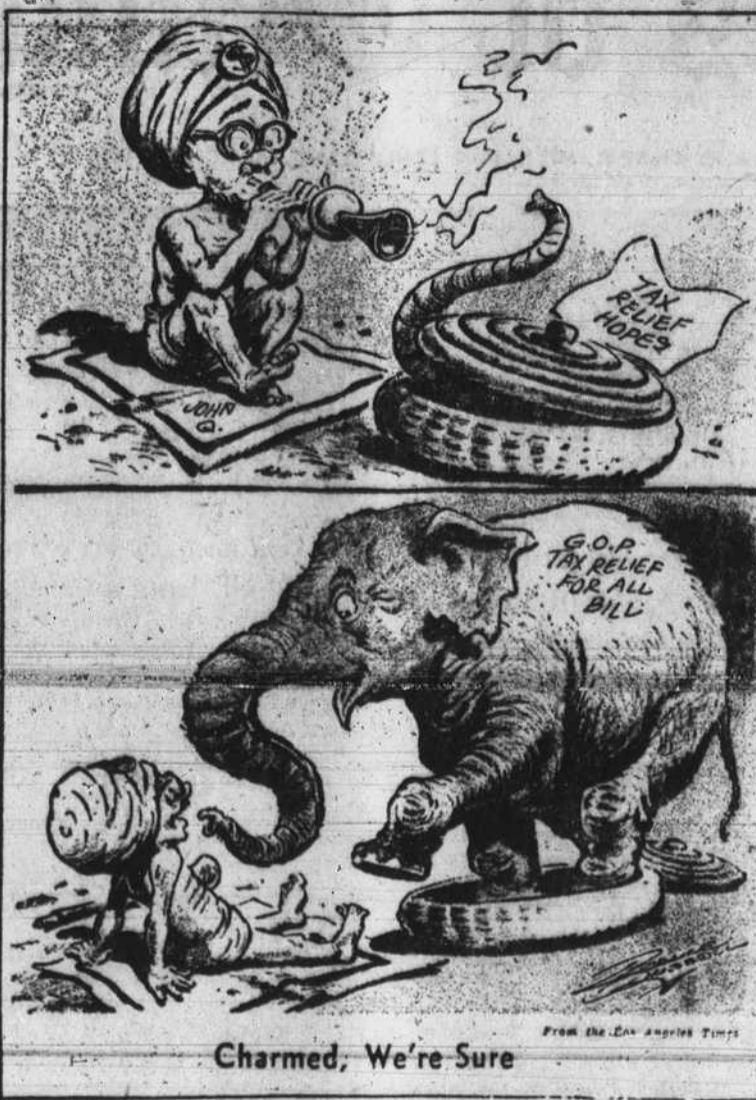
It's a Tom Thumb radio, which operates on a flashlight battery and fits snugly in your inside coat pocket.

I had a lot of fun standing in the lobby of the Hotel Sir Walter last week with the radio playing cheerily along in the Brewer pocket. It was very interesting to watch the peculiar expressions on the faces of the people I conversed with as they tried to talk, or listen, and at the same time try to determine where the music or fine little commercial announcements were coming from.

Come to think of it, this particular gadget could be put to a lot of uses. Members of the Legislature who have to sit for hours listening to all kinds of arguments and petitions could listen quietly to a gently Beethoven symphony or the down home tunes of Homer Briarhopper.

As for myself, I can now cheerfully accompany my wife to any lecture or opera with complete confidence of enjoying the program. It may emanate from my little radio rather than the stage, but will, be nonetheless, enjoyable.

PAPA ISN'T SO BAD
The average man is neither as clever as his wife thought he was when they were engaged, nor as much of a dud as she thinks he is now that they are married.—Labor.



Charmed, We're Sure

Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

Except in the mountain areas this is not the proper time to plant lawn grasses. The young seedlings do not get well started before hot weather is upon them and burns them out. Bermuda and Centipede grasses are exceptions to the rule, and are best planted in April or May. Other grasses such as bluegrass, fescues and rye grass should be planted in the fall. However, we may as well face the fact that as long as new homes are being completed during late spring and early summer we will also have new lawns planted during those difficult months.

A good lawn well kept is a beautiful thing and is an asset to any property. The hot weather months are the critical period in the maintenance of a lawn. It should be fertilized every five or six weeks throughout the growing season. If you haven't already done so, put on an application of good garden fertilizer such as a 6-8-6 or 8-8-8 at the rate of 20 pounds per 1,000 square feet. Water this in or apply it just before a rain. For the remainder of the season use about five pounds of nitrate of soda per 1,000 square feet at each application. This should be applied when the grass is dry and preferably just before a rain.

Watering is a very important operation. Soak soil thoroughly at least once a week during dry weather rather than light sprinklings each day altho these light sprinklings will do a lot of good.

Frequent cutting is desirable but close cutting will do much harm to some of the better grasses such as bluegrass. Set the mower blades a little higher for these grasses.

If you have a good stand of

grass and keep it well fertilized and limed when necessary, weeds will not thrive in a lawn. If weeds become established, late spring is a good time to eliminate them with a spray of 2,4-D. This spray will also kill wild onions. Use 2,4-D with care because it will kill your shrubs and flowers as well as the weeds. Even the spray mist carried by the wind may cause a lot of damage to other plants: A sprayer that is used for 2,4-D should not be used for other spray purposes.

309 BEDS AVAILABLE

The Committee gave special attention to the problem relating to the North Carolina Memorial Hospital. We understand that in January, 1955, there were 309 beds available, that the average bed-census of 179 from July 1 to December 31, 1954, has risen to an average of 203 in January, 1955, and that there were about 4,000 outpatient visits per month from July to December, 1954. With the present and the projected total number of patients, and with maintenance of the present ratio of two ward patients to one private patient, it is expected that for the next few years an annual appropriation by the State of nearly an emillion dollars will be needed. When the number of patients rises further, and when there is improvement of hospital insurance coverage and in the payments by the cities and counties, the funds requested from the State should be reduced. The financial difficulties encountered in the initial stages of a newly opened hospital should not be surprising. — Visiting Trustees' Report.

BUBBLES

By Jim Lee



"Goodbye, mother, I'm off to join the marines . . . can't stand this polluted water any more!"

From Senator Scott's Office

Washington Report

By BILL WHITLEY

LOBBYISTS. How do you feel about the development of the Antarctic Continent? If you have any views on the subject, a certain lady in Washington, Miss Elizabeth Kendall, would like to know about them. She is one of some 700 lobbyists currently registered with Congress. Like Miss Kendall, all of the lobbyists have special projects they are working on.

Hundreds of organizations retain agents in Washington the year around to bring influences to play on members of Congress. Many of these groups maintain big offices with large staffs of experts.

LEADERS. There are several lobbying groups that are masters when it comes to influencing lawmakers. They leave no stone unturned in letting Congressmen know exactly what they want. In many cases they provide very helpful and essential information in pending legislation.

Probably the richest of all lobbying groups is the National

Association of Manufacturers, which plays effective roles in influencing legislation on taxes and other important economic issues. Another wealthy and effective group that works along the same lines as N. A. M. is the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, a group that swings a big stick when it comes to influence.

OPPONENTS. In many legislative fights, such wealthy groups as the AFL and CIO labor groups fight proposals that are supported by NAM and the Chamber of Commerce, and vice versa. Both the AFL and CIO keep large staffs in Washington to carry their fight for organized labor. . . . Farm groups have become some of the most influential lobbying groups in the capital. The Grange, the Farm Bureau and the National Farmers Union all have lobby organizations working full-time to mold legislation to their liking.

STRUGGLE. The larger lobbying groups have almost unlimited financial resources to back up the arguments for or against

legislation in which they are interested. There are groups that struggle for their cause with funds. In many cases the individual fighting the bill thinks is right.

The lobby records are interesting cases: The Institute of Scrap Iron and Steel is a representative of many groups that lobby for information about that group. Another lobbyist makes business to protect the Canal Pilots Association.

A gentleman from Philadelphia wants Congress to act providing for a full review of certain claims from French Spoils Hunters prior to 1807. Another gentleman is interested in any legislation that keeps Ireland united.

The hothouse vegetable industry has a representative down to watch out for. The American Lawn Mower and Shrub Trimmer Institute also has a man but he hasn't revealed what he wants as yet.

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS



Good Southerner

It is often said that an honest confession is good for the soul. On Sunday of last week my wife, Harry Gatton, and I were traveling from Washington to Morganton, North Carolina. As we neared North Carolina, Harry, who was driving the automobile in which we were riding, suddenly turned on the radio. When the radio became audible, I found myself listening to the unfamiliar voice of some speaker who was in the midst of a discussion of the tax bill recently before the Senate. I thereupon made this remark to my wife and Harry: "I wonder who is speaking. I can tell by his voice that he is a good Southerner." Harry laughed and said, "That's you, Senator." I then realized for the first time that I was listening to my own radio program. I might add in this connection that one's own voice on a radio broadcast ordinarily sounds strange to himself. Since I did not recognize my own voice when I referred to myself as a "good Southerner", I do not fall in this particular instance under the condemnation of the adage that self praise is half scandal.

Mistakes

I returned to Washington from Morganton on Tuesday of last week and found the remainder of the week an extremely busy one. The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Senate Committee on Government Operations spent Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday taking evidence in the investigation of the circumstances surrounding the promotion and honorable discharge of Major Peress, the Dental Officer, who took the Fifth Amendment when he was called upon to subscribe to his loyalty oath as an Army Officer and when he was subsequently interrogated by Senator McCarthy.

It has been asserted that the promotion and honorable discharge of Major Peress resulted from the presence of some master-mind in the Department of Defense working in the interest of Communism. While the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has not made any findings of fact up to this time in respect to this matter, I deem it not amiss to state that in my opinion the evidence before us shows that there is no basis whatever for this charge.

According to the evidence, the promotion and honorable discharge of Major Peress resulted from a misinterpretation which the legal staff of the Department of Defense put upon an Act of Congress, the absence of any adequate regulation in the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army dealing with security risks and subversives, and an incredible amount of bungling and poor administrative work in the Department of the Army. In other words, the promotion and honorable discharge of Major Peress resulted from mistakes made by men

whose loyalty to America cannot be questioned.

Important Bills

In addition to my work on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, I attended all the sessions of the Senate, which witnessed some lively fights on the cotton acreage bill, the postal pay bill, and the Civil Service pay bill. The fight on the cotton acreage bill was between those Senators who believed that any increase in allotments should be utilized to give small cotton growers a minimum allotment of 4 acres each, and those Senators who believed that any increase in allotments should be apportioned among all cotton growers on a percentage basis regardless of the sizes of their present allotments. Under the plan advocated by the second group, North Carolina would have received an additional allotment of only 7,736 acres out of a total proposed additional allotment of 271,612 acres, whereas under the plan supported by the first group, North Carolina would have received 38,580.2 acres out of a total proposed additional allotment of 169,679.3 acres. As a result of the fight between these two groups, both plans were defeated. Senator Scott and I supported the plan advocated by the first group of Senators because the additional proposed allotment of 38,580.2 acres to North Carolina would have brought the allotment of each of our 47,470 small cotton growers up to a minimum allotment of 4 acres. In my judgement, each cotton grower should be granted a legal right to an allotment of at least 4 acres.

You will agree with me we need more rigid supervision of this drug bill is a good bill and provide necessary control which stop some of the traffic goof balls and yellow jackets.

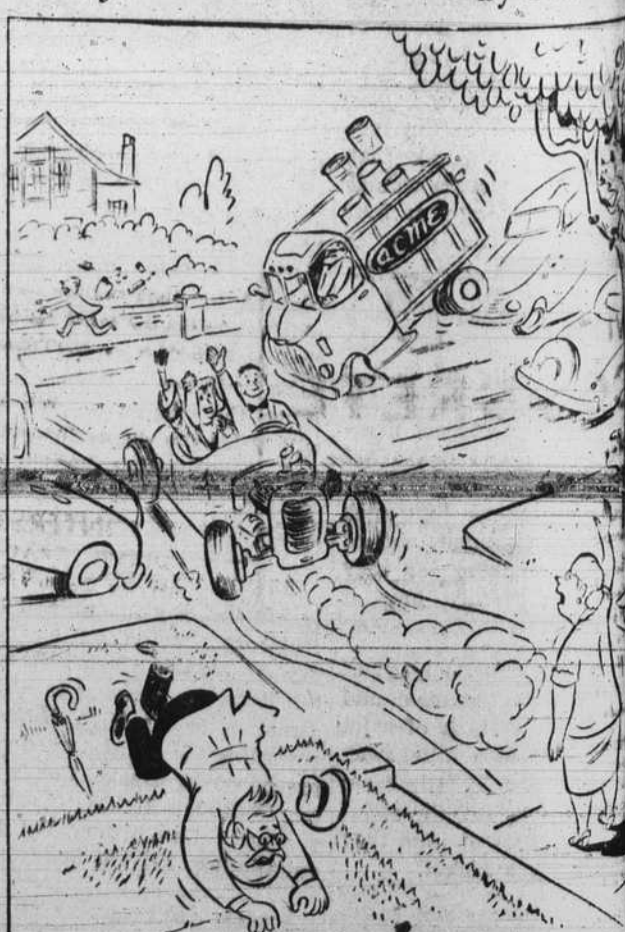
House Bill 205, known as "codeine bill", was passed Senate and enacted into law last week. In my opinion it was the wrong direction to bill to facilitate the use of medicines containing codeine by druggists. We are familiar with the use of drugs than the ordinary citizen. We realize more the average citizen that people come addicted to strong through the continued use of them.

To further our efforts to guard the public, I suggest you contact your legislators especially the members of the Senate Health Committee and by letter and your support of House Bill 205 which is badly needed.

The Senate Insurance Committee has worked with me including all or part of insurance bills I have introduced. This will be of great benefit to the people of North Carolina. Respectfully,
W. D. James
WDJ/al

Lucky You

by Dick Smith



Lucky you—you impressed your friends without killing them.

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