

# Editorial And Opinion

## A Nose In The Tent

It was a cold night on the desert. The camel had a chill. That's why the Arab didn't object when the camel stuck its nose inside his tent. "As long as the camel only wants to stick his nose in here to warm it for awhile — there's no harm in that," the good-natured Arab reasoned.

The camel liked the warmth of the tent. Slowly, cautiously, it edged further inside. First its nose was in the tent, then its head, then its neck, then its hump. Before that night was over, the camel had taken over the tent entirely. The Arab was pushed out on to the cold desert.

During the last several decades, we've seen this incident reenacted on a grand scale, with the federal government cast in the camel's role. It got its nose inside the states' tent during the depression. Ever since it has been edging in further and further. The states are being pushed outside.

There are ever so many examples, but here's a timely one: Back in the depression, the federal government slapped a temporary one-cent per gallon tax on gasoline. It was intended to balance the budget. No one objected much then, Congress frankly admitted it was muscling in on the states' tax territory but promised to move out the next year.

That was in 1932 — twenty-three years ago. In 1940, the camel's head and neck pushed into the tent — when the federal gasoline tax was boosted to 1½ cents. In 1951, the camel wiggled its hump under the canvas — the tax was hoisted to two cents.

Now, in 1955, some Congressmen have stopped even talking about dropping the federal gasoline tax. They're talking instead about increasing the rate. They're thinking about hitting this aged "temporary" tax to a national road program that would make Washington the big wheel in highway planning.

Highway development is one field where the states are still supreme. But they won't be much longer if the national highway program aren't satisfied with a federal gasoline tax increase. They want the states to boost their gasoline taxes, way up, too — to fit the highway plans dictated from Washington.

The camel is ready to set up housekeeping in the tent. The taxpayers will be shivering out in the cold unless enough of them have the courage and the wisdom to put in a few good licks for states' rights before it's too late.

## Good, Clean Fun

The modern counterpart of the ancient Roman circuses, with gladiators, lions and Christian martyrs, appears to be the soap company contest. And while in the old days it was the lions who made the killings, this is now the happy situation of the luckier contestants.

Such innocent and harmless ventures into the realm of chance (you could hardly call it "risk"), add excitement, suspense, expectancy to the lives of millions who are frequently depressed by the conviction that "nothing ever happens to me." Nor are these contests very difficult or demanding nowadays. It used to be you had to write an essay (at least 25 words), or guess the number of beans in a jar, or engage in some other mental exertion.

But the latest contest we have heard of requires only that you know your name and address, and that the latter be in the U.S. Alaska or Hawaii. You can get someone else to write this information on the entry blank if that chore is too onerous for you. And just to prove you can't fail to win, you are automatically mailed an ingenious can-hanger which the sponsor hopes the contestants will fasten to the kitchen or bathroom wall.

And since this makes no sense without a can to hang on it, she (we understand it's practically always a "she") will go out and purchase a can of the sponsor's luxurious liquid detergent. After that, there's not a darn thing for the contestant to do but sit down and wait for the happy word that she has won one of the three super-duper V-8 hard-tops, or one of the 10 color television consoles, or one of the 50 diamond rings, or one of the 100 chests of sterling silver.

This particular escapade is known as a "Free-for-All" which it certainly is — unless you want to go to the expense of buying yourself a rabbit's foot.

## Weird Twosome

It is not too much of a surprise to learn, on the heels of Secretary of State Dulles' declaration that we are willing to talk cease-fire with China's Chou En-lai without Chinese Nationalists present, that Britain is taking steps as an intermediary to set up such talks.

This action, of course, not only keeps Her Majesty's Government on both sides of the fence, but may even prolong the illusion that we can have a tete-a-tete with Chou without recognizing that he is a head of state, or that Red China is a state. Furthermore, we are to talk to Chou about a cease-fire in the Formosa Straits without talking about Formosa, so as not, in Mr. Dulles' own words to "depart from the path of fidelity and honor toward our ally the Republic of China."

At his press conference earlier in the day, President Eisenhower had backed up the Dulles statement and said that the Secretary's talks with Chou might properly include "anything that doesn't affect the China Nationalists", but in matters involving our ally, "we are not going to talk behind their backs."

Most Americans, we think, will be as puzzled as Senator Knowland as to "how this country could possibly negotiate with the Communists without involving the interests of the Nationalist". Press reports of the meetings should make good reading — or are Messrs. Dulles and Chou going to talk behind our backs?

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pay, and the teachers don't. The fact that we don't have the money is not reason enough. Either all should get sick leave pay or none.

REIDSVILLE... We were the guest speaker of the annual installation of officers meeting of the Reidsville Junior Chamber of Commerce last Saturday night, and after listening to retiring president, Allen Heyn, Jr. enumerate the various activities and projects completed during the year were so tired from the thought of the work accomplished we just wanted to lie down and rest. Those fellows are really doing a community job. Incidentally, I understand a wave of buying uranium stock swept Reidsville recently, and they are still a little numb from the experience. I wonder how many other communities in the State have gone through the fever?

## 7-Day Food, Water Supply Recommended By Civil Defense

The Federal Civil Defense Administration recommended today that families and individuals keep a 7-day reserve supply of food and water on hand as a home defense against nuclear attack.

Theodore M. Willcox, acting director of the FCDA Welfare Office, said this increase over previous recommendations for a 3-day supply results from super-bomb hazards.

The delayed second blow of the hydrogen bomb—radioactive fall-out—may cause longer confinement under shelter.

"The change is an evolution in our planning to safeguard Americans in the light of new disclosures about the larger weapons," Willcox said. "The weapons have grown bigger and our planning must change accordingly."

He pointed out that fall-out "might keep people in shelters for anywhere from a few days to a week, depending on the intensity of the radiation resulting from fall-out," and added:

"If families and individuals plan against the larger hazard, it stands to reason that there would be considerably less suffering."

## NO BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY TOLL

Like all State and Federal highways, bridges and ferries in North Carolina, the Blue Ridge Parkway will continue free of tolls this year. The Parkway is now open, with several links of Federal highways bridging uncompleted portions, from the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina to the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia.

## DEATH AT CROSSINGS

Traffic safety authorities admittedly are at a loss to find a fool-proof way to stop grade crossing accidents. They divide such mishaps into a rough 80-20 ratio—the minority being caused by daredevils with a penchant for racing trains. The bulk of the accidents, they estimate, are caused by carelessness and inattention. In either case, though, death is usually the victor.

## Phillips Russell Writes:

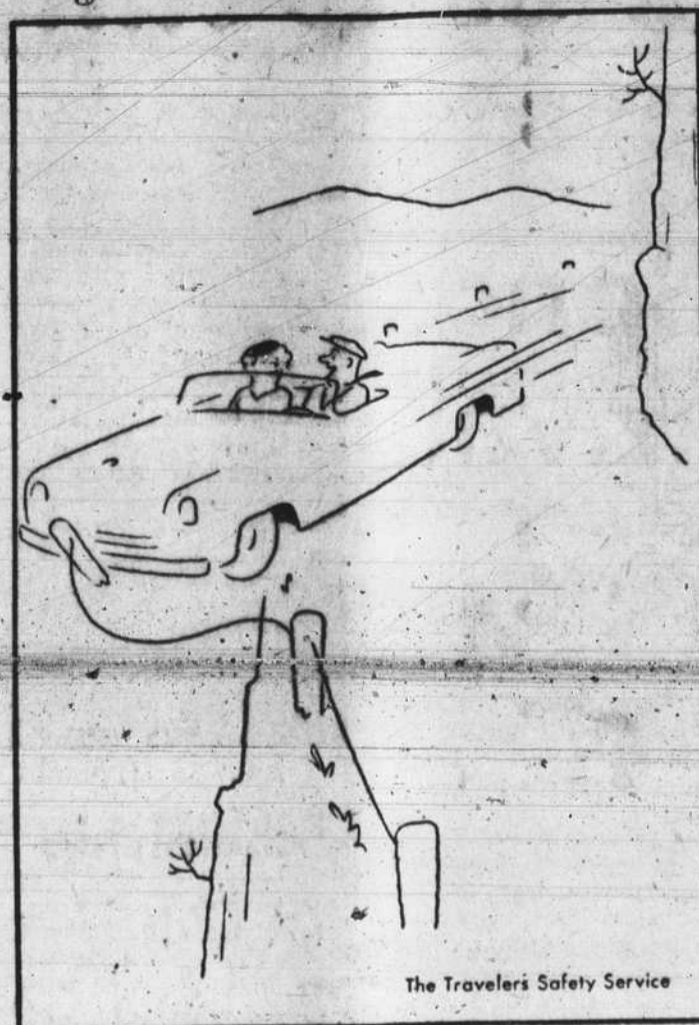
## Ambushing the REA

Herbert Hoover when President demonstrated his belief that the object of government was to nurse the big private corporations and banks. There should be no occasion for surprise therefore when the Hoover Commission is found sitting in ambush waiting for a chance to assassinate the Rural Electrification Program.

Mr. Hoover recommends that the REA be converted into a "Rural Electrification Corporation" and pay double for its loans. There is no disguising the intention to make the REA line up with the Eisenhower administration's effort to throw all government enterprises back into the hands of private interests, with private-profit the goal and object.

The effect would be damage to one of the

## Misguided Missiles by Chon Day



... and this buggy has every safety feature the manufacturer could think to put in it.



## SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS

WASHINGTON—I was invited to address the Harvard Law School Association of New York City on last Thursday night. This afforded me an opportunity to speak on a subject that has given many members of Congress great concern. It is what is happening to the law of the land and the supposed sovereignty of the States.

## The Supreme Court

The Constitutional Convention of 1787 comprehended the everlasting political truth that no man or set of men can be safely trusted with governmental power of an unlimited nature. They determined above all things to establish a government of laws and not of men, and they provided for the doctrine of separation of powers. They failed to place any well defined limits on the judiciary powers. It was strongly felt that the Chief Executive would always select men to sit upon the U. S. Supreme Court who would be able and willing to subject themselves to the restraint inherent in the judicial process. Although one may possess a brilliant intellect and be actuated by lofty motives, he is not qualified for the station of a judge in a government of laws unless he is able and willing to subject himself to the restraint inherent in the judicial process.

How is this mental discipline required? It is ordinarily the product of long and laborious legal work as a practicing lawyer, or long judicial work as a judge of an appellate court or a trial court of general jurisdiction. It is sometimes the product of long and laborious work as a teacher of law. It cannot be acquired by the occupancy of an executive or legislative office.

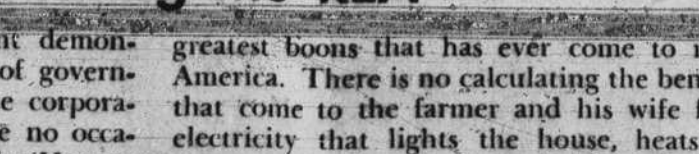
Law is destitute of social value unless it has sufficient stability to afford reliable rules to govern the conduct of people, and unless it can be found with reasonable certainty in established legal precedents.

For generations, Presidents selected men who possessed the background and mental discipline to be distinguished Justices of the U. S. Supreme Court. These men had long participated in the administration of justice either as practicing lawyers or as judges of the State Courts or as judges of the Federal Courts inferior to the Supreme Court. They knew that it is the duty of the judge to interpret the law, not to make it.

I was taught by my father in my youth to repose an absolute confidence in the Supreme Court. He was accustomed to refer to the Supreme Court with reverential awe. He used to say that this tribunal would administer justice according to law even though the heavens fell. Candor compels the confession that on many occasions during recent years the Supreme Court has to all intents and purposes usurped the power of the Congress and the States to amend the Constitution and to nullify acts of Congress.

Restraint The majority of the members of the Supreme Court during recent years have been either unable or unwilling to subject themselves to the restraint inherent in the judicial process. All men of high attainments and of the members are genial gentlemanly accomplishments. But the majority have not had the background which is necessary to the judicial process. A qualified occupant must lay aside his personal notions of what the law ought to be and base his decisions on what the law has been de-

## My Neighbors



"We got our guaranteed annual wage. Now all we have to do is find a guaranteed annual factory!"

## Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

It is a well known fact that the early tomato blossoms or blossom clusters often fail to set fruits. This may be due to a number of factors but is usually due to cool temperatures early in the growing season when the first two clusters of blossoms appear. It has been found that applications of certain plant hormones to the blossoms will cause fruits to set. In many cases these fruits are seedless or almost seedless. Experiments have shown that, in the case of tomatoes, it is only worth while to spray the hormone on the first two or three clusters. These hormones are now available at any seed store under trade names such as "Blossom Set", "Sure Set" and "Fruitone".

They should be used according to the directions given by the manufacturer, otherwise they may cause damage or heavy wrinkling of the tomato fruits. The material should be sprayed on the open blossoms with an atomizer or fine spray. Shake all the blossoms on a cluster do not open at one time it will require at least two applications for each cluster. Many commercial growers are now using fruit setting hormones successfully and there is no reason why they should not be successful in the home garden especially in cool growing seasons. The fact that many fruits would be seedless might be an added attraction or incentive.

## A TASTE

Speaking of dogs, a gal took her five-year-old daughter to visit friends who owned a very friendly Irish Setter. The dog was very fond of kids, but the child was afraid of dogs, not having one at home. On seeing the little girl the Setter dashed over to her, put his paws on her shoulder and swiped her face a couple of times with his tongue. Naturally, the kid screamed bloody murder, and naturally her mother dashed over to investigate.

"Did the nasty old dog bite mommy's darling?" "No, mommy, but he tasted of me!"

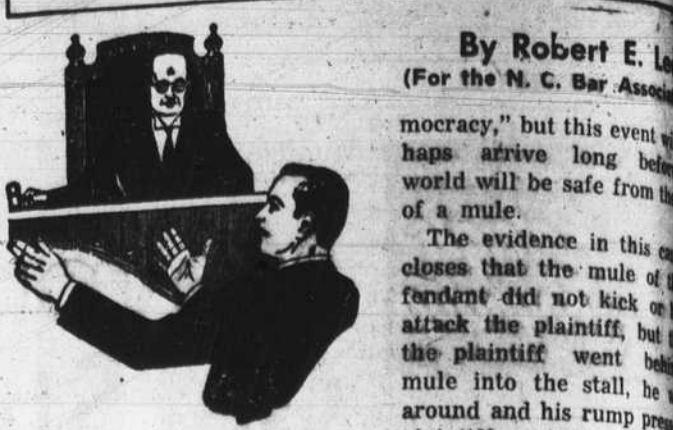
## STATEMENT OF THE AGES

"My religion consists of a humble admiration of the illimitable superior spirit who reveals himself in the slight details we are able to perceive with our frail and feeble minds. That deeply emotional conviction of the presence of a superior reasoning power, which is revealed in the incomprehensible universe, forms my idea of God."—Albert Einstein

I deplore the practice of Presidents of the United States in recent years who ignore the numerous servants of the law who have performed years of devoted judicial service on courts inferior to the Supreme Court when they are called upon to make appointments to the Supreme Court of the United States.

It may be that in making these observations, I am merely enacting the role of a fool who rushes in where discreet angels fear to tread. If so, I can plead in extenuation of my folly that I love the American Constitution and know that an indissoluble Union composed of indestructible States cannot endure if our government of laws does not survive.

## THIS IS THE LAW



## KICKING MULES

There was interesting case before the Supreme Court of North Carolina in 1926 involving a kicking mule. It is the case of Doctor v. Southern Coal Co., 192 N. C. 804.

Dr. ... had been told to get eggs laid by hens in a stall where a mule was kept. He was kicked by the mule and seriously injured. There was no evidence that this particular mule was more vicious than mules generally or that the owner was aware of its being more than ordinary vicious.

Although the jury rendered a judgment of six hundred dollars in favor of the injured plaintiff, the Supreme Court would not permit the judgment to stand. It said the judgment was contrary to law.

The opinion of the Supreme Court in this case is a legal classic. It was written by Justice Willis J. Brogden.

The opinion is far more interesting than the usual run of Supreme Court decisions and for this reason the greater portion of it is reproduced herewith:

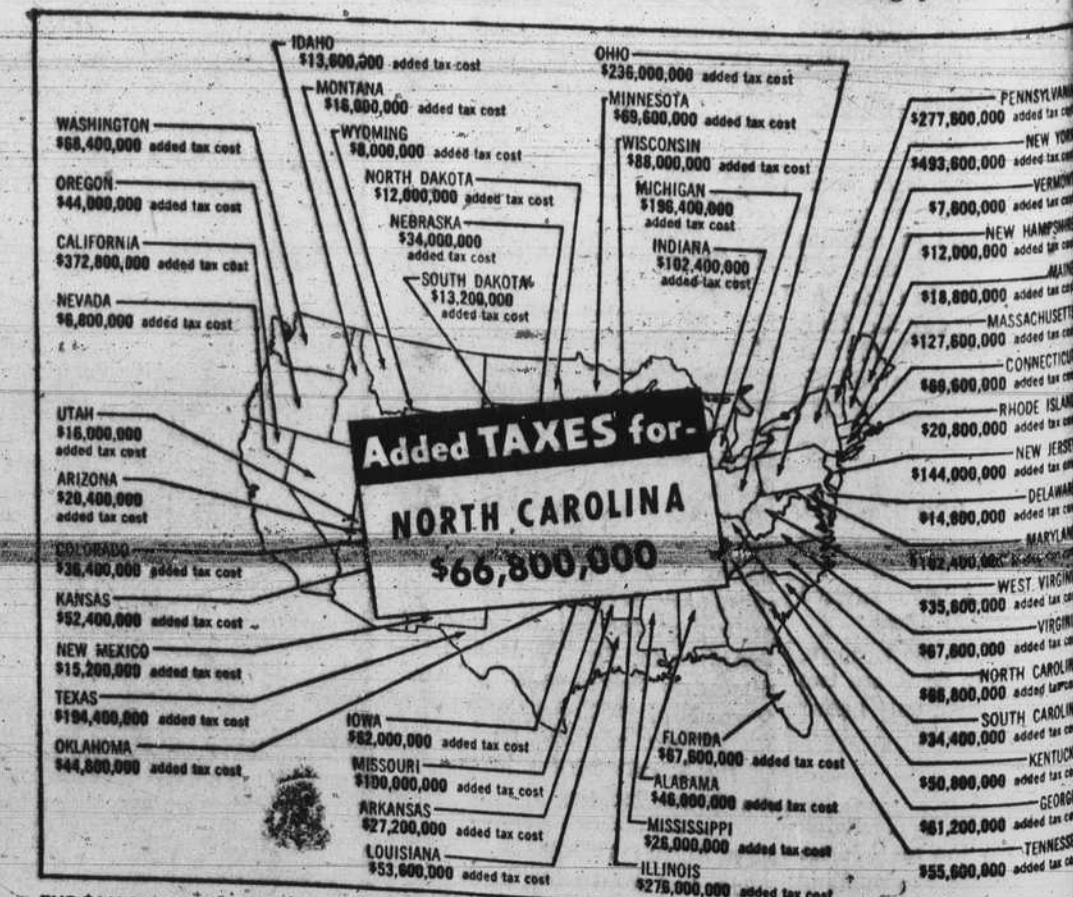
The question of law presented by this case is, what duty does the owner of a mule owe to an employee who has charge of the mule and who goes into the stall where the mule is?

A mule is a melancholy creature. It is a nullius in filius in the animal kingdom. It has been said that a mule has neither "pride of ancestry nor hope of posterity." John Billings remarked that if he had to preach the funeral of a mule he would stand at its head. Men love and pet horses, dogs, cats and lambs. These domestic animals have found their way in literature. Shakespeare said of a horse: "I will not change my horse with any that treads but on four pasterns, when I bestride him I soar, I am a hawk, he trots the air; the earth sings when he touches it." But nobody loves or pets a mule. No poet has ever penned a sonnet or an ode to him, and no prose writer has ever paid a tribute to his good qualities. He is kicked and cuffed, and beaten and sworn at, and frequently under-dered and forced to work under extremely adverse conditions; yet, withal, he has a grim endurance and a stubborn courage which survives his misfortunes and enables him to do a large portion of the world's rough work.

It is a matter of common knowledge men who know mules and deal with them; that they are uncertain, moody, and morose. This particular mule, charged with injuring plaintiff, was referred to in the oral argument as an "unsafe mule" and as an "unsafe tool and appliance." The idealist may dream of the day when the world is safe for de-

## DEATH AT INTERSECTION

Two-car collisions at intersections totaled 12,681 in North Carolina last year of which 980 fatal. In cities the rate was what higher, here were also fatal accidents at intersections involving pedestrians.



THE TAX MAP above shows how much the Upper Colorado River Basin Project bills, now before Congress, would cost the taxpayers of each state in the nation. These bills call for a number of large dams on the upper reaches of the Colorado River and numerous irrigation projects in the states of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. National tax authorities say that hidden subsidies in these so-called "reclamation" project bills would cost the people of the United States more than \$4 billion in added taxes. The total cost to taxpayers is based on repayment schedules presented to Senate and House Interior Committees by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The cost to each state is based on computations by The Tax Foundation, New York City and Washington, D.C.