

# Editorial And Opinion

## Slow Down.. Your Life's At Stake

"You've got to slow down, Charlie." Or Bill. Or Jim. Many a middle-aged executive has heard such advice from his physician—and good advice it is. Actually, this advice applies not only to overworked adults, but to practically everybody. This summer it is particularly applicable to drivers of automobiles who show symptoms of having been bitten by the "Hurry Bug."

A nation wide "Slow Down and Live" campaign, now being conducted by the National Conference of State Safety Coordinators in an attempt to reduce traffic fatalities between now and Labor Day, deserves our thoughtful attention.

It would be wrong of us to dismiss this campaign as being aimed only at the speeders who habitually ignore posted speed limits. They may be the one most obviously in need of such advice, but the campaign strikes more broadly at all "in a hurry" attitudes and even at the fleeting impulses which occasionally victimize the most reserved of drivers.

The campaign seeks to eliminate not only illegal speeding, but driving too fast for conditions, improper passing, failure to yield right of way, following too closely—all mistakes that are know accidents producers.

This campaign has the pledged support of the Governor's Traffic Safety Council and the Department of Motor Vehicles plus a long list of public spirited organizations including this newspaper. But to be successful it must have the active cooperation of each driver—and there are over a million and a quarter in North Carolina. That's where the hitch comes in.

Realizing the important role we play in any venture of this type, and being in full agreement with the objective of saving lives in traffic, the least we can do is give the "Slow Down and Live" idea a chance by practicing these rules of safe driving this summer:

1. Allow an extra margin of time for each motor trip, to avoid the need for rush-action on the highway.
2. Always obey legal speed limits, and exercise good judgment by further reducing speed in bad weather or in heavy traffic.
3. Allow adequate distance between your car and the one ahead. (At least one car length for each ten miles per hour of speed).
4. Resist the impulse to pass a slow moving vehicle on a hill or curve.
5. Reduce speed when approaching intersections, be prepared to yield right of way not only when the law requires it but whenever yielding appears necessary to prevent a collision.
6. Develop attitudes of patience and forbearance instead of yielding to the more dangerous attitudes of impatience and anger while driving.



(Continued from page 1)

come up with a whole fistful of key jobs or committee positions to be filled. With each appointment, he naturally gains political strength. If it's not judges, then it's higher education, and it's not water resources, it's members of the State Utilities Commission.

New comes an Attorney General.

On the present staff, there are at least three able assistants. Wade Bruton, Montgomery County native, is oldest in point of service. He was exceedingly close to McMullan. He knows the department through and through. Bruton has been named acting head.

Then there is Ralph Moody of Murphy, who is regarded by those who know him in Raleigh as something of a legal wizard and deep-digging scholar on intricate legal matters. Moody has been with the Attorney General's office for about ten years. He is a former chief counsel for, and chairman of, the Employment Security Commission.

Newcomer of the three is Dr. Beverly Lake of Wake Forest. Fiftyish son of the late head of the Department of Physics at the Baptist school; Lake was for a time head of the Wake Forest Law School, and is something of a controversial figure.

There you have them. Will the Governor go to Montgomery County, to Cherokee, or over to Wake Forest? He may not name any one of the three. Whoever is in the Democratic primary next named must run for the office spring if he wants to hold the job beyond the fall of 1956. Since the appointee will have been on the assignment less than a year at that time, chances are he will have opposition.

But if he can get by that one, he should have scant cause for worry about his political future. Attorneys general in North Carolina have had no trouble in the past in downing any opponents having the ambition and the nerve to try for that particular office.

**JOINING HANDS** ... Nobody paid too much attention to the announcement last week that much of the operation of the big Job P. Wyatt hardware firm here would be moved from its Wilmington Street quarters to a big new building to be constructed out on the edge of town.

The same newspaper article pointed out that a large portion of the store being vacated would eventually be used by the Hudson-Belk Co. through a tunnel to be constructed from the present store under Wilmington Street to the vacated Wyatt building.

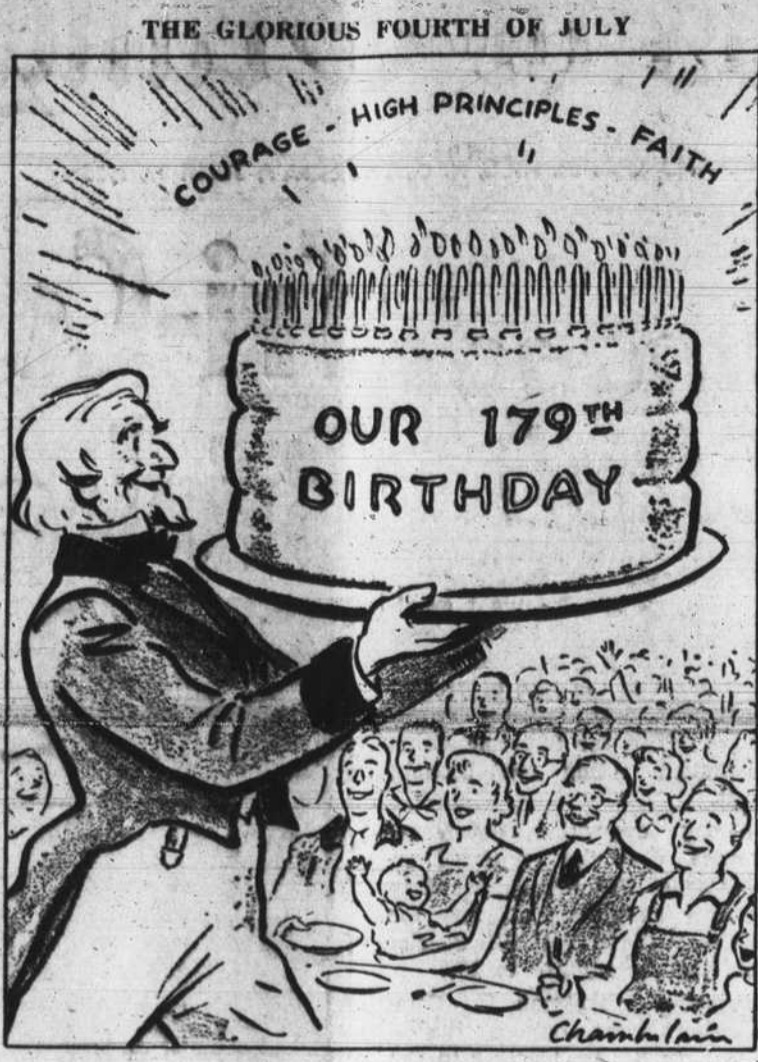
This is just another case of Baptists and Presbyterians joining hands, a rather rare incident in North Carolina church circles.

It so happens that the aggressive head of the Hudson-Belk store in Raleigh is Karl Hudson, Jr., whose family have been great benefactors of many a Presbyterian cause in this State. His wife is the former Catherine Wyatt, daughter of Will Wyatt, and from one of the most prominent Baptist families in the South.

The Baptist and Presbyterian denominations would be measurably poorer in many more ways than money without the help of the Wyatt's and the Hudson's. It is only proper that their families are joined in marriage and their lives by tunnel or otherwise.

We wish them continued success in their new and expanded endeavors.

**WEATHER** ... It may be hot as blazes here by the time this reaches you, but this summer—so far—has been the most comfortable in many a day in Raleigh, which ordinarily is not the coolest place in the world at this time of year. The Weather Bureau took a brief glance backward for me last Sunday afternoon and reported this June, to June 26, as the coolest in Raleigh in eight years.



## THIS IS THE LAW



### ADOPTED CHILDREN

May an adopted child take the surname of its adoptive parents? Yes. It is customary for the adoptive parents to make such request in their petition for the adoption of the child. A new birth certificate is issued in the changed name of the child.

An adoption is a formalized legal proceeding.

Alexander executes a will. Subsequently Alexander and his wife adopt a child. Alexander does not change the terms of his will and there is no mention of the child in the will. Does the adopted child inherit anything from Alexander?

Yes. Under a new law, passed by the 1955 General Assembly and taking effect on July 1, 1955, the after-born child is entitled to such share in the estate of Alexander as it would be entitled to if Alexander had died without a will. The will of Alexander is not otherwise revoked or affected.

The new law gives to an after-adopted child the same rights of inheritance that are presently given to a natural child born after the execution of a will.

If the particular child had been born into the family or adopted into the family of Alexander before the execution of his will, and had not been given anything under the terms of the will, the child would not have inherited anything from the estate of Alexander.

A parent is not obligated to leave anything by will to his children. But if there are either af-

**By Robert E. Lee**  
(For the N. C. Bar Association)

ter-born or after-adopted children, and there is no provision whatsoever in the will in reference to them or an indication in the will that the testator intentionally did not make specific provision therein for them, the law will give them what they would get had he died without a will. This is on the theory that the testator would have done so himself if he had gotten around to changing his will.

A man dies without a will. He is survived by two natural children and one adopted child. Will the three children share equally in the distribution of his estate? Yes. The estate will be divided equally among the three children.

Albert Biggs and his wife adopt a child. Subsequently Albert dies. Later his father dies without a will. Can the adopted child inherit anything from the estate of Albert's father?

Yes. The adopted child will be the representation of his adoptive father, "stand in the shoes of his adoptive father," and take the share his adoptive father would have received had he been alive.

This is the last of a spring series of articles that have appeared weekly during the past three months. They have been written for the non-lawyer as a public service of the North Carolina Bar Association.

### HE NEVER MARRIED

When Robert Schuman was asked by friends why he remained a bachelor, the French foreign minister answered this way:

"One day when I was young, as I walked in the subway I stepped on a woman's foot. Without looking at me she shouted, 'Stupid! Why can't you be careful?' 'I was very surprised and was trying to answer when she turned to face me and gasped, 'Oh, I am so sorry, sir, I thought you were my husband.'—Heathways.

### THE ALL-IMPORTANT ASSISTANT



## PEOPLE & ISSUES

by Cliff Blue

**McMULLAN** ... The death of Attorney General Harry McMullan in Raleigh last Friday again brings to focus the fact that many of North Carolina's leading public officials gain their way to high office and public service by appointment rather than by election of the people. McMullan himself went to the Attorney General post through appointment by Governor Hoey upon the elevation of the late A.A.F. Seawell from that position to Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

**OTHERS** ... There are seven members of the Council of State, they being the Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Labor and Commissioner of Insurance, all elected by the people. The Attorney General who is elected by the people is the legal adviser to the Executive Department.

A check reveals that of the seven members of the Council of State, only two reached the position by election of the people, they being Thad Eure, Secretary of State, and L. Y. (Stag) Bullentine, Secretary of Agriculture. The five others, State Auditor Henry Bridges, State Treasurer Edwin Gill, Supt. of Public Instruction Charles F. Carroll, Commissioner of Labor Frank Crane and Commissioner of Insurance Charles F. Gold were all first appointed to their respective positions.

Including in the list the Attorney General, making a total of eight, only two of the eight or one-fourth were first elected by the people.

**LESSON** ... The lesson which the above facts point out is that if you want a high office in North Carolina you can generally reach it through friendship with the Governor better than through a vote of the people. Men appointed by the Governor to State positions are usually able to win nominations and election when voting time rolls around. However, this has not held in cases of U.S. Senatorial appointments in the past although the odds are now that Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr. will upset the tradition when he faces the voters eleven months hence.

**VIRGINIA** ... We were in Richmond, Virginia recently and while there talked with a leading citizen and member of the Harry Byrd wing of the Democratic party. He said that while the Byrd group had provided good government for Virginia that the group had kept out new blood which was necessary and that unless they did accept new blood into the group that they would likely lose out soon.

**WORTHINGTON** ... When Rep. Sam O. Worthington accepted reappointment to the State Utilities Commission, the foes of school integration lost a strong supporter in any special session of the General Assembly which may be called. Along with Rep. B. I. Satterfield of Person County, Worthington was one of the most uncompromising advocates of continued school segregation in the 1955 General Assembly. Worthington is an independent man whose quiet Southern drawl has often proved very effective. He toyed with the idea of running for Speaker last year and would have run had Larry Moore decided not to make the race.

**HODGES** ... Hodges' reappointment of Worthington is a clear indication that the Governor does not hold it against a man for following his own convictions even though in doing so he opposes the Governor's program. Worthington fought the Governor's proposed tax on tobacco tooth and toe-nail, and he was also at odds with the Governor on his approach to the segregation problem. This tolerant attitude has not always held sway in the Governor's office. Its another sign that Luther Hodges is no small man.

**AUTO SALES** ... The auto race is still on in North Carolina. In May Ford led in car sales 2789 to 2683 for Chevrolet. However, Chevrolet led in truck sales 832 to 592, giving Chevrolet an overall car and truck combination

## Washington Report

# Of Bodyguards And Horses Named

**RUSSIANS** Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov's visit to the United States for the 10th anniversary meeting of the United Nations is causing some interesting side-line talk.

Take the matter of Russian bodyguards, for instance. The word is that during the San Francisco meeting of the U. N., poker-faced, stuffy-looking bodyguards hovered over Molotov—never letting him get out of reach.

The bodyguards who watch over top Russian officials are members of the Soviet Secret Police and are counterparts to members of the U. S. Secret Service, who agents watch over President Eisenhower.

**CONTRAST** There is a great contrast in the way Russian agents and U. S. Secret Service men operate.

When President Eisenhower is

## Garden Time

Robert Schmidt

The time is at hand for sowing seed for some of the fall crop vegetables that are transplanted. Seed of tomatoes should be sown at once and seed of broccoli, cauliflower, collards, Brussels sprouts and cabbage should be sown during the next two weeks for fall plants: In the western part of the state it is also time to plant rutabaga, turnips if you have use for this vegetable.

Also, there is still plenty of time left to plant succession crops of butterbeans, snap beans and sweet corn, although late sweet corn is usually severely attacked by earworms.

You will notice that many of our fall vegetable crops are closely related to cabbage and mustard. That means that you probably will have trouble with the harlequin cabbage bug, sometimes called "terrapijn bug". The best control for this insect is 20% sabadilla dust applied as soon as you see a few of the insects. Fall tomatoes will have to be sprayed with tribrasic copper sulphate to control leaf spot and late blight. If your soil is heavily infected with root-knot nematodes you probably will not be successful late tomatoes.

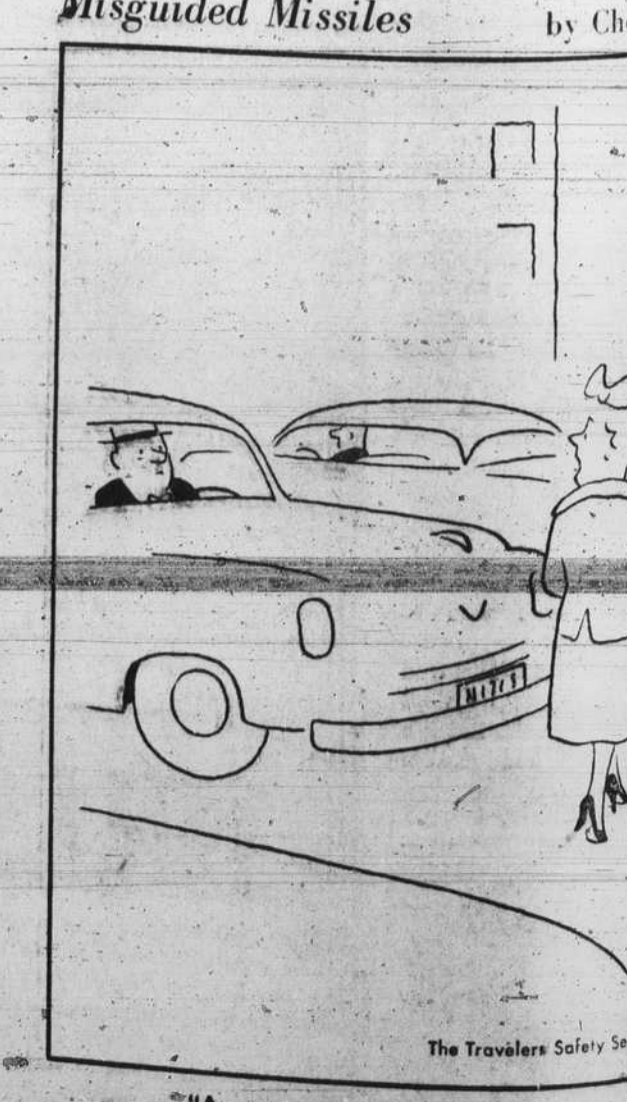
In the flower garden it is time to divide and replant or plant new varieties of iris. Also, some of the best fall flowers are obtained from Zinnias and marigolds sown right now.

### NO PINCKNEY POINT

In my book on the life of Mr. Charles Pinckney of South Carolina, I absolutely obsessed the idea of religious freedom and man's dignity. I was therefore to hear from Erby, director of the South Carolina Archives, in an inquiry, that there is no statue anywhere in the city of Columbia. This was very much Charles Pinckney was one of the immortal English-speaking Americans. Harry Golden in Current Literature.

### Misguided Missiles

by Chou



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