

Editorial And Opinion

Some Increases Long Overdue

At this particular time of the year as the County Commissioners wrestle with details of a new budget, we are reminded each year of one aspect of Orange County government that somehow depresses us. For there is prevalent in our county among a substantial segment of influential citizens, some in office and some formerly in office, others with a sort of quasi-official relationship, who have long made a fetish of conservatism insofar as official salaries are concerned. These citizens, we have noted, point with pride to the fact that Orange County has never paid its officials "high" salaries. They seem to derive a sort of peculiar satisfaction in Orange County retaining its historic position near the bottom in any tabulation involving expenditures in behalf of the "human side" of the local government operation.

Through the successful efforts of these devotees of financial conservatism for the other man, Orange County through the years has underpaid most of its elective officials and major department heads. There are some exceptions but salaries have been kept below the level of similar jobs in neighboring and comparable counties. Such being the case, it is small wonder that the county has been able to enjoy the caliber of service that it has in recent years.

Continued increases in appropriations for the material requests often find easier sledding than do officials' salaries, and the spread between the lesser and major positions generally is not enough.

Some cases in point:

The Welfare Superintendent of Orange County who supervises the expenditure of well over a quarter of a million dollars a year is paid a shameful \$3,720. Orange's rank in this field, 34th in a field of 35 counties of the state with a comparable population and caseload.

The Clerk of Superior Court, who also serves as Juvenile Judge and Clerk of Recorder's Court, gets \$4,400. In neighboring Chatham, the Clerk gets \$5,620. In Person he gets \$5,000, and so on.

Our Sheriff gets \$4,100. Chatham's Sheriff gets \$5,850. Person's \$4,500 with \$2,400 travel allowance; Granville's \$5,200, and so on.

The Accountant and Tax Supervisor gets \$4,400. Chatham's gets \$4,980 and other counties varying according to functions and duties.

And so it goes.

Definite and drastic improvement in this field is just and long overdue.

Hullabaloo And Hooey

The action of the County Commissioners in recommending legislation which would result in more equally and justly apportioning the membership of that body has brought the expected reaction. Some factions in Chapel Hill, from whence strangely came the original proposal, have begun their pressure tactics to have the Commissioners rescind their action.

Most of the protest beguilely centers around the premise that the Board acted hastily and didn't give opponents a chance to be heard. Stated differently, the Board acted promptly on the same day, but hours following the original proposal, and with an impressive show of unanimity on a matter deserving action and recommended strongly by a group of responsible citizens. Further harangue, if the Commissioners have the strength of their convictions, will hardly change the result.

Strangely ironic, and far from accurate, is a protest statement filed by the president of the League of Women Voters: "It carried through one result will be tantamount to disenfranchisement of a part of the County's population." Preposterous, we say. The right to vote, the denial of citizenship, is in no wise involved.

If so liberal and enlightened Chapel Hill's loyal electorate's bloc voting tactics have long since disfranchised Little River and many another Orange community's citizenry.

The 'In-A-Hurry' Complex

We in this country have a high regard for speed. The fact that we make things faster and distribute them faster than other nations has a great deal to do with our economic strength. In sports we like fast-moving games. For most of our life is geared to a pretty fast tempo.

But there's a place for everything—including speed. And the staggering toll of traffic deaths, plus the fact that speed is involved in a majority of them, makes it plain that speed has no place on the highway.

That "in a hurry" complex is the target of the Slow Down and Live campaign on the highways of North Carolina this summer.

The sponsoring Governor's Traffic Safety Council believes that if this message can be implanted in the minds of drivers everywhere it can effect a reduction in the traffic toll.

Of course, it's always difficult to say exactly why an accident didn't happen.

But certainly the frightening highway death and injury toll commands the support of everyone in this national effort to keep speed in its proper place.

This newspaper accepts Slow Down and Live as its slogan for the highways.

If our readers want to follow suit—then welcome to the club!

KIDD BREWER'S
Raleigh Roundup

(Continued from Page 1)

Frankly, we are expecting big things some day from J. M. Broughton, Jr., here, who has played some leading roles in the campaigns of others—but has managed to refrain from going big-time himself. He is quietly building a good law practice, makes friends easily, and may one of these days ask for a return of many favors he has been giving.

THE STRONGEST? One of Wake County's leading Republicans—we still have quite a few with that label on them and more without the label—got tired last week of Democrats talking to him about President Eisenhower's health.

He finally said to one of them: "Let me tell you something. I am the strongest, physically, of the three leading candidates for the Presidency. Adlai Stevenson has had a kidney taken out. Avel-rell Harriman has had his prostate gland taken out. All I have done is have a portion of his intestines taken out. He's in better shape than any of them."

Put it down. This health talk finds more thin skins among the Republicans than anything else.

UP GRAY? Another liability of the Republicans seems to be Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson.

He came up with two bloomers last week... and was apparently called down by the White House on both of them. Word we get is that President Eisenhower is becoming increasingly nettled at Wilson—and is therefore expected to promote Gordon Gray to this important post early this fall.

THANKS TO PIEDMONT

An announcement by Piedmont Airlines last week that it is going to purchase a fleet of new turboprop airliners points to airport progress in North Carolina. Piedmont, in which we have more confidence than any other line in the country, serves Wilmington, Morehead City, New Bern, Kinston, Raleigh-Durham, Greensboro-High Point, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Fayetteville, Hickory, Pinehurst, and Asheville.

Some of these airports need better facilities—particularly as regards longer runways, etc. Purchase of the new planes by Piedmont will make it necessary for sharp improvements to accommodate the bigger jobs.

Piedmont will be absolved of any blame in its first fatality a few weeks ago.

CALAMUS AND DAHLIAS

See how Oscar Coffin of the Greensboro Daily News has been gently chiding Raleigh Times Editor Mark Ethridge, Jr., for not knowing something about that old Uncle Remus root-called calamus.

Says Oscar: "I whittled off a taste from one of the small chunks I generally carry with me when I have pockets enough."

Ethridge tasted it and said: "I have tasted this before. Do they ever call it something else?"

Yes, replied Coffin, those who haven't had much truck with Bre'r Fox, Babbit, and among them, may call it sweet flag. Well, for our money Mark Ethridge qualifies as a good Southerner, anyway, and the boss of a mighty good paper.

Now, as to dahlias, let's see what another editor—J. E. Buf-flap of Edenton—has to say about his son and this flower:

"When he moved to a new neighborhood in a midwestern North Carolina town he started to plant a garden. He found a lot of bulbs and he was sure they were artichokes, so he dug all of 'em up and I had his wife pickle 'em."

"However, when they began to gnaw on the things they didn't taste just right, so the wife was blamed for not knowing how to can artichokes. But the mystery was solved when a neighbor informed my son that where he dug up 'artichokes' the person who formerly lived there had a beautiful patch of dahlias."

"Now he wants me to send him some dahlia bulbs."

Well, I've heard of calamol; and if calamus is any relation to it, whatever, I personally want nothing to do with it. Just don't put me in that briar patch.



Smithfield Herald.

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 like this vegetable.

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

The dry hot weather of the past two weeks is the cause for a flock of complaints that tomatoes are rotting on the lower side or blossom end of the fruit. This is not an organic disease but rather (See GARDEN, Page 6)

WASHINGTON REPORT

SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS

BUSY. It was a busy week for Senator Scott last week. After over a year of work, approval was finally given to Scott's plan for a World Food Bank by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

It came in the form of a rider attached to the controversial foreign aid bill.

The overall bill is up for final Senate floor action this week, and the Tar Heel Senator is hoping the section on the World Food Bank will avoid the hot debate over the general foreign aid features.

BUSINESS. After making several speeches on the subject and working with individual Senators, Scott convinced the committee a World Food Bank would help put foreign aid on a more businesslike basis.

Under Scott's plan, the United States and other nations of the free world would pool surplus farm products and other raw materials. Needy nations in the free world would borrow from the pool, and repay later in cash or kind.

"It is a business like way of getting rid of some of our farm surpluses," Scott said, "and at the same time help some of the nations we are now giving cash."

VETERANS. The Senate Finance Committee has approved a bill that would give thousands of World War Two and Korean veterans the opportunity to take out National Service Life Insurance.

Many veterans either failed to take the insurance while in service or allowed it to lapse after discharge. The recently approved bill would give qualified veterans a chance to take advantage of the insurance program.

EXPOSE. On Wednesday morning, June 20, 1956, at exactly 11 a.m., a big black limousine was parked on Constitution Avenue

Tar Heel
PEOPLE & ISSUES
By Cliff Blue

LIONS This week, the week of June 24-30, probably more Tar Heels are in Miami, Florida than ever before at one time. Between 3,000 and 4,000 Tar Heel Lions plus their wives and families in most instances, are attending the 39th International Convention of Lions Clubs at Miami Beach.

LIONS STRONG IN STATE The Lions clubs have long been strong in North Carolina, and this year the Tar Heel Lions will dominate at the Miami convention because Jack Stickey of Charlotte, now first vice president of the great organization with over 540,000 members and with clubs in 74 countries of the world, will be elevated to the presidency of the international organization.

In the group of Tar Heel Lions will be Governor Hodges, a Rotarian of international fame. The writer of this column plans to attend the convention, and next week we hope to give a report on the convention from the Tar Heel viewpoint.

IKE LONDON Ike London, editor of the Rockingham Post-Dispatch is a pretty good political prognosticator. Last week in his "Glimpses—On The Cuff" editorial column, he predicted that the Democrats would nominate Truman for president and Harriman for vice president. He added that it was a "prediction we earnestly hope will not come to pass." He also speculated that it could be Harriman for president with Symington or Kefauver for vice president, but the Truman-Harriman slate was his prediction.

London added another interesting prediction: That when Congressman C. B. Deane retires from Congress he may sign up with M. R. A. in an important world-wide executive capacity. This column feels that there is more likelihood of his Deane prediction coming true than there is of the Democrats naming Truman and Harriman. Like Ike London, "We like Adlai."

COOLEY Tom I. Davis, manager of the Johnstonian Sun, who was active in the Harold Cooley campaign for renomination this year and who is said to

at the main entrance of the Senate Office Building, D.C. license No. 111. Sun bright. Traffic orderly.

Everything normal: Air conditioning going full blast. White sidewalks sparkling. Floor boards spotless. All four tires properly touched to the asphalt street.

To anyone who keeps up with such important matters as who has what license number, it was a cinch that it was the vice-president's car. Blixon, Nixon, or something like that.

CHARLIE CARROLL State Superintendent of Education Charles Carroll stamp of approval on the and objectives of Governor Hodges and the Pearsall commission in its public schools.

to be offered to the General Assembly in special session, the outgoing step was made toward opposition to the bill.

the General Assembly and on in the fall election amendment, or amendment to the State Constitution voted on by the people.

'Pardon Me, I'd Like to Take His Pulse'



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