

Editorial And Opinion

Courage Or Infirmity

All too often, it seems, court officials in Orange County are lawyers first and servants of the people second, if at all. And so, we have the spectacle of cases of public interest continued and continued, sometimes to their death, because lawyers know and discerning laymen suspect that delay and time are among the most powerful of legal weapons.

Is the Cheshire cross-burning such a case? Here, has been committed a cheap, common, community eye-blackening and thoroughly dastardly crime that requires no review here. The eyes of the community, the State, yes, even the nation, are focussed, awaiting a decision of courage or of infirmity.

Forcing On Them Cake

Any public official or group required to make a controversial decision and a choice between strongly opposed factions faces a difficult task. But decide they must and on the basis of the best information submitted to them and their own conception of the proper course.

The County Commissioners' decision in connection with the current Recreation District controversy admittedly is a hard one. It is made doubly hard by the absence of the fifth member, the experienced chairman.

The people of the municipality of Carboro and the rural areas on two sides of Chapel Hill are preponderantly opposed to being included in this special tax district, to judge from the impressive evidence of endorsing petitions. Arrayed against them are the Chapel Hill Jayces and an assortment of recreation-minded citizens from inside and outside the municipality of Chapel Hill itself. How the larger majority within the city itself feels, of course, has not been recorded.

We think the Rev. Charles Hubbard, one of the State's top public recreation figures and a strong advocate of the proposed Chapel Hill area program, struck the proper note when he said, from a legal standpoint, it might be right for the proponents of the district "to insist" on keeping it intact, but from other, possibly more compelling, reasons such insistence would be "out-of-order."

The charge has been made that the proposition has not been presented fairly in Carboro and the rural areas. And, this may be right.

The charge has been made that the legislation setting up the original lines was rammed through the legislature without sufficient consultation or proper regard for the smaller municipality and groups. And, this may be right.

The assertion has been made that the prior recreation election and tax would jeopardize a special school tax election needed to improve the Carboro School and liquidize a moral indebtedness to Chapel Hill school district. And, this likewise may be right.

The people of Carboro and the outlying rural districts may be digging themselves into a hole on the recreation question which they will regret, as has also been charged.

The undisputed fact, however, remains that a preponderance of opinion in those areas at the present time favors exclusion.

The Commissioners, it seems to us, can only conclude that those who don't want cake should not have it forced on them, hoping that enough frosting will remain to satiate those who want it and later to entice those without.

Pioneers—1957 Model

In these take-it-easy, let-George-do-it days of bond issues, state and Federal handouts, we give you Laurinburg as the nation's shining example of courageous, independent do-it-yourself citizenship.

Combining civic spirit with the willingness to dig down deep into their own pockets, residents of Laurinburg battled 17 other larger cities for the privilege of assuming a multi-million dollar obligation. They pledged three million in a whirlwind community campaign, and as a sort of encore, gave \$87,000 more to enlarge their hospital and an additional \$90,000 for a municipal swimming pool! Little wonder that the National Municipal League and *Look* magazine named Laurinburg an All-American city—the smallest to be so honored, and the only one in the south.

Back of the commotion and the honors was the decision to merge three small Presbyterian colleges into a single, consolidated Presbyterian College, construction of which would cost about seven million. The Junior Chamber of Commerce of Laurinburg was impressed with the cultural and educational advantages and the general progress such an institution could bring to their city. They convinced 500 others, and the campaign was on. Pledges from 3,000 individuals soon totaled more than three million dollars. Many were reported as giving not merely a tenth of their income, but a tenth of their net worth!

It has been pointed out that neither the college nor the fancy new swimming pool is a financial asset. Rather, from a bookkeeping standpoint, they are liabilities. But the townspeople believe that both will contribute to the kind of city they intend to have.

Most important of all, the people of Laurinburg have displayed the self-confidence, the faith and the fortitude not merely to meet their own problems, but to seek out and seize their own opportunities. Many in Laurinburg are feeling the pinch of their own generosity—but all are free, and all are proud. So should all North Carolina be.



(Continued From Page 1)

take off faster, go around curves at greater speed, maneuver in and out of long lines of traffic, and pass a car on the blind side of a hill.

PERFECT... He has just enough alcohol in his blood to make him the Perfect Driver... in his own mind. He is a killer. These four brightballs did the trick. His car has new power, and there is nerve-rattling excitement in its burst of speed.

This four-drink fellow will kill you, your wife, and your children. He would be less dangerous if he held a pistol instead of a steering wheel. He is one of the great menaces of modern civilization.

He may be an officer in his church; president of his civic club; and the proud father of fine children. But he will wreck your life and—on the witness stand—swear on the Holy Bible—he had drunk "only a coupla beers."

WHY IS IT?... The N. C. Dept. of Motor Vehicles needs sharper tests for determining the amount of alcohol in a driver's blood. Look for reference to this in their legislative program. Why? Because they have found through bitter experience that we lie on the witness stand—even though we have sworn to tell the truth.

The lie is breeding death, for it enables the dangerous driver to go on the highway again. They can cite you instances where the finest men in the community have failed to tell the truth when faced with the likely loss of their driver's license. This is disillusioning. This causes loss of faith in human nature and the basic goodness of man. But it happens—virtually every day somewhere in North Carolina.

At the Highway Patrol office here, they ask with furrowed brows: "Why is it that a man who is apparently a perfect citizen in every way—church, school, community, family—will lie to protect his own, or a friend's, driver's license?"

For two reasons, they tell you: Loss of the license might mean—often does mean—loss of job for self or friend. The second reason he lies is, to use the Highway Patrol's statement: "Plain old lack of guts."

If you can't trust the best men in the community to tell the truth, then what can you trust? Radar, blood tests, and other scientific tests? They don't lie. They are cold, harsh, cruel, maddeningly accurate—and far delivered from human kindness, weakness, and error. To them we must go—in order to protect us against ourselves.

NOTES... Look for another Nellie-bar-the-door thing over par and non-par banks when the Legislature meets again. It's already brewing in—of all places—the State Banking Commission. Meantime, there is some likelihood of Federal legislation aimed at non-par banks.

The News and Observer's Tar Heel of the Week this past Sunday was James Kemp Doughton, who is already in... for all practical purposes... as "this term's Speaker of the House in the General Assembly. Long-living Doughton's. He ran for his first political office at the age of 65—at the suggestion of his mother, who was 87... That was in 1949... and he came to the Legislature and moved fast. His dad, Rufe Doughton, was Speaker in 1891!

Some exceedingly interesting things afoot on the tobacco front... has to do with soil bank program... and can mean \$49,000,000 to N. C. farmers... if carried out with proper planning, etc. You will read more about it soon...

Insult & Injury

(News And Observer)

The student, who while in his cups, poured kerosene on the campus Christmas tree and then set it afire said he did so because of "Carolina tradition." Fortunately the Chapel Hill judge before who this fellow appeared did not regard his effort to add insult to injury as a defense.

It was bad enough to burn down the decorated and lighted Christmas tree. It was worse to try to make his misbehavior a part of any tradition of a great university.

The Little Men Who Are There



—C. R. Daniel For The News Leader

Senator Scott Thinks

Dulles Confuses More Than Solves

By BILL WHITLEY
TITO. In the past few weeks, Sen. W. Kerr Scott has been getting quite a bit of mail about the proposed visit of Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia to the United States.

Much of the mail, from all areas of the Nation, voices strong protest to the United States inviting the Communist ruler to make an official visit to this country. Scott's feeling about the proposed visit is quite firm. Of it, he says: "For quite a while, I have felt the President should get a new Secretary of State. Mr. Dulles has confused more problems than he has solved. Certainly, if he did resign, I'm sure anybody who replaced him would have better judgment than to invite Tito, who has double-crossed the United States in the past, to make an official visit to the United States."

GAS AND OIL. Senator Scott's movement to begin a thorough investigation of recent gasoline and fuel oil price increases picked up steam last week.

After drafting the resolution that would set up a special bi-partisan Senate committee for the purpose, Scott circulated it among his colleagues.

By the time he introduced it last

Friday, 19 other Senators, including Senator Ervin, asked to co-sponsor the resolution.

Meanwhile, two standing Senate committees announced that they wanted to look into the price increases also.

The Judiciary Committee expressed an interest in the matter in respect to any monopolistic practices that might be involved, and the Interstate and Foreign Commerce said it planned to look into the pricing practices of the industry.

"It certainly looks like there is plenty of sentiment in the Senate to carry out an investigation of the whole affair, Scott said.

"Since such an investigation cuts across the jurisdictional lines of several committees, I think it would be wise to have a special committee assigned to it to go into all its ramifications very thoroughly," he said.

CEREMONIES. Scott will be leaving Washington early next week for a busy week in North Carolina.

He plans to go from Washington to Raleigh Wednesday to take in all the festivities of Gov. Hodges' inauguration.

He will remain in the state until the middle of the following week for several speaking engagements.

Garden Time

By M. E. GARDNER

Today, as I write this, it is unseasonably warm in our neck of the woods, but we will have more cold weather. However, the days are getting gradually longer which reminds us that spring is just around the corner and we should be prepared when planting time comes.

Here are some suggestions and reminders. You folks in eastern Carolina should arrange to try the new Plymouth Irish potato this year and the Boone, another new variety, in the Piedmont and Mountains. These varieties have been especially bred for the coastal plains and the mountains, have also been extensively tested and I am sure you will like them. Fruit trees, grape vines, ornamental shrubs and trees should be planted whenever the soil is suitable.

If you haven't pruned your fruit trees and grape vines, there is still time, but don't delay. The same is true for the dormant spray to control scale insects on fruit plants. You were reminded in an earlier column about the importance of controlling insects and diseases and having a sprayer or duster adequate to do the job. We will give pointers from time to time as the insects and diseases appear in season. Hope you have cut your poinsettia plant back one-half and stored it if you plan to hold it over. Ours lasted unusually well this year. In fact we still have a white one which has been removed from the plant and placed in a flat dish over Aueuba (Goldust) leaves.

The question always comes up about using seed that have been saved from last year. It is best to determine your needs so that this won't happen. If you do have a reserve on hand, better not use them until they are tested. Here's how. Count the seed, so you can determine the percentage that germinate, and place them on a piece of moist blotting paper. Place this in the bottom of something like a pie pan and cover with another piece of moist blotting paper. Then invert a pie pan over the top to form a moist chamber. Keep at a temperature of 65 to 70 degrees as near as possible. Some seed will require a longer germinating period than others.

Frank

Father: "My boy, I never kissed a girl until I met your mother. Will you be able to say the same thing to your son?"
Junior: "Yes, Dad. But not with such a straight face."

Tar Heel

PEOPLE & ISSUES

By Cliff Blue

PRESS INSTITUTE... It was our privilege and pleasure to attend the 32nd annual Newspaper Institute held at Chapel Hill and Durham last Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It's always nice to visit in Chapel Hill, the home of the University of North Carolina with a national and international reputation which educators from far and wide refer to as a focal point of academic achievement in numerous fields of study. Frank Porter Graham during his many years as president of the institution did much to attract attention to the nation's oldest state university.

SKIPPER... We would say that one of the most missed people at the meeting was the late O. J. (Skipper) Coffin who served as head of the school of journalism for many years prior to his retirement some three years ago. The "Skipper" who trained many an outstanding newspaperman answered the final call a few weeks ago.

RED BUCK BRYANT... H. E. C. (Red Buck) Bryant who lives near Matthews in Mecklenburg County attended the Institute meetings. Mr. Bryant was 84 years on January 3, and is still keen and alert. He was a member of the UNC's graduating class of 1895 and upon his graduation started to work for the Charlotte Observer. He became a noted newspaper reporter and was the famed New York World's Washington reporter. He attended many of the state and national political conventions and was personally acquainted with many of our presidents and national leaders. He retired from active reporting some seven years ago when his wife died and returned to his old home in Mecklenburg County to live. He contributes a weekly article to the Charlotte Observer and a few of the weeklies in the State. It was a real treat to converse with Mr. Bryant regarding some of the events of the past 60 years of our state and nation.

SEGREGATION... In remarks at the dinner held at Duke University Friday night, Tom Robinson, Charlotte News publisher and President of the NCPA told the group that the most challenging days of the segregation issue lie ahead of us, even though some seemed to feel the issue closed with the passage of the Pearsall Plan and the School Assignment Act. We think the Charlotte publisher quite right. We further believe that from here on out most of the decisions in dealing with the explosive issue will have to be met and solved on the local level.

RE-APPORTIONMENT... North Carolina is not the only state where the heavily populated counties are crying for reapportionment.

NEWSPAPER TAX... Every group about to be fought back like wild cat recommendations of the Tax Commission includes a tax of tenth of 1 percent on the gross income of the newspapers. The week was that there would be a fight from the newspapers at the General Assembly was about a 3 per cent tax on circulation of advertising they fought like tigers and managed to win it. We think that chance improving that most of the proposals will be accepted by the General Assembly.

LOST... Ernest L. Ivins, then-in-law of Adlai Stevenson with Mrs. Ivins spends the winter at Aberdeen and Southern Pines some \$300 in wagers that would not succeed himself as a

ment of the law-making Georgia and several other the situation is very kind the Tar Heel situation. in Georgia the representative the Georgia Assembly is in proportion from Atlanta Fulton County than Mecklenburg and Guilford counties North Carolina.

THIRD HOUSE... Ken called "em" "the third house" is the lobbyists who swarm Raleigh and the Sir Walter in particular when the Assembly is in session. The helpful lobbyists and lobbyists are not for the best interest people. Among the group of lobbyists we would like Lee Humber of Greensboro did more selling than any man to bring the 1947 General Assembly around to approval on a contingency basis one dollar for the purchase of his work was strictly and today the state has one outstanding art galleries of South as a result. We have lobbyists for our schools and are not bad. Put on the hand there are lobbyists working in the interest of privilege who sometimes are exactly wanting justice—wanting the scales tipped in direction. To be a lobbyist at a session of the General Assembly it is necessary to convince one or firm that you have done with the law-making. Some have influence, some helping with information and suggestions like Mr. Humber, are not effective. Lots of hiring a lobbyist is like money down a rat hole—thrown away. Usually, legislators are regarded as most effective lobbyists are personal friends with the members of the House Senate.

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SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS

WASHINGTON—We are witnessing the unfolding of a very strange development here in the Nations Capital.

Strange Development
President Eisenhower sent his budget message to Congress on January 16. The first sentence in that message said: "I am presenting with this message my recommended budget for the United States Government for the fiscal year 1958, which begins next July 1."

From that statement, and subsequent remarks on the general theme of fiscal integrity, I formed the opinion that the President and the Administration sincerely felt that the budget presented included only responsible requests.

Now we have the strange development. The President and Secretary Humphrey shift their responsibility to the Congress to cut out the "fat" in the budget, a task which I submit they should have done. I fail to see the need for this type of buck-passing. I do clearly see the need for cutting the enormous Federal budget, the largest ever presented in peacetime. As a Senator, I will pledge my utmost to assist in this cutting task in every area not di-

rectly involving or jeopardizing our national defense.

Where To Cut
I think that the President's Secretary of the Treasury and others should clearly state to Congress exactly where they propose to reduce the budget. Congress does not prepare the budget, the responsibility of the President through the Budget Bureau, to prepare and present the Federal budget. I think the Administration should explain to the Congress and the country what it is when Mr. Eisenhower transmitted the budget to Congress and the phrase "my recommended budget." After the budget is forwarded to Congress by the President, Secretary Humphrey said that cuts could be made. He declined to advise "where" the cuts could be effected.

No Sound Basis
To me, this is one of the most unusual developments I have seen since being in the Senate. The Administration is saying: "Here is the recommended budget. It is the best we can do. You take it and find out where the fat is." As a consequence, we see very little hope for the payers in this fiscal year.

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Dennis the Menace

Best wishes for a successful cookie sale to the GIRL SCOUTS

"BETTER GET FIVE OR SIX BOXES, MOM. YOU KNOW ME!"