

Editorial And Opinion

For Tax Uniformity - Statewide

Bills now under consideration in the General Assembly make significant changes from a state-wide viewpoint in the valuation and assessment of real property for ad valorem tax purposes. They do little, insofar as Orange County is concerned, for our county has long been in the forefront in its efforts to assure that such taxes are levied in an enlightened and uniform manner, with equality as the goal always.

In other words, generally, they would require what we are already doing. That the same should be done on a state-wide basis to provide equal standards in all the one hundred counties of the state is certainly good. A companion proposal would provide for systematic revaluation of property each eight years and both are the outgrowth of Study Commission recommendations.

SB 162 (HB 331) would change the present quadrennial revaluation requirement to provide for regular 8-year revaluations, on a staggered schedule, so that about 12 counties would revalue each year, but any county wishing to revalue before its scheduled year could do so. County commissioners would be required to levy a special tax each year at a rate calculated to accumulate sufficient money (with other available funds) in the years between revaluations to pay for the next revaluation. SB 161 (HB 332) would legalize the time-honored practice of assessing property for taxation at substantially less than its true value. The bill would require that property be appraised at its true value, and that the county commissioners then adopt a fixed percentage of the appraised value as the assessment or taxable value. Taxes levied by the county, municipalities and other local taxing authorities would then be levied uniformly on the assessed valuation. In the fourth year following revaluation, the commissioners could make a horizontal increase or decrease in the appraised values to reflect current economic conditions, and the fixed assessment percentage would then be applied to the revised appraisal values.

Valuation of property for taxation is the most sensitive area of local government. Upon equality and uniformity of valuation rests whether taxes are levied fairly or unjustly. Rates of taxation are meaningless if valuations are not uniform and equally assessed. If the proposed new laws can establish and enforce equality and uniformity of assessments throughout the 100 counties and within the counties themselves, they should most certainly be adopted.

International Air Transport

More than 30 years ago, an unknown young man climbed into a single engine, fabric-covered airplane and flew non-stop from New York to Paris. His feat was not just a stunt. The dream of Charles Lindbergh was to promote aviation and a better understanding between peoples through air transportation. In the ensuing few years, he blazed other overseas routes which became highways of the sky for international airlines. The revolution in air transport has now hit full stride. It has demolished the distances of oceans and continents. It can be a mighty force in achieving for all time the two most important factors in making life worthwhile—personal liberty and peace.

For countless centuries, war and strife have been the penalty of looking upon our next door neighbors as foreigners. If the promise of international air transport can be fulfilled the word "foreigner" can be dropped from the dictionary.

Pan American World Airways, the first American-flag airline to place jets in international air service, reported shortly after starting its scheduled flights that thousands of advance reservations had been made by persons anxious to visit the nations of Europe. Businessmen, tourists, educators, families, all kinds of people, suddenly found that our neighbor across the seas were not so far away after all. High passenger volume at minimum rates will work the same miracle in transportation that mass production and mass distribution have done in other basic industries. The most fantastic luxuries of a few years ago have now become common-place necessities.

Mass international air transportation is whittling one more item from the list of luxuries attainable only by a few, and in so doing will help people realize that human beings are pretty much the same world over. However, as with any major industry, operating as a regulated, taxpaying, private enterprise, under a system of representative government where the voters and public opinion ultimately determine the policies and laws by which we all must abide, international air transport has its problems.

The international air-lines of the United States face tough competition from heavily subsidized or government-owned lines abroad. The best way to meet the competition of other nations is through a strong international air transport industry of our own. This fact was forcefully recognized by President Eisenhower when he declared that "the public interest requires competitive American flag service at the earliest feasible date on all international air routes serving major United States gateways. With such competition the benefits to the nation of international air transportation—increased trade and friendly relations abroad—become the greater."

It behooves civic bodies, communities and regulatory authorities to put forth their best efforts to encourage our international air transport industry.

Umstead's Column

(Continued From Page 1)

the separation effective. The Prison Dept., since that time, has been trying to get industries going that would teach prisoners useful skills and trades and at the same time help to put the Dept. on a self-supporting basis. The Bill enacted into law this week states that all state agencies shall purchase supplies made by the Prison Department industries from the Department if the quality is standard and the price equal to that by private industry. The Bill should go a long way toward making the department self-supporting, as well as offering a practical method of rehabilitation.

Another Bill enacted into law during the week was the compulsory polio vaccination measure. It had already passed the Senate and was passed by a sizeable majority in the House. The floor debate on the measure saw chronic objector to practically all legislation Roger Kiser of Scotland County, mixing it with one of the lady members, Dr. Rachel Davis of Lenoir County. Dr. Davis is a practicing physician and it is needless to add that with her apt and cutting replies she soon had the veteran from Scotland on the ropes. The House enjoyed this.

The Joint Roads Committees met to consider the Drunkometer Bill and they were much amused when a Baptist minister appeared in favor of the Bill and made the statement "that anyone voting against this Bill is irresponsible and has no business here representing anyone." Such a statement was unfortunate since opinion was divided as to the merits of the Bill and the statement did not increase the support among members of the committee and other legislators. Personally, I am in favor of the Bill, just as I am in favor of any and all legislation promoting safety on our highways and I hope that the Bill will have enough support, despite the above statements, to see it become law.

While on the subject of safety on the highways it is well to mention the fact that this assembly seems to be safety minded. Early in the session a Bill was introduced that would have increased from two to three the number of times a person would have to be convicted of speeding more than 75 miles an hour before his driver's license could be suspended. This measure was killed by a resounding voice vote in the House in spite of the fact that the Bill had a favorable report from committee.

A Bill that would have tended to weaken our financial responsibility law as to liability in auto accidents failed to pass the House on third reading. The proponents were, for the most part, veterans, while the opposition in the floor debate was composed largely of freshmen, chief among whom were Reid of Surry and Braswell of Wayne. This was the first time this session that the upperclassmen were defeated by the freshmen. Since the failure of a securities firm in Raleigh involving millions of dollars there has been a lot of talk concerning the projection that should be given our citizens in the licensing of dealers in securities. As a result of this interest in the matter a Bill was introduced requiring that dealers in securities would only be licensed after they had shown financial responsibility and calling for strict supervision of the activities of these dealers.

The Orange County Board of Education and the Orange County Board of County Commissioners sent me a Bill for introduction several weeks ago that called for the increase of members of the Board of Education from three to five. They did not specify who should be named to the two extra posts so I asked Mr. L. J. Phipps, County Democratic Chairman to call a meeting of the County Executive Committee to name the nominees to be put in the Bill. The Committee met Monday night and named Charles M. Walker, Jr. of Hillsboro, for a term of two years and Gordon B. Cleveland, of Chapel Hill, for a term of four years. I received the names from Mr. Phipps on Tuesday and with using the suspension of rules procedure the Bill was passed on Thursday. Thus the two newly named members and Mr. Ross Porter, who was named in the Omnibus Bill can all be sworn in the first Monday in April.

All-Weather Fisherman



Parents Should Tell Children

'Love Thy Teacher'

By JOHN COREY

Appalachian State Teachers College
Most parents teach their children:

Love and respect thy God. Love and respect thy father and mother. Many add:

Love and respect thy teacher.

Youngsters possessing this attitude toward teachers usually learn more, states John T. Howell, principal of the Appalachian State Teachers College, demonstration elementary school at Boone, N. C.

Further, the teacher does a better job of instruction, the principal contends. When there are no barriers, transmission of knowledge flows smoothly and freely.

The parent's really wanting to help Junior can't do better by the youth than cultivating within him a high regard and respect for the teaching profession, advises Howell, who's been a principal for 21 years.

Students harboring feelings for school superiors are as handicapped in the learning process as one verging on blindness. Teachers try hard to reach these pupils but too often the youngsters' shields of antagonism prevent their seeing those trying to help them.

Principal Howell contends that fathers and mothers best instill proper attitudes within offspring by setting example themselves. Parents should hold the teaching profession high in esteem and show it.

And on occasion should a parent think a teacher has erred, the matter should be discussed directly with him, not the child. In fact, the child should never know the teacher's action was even questioned.

Good teachers, like everyone else, need praise and recognition, Howell believes. The majority are underpaid and too often their contacts with parents are limited to those complaining about Junior's low grades or poor conduct.

The father or mother who drops by the class to render an unexpected "pat-on-the-back" for the teacher's fine job of penetrating algebra through Johnny's skull does nearly as much for the educator as a pay raise.

Underneath the teacher's thick crust of academic skin are feelings as tender as the incoming first-grader's. Respect and consideration for them are required for him to do his best job.

Although many schools have rules prohibiting pupils' giving presents to teachers, Principal Howell sees little harm in parents encouraging youngsters to show their gratitude by bringing teacher an apple or bouquet of flowers—if it's done out of love and not for favor.

But the finest present that can be given the classroom educator, says Howell, is a kind word here and there.

The Two Faces Of Giving

It is a good heart that looks on philanthropy and charity as an unfulfilling obligation. But there is another aspect to this that the thoughtful giver should not overlook.

There are agencies like the American Cancer Society which call on the enduring quality of philanthropy for purposes that offer a great deal more than the satisfaction of giving.

It should be noted that part of the involuntary tax dollar and part of the voluntary charity dollar are used for a common goal: the elimination of cancer.

It is interesting as well in our country that the fight against cancer is both a function of government and of philanthropy. The American public has assigned vital roles to the National Cancer Institute and to the American Cancer Society in the fight for cancer control. What is the significance?

By its own action, the public has shown that it regards an agency like the Cancer Society as an expression of its "will to conquer cancer. The public does not give to the Society" so much as it makes demands. The Cancer Society is not used merely as a receptacle for the discharge of conscience.

The Cancer Society is a public trust and has a duty to perform. It is precisely this kind of thinking the Society wants to attend its gifts. The Society correctly believes that the thoughtful giver will try to match his gift with the magnitude of the cancer problem. The thoughtful giver will understand that an agency coping with a formidable problem requires formidable support.

For 1959, the American Cancer Society has adopted an unlimited goal for its Cancer Crusade. The Society believes it is a fair measure of public understanding to ask for all the dollars necessary to save all those who now die of cancer.

The time is ripe for an all-out, unlimited attack on this dreadful disease. The opportunity is unlimited, the goal is priceless.

Some 40,000,000 living Americans will get cancer some day unless current rates are checked. Surely these lives are worth unlimited effort.

Think about your gift to the 1959 Cancer Crusade. Give that cancer may be conquered now!

How Much Is Your Time Worth?

How much does it cost to feed your family? That question can be accurately answered only by considering two kinds of "spending." One is money. The other is time.

A booklet which recently crossed our desk tells an interesting story. According to government figures, home prepared meals for a family of four for one day average \$4.90 in cost and takes 5.5 hours of the housewife's time. Partly prepared meals cost \$5.80 and takes 3.1 hours of time. And ready to serve meals cost \$6.70 and requires 1.6 hours of time.

In other words, if the housewife does all her own preparing, the meals will cost about a third less than if she uses the ready to serve types. But she will have to devote well over three times as many hours to the cooking task.

What it comes down to, as the booklet puts it, is "how much is your time worth?" The tremendous increase in demand for partly and wholly prepared foods indicates that great numbers of housewives put high value on their time.

Tar Heel

PEOPLE & ISSUES

By Cliff Blue

12TH DISTRICT . . . Considerable talk is going on these days about the 12th congressional seat in the national House of Representatives now held by David Hall of Sylvania. Following the primary in 1958, Rep. George A. Shuford decided that due to his health that he should not run again so the Democratic Executive Committee of that district, after a hot contest, nominated State Senator David Hall who was elected in the 1958 general election. Now Hall has been in poor health for some time and there is considerable talk that he too may resign, so the would be congressmen from the district are attempting to line up the committee in case Hall does decide to return to his native mountains of Jackson County. And if Hall does not retire, several in the district are getting ready to run for the nomination in the 1960 Democratic primary.

CANDIDATES . . . Among those prominently mentioned as possible candidates are former State Rep. Roy A. Taylor of Black Mountain in Buncombe County and Rep. I. C. Crawford of Asheville in Buncombe County. There will of course be other candidates. Heinz Rollman of Waynesville who ran for the nomination in 1958 against Shuford may well be in the running again. Rollman is wealthy and spent lots of money in his 1958 race. Would be candidates in the district may attempt to interest Rollman in running for a state-wide job—United States Senator or Governor, not that they would support him, but to get him and his money out of the congressional race.

NEW CAR SALES . . . If new car and truck sales are a good barometer of economic conditions, business must be pretty good in the Old North State. In February 1959 there were 7,861 new automobiles licensed in the state as compared with 5,846 in February 1958; and 1,789 new trucks registered as compared with 1,397 in February 1958. This represents about a 25 percent increase in new car and truck sales in February 1959 over February 1958. By makes here are the new car sales for February 1959: Ford 2438, Chevrolet 1771, Pontiac 545, Oldsmobile 425, Plymouth 426, Buick 376, Studebaker 259, Cadillac 164, Rambler 279, Mercury 173, Dodge 114, Edsel 82, Chrysler 60, DeSoto 50, Lincoln 24, Imperial 8, Metropolitan 10, Willys 7, Foreign makes 755; miscellaneous makes 4. New truck registrations for February 1959 were: Chevrolet 627, Ford 581, GMC 184, International 119, Dodge 105, Mack 48, White 29, Willys 24, Studebaker 11, Divero 9, Reo 3, Autocar 2, Diamond T 1. Foreign makes 43, miscellaneous makes 3.

Two years ago the total car and truck sales for February 1957 were 5,579, so we have now bounced back to a place above the flourishing sales of two years ago.

BELL PROPOSALS . . . Responsible senators are saying in Raleigh that the necessary legislation implementing the recommendation of the Bell Court Reform Commission will hardly get off the ground insofar as it is necessary to submit to the people proposed changes in

the State Constitution. This seems to be pretty general necessary court reforms made by the General Assembly. If the legislators will just sit down and face up to their responsibility, challenge and open Uniform court costs and the Justice of the Peace courts that the JP's earnings depend upon the conviction of the defendant, seem to be the most concern.

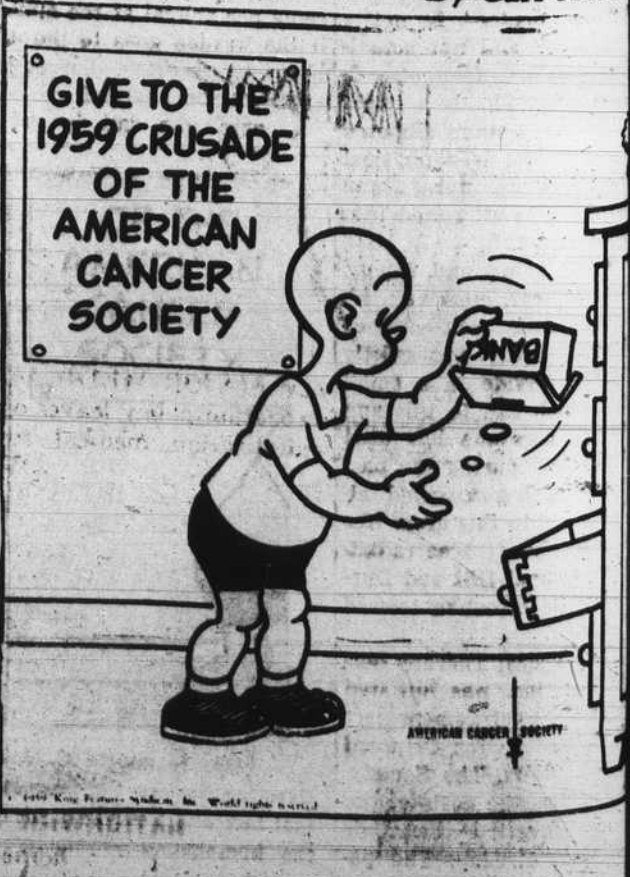
NEW YORK . . . New York is a far piece from Tar Heel nevertheless it's interesting that the nation's largest looking into the possibility of ceding from New York to New York city fathers maintain they are not just whistling. In Albany last week a meeting for a state constitutional amendment to create "New York" (New York City) and "New York" (the rest of New York City) pays but and 60 percent of the State revenue and gets back 35 percent of that revenue. New York state legislators controlled by lawmakers from counties and districts of New York City. This together unlike the state North Carolina where the and representatives from counties sometimes have end of the stick over the counties since we have many county legislators than makers.

TYPICAL . . . This is a mid-term session of the Assembly. The Governor's fluence, yes considerable but, right much less than two and four years ago. tion must stand more on than on administration ment, and this is as it is

WHIPPING BOY . . . In most terms of the General Assembly the nation's most feared papers becomes—the "whipping boy" of General Assembly members who dislike their reporting. This session no thus far taken out after "Reliable" like some of the have in past years. And believe the News and Observer a little more kind attitude towards the Assembly has been the case in past. The News and Observer crusade for a state-wide referendum and against "rule", subjects about to have not heard very much. Back in 1953 when Eugene was House Speaker the went forward with a no-holds-barred, with particular reference secret sessions.

WOMEN LEGISLATORS . . . three women members House, Mrs. Grace B. Ross, Mrs. W. G. Cover and Dr. Davis carry their full Legislative load and responsibility. Dr. Davis also handles subscriptions to the ailing hospital to help them overcome colds and troubles. Last gave the writer a present—a three-week old cold, so pill man we trotted and are feeling much better.

Henry By Carl Anderson



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