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 By Paul Dickson By D. Scott Poole
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DOUGALD COXE, Editor-Manager

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Rule By Relic

Perennial and continuing dissension within the governing body of the city of Fayetteville suggests that there may be, that in all likelihood there is something wrong with the aldermanic scheme, and the imminence of a primary in which two members of the House of Representatives and one member of the State Senate will be nominated, suggests that now might be an appropriate time for some serious thinking.

Alone among the larger towns of North Carolina, Fayetteville clings to the ancient aldermanic system of government. Basically the system is thoroughly democratic. Indeed, it is patterned after the government of the State and of the nation. Members of the government are chosen to represent defined districts. Fayetteville is divided into wards, and each ward is represented by its member on the Board of Aldermen. In theory, the system is pretty nearly flawless.

Whether it is so flawless in practice is something that needs thinking about. It will not be difficult for anybody to recall that a good deal of time and energy has been taken up with impotent bickerings within the Board. Not many weeks ago there was virtually a riot within the meeting about whether it would be proper for the city to perform so manifest a duty as the collection and segregation of stray dogs.

The functions of a modern city government have grown too complex for an out-moded form of government. Within the past 25 years the aldermanic system has virtually disappeared in North Carolina, and has been replaced by the commission form of government, with, usually a city manager. Fayetteville's present government dates back to the 1870's when the city surrendered its charter in Federal bankruptcy proceedings. It needs modernization.

If MacArthur Runs

Under the Articles of War, which is the governing law of all military personnel, if General Douglas MacArthur is nominated by any party for any office and he accepts the nomination, he would, automatically, relinquish his command and his active status in the military service. Whether he likes it or not, he would become a candidate. He could maintain no passive status.

Insofar as he has indicated, General Mac-

Arthur has no platform and none has been provided for him by his projectors except a vague plan to get on with the war. His chief spokesman, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, was once in the forefront of isolationism and was altogether opposed to the war. He continues at the forefront among critics of those who are charged with the prosecution of the war. Generally MacArthur has confined himself, in statements to "we do what we can with what we have."

It is conceivable that MacArthur the candidate would not be the glamorous figure that he is in uniform. He would campaign in civilian clothes, naturally, since he would be on inactive status. He retired from the army when he was succeeded by General George Marshall in 1939. What sort of campaigner he would make would remain to be demonstrated. It might very well be that he would be a whale of a candidate. He has a gift for florid speech.

Probably he would undertake a vigorously offensive campaign. He could make effective use of matter that has not, in the interest of military security, been made public. He might maintain that the Pacific theatre of war has been neglected in the matter of military supplies. At the moment that would not be particularly effective. Admiral Nimitz seems to be doing very well with what he has been able to assemble in the way of a fleet.

And, inevitably, MacArthur would have to defend himself. Not so much has been said—indeed, nothing officially has ever been said—of the results of the Japanese attack on Manila. At Pearl Harbor Kimmel and Short were pilloried for allowing their forces to be caught off balance. Nothing has ever been said of the fact that at Manila 300 heavy bombers were caught on the ground and 299 of them destroyed there. And with all his complaint against the apportionment of supplies, MacArthur has had no occasion to complain that there was not a submarine handy at Corregidor to remove him, his wife and son, from the doomed Rock. As a campaigning candidate MacArthur would have to account for that.

Perhaps it is not surprising that his projectors do not wish him to enter into actual campaigning.

Fighting 4-F

Two youths have been sentenced to the Guilford county work house because they badly battered three sailors who, allegedly, had derisively called them "4-F-ers". The encounter began in the lobby of the YMCA and continued serially in other places whither the service men fled, and were pursued during the better part of an entire night. The sentencing magistrate was shocked.

Just what shocked the judge does not appear. Surely he could not have been unfamiliar with battered witnesses appearing before him. Perhaps it was because they were in the uniform of the Navy. And it may be that the battered youths were younger than their attackers. But anyhow he sent the pair who didn't like to be called "4-F-ers" to the workhouse to meditate upon their sins and to do some spring plowing for the county of Guilford.

It may be, and very probably, that the sentence is a just one. But there is something to be said for the prisoners, and for any man in civilian clothing who resents, the implication of pacifism. But seeing that these were such hefty scrappers, it would seem that the judge might the better have served his country if he had turned recruiting officer.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS
 By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

BICKERING OVER SOLDIER VOTES

WASHINGTON.—Mr. Roosevelt's quaint quest for soldier-vote advice among the state governors (mostly Republican outside the South) may have sounded off-hand like a big-hearted attempt to be more than fair about this thing. But it did not so appear to the governors.

Frankly, in the true political atmosphere of the congressional cloak-rooms, the move also was recognized as an effort to put the Republican governors on the soldier-vote spot, to make them shoulder responsibility for whatever vote the soldiers get, making Mr. Roosevelt appear to be the champion of the soldier against state and congressional resistance.

It did not work out that way. The governors apparently sensed what was afoot and gave him replies which left the only spots of the problem before his eyes, not under their feet.

In effect, a majority told him they were going ahead with plans for state-voting of soldiers if the army and navy would co-operate in distributing the ballots, implying that both he and the congressional bill were of considerable importance to them.

The depths of his resulting difficulty is evident in the action of his congressional leaders. They held back the bill five days after its final enactment. This extended to 15 days his opportunity of musing over the governors' replies and making up his mind whether to sign or veto.

Now the solitary truth of all this backing and pulling is that no one actually knows much about how many soldiers are going to vote, or for whom.

From Mr. Roosevelt's actions to date, you would judge he expects them to vote for him, and that more will vote for him if he collects the ballots than if the governors do. There is some evidence to sustain this belief, but nothing conclusive. I recently saw a letter from an officer in the South Seas who said 75 per cent of the officers were against Roosevelt, 65 per cent of the privates for him. It may stand something like that, although the army seems extremely critical of labor and left-wingers, who are the backbone of the fourth term movement so far.

I do not know, and I cannot find any political authority here who even pretends to.

Personally, I suspect more depends on the army and navy generals than on what kind of a law applies. If they actively go out and furnish ballots of any kind to soldiers and collect these, large numbers will vote; otherwise, no law will get in that vote in bulk.

Perhaps the most important feature of the bill was an unobserved provision. It would restrict any service officer or executive official from issuing campaign speeches to soldiers, and forbid broadcasts sponsored or paid for by the government concerning political argument or material.

In fact, all news reports of political speeches and activity would have to be divided even between all presidential candidates entered in six states or more. The penalty for violations would be \$1,000 fine and a year in jail. This would certainly hamper materially the freedom of fourth term campaigners in charge of soldier news distribution.

'INDIVIDUAL SPENDING' VS. GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Some economic authorities and readers have asked how it would be possible to work out in detail the theory of "individual spending" as a replacement for government spending in a postwar program.

There are a thousand and one ways. All the government would have to do would be to adopt this policy and then pursue it in all possible democratic ways.

The development of methods to encourage private spending in slack business times, and discourage it in times of plenty, could rest primarily on taxation.

Special allowances could be granted for constructive expenditures such as home building, home improvement and business plant expansion when the national income has dropped below a certain figure.

Special extra taxes could go into effect, tending to retard boomlike businesses, when national income rises above a certain figure.

In fact, the whole structure of income taxation could be geared to promoting a balanced economic flow.

The great spenders of the country are the great business firms. Their natural tendency is to expand with good business beyond their long range necessities and then wall at unused plants when business falls off. A wise government would get them into planning directly, in addition to tax lures.

Government loan policies also could be adjusted to this purpose. If Jesse Jones and his RFC shut down on loans in good peacetimes and entered upon them as slackening becomes noticeable, it would have a powerful effect.



POOLE'S MEDLEY

By D. SCOTT POOLE

For many years prize fights were not allowed in the United States. John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain fought 75 or more rounds in New Orleans about sixty years ago, and these fights were stopped by law, and the fighters had to go to Cuba or elsewhere to fight.

Not so long ago folk thought "hugging set to music" was horrible, but they have grown more tolerant; in fact, the girls have undertaken to dance the whole United States army now.

Canada does not want to come into the United States we read, and why, we do not know. If the United States extended from the Gulf of Saint Lawrence to the Panama Canal it would be just the right size. Since airplanes have developed into a reality, this world is just about family sized.

"If all were sun and never rain, No bow would span the hill, If all were rain and never sun, There would be no rainbow still."

In July, 1905, a very heavy thunderstorm came over Raeford. A colored man and his wife were killed when lightning struck the clothes line attached to the rear of their house. McLauchlin Company owned a telephone line from Raeford to Red Springs, via Antioch, and every telephone pole between the two towns was struck, and most of them torn to pieces.

One thing Hoke county is behind in, and that is telephone and telegraph connection with the outside world. Every dweller in Hoke should have telephone connection. That would save gas. Folks could get a hurry call to the doctor. It would be a great improvement over present conditions.

Freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of worship. Men are being shot by the hundreds daily be-

cause they are kind to strangers they find wandering through their country. The Germans say they are, giving comfort and assistance to their enemies. Conditions could hardly be worse in those European countries.

I fear constantly I will hear of the use of poison gas by those wicked destroyers of human rights. Hitler often threatens some destructive new offensive. When such starts, the destruction of human life will be increased, but we are assured Germany will not suffer less.

Changes are constantly going on. There used to be four passenger trains a day over the Aberdeen and Rockfish railroad—two trains each way. When the mail train came to town any day in the week, nearly everybody ran to the depot to meet the train. This was a daily habit.

We all used to stare at airplanes, but they are too thick now to cause a person to look up when one flies over. Confederate veterans said a rain always followed a battle during the Civil War, but firing in the Fort Bragg reservation fails to bring rain.

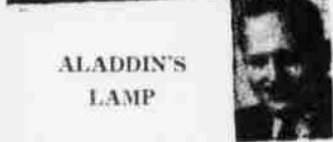
Corn is higher than it has been in many years. It sells for \$1.40 to \$1.50 and a meal still higher. But meats are a little lower price than the average last year. Garden seed is too high. Raise your own garden seed this year.

It is being said 40 per cent of the peach crop remains. I doubt that. Many of the peaches the frost did not kill outright, will fall off before they mature. Apples will make a good crop, unless something happens after this. Hailstorms and other mishaps may kill some of them. Grapes are the surest fruit crop.

Fruit is a great luxury that nature provides. But for some years there have been but few huckleberries offered on the local market. There is no better pie than huckleberry pie. Some spell this fruit Whortleberry, but I know what you mean when you say huckleberry.

I would be delighted if our people (Continued on page eight)

THE AMERICAN WAY



ALADDIN'S LAMP

By George Peck

Anyone who has read my column over a period of time, must be convinced that I am bitterly opposed to government going into business—any business; that further, I have repeatedly protested against government lending money to privately-owned corporations to carry on or expand their enterprises if such credit can be obtained from private money lenders.

The objections to government sticking its bureaucratic nose into the realm of business are numerous. If one can be selected above all others, it is the paralytic inefficiency which always sets in whenever government tries to supplant private enterprise.

The objections to government lending money to private enterprise are two in number and taken together are a severe indictment of such procedure. The first is that borrowers will not be scrutinized as carefully by government officials as by private lenders; and the second is that the same borrowers are able to apply pressure upon government officials which they cannot apply to hard-boiled private lenders. To state this another way, governments are not so concerned about losing what they lend, and are none anxious not to give offense by refusing to lend, than private lenders.

There is at present an attempt on the part of Harold L. Ickes, head of a government agency, the Petroleum Reserve Corporation, to have government loan privately owned American oil corporations upwards of 110 million dollars to build a pipeline in Arabia. Harold uses as the pretext for this spurge with the taxpayers' money, his concern regarding what he claims is imminent exhaustion of oil reserves in America.

Now, those who have spent lifetimes in the petroleum business are authorities for the statement that there is no immediate cause for concern. These are the same men who made the American oil industry the all-important factor it was in winning World War I, and currently the greatest single contributor toward

Allied victory in World War II. The same men who with each passing year have been responsible for ever-better petroleum products at ever-reduced prices to the American people. They should know whereof they speak.

The same wisdom, the same "know-how," which has characterized their development of the oil industry to date, is now available—is on tap. They are not blissfully unaware that some day in the distant future, the oil reserves in the United States may be exhausted. They have looked ahead; they have taken steps to provide against that possible contingency. American oil corporations have bought oil-producing lands in many foreign countries.

Right in Arabia where Mr. Ickes proposes to squander Uncle Sam's money in an unnecessary pipeline, far-seeing officials of the Standard Oil of California and the Texas Corporation have already invested approximately 20 million dollars in Arabian oil properties, and plan to spend 112 million dollars more or exploration and the building of a refinery in that country. If Arabia is to be a part of the solution of our oil problem, privately-owned and financed American companies have the situation well in hand—they need no help from Mr. Ickes.

Perhaps Mr. Ickes has been reading "Arabian Nights." You will recall the youth in that engrossing book of fairy tales, who possessed the magic lamp and ring, which upon rubbing, two frightful jinn appeared who were the slaves of the lamp and the ring and who executed the bidding of anyone having possession of them.

Who knows but that Mr. Ickes even has come into possession of Aladdin's lamp and ring, and has rubbed them? At any rate, the superstitious belief of the ancient Arabians in the magic power of Aladdin's lamp was no more fantastic than the present day pipe-dream of Mr. Ickes of building a pipeline in modern Arabia WITH YOUR MONEY AND MINE.

NBES HELP RIGHT NOW

BATAVIA, N. Y., April 18.—The Genesee county committee for economic development, which has been conducting a survey to determine how many persons are planning to return to their old jobs after the war, received an unsigned reply mailed from one of the battlefronts. It said: "I don't need help after the war I need it right now."

With The Army People

Major and Mrs. Hrom, who stayed at Mrs. Poovey's have left Raeford and moved to Charleston, S. C., where Major Hrom has been transferred.

This past week-end Capt. and Mrs. Clark moved from Raeford where they have been living in Mrs. Sarah McNeill's apartment.

Lt. and Mrs. S. A. Smith, and Nancy, have taken one of the Lentz apartments.

Major and Mrs. R. C. Helter of Rockford, Ill., arrived in Raeford Monday night and are living in the apartment of Donald Davis. He is with the 100th Division.

Last week Mrs. Kyle Nye and her small son also arrived in town and moved into the Baucum apartment. Mrs. Nye's husband, Capt. Nye, who is with a field hospital, has left for parts unknown, but it is the hope of all that he will soon be back with his family. Mrs. Nye is a native of North Carolina.

Lt. and Mrs. Christian of Chicago, who formerly lived at Mrs. H. W. B. Whitley's left Raeford last week.

SUGARLESS CAKE

(Very Popular Tested Recipe)

- Ingredients:
- 1 cup corn syrup
- 1-3 cup shortening, nucoa or butter
- 1 3-4 cups plain flour
- 1 3-4 tablespoons baking powder
- 1-3 tablespoon salt
- 2 tablespoons grated orange and 2 eggs.

Method: Cream shortening and syrup. Add part of flour sifted with baking powder and salt. Then one egg at a time, beating the mixture well after each egg. Add milk and remaining flour in donagerind. Bakes 2 layers or 24 cups cakes. Moderate oven or 350 degrees.

The Georgia, Louisiana Sweet, and Cabbage Collard are the chief varieties of collards grown in this section. It takes about 65 days from seed to maturity.

DON'T MISS IT! The Big One-Cent Sale, at Reeves Drug Store in Raeford April 27, 28, 29.

OUR DEMOCRACY by Mat

THOMAS ALVA EDISON
1847-1931



INVENTOR - SCIENTIST.
 DURING 50 YEARS OF WORK HE HELPED TO GIVE US ELECTRIC LIGHT, ELECTRIC POWER, THE PHONOGRAPH, THE MOTION PICTURE - IS CREDITED WITH MORE THAN 1000 PATENTS.
 EDISON'S ADVICE TO HIS FELLOW AMERICANS WAS:
 "Be courageous.
 Be as brave as your fathers before you.
 Go forward."