



People & Issues SPILLING THE BEANS

Well, it looks as if people who hold big offices, such as the President of the United States, are pretty much like average people, stepping in their breeches, one leg at the time just like farm hands and people like you and I.

In a recent UPI dispatch we note that former President Carter says Helmut Smith "would stab you in the back," and calls Henry Kiss-inger a "liar" in his off-the-record interview published by the Boston

I always thought that when you were in a confidential conversation you held what you were talking about as "confidential matter."

Of late while I have had more time to read and think, I notice more and more of our so-called 'great men'' like our Presidents and Cabinet members, must be just average people such as gather at the jot-em-down store. They can hardly wait until they get out of office to begin to write and tell the truth on some of their big-dealings with big consequences.

Carter was especially critical of ( Secretary of State, Alexander Haig who also served as Secretary of State under Reagan.

We note that Carter, or the man who is doing the writing, says that Carter seems to have had the opinion that Israel's Menachem Begin is a most difficult man to deal with. That's been my opinion of Mr. Began all along. COMMUNTIY COLLEGES ....

North Carolina's citizens say they are pleased with the state's community college system and think it is doing a good job training people for better jobs and meeting the special needs of non-high school graduates.

In results of a statewide survey of 1,400 North Carolinians releas-ed Sept. 13 by the Governor's Office, some 91% of the respondents said they found the campuses of the system attractive. And 87% said that the campuses were convenient. One out of three adults reported having taken a course at a local community system institu-

When we see the opportunities being offered today through Community Colleges with thousands of boys and girls, and men and women, fulfilling an opportunity that they did not have in their younger days, we wonder why a great and advancing state did not awaken to its need 10 to 20 years before it did?

While California and a few other states were ahead of North Carolina, the Old North State is a

leader in these instituțions today. SOCIAL SECURITY ... Washington experts on Social Security tell us it is likely that the Social Security fund will run dry unless more taxes go into the fund, or the payments decrease.

Social Security was probably the finest thing for senior citizens of any measure promoted by the late Franklin D. Roosevelt. Now it is swaying under a greater load than it can carry! The Social Security fund is being

taxed more than it can stand. It is hard to predict as to what percentage it should be resolved but I would think that a 10 percent reduction would put it back on

The Social Security Administration will have to borrow up to \$2 billion from its disability and Medicare trust funds to cover Nov. 3 checks to nearly 32 million peo-ple, an official said. Under temporary authority from Congress, he said, interfund borrowing may hit \$11 billion by December.

Frankly, I would favor that almost every phase of the Federal Government could stand a 10% reduction. Of course there would be those who would prefer more!

Democrats and Republicans, both spend too much. The tremendous debt that the Federal Government is piling up year after year is frightening.

If the budget is not brought into balance soon, our thinking is that we will see a crash in the not too distant future and will find this nation in about the same fix as Mexico is in today!

## Benefit

The Hoke County Children's Center will sponsor a Fall Bazaar November 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

at Edenborough Shopping Center. Proceeds will be used to help benefit the Center, which is at 115 W. Donaldson Ave., Raeford.

Items will be accepted between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. or on Saturday morning at the shopping center.

All contributions will be appre-