

# CHapel Hill News Leader

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## A Calculated Risk for Children

Eleven small bodies were scattered along the railroad tracks when a school bus and a train met at a crossing at Spring City, Tenn.

Such an accident is not impossible in North Carolina, which likes to boast it has the largest and cheapest school bus system in the world.

It may indeed be the largest and cheapest, but is it the safest?

North Carolina puts its school busses in the hands not of mature men but of teenage drivers. These drivers have made a wonderful record of care and safety, but the most skillful driving in the world will not make up for defective mechanisms.

The present system of inspection and repair has worked well so far; and North Carolina parents can never give enough thanks to the inspectors and drivers who have kept death and injury to a minimum.

At the same time the risk, though a calculated one, is there. A new season of school transportation is about to begin. It is not the best system in the world. It causes particular hardships to many parents and children who live in the country. The danger and the hardship is doubled in the months when snow and ice grip the roads. The system builds up big schools and lets the smaller ones wither. It needs overhauling every now and then to make sure it has no weak spots.

Now that a new season is here, caution and pre-caution on the busses should be doubled.

## Revolt Answered by Guns

Revolt answered by guns.

Such is the pattern now being followed in the French-controlled areas of North Africa. It is one of the oldest patterns in history, and one of the most futile. The legend of the old lady trying to sweep back the ocean with a broom is sensible by comparison.

But governments do not use sense. It is easier to order out the military and start shooting. That was the formula followed by the British government under George III when the Americans revolted. And it is a formula which has hardly ever varied except in details.

The result is always the same—blood, disruption, stunted growth, and long recovery.

Yet there is nothing sacred about a government, or the system that supports it. Governments and systems do not come from heaven, but are man-made devices intended to carry out certain purposes. When they work successfully for the largest number of people, then they are kept up; when they no longer serve their purpose, they are cast out.

That is why one of the chief planks in

the American Declaration of Independence declares that when a people become dissatisfied with their government, they have an inherent right to alter or abolish it.

It was in pursuance of that right that the American republic was set up, and in accordance with that tradition that American political growth has been maintained.

It is a recognition that change is embedded in the law of life. But the Bourbons—the name given to people who believe that life consists of iron or cement—cannot endure change. They will invite destruction before they will recognize it.

It would be easy for the Bourbons to keep control except that the weaker peoples of the earth have read President's Wilson's 14 Points and the Atlantic Charter as drawn up by Roosevelt and Churchill. Those two documents may have been a mistake. But it is too late to withdraw them now. From the Bourbon point of view it is always a mistake to educate people, and particularly to educate them well.

## No Real Scientific Secrets

When the US first discovered how to make the atomic bombs that shattered the Japanese cities, it tried to keep the secret away from the rest of the world.

It even refused to share the secret with its closest ally, Great Britain, thereby giving much of its use.

Its excuse was that it wanted to prevent the secret from being known to Russia.

Yet in a very short time Russia was making atomic bombs, and is even now suspected of having surpassed the United States in nuclear experiments.

The dog-in-the-manger attitude had never paid, but governments often fail to see this truth, due perhaps to their belief that big-business excuses selfishness.

Commenting on the failure of the concealment attempt, Walter Lippman, the columnist, says: "The Geneva Conference on Nuclear Energy has proved conclusively what

scientists have long been saying—that scientific secrets do not last long because what one scientist can discover, others—since they deal with the same natural world—will discover too. It is also plain that it was a few years ago that what you can hide temporarily from the Russians, you must hide also from your own scientific community."

It is plain now that the United States not only stood in the way of its own scientists, but gave offense to many of them by suspecting them and interfering with them. One result has been a severe shortage of engineers and technicians in the very fields in which the United States has been trying to be foremost.

How long will it take the human race, especially the most powerful portions of it, to see that intelligence cannot be monopolized, and that benefits are increased, not cut down, by sharing them?

## Tar Heel Finds Class System in Russia

Bruce Jolly in Greensboro Daily News

The Russian farmer is a friendly person who sincerely wants world peace, knows nothing about the U.S., is thoroughly indoctrinated in Communist ideologies, and is comparatively satisfied with his lot.

At the same time, his standard of living is far below that of any U.S. farmer; he has no opportunity for individual enterprise or advancement, and he pays the same percentage of basic taxes as those in higher income brackets pay.

He has no fear of economic depressions.

Those were the findings of Dr. William E. Reed, dean of the School of Agriculture at A & T College in Greensboro, on his five-week tour of farms in the U.S.S.R.

### Only Negro Included

Reed was the only Negro in the 12-man group of U. S. farm observers that went from this country to Russia as a counterpart of the Soviet group of farmers who came here, in an "exchange" that marked the first wide break in the iron curtain.

He went to Russia armed with curiosity and a desire to plant "a few seeds of good will" that might help decrease international tensions. He returned with a better understanding of the Soviet nation and a genuine liking for the farm peoples he had met.

"They are friendly. We were received with all the hospitality they could extend. The people are generally unsophisticated, but they are refined in their habits and down-to-earth. The women are retiring and they don't like to be flattered. But there is

a genuinely friendly attitude, and they were anxious to meet us," Reed said.

"I found no racial segregation and no discrimination according to color."

"But there is a definite 'class' system, based on ability and the position one holds," he said.

Reed compared that system to the line of demarcation which exists under strict military routine between privates, corporals and sergeants, and extends to the officer echelon.

"Peace-Conscious"

"I found the Russian farmers very conscious of world peace. To them, the exchange of farm peoples seemed to be an avenue toward greater understanding. But very few asked me questions about the U.S. I got the impression that they thought there are a large number of rich people, but many who are very poor. But they didn't seem too concerned, one way or another," he stated.

Reed, who is 41, returned in advance of most of the other 12 U. S. observers. He spent today at the Department of Agriculture talking to officials there. A press conference for the observers who have toured Russia will be held on Friday.

In today's interview, Reed mentioned only one exchange in which the merits of the two nations were discussed. It involved a Russian correspondent who had been to the United States and

seen the slums in South Chicago.

### Tells Of State

"I told him I couldn't talk on that, but I'd tell him about North Carolina. I said that Negro farmers in North Carolina, despite all their wants are much better off than Russians—that they have radios, a great many have refrigerators, many have cars and some have television sets. I said I had seen none of those things on Russian farms.

"He had nothing more to say," Reed added, except, "Just give us two more years. We suffered during the war."

Reed and his 11 colleagues covered about 11,000 miles through Russia, by train, auto, and boat. They touched many farms throughout the U.S.S.R., including some in Siberia.

In the Russian approach, Reed found himself given second choice in quarters and other factors where selection was necessary. He was topped only by the delegation chairman.

"I interpreted it as a matter of Russia's 'class' discrimination," Reed said with a smile. His doctor's degree placed him on a level with Dr. W. V. Lambert, University of Nebraska dean of agriculture who headed the U.S. farm delegation.

Reed found the Russians "away behind the U.S. in agricultural developments. But he said there are indications of tremendous progress.

## "Gee—This Is More Fun Than A Barrel Of Monkeys"



—Hugh Haynie in the Atlanta Journal

## Middle-Class Shoplifting

(Christian Science Monitor)

Park Forest, Ill., is a new, planned community of 22,000 persons, 30 miles south of and 45 commuting minutes from Chicago's Loop. Each month 200 more families move in, and 100 families move out. Average income is about \$8,000. The average family numbers 3.7.

People are concerned about shoplifting in Park Forest.

It is more than just disappointing to a community of middle-class young families to learn that a number of their housewives have been caught in the act of shoplifting. It is, therefore, even more than merely heartening to the people here to learn that their Police Department, blazing new law-enforcement trails, is solving this problem.

Police Chief Milan Plavsic explains that his policy is to try to help the housewife out of her difficulty, not necessarily to punish her or make an example of her. In this correctional effort, he turns to the husbands, the community chaplain, ministers, and psychiatrists.

### No Repeaters

"Thus," he says, "without any indictments, we have a record of no repeaters. And, more than anything else, we have not ruined the lives of the housewives we have arrested."

Chaplain Joseph Hughes figures importantly in the rehabilitation. He is at the store when the arrest is made, being called in at the same time as the police squad care arrives. He sits in at the interrogation at police headquarters. He counsels each culprit and works as the liaison between her and the Police Department during the life of the case. His appraisal:

"The results are most heartening, the best cooperation I have seen anywhere. The couple (the women arrested) are so willing, willing to avoid a recurrence, willing to make amends for their wrong, willing to seek a solution for their trouble—whether that means going to a doctor, a psychologist, a psychiatrist, or making religion a real force in their lives."

### Laboratory Study

Park Forest's shoplifters, according to Sheriff (and criminologist) Joseph D. Lohman, would be unnoticed in most other places, where juvenile delinquency and crimes of violence occupy the attention of police and the public. Here, however, shoplifting stands almost alone, and because of its isolation in this wholly middle-class community, an interesting laboratory study emerges.

Park Forest's shoplifters are not what are described as mental cases. They seem like ordinary housewives from families with good incomes. Many of their husbands are in the junior executive class. Thirty women have been prosecuted in the last few years; many others have been released after a warning; and still others have been released by

store managers without the police being called in.

Police Chief Plavsic says: "I wish I knew the answer. Apparently all of these housewives are the same class of people, for their answers follow the same pattern. But there probably are as many reasons for their actions as there are in any sociological problem."

### 'Escape Routes'

"Part of the trouble with these women seems to be a lack of knowing what to do with themselves. So they seek various escape routes."

### ARE SECRETARIES OBSOLETE?

A New York engineering firm says it has plans on its drawing boards for a machine which will be able to take dictation and transcribe it into written letters, which in turn it would sign, put into envelopes, seal and affix postage.

The banishment of secretaries, however, seems hardly likely. The machine presumably would write letters as they are dictated. This would mean that errors in grammar made by the boss would go out to the world as uttered. Replacing a secretary with it also would mean that the boss would have no one to remind him of his wife's birthday, and no one to whom he can brag about the big deal he has just put over.

Without disparaging the machine, its trial might make a boss realize what a jewel he has in his secretary.—Houston Post

### SUCCESS—A TO Z

Armed services brass who have gotten into hot water by speaking out of turn might consider a story which Representative Sidney R. Yates (D-Ill.) tells about the late Albert Einstein.

Asked to give his formula for success in life, Einstein said he could do it in a mathematical equation.

"If 'A' is success in life," the mathematician said, "I would say the equation is 'A' equals 'Z' plus 'Z.' 'X' being work and 'Y' being play."

"But what is 'Z'?" asked the interviewer.

"'Z.'" Einstein replied, "keeping quiet at the right time."

—Philadelphia Inquirer

### CALENDAR WIT

Knox Wilson was an easy-going, droll comedian of some 30 or 40 years ago. In one of his shows, as he clowned his way through three acts, he went about, asking whimsically, "Why (that is the way it sounded when he pronounced it) is the Fourth of July?"

The more he would repeat the question, the funnier it would get. Finally, just before the curtain went down, a pretty girl snuggled up to him and said, "now tell us, April Fool, why is the Fourth of July?"

"Well," said Wilson, "here it is: J is one, U is two, L is three and Y is the Fourth of July."—Columbia (S.C.) State

## Chips That Fall

The newly organized State Tourist Council might advise service stations to keep their restrooms neat and clean. There has been a vast improvement in this respect, but here and there remains a station that makes a poor impression on the traveller and goes far to convince him that the South is still heedless, careless and insanitary.

On the other hand, the outdoor tables installed by the State Highway Department are mostly well placed, clean and attractive, and consequently make a good impression.

One question the Council might answer: Why does Chapel Hill have no historical markers to guide and interest the increasing number of tourists that visit us or pass through every year?

When Hubert Neville, teller in the Carrboro office of the Bank of Chapel Hill, was on vacation in the mountains recently, he stayed at Almond, N. C. That part of North Carolina bordering on Tennessee is full of quaint names; for example, Luck, Sioux, and Sunburst. There are also a number of melodious names ending in Latin-like vowels which the late Shepherd Dugger used to say were Spanish relics left behind by De Soto's expedition.

The name of Hugh H. Bennett, UNC graduate and Anson County, N. C., native is well-known in Russia, says Dr. William E. Reed of Greensboro, who has recently returned from Russia as a member of the group of American farm observers.

Bennett, as head of the soil conservation service, was one of the men encouraged by F. D. Roosevelt. He eventually became known as "the father of soil conservation". Long ago he foresaw the trouble that would ensue on the land by improper ploughing and the formation of gullies that swept away the top soil.

When a student in Chapel Hill, Bennett majored in chemistry. The fact that his name is honored in Russia seems to indicate that the Russians are thinking of many other things besides dropping bombs on the USA.

A small and frail Chapel Hill woman was at a seashore

resort when the second hurricane came up. Though the wind was menacing she insisted on having a surf bath. When the evacuation order was issued a guard came up.

"You'll have to come out, little girl!" he said.

"Little girl hell!" said the lady, "I'm sixty years old."

## Avoiding Brain Erosion

By SIDNEY SWAIN ROBINS

I was reading the other day about a small-size Electric Brain, or computing machine, which replaces fifteen or twenty clerks. There are much larger ones. The remaining clerks punch keys, once the machine is set up and they have learned a few ropes. You only need one or two men around who really understand the machine. The extra clerks go back to the labor-pool.

This is of course just a new and striking example of the mechanization of industry, and behind or beyond that of our whole life. It is progress of a plain kind. It is more economical production and makes things cheaper. It is nice to think of nearly everybody having a bit more money to spend as industry speeds up, — a more modern house, a tiled bathroom maybe, a kitchen full of gadgets, and of course a nicer auto. And if anybody thinks the television sets are going only to the people who can well afford them, he needs only to take a ride in the suburbs and find out different.

But where a machine operation is purely mechanical and doesn't take any brains or cleverness on the part of the worker, you can't have men loving their work. Perhaps we had better stop calling what they do "work," which is an ancient and honorable name, and call it "drudgery."

What would you call just going through a set of mechanical motions?

From the human standpoint maybe our hope is that the labor unions will insist on shorter and shorter hours, so that a mechanic or clerk can make his living in the morning and then pursue his hobby or real work the rest of the time. Sort of like my telling people that I am not "retired," but have just gone to working for myself.

We can still be skilled workmen improving our yards or making a garden to taste, especially with neighbors out to win the prize too. We can have a work-bench down cellar and go

to work on what we want about. There are all kinds of games too, if any in the leg-muscles. There are painting pictures, there are plenty of interesting subjects to read up on, to whet our minds on.

Thank the Lord, we don't get tired enough, it will be harder to mechanize the farm, with all the things than any shop. The farmer endures as a living real work.

Maybe all questions go to religion. I am sure the old shoe-cobbler who somebody his business was praising God, and his shoes just for a living, machine age drive us more religion or even friendships?

But there is an old which offers consolation to this happy outlook on future: "Necessity is the mother of invention." Take the drive of necessity and will be too fatally one of us, to just get in a television set and one of the most over-stuffed chairs yet.

The automobile has "evolved" our legs, there seem to be more people who can't walk the corner for a half of Give it time though! The librarian tells me the large increase of television last winter there was drop in the use of the Maybe it was the books that didn't get to do you think?

I don't know but the bees show us one possible mechanization. They know how to use their wings, freedom, so now the bees show us one possible mechanization. They know how to use their wings, freedom, so now the bees show us one possible mechanization. They know how to use their wings, freedom, so now the bees show us one possible mechanization. They know how to use their wings, freedom, so now the bees show us one possible mechanization.

FOR SPECIAL ELECTION  
To the Editor:  
I do not have any right to express my views in the News Leader, but I appeal to your sportsmanship to give space for the expression of views at variance those of your editorial page.

In your editorial of August 15 on the current status of the desegregation issue you conclude as follows:  
The occasion for the editorial apparently was W. B. Rodman's observation that a suit recently instituted by the NAACP in this state asking that the segregation requirement in the section of the N. C. Constitution establishing the public school system in the state be stricken down might result in a ruling that the whole constitutional structure for the public schools might fall with the fall of the provision for segregation of the white and Negro children in the schools of the state.

How can you arrive at the conclusion that this state is planning to destroy our public school system is beyond my comprehension, or that the Attorney General is working up any such scheme. He is a conscientious official and an exceptionally good lawyer. He was certainly rendering the state and all its citizens a real service in pointing out the probable outcome of such a suit.

Let's apply a little gray-matter to the situation we now find ourselves in. Anyone familiar with North Carolina history knows full well that North Carolina's public school system is a segregated system and that you can't lop off half of an indivisible whole without destroying the whole. The status of our school system is now one within the discretion of the General Assembly, as there is no constitutional mandate for the support of an integrated schools in the state, for which condition the NAACP and its backers should be given full credit.

I suppose the NAACP is acting on the assumption that the supporters and backers of the North

Carolina segregated public system. Like the rest of the child contending the famous judge who bisecting the child each an half, will yield to the fraudulent claim.

Since the U. S. Supreme Court has not attempted to say that North Carolina must maintain any public school system, let's call for an election and submit the integrated schools or school system in North Carolina and do it this year everybody in suspense next 20 or 30 years as we will have any public school if so, whether it worth a tinker's dam, making every candidate General Assembly do self as to whether or support, that is, vote for riations for ordered schools or not, and teachers, parents and such ordered integration in doubt as to their vote on an amendment organic law and pull an argument, confusion, mess; otherwise, we little hell here and state of ours.

And this is the doing to do things for what now great demand.

John F. Bennett, Pittsboro, N. C.

Letters To The Editor

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