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More Than Half Must Vote

The election on October 26, which is to determine the coordination of the State and Federal retirement systems, is an unusual one. More than 50% of those eligible (not those voting) must vote 'yes' if the system is to be changed. Failure to vote is a negative vote.

There is no individual option. All State employees stand or fall together. They can

defeat the plan by not voting. This would be a tragedy for those employees who have not been able to save money for retirement.

It is hoped temporary employees will consider the welfare of the State, taking a long-range view, and join with all other State employees in adopting this important change. It will make a substantial difference in retirement incomes.

Up an Inch Out of Darkness

North Carolina has moved another inch toward the removal of prison practices that until lately have not been far from medieval conceptions on the one hand and Jewish tribal ideas on the other.

William F. Bailey, state prisons director, has ordered that shackles be discontinued in 84 of the present 93 prison camps. These shackles consist of leather leg cuffs held together by chains.

The medieval notion of a legally condemned man was that he was a sort of dangerous wild beast, who was to be kept either in a dungeon or in irons. The tribal idea laid down by Moses was an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and so on; in short, it was based on retaliation. ("serve him right", etc.)

It took a long time for the belief to be accepted that a large percentage of prison inmates are not so hardened that they cannot

be brought back to normal life. The belief in the innate depravity of human nature dies hard; it was in fact a leading tenet of religious teachings for many generations.

The growing belief in the possibility of rehabilitation was accompanied by a feeling that prisoners ought not only to be relieved of brutal punishments, but of inhuman restraints and indignities.

But prison progress in North Carolina has been dragging its feet, due not only to slowly roused public sentiment but to an ill-made union between the Prisons Department and the State Highway Commission. It has not been long since a fractious Negro girl was gagged and garroted in an isolated prison cell at Raleigh and certain prison camps have been hell-holes. So we still have a long way to go.

A Weight on Democratic Legs

No one could expect a political party to win with a weight tied around its legs. Yet Texas Democrats think the thing can be done with a "Southern coalition" which, strange to say, is approved by Governor Hodges.

This proposed coalition would, according to its sponsors, occupy a central position in next year's campaign. But actually it would be far to the right—that is, conservative, moss-laden, and motionless.

Any such coalition would put North Carolina in a bag whose strings could be tied last by the Texas crowd, which in the last election cast off the Democratic label and worked for Eisenhower. For Texas has got the big votes—18 of them.

The efforts of part-time Democrats to make their party a tweedledum party as a partner of the G. O. P. tweedledee is hardly concealed.

It is doubtful if the Democrats can win by

catering to the rich and powerful and by keeping behind the counter what is left of the New Deal.

The Republican party is historically the servant of big business and its allies. The Democratic party cannot hope to be water-boy for the big interests in the same way. It is traditionally the party representing smaller but more numerous interests.

It can speak out for the farmer and the small business man, and for the victims of the big monopolies and trusts, but it cannot win any large section of the big interests away from the GOP even by putting on heavy rouge and a big smile.

The proposed coalition wants to wean the Democrats away from their place and role in next year's battle. If they listen to the Texas warble, they will deserve what will happen to them.

Some Questions About Social Security

Q. If we obtain Social Security, will we still have our retirement system with all the benefits, rights and privileges?

A. Yes, we shall have both the retirement system and the Old Age and Survivors' Insurance.

Q. I am a married lady and have two children and my husband is already covered under Social Security. What advantage is there in Social Security for me?

A. (1) After you become currently insured, should you die, your two children would receive benefits until they reach 18 years of age. (2) If you become totally and permanently disabled and have 5 years coverage out of the last 10 years and coverage for 6 of the 12 quarters immediately before you are disabled, your years of total and permanent disability will not count and at age 65 your pension will be calculated on those years in which you worked. (3) You may improve benefits above those secured by virtue of being dependent on your husband's coverage. (4) You would establish eligibility for a lump sum death benefit. (5) If your husband should become dependent on you he could be entitled to a husband's or widower's benefit.

Q. What does the term "average monthly earnings" mean in calculating the benefits for a retired person who will begin coverage for first time January 1, 1955?

A. The "average monthly earnings" means the total earnings up to \$4,200.00 per year for each year from January 1, 1955, to age 65 divided by the total months from January 1, 1955, to age 65. Earnings after age 65 may also be included.

Q. Who is eligible to vote in the referendum?

A. All employees who are contributing members of the retirement system on both June 8, 1955, and October 26, 1955.

Q. My husband is already covered under Social Security. What advantage would there be if I

became covered under Social Security since he is already covered?

A. You may improve your benefits due to coverage in your own right. (See question 2 if you have children or a dependent husband.) Also, a lump sum death benefit would be payable up to a maximum of \$255.00.

Q. I am already 65 years old. If we come under Social Security, what is the minimum time I

The Richest Planet

Earth is the densest of all the planets, only Venus approaching it in this respect. But Venus has no satellite, and the Earth-Moon system forms a double world of a type found nowhere else among the planets. Its mode of formation is a mystery still, but it is known that when Earth was molten the Moon circled at only a fraction of its present distance, and raised gigantic tides in the plastic substance of its companion.

As a result of these internal tides, the crust of the Earth is rich in heavy metals—far richer than that of any other of the planets: They hoard their wealth far down within their unreachably cores, protected by pressures and temperatures that guard them from man's deprivations. So as human civilization spread outward from Earth, the drain on the mother world's dwindling resources steadily increased.

The light elements existed on the other planets in unlimited amounts, but such essential metals as mercury, lead, uranium, platinum, thorium and tungsten were almost unobtainable. For many no substitutes existed; their large-scale synthesis was impractical. . . . modern technology could not survive without them.

It was an unforgettable situation and a very galling one for the independent republics on Mars, Venus and the larger satellites, which had now united to form the Federation. It kept them dependent upon earth, and prevented their expansion toward

will have to work in order to retire and draw benefits?

A. Six calendar quarters.

Q. If I become covered January 1, 1955, and work 10 years and quite prior to age 65 could I ever receive benefits?

A. Yes, at age 65 you would be eligible for some benefits for the balance of your life, and also a lump sum death benefit would be payable up to a maximum of \$255.00.

FATAL WORDS

The head of the Los Angeles Civil Service Department says that of the 11 words most frequently misspelled by applicants for city jobs six begin with the letter "a": accommodate, accumulate, afraid, all right, already and aqueduct.

A little over 20 years ago English professor Dr. Easley S. Jones, with his assistants, examined the spelling of over 4,000,000 words written by high-school graduates. He found that just 25 words accounted for 11 per cent of the misspellings. And not one of these words begins with the letter "a."

Which simply goes to show that this sort of thing hasn't become an exact science.

Be that as it may. We have known gifted misspellers who can dance through the language and, like Mignon among the eggs, touch not one of Dr. Easley's "Superdemons" or of the Los Angeles six beginning with an "a."

We do not deny that today the peace of the world may be maintained by the fear of these deadly weapons. Yet we feel that

Noted Orange County Schools

By CHARLES E. MADDRY

One of the noted schools of Hillsboro was Burwell's Female School. It was opened in the home now owned by Mrs. J. S. Spurgeon. It was thoroughly renovated when the school began operations in 1835. It is today one of the fine old homes of Hillsboro, occupying a commanding site of some two acres.

The school had a capacity of 21 students and the Burwells had only eleven children of their own. The student overflow was taken care of in the homes nearby. The school closed in 1833, and Mr. Burwell became Chaplain of Peace Institute, Raleigh.

Burwell's School was highly recommended by Judge Nash, Dr. James Webb, William Cain Sr., J. W. Norwood, Judge Mangum, Rev. Mr. Lacy of Raleigh, Rev. F. Nash of Lincoln, Rev. William S. Plummer of Richmond, and Rev. W. M. Atkinson of Petersburg, Va.

In 1837, Daniel W. Kerr announced the opening of Mount Pleasant Academy, "twelve miles northwest of Hillsboro, six miles north of Mason Hall, and six miles of Prospect Hill in Caswell County." The school, which continued for several years, later changed its name to Union Academy. In 1838, "Holden's English School" was to be held in his home east of Hillsboro.

James Clark announced Fairfield School, six miles northwest of Hillsboro, in 1838.

John R. Holt opened Union Academy, in 1839.

Nobel Prize Winners

The following is the authorized English version of a statement (known as the Maiman Statement) issued, on July 15, over the signatures of 18 Nobel prize winners.

We who sign this appeal are scientists from many countries, of several races, of different creeds, of different political convictions. Our association is that we have all been privileged to be awarded Nobel Prizes.

We have given freely a lifetime to the service of science. Science, we think, is a way to a fuller life for mankind. But we are alarmed at realizing that this same science is providing man with the instruments for self-destruction. In a full-scale war the earth can be so infested with radioactivity as to destroy whole nations. This destruction can strike down neutrals as well as combatants.

If the major powers engage in a war, who can guarantee that it will not develop into such a deadly struggle? Thus a nation that engages in an all-out war invites its own destruction and endangers the whole world.

We do not deny that today the peace of the world may be maintained by the fear of these deadly weapons. Yet we feel that



Christian Science Monitor

Chips That Fall

An editorial from the News Leader of October 13 entitled "The Oct. 26 Referendum" has been reproduced and circulated by the University Committee on Retirement Arrangements without expense to the public. It was intended for Chapel Hill and Carrboro employees of the State especially, but applies to all persons on the State pay roll, who should make a special note to vote next Wednesday.

Persimmons are plentiful this year and taste good when eaten in brisk October air. The following recipe for 'simmon beer appears in B. Humphries' farm column in the News & Observer:

Use a 30-gallon keg with faucet near the bottom. Put layer of broom straw or clean oat or wheat straw in bottom, up to just above faucet hole. Add 10 to 15 gallons of good, ripe persimmons, one peck of baked sweet potatoes cut up, and one peck of locust pods mixed together. Weight these ingredients down and add warm water until they are covered. Store in fairly warm place and let stand until ready for use.

How long should you let it stand? At least several days. Just keep lasting until it reaches the desired strength. As you use it, you can add more water until the mixture becomes too weak.

The persimmons, of course, must be ripe. That means they must be bitten by frost before use.

This is all right as far as it goes, except it goes too far. Persimmons do not all need frost in order to be palatable. There are varieties ripe enough to eat in September. They are ripe when the sun has converted the acid contents into sugar, as indicated by redness and softness. Any greenness or hardness indicates pucker. The persimmons-and-frost legend dies hard, which fact prevents people from enjoying a worthy and healthful fruit.

Varina Howell, who was Jefferson Davis's second wife, didn't quite like him when they first met. And she virtually dropped him from her list when she learned that though evidently a gentleman, he was a Democrat.

She belonged to a Whig family, and the Whigs regarded Democrats with the same sentiment that a later generation bestowed on the Bolsheviks.

These facts appear in a new biography of Davis by Strode. It goes up as far as the Civil War and does not mention Zeb Vance's bitterness toward the Confederate government headed by Davis. The N. C. governor once

(By SIDNEY SWAIM ROBINS)

Yesterday I received a letter from "The Committee of One Million Against the Admission of Communist China to the United Nations". The letter says we all desire peace, but the Committee "is aware of the painful reality that a true peace cannot be won by submission to Communist blackmail". Those are powerful words.

The thing they make me most sure of, though, is that I do not want to be righteous, or don't want to feel that way. I had rather feel the sinner I am.

A similar problem has come up several times when we were talking about recognizing some de facto government or other.

The way I understand it (at least I have read it and not heard it contradicted anywhere), the first time in our history when recognition of a de facto government was supposed to depend upon moral approval of it was when Woodrow Wilson withheld recognition, for a time, from Carranza down in Mexico.

We have not stuck to the moralistic point of view from that time on, and I believe that Wilson himself did not. In any case we recognized Bolshevik Russia after the first World War, so we could do business with it. Not so long ago we recognized Franco in Spain so we could use him in our business, as our government understood our business or interests. We were not understood to be approving Senor Franco.

As a matter of fact, attending to our own business with some admitted ideas about promoting peace, has caused us to recognize a number of governments we did not fully approve of. And I suppose we have recognized and done business with governments that did not approve morally of us. At any rate that is the way they sounded off. And certainly we

The Drivers' Clinic, III

(A question and answer column on traffic safety, driving and automobiles conducted for this newspaper by the State Department of Motor Vehicles)

Question: What's the proper gear to use driving in slick mud?

Answer: High. This gear puts less power to the rear wheels and reduces the likelihood of the wheels spinning. Better traction results.

Q. What may be indicated by high oil pressure? Low pressure?

A. High oil pressure may indicate a clogged oil line. However, it's possible the pressure gauge is defective. Low pressure indicates a leak in oil line and bearings may not be receiving oil. Extremely low pressure is dangerous. When no pressure shows, stop the engine at once. Consult a mechanic.

Q. What's a quick method of determining whether a defective thermostat is causing the engine to overheat?

A. Squeeze the water hose be-

told Davis if he didn't order the Confederate cavalry out of N. C. he would have them arrested by the N. C. home guard.

The book confirms what is generally accepted now: that his own people never understood the Confederate president. He could be as gentle as Robert E. Lee, but he had a streak of pride and intellectual aloofness that prevented his receiving the affection he craved.

As a young man he was handsome, witty, and fun-loving. But the many tragedies in his life reduced his natural high spirits. He was a Stoic. Under abuse, criticism, arrest, and imprisonment he never quailed. He neither bent nor broke.

This book, though too partisan in spots and plodding in others, brings a better focus upon a man of fineness and distinction. He was Prometheus chained to a rock that disintegrated under him.

Automobile drivers, even the maddest, might keep a lookout on Halloween night for the youngsters who will be all over the streets and who will of course not be looking where they are going. In fact, on that particular night, driving might be kept within the legal limits, 25 an hour, even though it hurts.

cannot always expect to be understood or recognized as right.

As one sees things in business with Communism or getting them where we are not a question of our proving them. It is a question of our own being in a good position to tend to our own business might involve trying to be people we are out of touch with never hear our natural sense are full of ignorance and justice against us, throw us into wars that nobody

We are having Russians visit us these newspaper accounts are rectifying a few of the about us. We are visiting there too, and it is interesting to see things for the cause of possibly similar delegations to na, meeting some of our and eating the dinner by some of our farm men change some of their cool them off a bit. It is conceivable that they might smile, like the Russian

I find George Kennan about the war were private Japanese when they were bothering the Chinese mainland. Kennan was the biggest result of our and of our successful get them out of China to fix things so that ourselves instead of the who have the problem with Russia in the East in our lap.

I don't know about am suspicious of the approach to other nations does it get us? Seems way to deal with means on ignorance and people open the slits of the observation and knowledge. tainly is not worth it a fly where we will into our soup.

tween your thumb and while the engine is running less the hose is more you can feel the water pump. If you do not detect heat, the thermostat is open. Remove the engine head and take the thermostat. If it is hot, it is defective.

Q. How can wind be to driving?

A. Wind gusts across way can force cars over the centerline. Wind can react. Wind is a hazard that strikes the tire or no warning. One day a driver can observe regular movement of a ahead caused by wind perhaps anticipate forces are very strong miles an hour. The create a five horsepower

Q. You're in a bad way you keep from turning

A. A car will not if the driver keeps the of the car's frame in parallel to the original in which the car was when the skid started. no danger of hitting subject, the driver can rect the skid by steering end skillfully back original direction of applying power smoothly rear wheels can adjust position. Don't hit! This aggravates the the car to roll.

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