

Our Migrant Labor Problem

Nine hundred migrant Negro laborers are now harvesting beans and potatoes in the county. An influx of that many persons brings several problems.

The first is housing and the need for maintaining minimum sanitation and health standards. The housing for migrant laborers has improved considerably here but the conditions under which the workers live is generally sub-standard. North Carolina's reputation when it comes to migrant labor camps is "worst along the Atlantic seaboard."

With the cooperation of the late Dr. N. T. Ennett, county health officer, the farm labor office was able to get better housing for the laborers. Now the workers have bunks to sleep on whereas several years ago they slept on the floor of shacks or on the ground. The health department now is making blood tests to keep tabs on venereal disease carriers. It treats persons found to be infected.

Investigation by the health department on housing and the workers is of utmost importance, for the health department is the only agency with the authority to enforce minimum living standards.

When a small army of workers moves into a community, it brings an added problem to law enforcement officers. Living as they do, the laborers can be expected to get drunk occasionally or seek what diversion they can. As a whole, they have caused little trouble here in the past and when one considers their type of existence, it is surprising that infringement of the law has not been more frequent.

Labor crew leaders have expressed regret in the past that the laborers have no contact with a church. It is impossible to transport them to Negro churches

and if their camps are within walking distance of a rural Negro church they hesitate to go because the only clothes they have are the work clothes on their backs.

The most logical thing to do would be to conduct services for them in their camps on Sunday. Perhaps some of the Negro congregations and ministers could undertake this as a home missionary project. If they take the initiative, we believe that the white folks and their ministers would be willing to offer assistance.

Frank Nance, farm labor supervisor, said that migrant labor last year netted Carteret farmers a million and a half dollars. Crops would rot in the fields if the laborers were not here.

As THE NEWS-TIMES commented in a feature story on migrant workers last fall: "As an asset to the community migrant laborers cannot be underestimated. As a responsibility of the community as a whole, they cannot be overlooked."

Come to the Playground

A playground in Beaufort elsewhere than on the school grounds is something new to the town's youngest generation. Parents would be giving their youngsters a thrill if they took them to the playground Sunday afternoon. As a matter of fact, everyone should visit the playground and if possible, attend the brief dedication ceremonies at 5 o'clock that afternoon.

The Junior Woman's Club and the Chamber of Commerce have spent a lot of time and money on the play area. A large crowd at the dedication ceremony would help show the town's appreciation for their efforts.

Non-Voters Sell Out America

There are times when doing nothing is worse than doing something.

Sitting home and failing to vote is doing nothing. And that can be more disastrous than voting for someone who may prove in several years to be unworthy of public office.

The way things have been going, the vote increases every day in importance. It is the ONE AND ONLY weapon each American has against men like McCarthy. It is the ONE AND ONLY thing that stands between us and a shallow, meaningless democracy.

We feel the swirl of world events around us and get a helpless feeling of

"Well, what can I do?" YOU can shape the world by casting a ballot.

America is one of the most important, if not THE most important nation among all nations. That makes each American citizen important and fully responsible for the course America travels. We determine that course by choosing the men who hold public office — in Washington, Raleigh, Beaufort.

By failing to vote (if you are eligible), by sitting home all day tomorrow, you are "casting a vote" against America and all it stands for. There is no room for that type of negativism in a free world.

Water Systems in the News

Judging from the information supplied by Carolina Power and Light Co. the proposed buyers of the Beaufort, Morehead City and Snow Hill water systems are experienced water utilities men.

Transfer of a town water system is a matter of importance. Although the citizens are directly affected, they must leave to the present operators of the system the decision as to who shall take over. And in Morehead City's case, residents must place their faith in the town board — which may or may not approve the transfer.

We believe that Carolina Power and Light Co., whose primary interest is providing power and not water service, has done its best to find buyers who are able to provide and operate a good water system. If CP&L has not done this, then the company is slitting its own throat for its future in Beaufort, Morehead City and Snow Hill depends

on the smooth functioning of all utilities.

It is predicted that eventually our water rates will go up. Experts say that the rate now is extremely low. It is also true that the systems in Beaufort and Morehead City are in need of repair and improvement — which will cost money.

A few months ago there was talk that Beaufort and Morehead City might be interested in taking over the water systems. We can think of no easier way to commit financial suicide.

If the proposed owners and operators of the water system are as able and experienced as CP&L reports, we believe that the transfer to them will be advantageous and beneficial.

The basic question of the farm price program: Is parity charity?—Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.

TIME TO STEP UP AND START BATTING



MORRIS

God's Sunset

By BLANCHE ROSE
Sea Level

As I gazed from out my window
Toward the sunset's radiant glow,
I beheld a glorious painting
Unexcelled on earth below.

'Twas a painting by the Master,
Given to us mortals free.
O my soul feast on its beauty
'Til His glory you shall see.

Why do people search for pleasure
Search in vain along life's way?
When there is a glowing sunset
Painted by God's hand each day?

O I know 'tis but a sketching
Of His beauty yet to see,
But it lifts my soul toward heaven
Where I'll spend eternity.

Today's Birthday

JOHN C. WARNER, born May 28, 1897 on a farm near Goshen, Ind. The president of Carnegie Institute of Technology (Carnegie Tech) has been a faculty member since 1926, head of the chemistry department and dean of graduate studies. He is the first president to be appointed from the staff. One of America's distinguished scientists, he helped in the development of the atomic bomb. Also noted author in field of chemistry.

F. C. Salisbury

Here and There

The following information is taken from the files of the Morehead City Coaster:

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1915
As a result of a revival meeting held in the Baptist church 27 were baptized in that church at the close of the meeting Sunday night.

Mrs. S. L. Lilly of Jacksonville is in the city visiting her sister, Mrs. J. W. Wallace.

Miss Leone Herbert left Monday for Baltimore where she will visit friends.

Attorney General T. W. Bickett of Raleigh passed through the city Wednesday morning on his way to Beaufort where he delivered the commencement address at the closing of the schools of that place.

Alonzo Willis of Newport was in the city Monday, coming here to get his launch in shape for the summer.

E. A. Council, cashier of the Marine Bank, left Tuesday afternoon for Greensboro to attend the Shriners convention.

Miss Velna Canfield spent Tuesday at Pine Grove with Miss Hazel Hawkins who is teaching there.

Mrs. Chas. V. Webb who has been visiting in Oxford returned home Wednesday.

Mrs. J. W. Chadwick and children who have been spending several days here with Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Chadwick, left Monday for their home in Saluda, S. C.

The Singing Class of the Oxford Orphanage gave a concert at the Palace Theatre Wednesday night which was enjoyed by a large audience.

Miss Vida Newborne delightfully entertained several friends at her home on Evans and 9th Streets Monday night. Various games were played and refreshments served.

Those enjoying Miss Newborne's hospitality were the Misses Janice Leary, Lucile Leary, Ruth Davis, Fannie Wade, Alice Willis, Marie Jackson, Henrietta Moore; Messrs. Earle Piner, McDonald Willis, Horace Missett, Gray Hawkins, Robert Taylor, Dewey Willis, Walter

This is the Law

By FERD L. DAVIS
For the N. C. Bar Association

Administrative Law
The average person thinks of law as falling into one of two categories: legislative action or court action. He knows generally that the legislature passes laws, the executive branch of the government administers these laws, and the judicial branch of the government hears cases in which it is alleged that these laws have been broken. Much of this idea about the law is not familiar to the non-lawyer, who follows most legislative proceedings only through the press and radio. He may go through life without once suing or being sued, or being cited to appear as a defendant in a criminal action.

But the citizen comes face to face with the administration of the law a hundred times a day. These "administrations" are attempts to make effective the policies dictated by the legislature, and involve decisions, by administrative bodies, that have the force and effect of law. A citizen's rights are determined by such administrative groups to the same extent that a court of law would determine his rights, but without the many legal safeguards provided in the law courts.

Major Legal Field
This activity has expanded in America — and in North Carolina — to the extent that administrative law is one of the major fields in legal practice today. Countless attorneys devote their entire careers

to practice before only one administrative body, such as the Federal Communications Commission or the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The development of American civilization has made necessary this enormous expansion of administrative law. Our life is geared, more and more, to administrative decisions in fields formerly regarded as purely legal. The lawyer and the non-lawyer alike would, for example, bring an absurd necessity of bringing a formal lawsuit whenever the Wildlife Resources Commission set an opening date for fishing season or the Highway Commission decided to widen a state highway.

Sometimes hardships arise in the field of administrative law. In most cases, the citizen is protected by the right of appeal to the courts, as in matters before the Utilities Commission. In other cases, there is little the individual can do after a decision is made, provided the administrative official or agency has been "reasonable."

Protection
How can the average taxpayer protect himself? He can and does join various organizations to present his views to the administrative agency. He enlists the aid of his legislator in many cases, and he writes letters to the newspapers in an effort to arouse public opinion.

But the greatest help the individual can get in such matters is from his attorney. Many students of administrative law believe that the greatest assistance a lawyer can give his client lies in this field.

Yet this assertion runs against the feeling of many men, who reason that they are not going "into court" in a matter before an administrative body and consequently do not need an attorney.

The competent lawyer, however, will be familiar with the procedures of any agency before which he appears. He will know when his client's rights are being trampled. He understands the rules of evidence, and knows what evidence will be considered relevant by the particular administrative body hearing his client's case. He knows how to prepare his client's petition in order to have an administrative decision reviewed by the courts of law, if that should be necessary. And his training and experience tells him when an appeal would be proper.

Types of Cases

The cost of telephone calls, the granting of radio licenses, the suspension of beer and wine licenses, the evaluation of property for tax purposes, the location of highways, the size of oyster dredges allowed by law, the passage of municipal ordinances — all these decisions and thousands more are in the field of administrative law, and determine your rights. Your attorney can advise you of steps to be taken and the probable results of any disputes with even greater certainty that he can advise you of the probable outcome of a lawsuit.

In short, the counsel of a competent attorney is just as desirable in administrative law matters as in a law court action. Next week, specific instances of the help given individuals through such counsel will be presented in this column.

Sure Bet

Maybe this newly discovered element No. 100 is no good for bombs, but what'll you bet it will turn up before long in some brand of toothpaste, gasoline or soap chips?
—Columbia (S. C.) State.

Kidd Brewer

Raleigh Roundup

TOO LATE . . . Well, the campaigns are about over. As this week's outpourings move out of Raleigh — this the 23rd of May 1954 — it is less than a week until the Primary.

If it were all to do over, as we sometimes say, the candidates would have fought a different fight. Being human, like the rest of us, hardly a seeker for office is happy with the campaign he has conducted.

For instance, Insurance Commissioner Charlie Gold says if he had it to do over, he would have had badges printed with no reading thereon, except possible the words: "For Insurance Commissioner."

The badges would have been of a metallic orange—or golden color. Charlie says he figures that would prove sufficient to get over his message.

His slogan is "Keep the Commissioner of Insurance office on the Gold standard."

There will be many a campaigner who on Saturday night as the votes start pouring in will say: "I should have worked harder."

Several candidates will be heard to mutter words to the effect that they waited too late to start swinging. Procrastination is not only the thief of time, but frequently it is the thief of victory.

DOWN EAST . . . The oldtimers around here — and there are fewer of them all the time — are saying that the race for the U. S. Senate will be decided in about 30 counties lying east of Raleigh. There is the battleground, they say, and Messrs. Lennon and Scott apparently believe it, for they have spent a lot of time and money on visits and advertising in the eastern areas.

Why is the east so important when the big votes are in the Piedmont?

Because it has been observed that in recent years the Piedmont and the mountain counties generally cancel themselves out. They cast a lot of votes, yes, but with Scott and Johnson in 1948 they were about even. The same was true — except with Forsyth — in the Broughton - Umstead contest in 1948. It was certainly true in the Smith - Graham battle in 1950 and in the Olive - Umstead battle of 1952.

On the other hand, the east generally slugs one way or the other. Scott's big strength in 1948 came from those big counties down east. But since Senator Lennon is from down east, he is conceding nothing.

A lot of things have been happening in the senatorial thing within the past two weeks. It seems doubtful that there will be a second Primary. Watch your money, boys, for only the careless will bet on this one. Our main reason for thinking there will be no runoff is that the "other" candidates have not been able to get up as much steam as we thought they would three or four weeks ago.

DURHAM FOR SCOTT? . . . We keep hearing that Governor William B. Umstead's home county of Durham is one of the weakest for Lennon in these parts. Reports we get insist that it is one of the hottest Scott counties going. Could be — despite the fact that Governor Umstead has a lot of friends there. In 1948, Senatorial Candidate Umstead beat Wake County Native J. M. Broughton in Wake and all but took Broughton's home precinct here in Raleigh.

SEARCHERS . . . Since I wrote here three or four weeks ago that the public is entitled to know all the facts regarding candidates for public office — and facts regarding individuals holding public office — a Raleigh daily has had at least three of its top political reporters on the beat investigating me and making inquiries in at least three State departments.

Since this has come to my at-

ention within the past ten days, it may well be imagined that the other reporters — if there are any left unoccupied — are also devoting time on me.

It might be well, from the voters' standpoint, if this newspaper spent more time searching out the facts on the candidates themselves. I have heard of no case where any inquiry has been made by this newspaper on charges and counter charges made involving the two principal candidates for the U. S. Senate.

If there is any information regarding my activities — although I am not a candidate for office — which the reading public would like to have regarding my private business, good. While I have observed little general interest in the conduct of my business, I am not opposed to answering any questions regarding it.

FROM THE SCENE . . . When O. Max Gardner, brother-in-law of the late Senator Clyde R. Hoy, died a few years ago on the eve of his sailing for England as ambassador at the Court of St. James, this State was deeply shocked. But within a week after Gardner's funeral at Shelby, State Auditor George Ross Pou died of a heart attack. He had gone to Gardner's funeral and was visiting friends in South Carolina when the end came.

Within a week after attending the Hoy funeral, Labor Commissioner Forest Shuford died suddenly in Washington.

Veteran Newspaperman Tom Bost and his good friend, State Supreme Court Chief Justice Walter Parker Stacy, died within a week of each other two years ago.

Then came State School Supt. Clyde Erwin and Senator Willis Smith.

If these deaths, virtually sudden, and wholly unexpected, aren't convincing proof of the rigors of public life in this mid-20th century, then we are completely blind to the ever-increasing burdens being piled upon the shoulders of our officials.

Of the great officials we have lost within the past ten years, including J. M. Broughton, only one — Clyde R. Hoy — had attained three score and ten. Most of them were nearer 50 to 60 than to 70 when stricken.

APPOINTEES . . . We have never had a Governor with as many opportunities for key appointments as have come W. B. Umstead's way. And let, his term of office still has a little better than two years and six months to run.

Were he a politician, which he definitely is not, Governor Umstead could now be well along with a powerful political machine through the many appointments which have come to him naturally through resignations and deaths.

In no appointment yet has he shown decision governed by political advantage.

Now he has two key appointments facing him: another U. S. Senator and a Commissioner of Labor. Who will they be? The list of those mentioned for senator is now approaching 75, with Irving Carlisle of Winston-Salem, Monroe Redden of Hendersonville, and Ben Douglas of Charlotte receiving right much notice within the past few days.

For Labor Commissioner, Buildings and Grounds Head George Cherry is being discussed. A dark horse for the appointment may be Seth Brewer, federal labor conciliator who has the respect of both labor and management and who was a friend to W. B. Umstead in his races for the U. S. Senate and Governor.

Since Hoy's successor must come from the west, people are saying Shuford's successor will likely come from east of Greensboro. But, as the song goes, this ain't necessarily so.

Jane Eads

Washington

Washington — Twice a week, and when she has company, Mrs. Gracie Pfof, the Democratic congresswoman from Idaho, pours out a little of her sourdough starter, adds a little flour and water to it and makes the mining country's favorite hot cakes.

Mrs. Pfof (pronounced Post) was given the starter during her 1952 campaign by a housewife back in the mountains 85 miles from the oil fields. It came from a batch given to the housewife by a miner still farther off the beaten track. The miners use it for biscuits, the congresswoman says.

"Probably in the beginning the original batter is made with some kind of yeast foam," she told me. "I don't know how old my batch is. When you're ready to make hot cakes or waffles you mix the starter with flour and water."

Mrs. Pfof says in modern days people add an egg, some soda and a little sugar or honey, a pinch of salt and some shortening in addition to the flour and water. Whenever she pours off some for breakfast for herself and her husband, Jack, a retired master mechanic, she adds water to what's left to build up the amount needed for the next time.

With the pancakes, or waffles,

which Mrs. Pfof says have a tangy, cheesy flavor, she serves grape jelly, or jam made of redbud raspberries, apricots, gooseberries or sand plums, which grow on the Pfof's half-acre and which she puts up herself.

"The wild plum jam is just out of this world," she says. "The plants were given us by pioneer Idaho relatives who transplanted them from Kansas creek bottoms."

Shapely, auburn-haired Mrs. Pfof is considered one of the "glamour girls" of Congress. Born in Harrison, Ark., in 1906, she grew up on her father's dairy ranch in the Boise valley and married Jack Pfof in 1923. She ran for Congress in 1950, after serving 10 years as treasurer of Canyon County, but was defeated and went into the real estate business at Nampa. She says it was her husband who "needed" her into making an all-out second try.

She: Sometimes my father takes things apart to see why they won't go.
He: So what?
She: So, you'd better go.

He: So what?
She: So, you'd better go.

Smile a While

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