

Teachers' Union Vetoes Strike But Sets Sights on \$10,000 Pay Scale for Members

A proposal that teachers stage a mass professional holiday on the opening day of General Assembly has been turned down by the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Association of Educators. Instead, the Board approved five proposals designed to dramatize teacher concern over public education needs.

The five proposals — including a mass rally in Raleigh on the day Governor Robert W. Scott presents his budget message to the General Assembly — are designed to keep teacher concerns about the needs of education before the General Assembly and the public throughout the 1971 session.

The NCAE Board also directed the Association's Legislative Commission to meet as soon as possible to implement the five proposals and to make other plans to promote the Association's legislative program.

Jerry Paschal, NCAE president, said it was the feeling of the board that the mass professional holiday would be misinterpreted by many people since it would involve the closing of schools across the state. He also noted that NCAE Board felt that a more comprehensive plan for keeping the NCAE program before the General Assembly throughout the session is needed to assure that education gets first priority.

Paschal said the NCAE Board is tremendously concerned about the inadequate salary request made for educators by the State Board of Education. He noted that the State Board request would leave North Carolina teacher salaries further behind during the second year of the upcoming biennium than those salaries now are.

He said Tar Heel teacher's now lag an average of \$1,091 behind the nation in terms of average salary and that the program proposed by the State

Board of Education would reduce this lag to \$823 the first year of the biennium. (This year's average teacher pay is \$8200, editor's note).

"But even the most conservative estimates show that North Carolina would fall \$1,212 behind the nation in 1972-73," Paschal said, adding that such a figure would be "one of the largest gaps in history between North Carolina and the nation."

The request for the statewide professional holiday came from the Council of Progressive Local Associations, a group of local units within the NCAE. The CPLA is made up of some of the Association's larger units.

Paschal said the fact that teachers generally consider the salary proposals of the State Board of Education inadequate has led to demands that the NCAE take positive steps to dramatize teacher concern.

The State Board of Education has asked for salary increases for teachers of five per cent for each year of the biennium. In addition, the Board called for adoption of a 10-month employment period for teachers, a move which would add to the annual income of teachers. The State Board projects an average teacher salary in North Carolina of \$9,151 in 1971-72 if its proposals are approved. The average would move to \$9,561 in 1972-73, but the national average is projected to be \$10,773 that year.

In an attempt to dramatize its concern, the NCAE Board outlined the following program.

A — flood of telegrams from both teachers and lay citizens to individual legislators, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House on the opening day of the 1971 General Assembly.

— A mass rally by NCAE members and supporters in Raleigh on the day the Governor presents his proposed budget to the General Assembly.

— A second and small rally if Governor Robert Scott follows past precedent and presents a revised budget message to the Assembly.

— Establishment of an on-going program of Monday visits to Raleigh by educators, these persons to meet with their legislatures to keep abreast of events and to keep the profession's concern for educational improvement foremost in the

minds of Assembly members.

— Formation of a special Steering Committee from the membership of the Association's Legislative Commission, this committee to meet in Raleigh on a weekly basis during the session to review events and plan strategy for the next week.

Paschal said the NCAE expects to be more active in support of its program in 1971 than the professional education associations in North Carolina "have ever been before." He said he has never in his years in public

education seen educators as frustrated about their working conditions and status as they are now.

He said the demands on teachers have never before been as great and the lack of public support is undermining their faith in the democratic process. He said teachers have time after time been told of their importance but have yet to see this demonstrated in the amount of money they are paid for doing one of society's most important tasks.

EASY WAY TO APPLY TIRE CHAINS

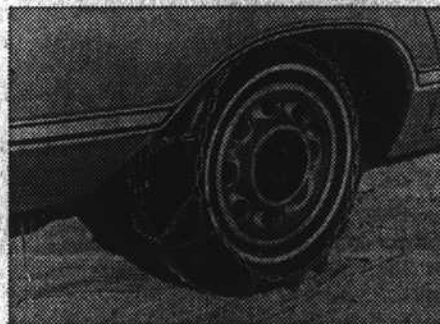
With a little "know-how" and practice, it can be done in 6 minutes, without a jack and without getting your clothes dirty.



STEP NO. 1 Spread the chains on the ground behind the rear wheels to remove tangles. Hooks should be to the rear. Reinforced chains are best and the projecting teeth or cleats should be facing up.



STEP NO. 2 Gather the chains behind the tire so they won't catch the fender, and attach the end links to the "chain applicator," a simple spring steel wire that is easily slipped onto the tire.



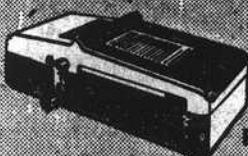
STEP NO. 3 Drive the car forward about one wheel revolution, so that the applicator carries the chains around the tire.



STEP NO. 4 Remove the applicator and fasten the inside hook first, then the outside hook. With a little practice the inner hook can be fastened by "feel" without getting under the car.

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Representative Fountain Lashes at Coast Guard for Surrendering Russian Seaman who Sought Asylum

Through many decades of strife and turmoil, the Statue of Liberty has stood in New York Harbor as a symbol of freedom to the downtrodden and oppressed peoples of the world — a beacon of liberty.

Inscribed on this magnificent statute's base are these words: "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me.

I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Those words from the pen of Emma Lazarus came sharply to my mind as the confused and deplorable story of the Lithuanian seaman, who sought and was denied freedom from Russian bondage, came to light.

We don't even know for sure the full name of this "tired," "homeless" man, who yearned to breathe the precious air of freedom — reportedly it's "Simas Ionovich Kudirka" but we do know that he desperately

wanted such an opportunity. He wanted it enough to risk his life to get it. He wanted freedom from the unbelievably harsh oppression and regimentation of his native land, Lithuania, which is now under Russian control. But, American officials refused him this chance and that refusal may cost him his life.

"Simas," the Lithuanian seaman, is reported to have begged and pleaded and to have even prayed to American citizens for safety aboard the American ship. His pleas and prayers having been ignored, he was forcibly taken from our ship after a bloody beating by his Communist fellow seamen.

It's completely understandable why anyone from a captive nation would want to escape to freedom in America.

But, it's hard to understand why the United States Coast Guard and State Department, apparently after hours of indecision, would allow Russians to board one of our ships, to badly beat and drag back into human bondage a man whose hopes and dreams of freedom from tyranny had seemingly been achieved.

I'm told that the Coast Guard drew a fine distinction in deciding not to give him protection: that if he had jumped into the water first and had been rescued from the water, then the Coast Guard would have given him sanctuary.

But, great events seldom develop neatly and the man did not jump into the water. Instead he simply jumped — desperately jumped — across ten feet of

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