

THOMAS L. ROBINSON President and Publisher
ROBERT S. GRIFFITH General Manager
C. H. LAMBERT Advertising Director
Cecil Prinke Editor
PERRY MORGAN Associate Editor
R. L. Young Jr. Managing Editor

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1958

This Little Issue Went To Market

With an eye cocked anxiously to the hustings, the Bell Committee hustled out its preliminary recommendations for judicial reform Saturday in time to provide campaign fodder for legislative candidates in all 100 Tar Heel counties.

It is a calculated risk. But it offers the voters a measuring rod with which to gauge the courage, candor and wisdom of the very individuals who would judge any court reorganization plan in the next General Assembly.

Every man or woman seeking a legislative seat is now obligated to acquaint himself or herself with this vital issue—perhaps the most important single issue to face the General Assembly in 1959. The challenge is inescapable. Either North Carolina is to have a unified court system or it is to limp along with a baffling hodgepodge geared to Reconstruction conditions.

If candidates are reluctant to examine the issue then the people of North Carolina should insist that they do so.

The general outlines of what the North Carolina Bar Association's special committee would propose are now fairly clear. In place of the present crazy-quilt complexity, there would be a single system with three divisions:

- 1—Appellate, consisting initially of the Supreme Court.
2—Trial Court, consisting of the present Superior Courts.
3—Local courts, consisting of district courts.

It is in the local courts that the greatest amount of housecleaning would be accomplished. The district courts—one in each county—would replace some 1,400 lower courts established in North Carolina since 1868 by different policies, in different places, for different purposes, at different times, and with interlock-

ing, overlapping and conflicting relationships. The purpose of the district courts would be to try crimes below the grade of felony and civil cases involving not more than a fixed amount—perhaps \$2,500.

There would still be a provision for magistrates, who would serve as arms of the district courts. They could try petty civil and criminal cases, issue warrants, conduct preliminary hearings and act as committing magistrates in criminal cases. But the abuses possible under the present justice of the peace system would be wiped in the bud. The fee system would be abolished. Magistrates would be appointed by the chief justice of the Supreme Court upon recommendation of the senior resident Superior Court judge. Furthermore, the magistrate's activities would be subjected to strict supervision and regulation.

The entire three-division judicial system would be under the administrative authority of the State Supreme Court.

The preliminary report contains other recommendations designed to streamline and improve the state's judicial system while protecting the rights and privileges of the people. Other proposals, dealing with judicial selection and tenure, practice and procedure, and the jury system, will be released later this month. We will examine them critically and in detail. But the pattern that is emerging is promising. What Tar Heels are witnessing is a broad and significant contribution toward a better administration of justice in a state long in need of basic court reforms. Whatever the flaws in the final design, citizens will be given a rare opportunity to consider wholly and in part a subject which is close to the heart of constitutional government. To strict supervision and regulation, with forthrightness and candor or be false to the traditions of democracy.

A Jocular Guide To Political Philosophy

NATURE may abhor a vacuum but no more so than a politician. Citizens had a right to expect during Congress' Easter vacation (they are not recessing this year) some surcease of gloomy pronouncements from the economy and of equally jarring injunctions to get-in-there-and-smile that unemployment away. There were some among the more optimistic who even thought the economy might cure itself in sheer exaltation over being delivered from the argumentative doctors.

Alas, it is not to be. Where the political office-holders left off in their prescriptions, the hired propagandists took over. The Democratic and Republican national committees are warring at each other with a lustre unmatched since they signed and later scrapped a "fairplay agreement" a few years ago. Committee spokesmen not only are abusive of each other. They are as witty as a dictionary-maker, when the only point each wants to make is that the other is responsible for the recession.

With all due respect to these gentlemen, their point can be made with much less wind and a great deal more humor with a couple of jokes.

The Democratic National Committee could well rest its case with the story of Calvin Colledge's fishing expedition. Mr. Colledge, fretted because he was having no luck, inquired thusly of a small boy who was hauling 'em in wholesale.

"Son, why do you suppose you're catching so many fish, and I am not?" "Because I use whole worms," the lad replied.

The Republican committee, which wants to defend the administration's postponement of all-out political action against the recession, could counter with this story:

Two Maine farmers met on the road and pulled up their teams. "Rev. Cy," said Josh, "I've got a mule with distemper. What did you give yours that time he had it?" "Turpentine," said Cy. "Giddam!" A week later they met again. "Say, Cy," said Josh, "I gave my mule turpentine and it killed him!" "Killed him, too?" said Cy. "Giddam!" "Those we maintain are fair definitions of the positions of the two parties on the economy and, remembering them, you can easily and safely skip what the party propagandists have to say during the next few days or even weeks.

"It is not true that crowds and enthusiasm presented for Comrade Khrushchev and his delegation are artificial. It is not true that people are dragged into presenting some semblance of enthusiasm for our honored Russian guests. This is a genuine love. The sum of the contrast seems to be that while Christians were rejoicing in the resurrection, the Hungarian Communists were fearing another resurrection against the "beloved" Khrushchev.

Some Easter Eggs For Khrushchev

WHILE much of the free world centered its attention on the cross and the resurrection, Nikita Khrushchev was campaigning in captive Hungary for the greater glory of the hammer and sickle. Instead of attending church, crowds of children gathered around the Kremlin's busy boss and presented him with flowers and Easter eggs. But the Communist Party, which got out the crowds, felt it necessary also to get out this statement:

"It is not true that crowds and enthusiasm presented for Comrade Khrushchev and his delegation are artificial. It is not true that people are dragged into presenting some semblance of enthusiasm for our honored Russian guests. This is a genuine love. The sum of the contrast seems to be that while Christians were rejoicing in the resurrection, the Hungarian Communists were fearing another resurrection against the "beloved" Khrushchev.

From The Raleigh News & Observer

NOBODY WALKS TO WORK

WALKING to work is almost as unknown to this generation as the tricycle was to the famous Seventh Cavalry. Even in this small town the man who lives within hollering distance of his work would be as appalled at the thought of walking as Walter Reuther would be at the universal return of the hansom cab and the two-horse wagon. Everybody in town has a new car and except the railroad worker he has a station wagon and a car. The few rebellious non-conformists who really want to walk to work are precluded by the weather. It's too cold in the winter and too hot in the summer, and when the weather is just right you always expect rain. Apparently the only people who need legs now are show girls, postmen, golfers, and highway artists.

It was almost a whipping boy on which discontent was ground into oblivion. They walked rapidly, swinging their arms as if to emulate the sheer joy of the war that they had launched. The same group formed ranks at noon but philosophy was trampled under the rapid contemplation of the home-cooked meal waiting at home. A slow sort of morbid philosophy came back to mind. You had to walk down your dig and a little innocuous sermonizing helped shape up the afternoon's problems. At supper time there was laughter and joking. Next, there was love and love formed a magnet, unshakable by any John Howard Paine retrospective. They went at a leap and a bounce. A car will get you there quicker but it isn't the same deal. Walking wheels a bit inside, and it does for the shorts and chest all that General Patton could ever require.

"How did the wedding come off?" "Fine," replied the preacher, "until I asked if the bride would obey and she said 'I do.' I thought that was the end of the group, who was in a sort of daze, mumbled: 'I do.' Then things began to happen." —LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.

Oil Billionaires Will Be Target Of Tax-Touchy Senators

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON TO CUT taxes or not to cut taxes and where and when and how—that is the question bedeviling politicians and economists alike.

On each side of the argument are men who know their minds and speak out with strong words. Sen. Paul H. Douglas of Illinois has been saying since February that in a quiet way this is the best of ending the recession.

Between these extremes is the so-called "moderate" school. It includes President Eisenhower and the Democratic leaders in the Senate and the House who have retreated from their own followers pressing for a tax cut.

But restraint may not work much longer. Most members of Congress are back home and they will hear, particularly in areas where the recession has hit hardest, demands for action. And what ahead is that melancholy deadline of April 15 when the income tax must be met.

ATTACK ON OIL The returning Congress will, therefore, be largely preoccupied with the relatively short time that remains before October 1 when the loopholes by which some large taxpayers enjoy special privileges have been attacked.



With the relatively short time that remains before October 1 when the loopholes by which some large taxpayers enjoy special privileges have been attacked. Foremost among these is the 27 per cent deduction granted oil producers on the theory that they sell a "wasting asset." The attack is being readied again, with data accumulated to try to

show how a few oil billionaires strike it tax rich. One of the chief attackers is Sen. J. Williams, Republican of Delaware.

VEIL OF SECRECY Only once did the Bureau of Internal Revenue lift the legal veil of secrecy to show for the year 1957 how, with certain individuals identified only as Taxpayer A, B, and so on, the oil loophole worked.

Only once did the Bureau of Internal Revenue lift the legal veil of secrecy to show for the year 1957 how, with certain individuals identified only as Taxpayer A, B, and so on, the oil loophole worked. The 27 per cent plus additional deduction for development costs, more generous than in most businesses, made it possible for oil men to pay comparatively small taxes on huge incomes. Here are some examples:

- Taxpayer A: Total income \$14,000,000; tax paid \$80,000 or 0.6 per cent.
Taxpayer C: Total income \$4,400,000; tax paid \$150,000 or 3.4 per cent.
Taxpayer G: Total income \$6,400,000; tax paid \$500,000 or 7.8 per cent.

TOP BRACKET In the top bracket — more than \$400,000 a year for married couples — taxpayers who do not get the 27 per cent deduction pay at the rate of 91 per cent.

FIERCERIGHT But any change will be fiercely resisted. Sen. Robert Kerr of Oklahoma is a partner in Kerr-McGee, and while he's for cheaper money and lower taxes, he is certainly for keeping the "wasting asset" deduction. So are other powerful Democrats from the Southwest. Thus the lines are being drawn for still another battle in the ancient struggle over taxes.

People's Platform Proper Dress Sets The 'Beat Generation' Apart

Chaylote Editors, The News:

I READ Rusk's ranting against the so-called "Beat generation." The old fellow's mind has flipped. His memory (if given proper couch research) would bring back some of the doings of his own gear generation, the roaring '20s.

Rusk brags about his Horatio Alger gift, working for peanuts, but the parents can help. The schools can help. The employers can help. The Sunday school and church can help. God help the kid if called upon.

But only when (and not until) each individual concerned comes to grips with himself and asks himself some fundamental questions (i.e. Who am I? What am I doing with my God given life? How can I learn more about myself? Will the materialization be begun. Only by following through on such a beginning set of questions by each individual young man will the probation officers, parents, schools, employers, Sunday schools and churches' lives be better. If we do not ask for it, we are unable to extend the help so urgently needed by these youths.

So you, Mr. Rusk and we shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you. — ROBERT H. JOHNSON

The parents can help. The schools can help. The employers can help. The Sunday school and church can help. God help the kid if called upon.

Now, I'm sure Mrs. Rosenthal is a sweet and conscientious lady, and I'm sure she and her League of Women Voters through out the nation wouldn't intentionally lead us astray. But when the lady states, "It seems questionable to us that the security programs are so much needed now," she's talking through her pretty Easter bonnet.

I propose a proposition to Mrs. Rosenthal and her League of Ladies. Let her sit down and write a man who I'm sure most intelligent, fair-minded Americans will agree is probably the most eminent living authority on the Communist conspiracy as it affects the United States — J. Edgar Hoover.

or, director of the FBI — and ask him simply whether or not loyalty-security programs are now so much needed in our country.

If Mrs. Rosenthal receives a negative reply, let The News publish it, along with the modified letter of inquiry to Mr. Hoover, and I'll promptly crawl into the nearest reactionary hole I can find. On the other hand, if she receives an affirmative reply, let her forget about the matter insofar as airing it publicly. However, in the event of an affirmative reply, I must insist that Mrs. Rosenthal and her Ladies, on their honor, privately pledge themselves to go back into conference and think much more about this question before ever again intruding publicly that the American people can now minimize the rotten-asses-intravention Communist conspiracy as it relates to our internal security. — J. R. CHERRY JR.

Present-Day Politics Stiffles Majority Rule

PHOENIX, Ariz. Editors, The News: THE real sentiments and heartfelt beats of decent people in the United States are absolutely boxed in by the present-day system of politics. In simple words, the will of the majority has no way of expressing itself. You must remember that our senators and congressmen were sent to Washington to represent you, the district, state and citizens—not the people at large and the minority pressure groups who are our enemies. — A. A. STUART

Spring Comes Shyly To Barren Mountains

Salisbury Editors, The News:

I HAVE just returned from a trip to the mountains of North Carolina where beautiful in these ways:

The many different evergreens gave a sign of hope for the other trees that were still barren. Here and there a small flowering bush showed its head above the dead leaves. Some of the maples and willows had started green.

A flowering shrub showed its face by an early bloom. Some kind of pink flower was blooming in pink magnificence in a few rocky flower gardens. I do not know its name but would guess that it is some kind of new violet.

Even the mudhacks, the moat on the rocks, and the other signs of spring made me rejoice. May God shine through spring to all who read. — JAMES W. JEWELL

Even the mudhacks, the moat on the rocks, and the other signs of spring made me rejoice. May God shine through spring to all who read.

Let Hoover Settle Issue Of Security

Charlotte Editors, The News:

I JUST read a letter to you in the April 5th edition signed by Mrs. Sanford Rosenthal, chairman, League of Women Voters of Charlotte — all 10 words of which sound all-land like a right impressive title. However, the letter tends to endorse one of the most dangerous thoughts which can be held, and that is that of weakening the existing loyalty-security programs and minimizing the need for such programs. This is, indeed, strangely,

Now that the court proceedings are over the advantage gained, for all concerned, (lenient sentences for the accused and reduced expense for the state) must be actively pursued.

Using the title in its fundamental sense, those sentenced must be rehabilitated. The probation officers assigned can help. I talked with them; they are worthy men.

Some Hit Twice U.S. aid the winds have most to do with harming American children. The winds which always blow from West to east because the earth always turns the same way on its axis, always carry radioactive fallout from the testing grounds in the United States. On the way, it also hits Japan. But twice—once from the United States gets hit twice—once from Russia fallout, again from American bombs tested in Nevada, and to a lesser extent from tests in the mid Pacific.

Drop Lester Macchia at the Weather Bureau has revealed that fallout doesn't drop uniformly over the globe, but in a fairly narrow band stretching across the northern United States. Last summer measurements showed that accumulated fallout around New York City was two to three times as large as in the South.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON Today these same winds are carrying something much more deadly than Japanese balloons. As just as the balloons near Lakeview, Ore., killed unsuspecting children, so a new menace, radioactive fallout, is getting into the bones of children.

Some Winds The Japanese had been taking advantage of the wind to float balloons across the vast Pacific Ocean to try to set fire to the wheatfields and forests of our Northwest. The Japanese testified after the war that they had launched 9,000 balloons against us during the war, though now caused death—except in the unsuspecting children—of Mr. Mitchell's plane.



Winds Carry Threat To U.S. Children

80, the long-lived poison resembling calcium which gets into the bones. If you eat radioactive food, strontium 90 seeps out the bones and causes leukemia or lung cancer. Tests at Perry, N. Y., have shown that cows eating hay that has been stored in Strontium 90. But cows which have eaten fresh grass subjected to radioactive fallout give milk with considerably increased Strontium 90. The amount of Strontium 90 in milk has gone up ever since increased nuclear tests in 1954.

Begging The Point

Adm. Lewis Strauss and his Atomic Energy Commission claim that fallout from atomic bombs has not added to "natural" radiation. This is true. But the word "natural" is deceptive. For Strontium 90 is not natural. It can only be created by nuclear explosions. Therefore, nuclear explosions do not add to natural radiation, but make Strontium 90. The Atomic Energy Commission is begging the point.