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A Long-Range Benefit Worth Cheering

A buck in the hand is worth two in the bush.
—OLD ARMENIAN PROVERB

THE "balance" of Gov. Hodges' new budget is precarious.

It is frankly dependent upon an anticipated $27½ million windfall from pay-as-you-go income tax deductions and bond issues totaling $38 million for capital improvements.

Armed with these handy weights and measures, the governor feels that he can forego his plans to ask for a tax increase.

This latter feature is naturally cheering. Nobody likes extra taxes, and if the governor pegs his whole campaign for a withholding tax system to the possibility that no increase will be necesary it is all right with us. But some of the more thoughtful legislators will surely realize that the prospect of a 27½ million windfall is only one good reason for a pay-as-you-go plan. The windfall is a short-range benefit. It'll fall in the state's lap only once. Of far more importance over the long run will be the greater efficiency in tax collecting that the withholding method will guarantee.

There are too many holes in the tax dike at present.

Too many Tar Heels — especially temporary Tar Heels — are able to evade their state income taxes entirely.

By withholding the taxes as the federal government does, the state can be sure that it is getting its fair share and honest taxpayers can be sure they are not shouldering the loads of the tax dodgers.

Of course, the state can now check its records against federal income tax records. But this is a time-consuming and costly system. It is also shockingly ineffective if the recently publicized experience of the State of Missouri is any guide.

Here is what Missouri's director of revenue discovered recently after a long hand-matching process:

85,000 persons who had not paid a tax.
30,000 of these paid on getting a letter from the Department of Revenue.
28,000 of these were found not to owe any tax.
27,000 could not be located.

In Minnesota, the State Tax Study Committee reported in 1956 that in one year:

61,000 people moved out of the state.
62,000 people moved in.
152,000 people moved from one county to another.
269,000 people moved to a different address in the same county.

The resultant difficulty in tax collecting is obvious. North Carolina is no exception to what had become the national rule before the states began to discover and adopt the withholding system.

The long-range benefits of a pay-as-you-go plan will be far greater than the $27½ million in non-recurring revenue eyed this week by Gov. Hodges.

Mr. Gridcheer Leads A Yell For Raleigh

Q. Mr. Gridcheer, you appear in excellent spirits this morning. Did the Clippers win last night?

A. No, as a matter of fact, they didn't. But I cheer today for the plans to build a great stadium in Raleigh for football.

Q. That is not quite accurate, is it? Nothing about a stadium has been confirmed.

A. No, they didn't mention money, come to think about it. But lemme tell you, when it gets in print, it's for real. And did you see that covered top. Man, no sitting in the rain, just the best weather all the time.

Q. Yes, I noticed that. I wonder what that enterprise will cost?

A. I reckon it'll come in the millions, dad. Nothing's too good for our stalwart warriors.

Q. Stalwart warriors?

A. Yea, you know, the Gridiron Greats, the Men of the Greensward, College footbal players.

Q. Oh—yes. They still require them to attend classes and pass their subjects?

A. Why, of course. You guys what don't check sports pages are a bunch of dolts. Of course they pass.

Q. You know, I noticed another item. It ranks Raleigh's State College at 102nd in 107 "Class I" colleges in library books. A pity money like that stadium would take couldn't be invested in knowledge, don't you think?

A. Books? Library? Man, who's gonna make any money out of that. Why, this place will pay for itself. And private capital is going to build it.

Q. Well, yes. But what I was getting at is that State College has fewer books per student than any other North Carolina college, and . . .

A. Lood dad, let's roll it again. Who needs books? They can get a place like that stadium in Raleigh pack in 75,000 people or more. Man, that revenue will buy some books.

Q. Perhaps, but don't you think that with the emphasis on education as it is today, it is a pity some additional private enterprise capital isn't channeled into education? We could still use it.

A. Buddy, I don't care what's with those reactors or missiles or shooting at the moon. We got to build up sports around here. This thing's gonna help.

Q. Ah, well, I suppose we're still in that age after all.

A. You said it, Buster. We're still the alumni, you know.

Q. True. A college official said it for me. "Let us hope we can have a university the athletic teams can be proud of."

A. You're right there. They're gonna hafta keep up, dad.

Let Us Get On With It, Gentlemen

LEGISLATION paving the way for Charlotte's helicopter feeder service ought to be introduced in the 1959 General Assembly with or without the active support of Rep. Frank Snepp.

The Mecklenburg delegation ought to be accustomed by now to some disunity. It put up with the obstructionism of Rep. Jack Love in 1957 on the question of city limits extension and was generally admired for it. At any rate, Mr. Love was not able to block the city's progress.

Mr. Snepp's opposition to the proposed Belk bill seems to be based on a question of lofty principle: Should the public operate facilities which might better be operated by private enterprise? It's a little like one of those long philosophical arguments the nation had going a century ago over the public schools, and it makes us fear for the safety of the Charlotte Water Works. Of course, in this case, the city could lease the helicopter service to a private individual, a firm or corporation if any free enterprisers turned up. The proposed bill makes specific provision for this.

The point is, however, that the helicopter service is needed. The city is wisely attempting to get into position to fill this public need. It ought to be allowed to do just that.

From The Richmond News Leader

THE GOOD FAIRY'S DOWNFALL

TELEVISION quiz shows, generally speaking, offer less in the way of adult amusement than a second-rate flea circus. Such shows appeal to the viewer's morbid curiosity and his nostalgic yearning for the good fairy of childhood, who magically transformed wishes into blissful reality.

Because they justly have little respect for the intelligence of those who parade before their cameras, the gift-givers sometimes miscalculate. They bestow heart's desires that aren't especially desired, as in the case of Harry Salter, producer of NAME THAT TUNE.

It seems that a bright-young butcher, one Mario Cozzen, recently ran up winnings of $8,000 on Mr. Salter's show. A husky, affable fellow, young Mario won the hearts of the viewers and helped Mr. Salter's Trendex nicely. So the good producer-fairy polished his wand and decided to give Mario a bonus. Without consulting the lad, he went and bought out Mario's employer, an elderly gentleman who had long wanted to retire. Here, Mr. Salter doubtless thought, here is an opportunity to see Mario weep with gratitude and stammer his folksy thanks. Won't he be astonished when he learns that he owns the butcher shop?

Well, Mario was astonished all right. In fact he was flabbergasted. There, before the eyes of goodness knows how many viewers, the butcherboy was made the butcher. But there was a slight hitch. The good fairy had flopped.

"I don't know what to say," Mario stammered while the emcee beamed and the curious edged forward on their living-room couches. "I just can't take the store."

Then Mario told his busybody benefactors thanks anyway, but he didn't want to be a butcher. He is going to use his prize money to open a florist shop with his brother.

Pome In Which Is Outlined The Debilitating Effects Of A More Or Less Occasional Malady:

In the clutches of a cold
One feels puny, weak and old.—ATLANTA JOURNAL.

When women started making their own dough, they stopped baking their own bread.—ELIZABETH (GA.) NEWS.

Underdeveloped Areas

People's Platform

Kasper, Cole In Washington

Charlotte
Editor, The News:

ALL informed Americans know that only Congress has the authority to make our federal laws. And they have to have the signature of the President before they become the law of the land. I do not know where the Supreme Court and some federal judges got their authority to make any law. So far, Congress has passed no laws on integration of the races.

With our national debt of around $80 billion, the new Congress now in session is bent on seeing how much they can increase the national debt by spending, wasting and giving away the taxpayers' money. Both the Democratic and the Republican parties have betrayed the American people and have shown that they have very little regard for the Constitution. The Communist countries get about half of the so-called foreign aid money.

It is a pity the voters of America can't forget political parties and vote for some good businessmen to send to Washington. The only hope for America is to be rescued from the New Deal and socialistic left-wing spenders in Congress is for all loyal American voters, North, East, South and West, to vote a third-party ticket next November. If it is not on the ballot, then write it in.

It has got to the place that if a man takes a stand for constitutional states' rights government, he is ridiculed by the newspapers, and called a rabble-rouser. It might help to get our nation back on the right road if we had some John Kasper's, Red Adams, Coles and Faubuses in Washington to take the place of the late Joseph McCarthy, who was hounded to death by his enemies. It is libel for newspapers to condemn any person because of his stand for our American way of life.

A third party headed by a real patriotic American can win if the voters will awake and realize how near we are to being destroyed by our enemies who are following orders from Moscow, Russia.
—PARKS A. YANDLE

JOHN KASPER
In For McCarthy

City Council Blamed For Heavy Taxation

Charlotte
Editor, The News:

THE majority of people that I have discussed taxes with in Charlotte feel that the present City Council has overloaded them with heavy taxes.

If you take time to check what you are receiving in return for your tax money you can easily figure out where 10 to 15 per cent is spent that gives the citizens absolutely nothing in return now or in the future. It is a strenuous load and burden on the majority of the people to pay this unnecessary percentage that in their opinion is lost in the battle to survive.

We all like sports and nice stadiums but I am sure that most Charlotteans will agree that our government has spent money unwisely. An example: letting different departments get out of hand then spending taxpayers money to cover up the few things that have been uncovered. I hold the city Council responsible for the things that go on under them in the various departments in city government. If you know your seven city councilmen, then you know who is the governing body of the Charlotte city government.

It is time that we realized that Charlotte would be a far more comfortable place to live in if the government would live within a reasonable income which should be a reasonable rate of taxes. I think most citizens will agree that too much of this bond issuing is like coming in on a twin-engine plane that only has one motor running.

Our present Council has passed the buck at practically all of approximately 89 Council meetings in the past two years.

There is no way for a business concern to prosper unless the governing body works together. We need city councilmen who will work together and can do things for the people that count without crying for higher and higher taxes.

They have spent thousands and thousands of dollars for parking meters to stick every where that the law would allow — even in places where it would have been to the best interest of the people to have not had them. It will take a long time to get the price of these meters back through them.

I have had several businessmen express their desire to open a business in Charlotte but they hesitate because of parking problems and fear of high city taxes. Taxpayers have been wise to the fact for a long time that they are paying too much city tax for the little they receive in return.
—J. A. RAYFIELD

Books And Men

The Strange Resemblance

OF ALL the elements in books — of all man's troubles, books are the nearest to us, for they contain our very thought, our ambitions, our imaginations, our illusions, our talents, our truth and our persistent longing toward error. But most of all this resemble us in their precarious hold on life.

No secret of eternal life for our books, can be found among the formulas of art, and more than for our bodies, in a prescribed combination of colors. This is not because some books are for worlds of enduring life, but because the formulas of art are dependent on things variable, unstable, and untrustworthy, on human sympathies, on prejudices, on likes and dislikes, on the sense of virtue and the sense of propriety, on beliefs and theories that, indestructible in themselves, always change their form — often in the lifetime of one fleeting generation.—Joseph Conrad, in "Notes on Life and Letters."

Kennedy Cropper?

California's Brown To Enter Primary

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

CALIFORNIA'S new Democratic governor, Pat Brown, has now said in public that he intends to be a favorite son candidate for the presidential nomination in that state's primary next year.

This is bad news for any hopefuls who would like to tie up the Democratic convention in advance.

In particular it is bad news for young Sen. Kennedy. It seems very likely, since he is currently the front runner for the Democratic nomination, that he may take the old Kefauver role of trying to win primaries in order to impress the delegates with his power.

MOST VOTES

California has a huge block of votes, the largest of any state which has a primary. It would be difficult indeed to try the primary route to the nomination without California.

As the first Democratic governor of the state in a generation, there can be no question but that if Gov. Brown chooses to run as a favorite son there will be no out-of-state competition. As attorney general, Brown once was a candidate against Estes Kefauver and was swamped. But he is in a different position today.

FLUID DRIVE

The importance of Gov. Brown's decision lies in the fact that it will be a major factor in keeping the situation regarding the Democratic nomination fluid. It is already so fluid, as a matter of fact, that it may take some bruising primary battles in such states as Wisconsin, Oregon and Florida either to establish candidates or demolish them.

Primaries, such as those fought out between Adlai Stevenson and Sen. Kefauver prior to the last Democratic convention, can be both costly and wearing. There can be no question but that the primaries which Stevenson went through in his battle for the last Democratic nomination used up resources which could have been used to good effect in his race against Eisenhower.

Gov. Brown's decision to take his delegation to the convention in his own name is especially interesting to politicians since he, like Sen. Kennedy, is a Catholic. And 1960 appears to be the target year to break the tradition that a Catholic cannot be on a national ticket. Gov. Brown, of course, has his own ambitions which do not at the moment appear to soar above the vice presidential nomination.

GOV. PAT BROWN
Bad News Carrier

The vice presidency was the original destination of the Kennedy drive. It has been only in the absence of other commanding candidatures that his goal advanced to the top spot. Even today Sen. Kennedy seems to be the favorite choice for running mate for nearly every other non-Catholic person mentioned for the Democratic nomination.

LITTLE OPPOSITION

The fact that the Kennedy drive does not seem to have run anywhere into opposition on religious grounds has also encouraged supporters of Secretary of Labor Mitchell, the only Catholic in the Cabinet. They believe that if the Democrats nominate a Catholic for either top spot, it will be necessary for the Republicans to pick their man.

Alcorn An Executioner?

Veto Kills A Triumph

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON

HENRY Labouisse is a genial, unassuming, deceptively ordinary seeming man who belongs to a very special category — the category of Americans to whom every citizen of this republic ought to feel personally indebted.

In the earliest stages of his career in the Foreign Service, and for a time in the Foreign Aid Administration, he turned in a most notable performance, but it was not this which created the debt each one of us owes to him. The debt began to be incurred when Labouisse accepted one of the most difficult and heart-rending posts in the world today, the directorship of the United Nations Relief Agency for the tragic Arab refugees from Palestine.

POOR POST

There was no need for Labouisse to leave everything friendly and familiar, and go to the Middle East with his beautiful and brilliant wife, the former Mrs. Eva Clarke. By any ordinary standard, the appointment Labouisse accepted was both repellent and terrifying.

Yet by tact and humor and cool courage, but wonderful improvising from small resources, he model administration under the worst conditions, and above all, by back-breaking, unending, gruelling hard work, Labouisse won the day.

And all this he did without any great increase of the niggardly pittance of a few cents per person per day that the United States and the other contributing nations gave to the U. N. for refugee-care.

Such, then, was the achievement of Henry Labouisse when he came home at last some months ago. Such, then, was the man who Deputy Secretary of State Douglas Dillon requested to take over the International Cooperation Administration, when Dillon learned that the foreign aid job was about to be vacated by James H. Smith.

At the White House, however, the nomination ran headon into the peculiar situation created by President Eisenhower's positive detestation of his secondary role as leader of the Republican Party. Despite his sometimes reluctant efforts to the party rank and file to get out and work, the President notoriously avoids the normal political tasks of his office.

RADICAL MOVE

But in order to justify this avoidance and to control the party officials, the President has done something that his most politically active predecessors never did. He has given the Republican National Committee and its chairman, Meade Alcorn, a right of veto over all appointments.

QUICK VETO

Despite these important considerations, Alcorn furiously vetoed the Labouisse appointment on the sole ground that the wholly a-political Labouisse was not a Republican.

The President, despite his repeatedly professed enthusiasm for the foreign aid program, has been too remote from the struggle, too little interested in the problem, too busy quail-shooting with George Humphrey, to bother to overrule the national committee chairman. When you recall the great public servants Harry S. Truman recruited from Republican ranks, it seems a little odd to see the Eisenhower crusaders enforcing the crude-it rules of old-fashioned pork-and-patronage politics, with certain detriment to the public service of the United States.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Fliers' Lives Came First In Risky Game

WASHINGTON

THERE'S been a lot of speculation that the State Dept. timed its release of the transcript of the Russian flyers' conversation on the 4,400 near the Turkish border in order to intensify the cold war.

A lot of people have wondered why we waited from September until February to publish the transcript. They forgot that the November-year clause in the State Dept. request to reporter Mikoyan expired.

Lawrence Thompson, our able ambassador in Moscow, advised that we had a better chance to get the flyers back if we did not make a national production of the incident. For that reason, the Russian transcripts were not released.

Later, it became known that Anastas Mikoyan was coming to the United States and it was decided to wait and put the matter before him. This was done, though for some unexplained reason he was never asked to listen to the transcripts.

After Mikoyan returned to Moscow, the State Dept. waited about two weeks to give him time to take action. Nothing happened, so they released the texts. State Dept. diplomats, notoriously bad at gauging public opinion, had no idea they would have such impact.

No Rocking Boat

Actually, the State Dept. was not at all anxious to rock the boat with Russia or intensify the cold war. The last thing it wants is worsening of relations just before the Berlin talks.

State Dept. officials are realistic. They know that they are in an embarrassing spot certainly in the eyes of Europeans, insisting on the continuation of wartime troops in Berlin 14 years after the war is over.

Grave Danger

For a long time American pilots have been warned they were in grave danger in flying along the Turkish-Russian border.

On Sept. 28, this column reported:

"Every American pilot flying anywhere near the Russian border of Iran and Turkey has been warned that the Russians are ready to shoot to kill if our planes come near the border."

Later, in reporting on the conversation between Premier Khrushchev and motion picture czar Eric Johnston, this column reported: "Khrushchev was bitter against American planes flying along the Soviet-Armenian border. He claimed they were spying.

"When a man pulls down the blinds of his house, said Khrushchev, his neighbor does not come peeping through those blinds. Whenever we catch one of your planes doing this we will shoot them down."

Inside Russia

Unfortunately the C130 was more than 20 miles inside Russia. How it got there will never be known. But almost every plane flying that close to the Russian border especially one carrying the extra large crew of 17, is loaded with electronic equipment.