



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Tall Tasks Ahead For 1959 Legislature: A Check List Of North Carolina Needs

AN ANCIENT law of political physics will determine the record of North Carolina's 1959 General Assembly.

It is quite simple: Tar Heel legislators seldom if ever rise above the interests and enlightenment of the voters back home.

If the people of North Carolina want significant progress enough to ask for it they will get it. If they behave like patients sitting in a doctor's anteroom while the specialists discuss their disease they will get nothing more inviting than the back of Raleigh's hand—and perhaps a few new taxes for good measure.

The need for significant progress is great in North Carolina. The state cannot stand still. It is ahead in the race with its sister states in the South; but it will not stay ahead if it does not adjust to new challenges.

Tar Heels must demand that the adjustments be made.

The time to speak is now—the eve of the 1959 General Assembly.

defective automobiles. The other is a law establishing a system of scientific tests for intoxication to enable judges and juries to reach more accurate and just decisions in drunken driving cases.

Important legislation will be needed in the field of education as well. The quality of education in the public schools obviously must be improved. Better methods of financing public school education must be explored thoroughly. The relation of state-supported colleges and universities to the State Board of Higher Education must be redefined. Greater state support must be given the state's three community college systems—Charlotte, Wilmington and Asheville.

THE needs of North Carolina's expanding community colleges are particularly urgent. Happily, there are strong indications that the Hodges ad-

ministration is aware of these needs. Just Eagles of Wilson, the governor's legislative liaison officer, in his short order, the legislature will begin the task of chewing it into pulp. The air will be rife with the shuffling and stomping of old pals maneuvering for position. Somehow, in very mysterious ways that the gods themselves do not seem to understand sufficiently good things and bad things will be accomplished. The good news and badness will reflect fairly accurately the critical intelligence and high resolve of the state as a whole.

We urge that individual Tar Heels do take an interest in the lawmaking in Raleigh and do make their ideas known on subjects of vital importance. That is how progress is made.

THE need for a new state constitution tops the list. The present 1868 model is an unsatisfactory hand-me-down. A new and simpler document is needed, one which will give Tar Heels a clear statement of governing principles and at the same time draw proper lines of authority, responsibility and accountability. It must simply provide an effective framework of efficiency and democracy for 20th century living.

A special state commission has been at work since late 1957 on just such an instrument. The legislature will be expected to attack the problem with equal dedication and determination.

Court reform will require the same sort of enlightened decisions on the part of the General Assembly. This, too, will be a constitutional matter and we sincerely hope Tar Heel lawmakers use as their guide the recommendations of the North Carolina Bar Association's Bell Committee.

A uniform system of justice is essential to the well-being of the state. The people of North Carolina must not allow the legislature to shirk its responsibility.

A state minimum wage law is another essential piece of business the 1959 General Assembly will face. Both logic and experience demand passage of effective legislation in this vital field. North Carolina must have a wage system that will provide reasonable economic security against want and poverty for every worker. This means a minimum, not of subsistence, but of decency.

The problem of legislative reapportionment will also haunt the General Assembly's conscience during the months ahead. At stake again will be the fundamental concepts of representative government, but roadblocks to far effective action are already being thrown up by the state's eastern bloc. It is extremely doubtful that the populous Piedmont will be successful in getting its fair share of legislative representation for quite awhile.

FISCAL affairs, a pay-as-you-go system of collecting state income taxes is perhaps the most pressing housekeeping item before the General Assembly. It has many virtues—simplicity, convenience, efficiency and the prospect of a multimillion windfall for the state in non-recurring revenue.

Important adjustments will also be needed in state laws regulating ad valorem taxes levied by the counties. It is adjustments designed to promote greater equity and uniformity.

Two vital pieces of legislation concerning motor vehicles ought to receive the General Assembly's special attention this year. One is a workable mechanical inspection law, urgently needed to promote traffic safety on a highway system crowded with a great many dangerously

first in an aquarium village than to be second in Rome or New York.

In any case, insofar as there was any argument as to where it should seek a career, the whale won't with a nicely balanced mixture of action and inaction that merits study in these times when irresistible forces and immovable objects seem to draw humanity's paths.

After all it's a wise whale that knows its own whereabouts. And

An eastern Illinois University professor, trying to find his class in labor-management on the first day of the new term, opened the door of a room to find several high school teachers—all working on graduate courses—waiting for their professor. "Ladies," the professor said, "are you in labor?" — MATTHEW DILLON

When interplanetary transportation has been abandoned, some are sure to propose working out, and making it, a new start elsewhere.—GASTONIA GAZETTE.

CHAIN GANG EMPIRE—1 Mao Is Turning China Into A Society Of Human Ants

By R. H. SHACKFORD

Editors' Note: Communist China is trying to put its entire nation of 650 million people on the chain gang. The "pure communism" system of mainland China turns everyone into military-style working brigades, feeds the people in communal kitchens, a-b-o-v-i-l-i-b-e-r-a-s-a-n-u-e-r-a-l work and separates husbands, wives and children except for a few hours on weekends. If H. Shacksford's Scripps-Howard staff writer, now tells the full story of Red China's chain gang empire. This is the first of a series of reports on Mao's China.

RED CHINA is in the midst of a crash program to transform 650 million Chinese into human insects—reprogrammed for work and only down to the level of life from the womb to the tomb.

The plan calls for a people as highly arched as insect society and its bees, and as well as termites colonies.

The Red campaign slogan reads: "Everyone a soldier—that is, for work, but also for war if it comes. More correct would be: "Everyone a forced laborer."

PEOPLES COMMUNES

Mao Tse-tung calls it a system of "people's communes," and claims it is voluntary. But that is only a word with idealistic overtones to hide one of the most fantastically evil efforts ever made to destroy a whole people as people.

It makes the effort in Russia to create "the Soviet man" look amateurish.

Past tyrants have converted large numbers of people into little more than animals—the Pharaohs and Stalin were experts on slave labor. But no one before Mao ever has condemned a whole nation to the chain gang.

MAO'S GOAL

The only exception will be the Communist Party functionaries—the Red elite—whose job it will be to drive the peasants and workers of China relentlessly and without pity until, as Mao claims, China will surpass Britain in production.

If successful, Mao's project would destroy everything that has been known through the centuries as Chinese society and culture.

The commune program aims to abolish the family, the home, religion, money, leisure, graveyards—even the oldest concepts of village, town and city.

The regime claims it is the high road to "pure communism"—to be reached in five or six years. But the goals are ones that even Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchev never dared try—and probably already have turned Karl Marx over in his London grave.

HERE'S THE PROGRAM

The "people's commune" program:

- Bumps everyone into working brigades, organized like military units.
- Assigns "reliable" armed militiamen to each unit, changing style.
- Separates husbands, wives and children except for a few hours on week ends.
- Abolishes and scots at ancestral worship and plans "houses of happiness" for the aged.
- Feeds the people in communal kitchens, thus freeing all women for manual labor in field and factory.
- Aims at the Communist goal of "to everyone according to his needs" and Mao Tse-tung and his gang deciding that bare subsistence is enough.

EVERY LAST OUNCE

The regime directs every minute of the life of every man, woman and child so that every last ounce of energy is squeezed out of them.

A Moment Of Vision

What Is The Aim Of It?

ART is long and life is short, and success is very far off. And thus, doubtful of strength to travel so far, we talk a little about the aim—the aim of art—which, like life itself, is inspiring, difficult—obsured by mist.

To arrest, for the space of a breath, the hands busy about the work of the earth, and compel men estranged by the sight of distant goals to glance for a moment at the surrounding vision of form and color, of sun-

and shadows, to make them pause for a look, for a sigh, for a smile—such is the aim of art, and evanescent, and reserved only for a very few to achieve. But sometimes, by the deserving and fortunate, even that task is accomplished. And when it is accomplished—behold!—all the truth of life is summed in the vision, a sigh, a smile—and the return to an eternal rest.—Joseph Conrad in the Preface to "The Nigger of the Narcissus."

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

ANASTAS Mikoyan, the fast-trotting Soviet Deputy Premier, is going to get the steel pipe which the State Dept. denied him after all. And guess where he's going to get it? From West Germany.

Dillon's Veto

When crossing the U. S., Mikoyan mentioned to American steel men that he wanted to buy around \$300 million worth of steel pipe, which is not a small order. But while American businessmen were licking their chops over such an order, the Deputy Premier of Washington was getting worried. And when the Deputy Premier of Russia met with Deputy Undersecretary of State Douglas Dillon, Dillon flatly said no.

It was why Mikoyan hit the ceiling.

However he is now arranging to buy the same pipe from West German

Secret Gas Strategy

Congressman Oren Harris, the diligent Arkansas Democrat, has not been named as a member of the House Select Committee on the Sino-Soviet gas bill. He wants them to line up for the bill and get it out of committee without hear-

Humphrey's Finances

Fifty-six well-heeled Democrats met in a private room of Club 21 in New York last week to give the once-over to Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota as a presidential candidate. The idea was that if they liked, Hubert they would dig down in their jeans to finance his campaign.

Max Schuster, the New York publisher, joked that it would be a six-hour session between Sen. Humphrey and Khrushchev.

Mikoyan Took His Business Elsewhere

In the past, northern mayors have trekked to Washington to oppose the gas bill and their public testimony has stirred up nationwide interest. Now Harris wants to avoid public hearings and slip the gas bill out of committee without any of them wailing that "enough is enough" and that they want the powerful help of Speaker Sam Rayburn to help to zip it through the full House of Representatives.

It hasn't commented yet on a scheme that makes Soviet communism look like 19th century capitalism. Yegorova, the Soviet Communist Party's regime, denounced Mao's communes as a return to feudalism.

What kind of reception has this program had in China?

No one, not even Mao himself, knows how the average peasant reacts. Some reports from villages indicate widespread approval—so far—among the poor peasants who comprise the bulk of China. But they had nothing materially to lose.

Gland D. Russell, Far Eastern expert for the Scripps-Howard Newspapers, cables this appraisal from Hong Kong.

The widespread feeling here is that Mao Tse-tung's regime will succeed or fail by the success or failure of this incredible movement to make brainless machines out of China's people.

Already there are signs that Boss Mao may have moved too fast, too drastically and too much against the grain of a people traditionally self-centered and individualistic. But the signs are still vague and sporadic. Pressures may be relieved a tiny bit here or there, but in the main the drive goes on.

It is a desperate gamble Mao is taking as a short cut to "pure communism" as a means of gaining a much-needed increase in China's production and control of discipline. If he fails, he will not have much leeway—the violent reaction will be as uniform as the system he is trying to impose. That is why the Far East is alerted as never before for signs of the big crash-landing in Red China's intransigent struggle of "failure."

TOMORROW: A typical work day in a commune.

'Well, That Takes Care Of That'



RELIGIOUS FLAVOR

All of these efforts were primarily formed by religious enthusiasts who opposed arbitrary rule by state or church and who sought to live by the moral concepts of communism.

Their practices included economic experiments, abolition of private property, labor organized for common benefit, celibacy, even rejection of monogamy in the name of "communist brotherhood."

The Chinese communes bear no resemblance to these religiously-based projects except in name. In China, the objective simply is to strip the people of the last vestiges of humanity for the sake of the state.

'LAND REFORMER'

The program has been under way only a few weeks. But the paper reorganization is about completed on the farms and is rushing ahead in the factories, mines and cities.

In 1955 Mao Tse-tung took back the land he had given to the peasants in 1949 in his so-called "land reformer" and created some 750,000 collective farms, Soviet style. Last April he set up a "Land Reformer" and called it "Spartak" merging 27 collective farms into one unit.

In September this was decreed to be a commune, with education, industry, culture, education and military affairs. The Reds claim about 25,000 communes already created.

AGROTOWNS

This resembles the "Agrotowns" Khrushchev once proposed for Russia, but the idea was rejected by Stalin and has never been mentioned since. (One of the fascinating long-range repercussions of Mao's plan is Moscow's reaction.)

People's Platform

Lippmann Is Unprophetic?

Editor, The News:

Your recent editorial praise of columnist Walter Lippmann as "pundit" "pied piper," champion of "cool logic" and "eloquent argument" is sheer bunk. Obviously you know not the shallow and pathetically unprophetic mind of Lippmann—super egghead.

Lippmann, once nicknamed "Operation Cross-eyed" by one keen observer in Washington, is an apocryphal and defeated. In 1947 he published a book criticizing the U. S. policy of containment in meeting Communist aggression. Now, a sane criticism would hold that containment, if anything, would accomplish little. But alas, Walter wailed that it attempted too much. If we didn't say yes to Soviet designs, he envisaged Soviet expansion and conquest in Greece, Turkey and Iran. The course of events proved him to be dead wrong, of course.

A year or two ago, with regard to Germany, Lippmann pounded home the points that Russia was dealing the deck; that the German people were being kept in the dark; that the German people were being kept in the dark; that the German people were being kept in the dark.

Lippmann: Reader's Target

him and his people in their backs by way of the desertion rate. Lippy further suggested we "reparitate" hundreds of thousands of nationalist Chinese in the China mainland—thus to meet certain death or enslavement. Are you sure, Mr. Editor, that this is the man whom you claim demands that "enough is enough" and that they want the powerful help of Speaker Sam Rayburn to help to zip it through the full House of Representatives?

Religious Songs With Rock 'N' Roll Beats?

Editor, The News:

I THINK it is un-Christian to sing religious songs and say "The Man upstairs" when we say God or Christ.

I also hear people singing good religious songs and making rock 'n' roll tunes out of them. That doesn't show much religion to me. I would be afraid to make a jazz song out of a religious song.

All people would only remember that we are all in God's hands they would not make light of religion.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Republican Finances

GOP Chairman Meade Aloom called his top aides into a secret session recently to finance the Grand Old Party's pure strategy.

Republican candidates a grumbling over the way the money was handled during the last campaign. They couldn't be or borrow money from the national organization until the last five weeks. Some candidates actually didn't receive financial help until AFTER the election. The only one of the campaign raised was that the GOP should go into the next campaign well-heeled.

From The Christian Science Monitor

A WHALE OF AN ARGUMENT

PUT in a class with the Reluctant Dragon that negotiated a peace with St. George, or with Ferdinand the Bull that preferred smelling flowers to fighting, the whale that kept coming back to a New Jersey beach despite human efforts to launch the creature back into the (presumably) native element. Having been towed out to sea in a rope harness, the whale reappeared shortly afterward, and was then put in a truck luxuriously upholstered with rubber cushions and driven to an aquarium, where room (with bath) was reserved for it.

This is the sort of fact that upsets fiction. The "one that got away" for example, was never any bigger than this one that wouldn't even go away. And can't you see that big white Moby Dick of Herman Melville's blushing a lovely pink for the decadent landlubber that prefers the whalefare state to the freedom of the sea? And yet could it be that this whale is an even more dogged individualist than any of his fellows? Could he be that, like Caesar, an unfortunate whale had decided it was better to be

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