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SEPTEMBER 1957



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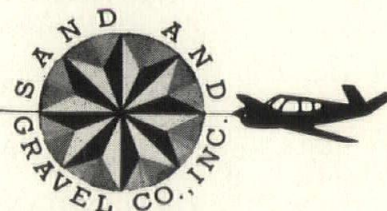
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VOLUME LXXIX

SEPTEMBER 1957

NUMBER NINE

## THE DEADLY PARALLEL-Part II

(This is the second of a three-part editorial by Clifford Dowdey)

IN THE CURRENT COALITION of elements antithetical to the South's social order, where the NAACP has succeeded the abolitionists, there are again the big-money men and the political opportunists. Only this time, by a curious switch, in the ultimate cynicism the men of expediency are operating in both parties. Perhaps more dangerous today than were the ruthlessly shrewd politicians of the 1850's is the supposed leader of the nation, President Eisenhower.

A popular hero, of limited mental capacities and less mental interests, he seems to want to make an historic place for himself as some sort of Messiah, but without the dedication to do the work himself. For that he has his Palace Guard, Warren's Court, and Attorney-General Brownell. These later-day Stevens, Sumners, et al, are the shrewd executioners of the president's wispy programs for making himself a second Lincoln, at the cost of violent disruptions whose final effects on an existing order no one could even imagine.

If he had read history, Eisenhower would know that Lincoln, by his own statement, did not believe in the equality of the races. He said flatly, "There is a physical difference between the white and black races which I believe will forever forbid the two races living together in terms of social and political equality." Nor did Lincoln inaugurate the Civil War to "free the slaves." Of slavery, the Great Emancipator said that he had no intention of interfering with slavery in the South and added, "I believe I have no right to do so." He inaugurated the Civil War to block the Southern States in their movement toward independence, precisely as Great Britain fought the Revolution to prevent the colonies from seceding and forming a separate nation.

The war was eighteen months old, and the will to persecute it was lagging in the North, when Lincoln introduced the Emancipation Proclamation as a war measure to put heart into the subjugation of the struggling young Confederate nation. He made it very clear by saying that if he knew of any other way to preserve the Union, he would do so. By introducing the crusade of freeing the slaves into the ugly business of armed conquest, Lincoln, unlike his successor in the White House, was very knowledgeable about the consequences of interfering with a social order. He said, "I think no wise man has yet perceived how it (slavery) could be at once eradicated without producing a greater evil even to the cause of human liberty."

In repudiating his own beliefs in order to wage a successful invasion, Lincoln evidently expected to apply legislative remedies to the wounds his acts would cause. He talked to Confederate peace commissioners about compensation for the forcibly emancipated slaves and he never evinced that vindictiveness toward the South which characterized leading members of his party. The belief is still current that, if Lincoln had lived, the South would have been spared the degradation and permanent crippling it suffered when the dogs were turned loose during Reconstruction. What would have happened had Lincoln lived is

(Continued on page 56)

# W. Roger Wood

## General Contractor

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### COVER NOTE:

The lovely Debbie Brown, Charlottesville Apple Harvest Festival Queen, graces our cover this month. The festival story and pictures appear on page 14.

**I**N A GREEN-WALLED, FOUR-ROOM SUITE OF OFFICES five floors above downtown Richmond is a solid bank of files that could contain the destiny of every major contractor in Virginia.

But in the last 19 years those same files may have had an even broader impact on Virginia—the saving of the lives of hundreds of her citizens. For they are the records of the State Registration Board for Contractors, a governmental agency dedicated above all else to the protection of the public welfare.

The board, an independent unit which reports only to the governor, was established by the General Assembly in 1938 to administer the then new Virginia Contractors' Registration Law. That law, in turn, had been enacted to regulate the practice of general contracting.

This is how one state court described the measure: "The purpose of the law is to protect the public from inexperienced, irresponsible or incompetent contractors."

To do this, the court continued, the registration board "requires of the contractor a demonstration of ability, character and financial responsibility as well as a good record of past performance."

But, there was a deeper story behind the court's opinion. What led Virginia legislators, always reluctant to interfere with private enterprise, to establish and provide for the administration of laws governing an industry whose ethics today are for the most part as unquestioned as law or medicine?

The last blush of the depression of the '30's was still spread across the state when the law was first proposed and enacted.

## The STATE REGISTRATION BOARD For CONTRACTORS

"There wasn't any other work then," says a well-known builder. "Everyone who owned a hammer wanted to be a contractor, and many of them didn't know how to do the job or didn't have the money to finance the work they did get."

There were cases in which Virginians advanced money to builders for the construction of houses, then learned the contractor had been declared bankrupt even before the foundation had been completed. The same thing happened at least once in connection with the construction of a public building—a school in the southwest section of the state.

Newspaper files of the decade reveal few cases in Virginia in which absolute dishonesty by the contractors was established. For the relatively small percentage of builders who did fail to fulfill their contracts, the cause apparently was more a symptom of the depression.

Yet, the failures did exist. And from some other states came more alarming reports. A major public building in Chicago was said to be 15 per cent straw. In Boston, a highway approach ramp constructed of what later proved to be sub-standard materials collapsed and killed several workmen.

Stirred by such reports and by the comparatively mild complaints of Virginians, the General Assembly acted.

It acted again in 1944 when war-time manpower shortages in critical skills brought a number of inexperienced workers into the field as subcontractors. At that time, the General Assembly enacted a major amendment extending the provisions of the registration law to subcontractors as well as general contractors.

Contractors are defined in the law as those persons or firms who for a fixed price, commission, fee or percentage, bid on, offer to accept, or accept, order or contract for performing or superintending any work in the construction industry.

Contractors required to register are those whose work involves projects in which the amount of the bid or cost of the work is \$20,000 or more.

It is the cost of the work to be done on a given project which determines whether or not the contractor is subject to the provisions of the law. It makes no difference whether there is one or several contracts. The criterion is the cost of the work bid upon or performed.

There is little chance that the law can be side-stepped. Architects and engineers are required to include invitations to bid and in specifications for projects that will cost \$20,000 or more a notice of necessity for contractors to show evidence of a certificate of registration issued by the board. This must be done before a bid can be received and considered.

General contractors are required to have subcontractors submit similar evidence of registration before they may receive a bid of that amount on a subcontract. The law places similar restraints on awarding authorities and on local officials who issue building permits.

There are only three exemptions. No registration is required by the state of a contractor working for the armed services, since such contractors are covered by the pre-qualification requirements of the Armed Services Procurement Act. Highway work directly under the State Highway Department is also exempted, since

*(Continued on page 35)*

by  
**John Connors**

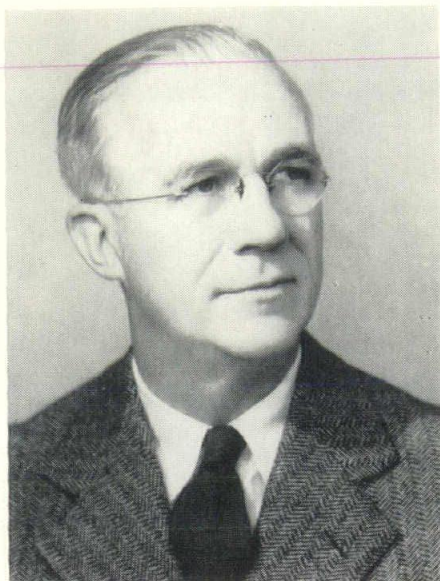
● For registration the board requires a contractor to show ability, character and financial responsibility as well as have a good record of past performance. Here Edward L. Kusterer, secretary-treasurer of the State Registration Board for Contractors is shown reviewing an application for registration with an applicant.

● Investigator Malcolm Mann (left) and secretary-treasurer Edward L. Kusterer (center) of the State Registration Board for Contractors visit a building site to check job progress with contractor.



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to the  
Public Welfare*

# MEMBERS of the Sta



**William Albie Barksdale** went into the building materials business 29 years before the State Registration Board for Contractors was created.

Born at Salem in Roanoke county on October 13, 1891, Mr. Barksdale went with his family to Charlottesville at the age of 4. He attended schools there until he was 17 when he became a helper in the lumber yard of the Charlottesville Lumber Co.

Working his way up from the bottom, Mr. Barksdale was made a partner in the firm in 1920 and was named secretary of the company in 1924. He was later named president, a position he held until his resignation last June 30.

He organized the Virginia Building Materials Association and was its first president. He is still a member of the association's executive committee. He was also treasurer of the National Retail Lumber Dealers Association from 1947 to 1950.

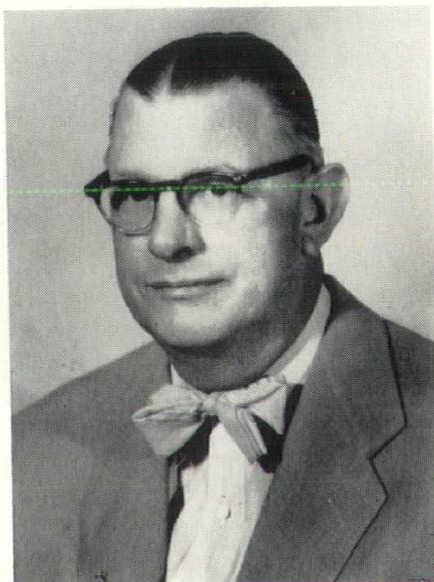
Mr. Barksdale is a past commander of his local American Legion Post and served as district committeeman. He is also a past president of the Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce and a past member of the board of directors of the State Chamber of Commerce.

He has served as chairman of the Charlottesville March of Dimes and Red Cross drives and was campaign chairman of the first two Community

Chest campaigns conducted in Charlottesville.

A member of Acca Temple AAON-MS in Richmond, he is past master of his blue lodge, past commander of his commandery and past high priest of his chapter.

Mr. Barksdale is also a member of the Thomas Jefferson chapter of Sons of the American Revolution, the Concatennated (cq) Order of Hoo-Hoo, a fraternal order of Lumbermen, the Methodist Church and the Farmington Country Club.



**Donald E. "Pete" Ball**, was a professional baseball pitcher before he turned to construction and the success that led to his appointment as a member of the State Registration Board for Contractors.

A resident of Falls Church, Mr. Ball is chairman of the board and secretary-treasurer of the Northern Virginia Construction Co., Inc. and president of the Virginia Sand and Gravel Co., Inc. Both firms produce sand and gravel for retail market.

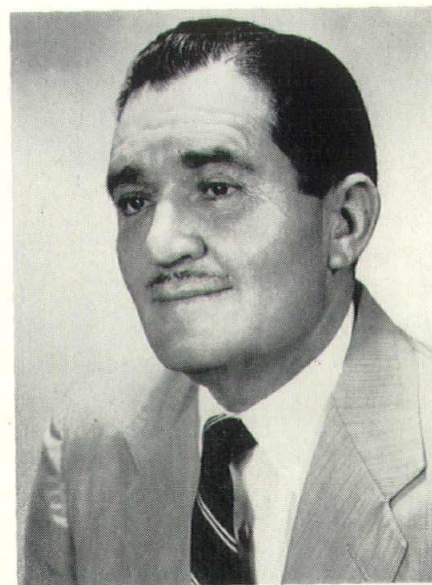
Mr. Ball was born in Clarendon, Va., in 1905 and attended Arlington County schools. Before beginning his career with the Northern Virginia Construction Company, he was a pitcher for the St.

Mary's Celtics, a strong Alexandria semi-pro team. He also pitched for the Raleigh, N. C., and Nashville, Tenn., professional baseball teams.

Recently elected president of the Fairfax Hospital Association, Mr. Ball is also a member of the board of directors of the American Road Builders Association and a member of the board of the Virginia Manufacturers Association. He is immediate past president of both the Virginia Road Builders Association and the Virginia Minerals and Aggregates Association.

He is a member of Kemper Lodge No. 64, AF&AM, Falls Church, and of Kena Temple Shrine, Alexandria. He is a member of the board of trustees and the corporation of Alexandria Hospital, a member of the board and a past president of the Washington Golf and Country Club, a member of both the Alexandria and Fairfax County Chambers of Commerce and is a member and past president of the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Ball is married to the former Miss Harriet Nourse of Falls Church. They have two daughters.



**Fred A. Haycox**, chairman of the State Registration Board for Contractors

# Registration Board of Contractors

ors, is typical of other members of the board in that he shares with them a professional interest in construction and an unusual dedication to his community and state.

Born in the Tidewater area and a resident of Norfolk and Virginia Beach for more than 50 years, Mr. Haycox started in the construction business with his family as a young man and went into business for himself in the early 1920's. During that time he installed concrete streets in Virginia Beach and the north end of Virginia Beach, the seawall and the boardwalk.

He constructed, in 1929-30, the first reinforced concrete bridge in Norfolk, known as Larchmont or Colley Avenue bridge.

Mr. Haycox was also contractor for the original work for the Norfolk Ford Assembly Plant and subsequently did the work for the Philadelphia Ford branch at Chester, Pa.

He has constructed numerous projects for private enterprises, and for Army and Navy installations over a period of many years.

In addition to his duties as chairman of the registration board, he is president of Fred A. Haycox Co., Inc., a member and vice-chairman of the Coastal Turnpike Authority, Ocean Highway, a member of the board of directors of the Bank of Virginia Beach, a member of the board of the United Communities Fund, a member of the Princess Anne County Welfare Board, and president of the Beach Publishing Corp., publishers of the Virginia Beach Sun-News. Mr. Haycox formerly served on the Virginia Beach City Council. He is a member of the Methodist Church of Virginia Beach and Blue Lodge, Pythons 266, Khedive Temple, Norfolk.

Married to the former Grace Cornell, he has two sons, Fred A. Haycox and William C. Haycox. Both are now officers of the Asphalt Roads and Materials Co.



C. Merle Luck, member of the State Registration Board for Contractors since 1953 is the owner of the Luck Construction Company and the president of three corporations, Royal Stone

tell the Virginia Story

Corp., Terrace Corp. and the Luck Corp.

Born in Caroline County on May 27, 1894, he is an alumnus of Randolph-Macon Academy and Randolph-Macon College.

Following the death of his father in 1933, Mr. Luck took over the operation of the family construction business and has operated it since then. Since 1943, he has lived at the historic Bellona Arsenal on the James River west of Richmond.

Mr. Luck is a member of Kappa Alpha Fraternity, a past president of both Richmond Kappa Alpha Alumni Society and the Associated General Contractors of America, Virginia Branch, and a past vice president of the Richmond Builders Exchange.



He is a member of the Virginia Road Builders Association, the Commonwealth Club, the Country Club of Virginia, a charter member of the Society of Military Engineers and a member of Centenary Methodist Church.

Mr. Luck is married to the former Miss Agnes Parrish. He has one son, C. Merle Luck Jr., who is associated in business with him. He also has a daughter, Mrs. Thomas G. Cauthorne, and four grand-daughters.



SEPTEMBER 1957



F. L. Showalter, president of F. L. Showalter, Inc., industrial contractors, is vice-chairman of the State Registration Board for Contractors.

He was born near Christiansburg August 27, 1893 and has lived in Lynchburg for the past 45 years.

Except for three years military service in World War I, he has been engaged in the construction business for what will soon be half a century. His firm is registered in the states of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee and specializes in sewage and filter plants, industrial buildings and pipe lines of all kinds.

Mr. Showalter is active in civic and church affairs. He is a past president of the Lynchburg area Boy Scouts of America, the Lynchburg Young Mens' Christian Association and the Lynchburg Kiwanis Club. He is president of the Presbyterian Home and an elder of the Rivermont Presbyterian Church.

He is also a member of the board of the First National Trust and Savings Bank and Co-Operative Building and Loan of Lynchburg.

When he has a few free moments, his favorite ways of spending them are playing bridge and fishing. His favorite sports are boxing and football.

Mr. Showalter is married and has three sons and one daughter. Two of his sons are in business with him.



PAGE NINE

## **Virginia Stone & Construction Corp.**

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# **Why Use a Registered Contractor?**

*by* JOHN CONNORS

**P**LANNING on building a skyscraper, a house or even a fishing cottage? Need new plumbing or wiring in your present home or office?

One source of reliable help is through the firms and persons registered by the State Registration Board for Contractors.

The board can't guarantee the work of the firms and individuals it has granted registration. But it does protect you in the building field, against the few incompetent, irresponsible or dishonest firms that may operate on the fringes of every industry.

Lack of registration, however, does not necessarily mean that the firm that bids or advertises for smaller jobs is in any way inferior. The law, enacted by the General Assembly in 1938 to establish the registration of contractors, requires registration of only those contractors and subcontractors who undertake or bid for projects that cost \$20,000 or more. There are hundreds of firms in Virginia which work only on projects involving lesser costs and which have never sought registration.

#### **This is what the Certificate of Registration does do:**

1. It aids in protecting you against loss through the contractor's lack of financial responsibility.
2. It insures that in his previous work the contractor has established a reputation for integrity among other builders and with the engineers and architects for whom he has worked.
3. It is evidence that the contractor or subcontractor has the professional skill to do the job you want done.

A young executive in a Richmond department store decided a little more than a year ago to stop renting an apartment and to build a home. In his search for a bargain, he ran across a builder who offered to do the job for some \$500 less than any other contractor the young man had contacted.

The builder showed his prospect four other homes he had constructed. Each

*(Continued on page 48)*

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The squirrel . . . the deer . . .

the bear . . . and the 'possum . . .

—Game Commission Photos by Kesteloo





—Game Commission Photo by Shomon

. . . all face extinction when the hardwoods . . .

# WEEP FOR OUR WILDLIFE

## HARDWOOD FORESTS FADING AS PINES INCREASE PROFITS

by JAMES E. MAYS

(Reprinted from the August 25, 1957 edition of *The Virginian Pilot* and *The Portsmouth Star*)

*Editor's Note: Systematic eradication of hardwoods is being practiced in many areas of the South, where millions of acres of hardwoods are being poisoned by specially trained crews of woodsmen. Foresters and landowners say pine grows faster than hardwoods and returns more dollars per acre per year. Hardwoods, for which the market is dwindling, tend to shade out young pine trees, hence the poisoning program.*

● Weep, all ye who loved the towering hardwood forests.

Weep for the oak, the hickory and the old rail fence.

Weep for the gray squirrel, the turkey, the deer and the bear.

Weep for the bobwhite quail and the grouse.

Weep, while the winds of wildlife

destruction blow strong over the southland.

This is the New South, they say.

In the New South, efficiency is the byword . . . be efficient.

Kill the hardwoods and you'll be efficient, they say. In the New South there is no room for the hardwoods. Hardwoods are not efficient enough, they say.

Farm clean, they say. Plow every inch. Plow close to the fences and the ditch banks.

Haven't you heard, boy? This is the New South.

You've still got an old inefficient rail fence? Tear it down, boy quick, before somebody tells you you're inefficient.

BE EFFICIENT

Put up a single strand of wire where the old rail fence was, and plow right

up to the wire on both sides. Be efficient.

What if the hickory and the oak grow nuts and acorns for the squirrels and the turkeys?

What matter if the hardwoods furnished food and den trees for the raccoons and the bears?

And that old rustic rail inefficient fence. So the quail found food and cover in its corners where the plow did not reach . . . so what?

In the New South, who cares?

And if even now the bones of the oaks and the hickories stand whitening amid the sapling pines, who is to say it's wrong?

There are other whited sepulchres in the southland, too . . . look at your crumbling antebellum culture. Look and

(Continued on page 55)

. . . give way to more profitable pine forests.

—Virginian-Pilot Photo by Mays



# Charlottesville's Final Apple Harvest Festival

Her Dogwood Festival Will Premier May, 1958

by BUDDY GLOVER

ON OCTOBER 2nd, 3rd and 4th Charlottesville will stage its Eighth Annual Apple Harvest Festival and its last. In the spring of 1958 the Dogwood Festival will premier. The original festival idea will be retained with a different theme . . . beautification of our community through the annual planting of dogwood trees, Virginia's state flower.

Started in the fall of 1950, the Apple Harvest Festival was designed as a one-week business promotion to bring more people to Charlottesville during a big festival sale, a measure to acquire the

friendship of all the people in the potential trading area made up of the eight counties participating in the Festival. It was hoped that they would be encouraged to return to Charlottesville again and again, throughout the years, to do their buying — to build Charlottesville as a trading center — ultimately to make this district known throughout the nation.

The original idea was successfully followed for four years. But people seemed to enjoy the Festival so much that we started drifting away from the

*Miss Sue Phillips, Miss Albemarle of 1956, with Miss Albemarle of 1957, Miss Betty Bennett. Buddy Glover, director of the Apple Harvest Festival for the past five years, stands behind Miss Phillips. (Photo by Payne, Charlottesville.)*

*During day time hours this local clown entertains youngsters on Main Street in one of the earlier festivals.*



sales-promotion idea, employing instead the good-will idea. While still a good business medium, the Festival has become an instrument to show the merchants' appreciation to the public for its continued support of Charlottesville and her stores throughout the years.

During these eight years we have studiously avoided a set pattern of operation. New events have been added—others discarded in an effort to make the Festival more interesting to more people. The first year or so an exhibit hall featured displays representing area trade, industry, agriculture and home crafts with prizes for various entry classes as well as for window displays.

The second year an art exhibit and a nightly amateur talent contest were successful additions to the Festival. Four years ago a square dance was added for those who prefer less formal dancing and this is held the same night as the Queen's Ball. Three years ago we had a pet show and last year we planned a parade for kiddies. All these events have proved successful except the parade which had to be called off because of rain. This year a new feature of the Festival will be a Pro-Am Golf Tournament, a fashion show and a teen-age dance. This will be the first teen-age dance in this area with music furnished by a big name band, Johnny Long.

First queens of the Festival were chosen from contestants sent to the Queen's Ball from local contests in the participating counties. Later it was decided that a queen with a reputation of her own and a court of local princesses would better serve the purpose . . . one year she was a movie star, another she was "Miss Virginia" and still another a famous girl swimmer. This year's queen will be the lovely and glamorous 23 year old Debbie Brown of Boston, Massachusetts, a featured vocalist with the Johnny Long Orchestra which has been engaged to play for the Ball.

Virginia is the third largest apple producing state in the United States with some of the counties represented in our Festival being the principal apple producing counties. It was for this

(Continued on page 46)



*Upper right: The world famous Monticello Guard as it appears in each of the Charlottesville Festivals.*

*Center: Miss Shelly Mann was the Apple Harvest Queen for 1954. She hails from Arlington, Virginia, and has covered both herself and her state with honor by the trophies she has won as a swimmer.*

*Lower right: The 1955 Chamber of Commerce float was geared to the theme of Better Schools.*

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# HISTORY IN A CAPSULE

by

VIRGINIA WALLER DAVIS

A QUEEN used it as toothpaste . . . a King called its fumes "stinking" . . . "Hang bundles of it round our beds" wrote William Byrd, and because of it a youthful Patrick Henry first won fame, but neither the Queen, King William Byrd or orator Henry would have believed that five hundred BILLION cigarettes alone would be made from it in one year . . . and in the U. S. A.

To a man at Jamestown in 1612, all this would have been ridiculous, for in his pocket he had the first seeds ever seen there of the coveted West Indian leaf . . . and they hadn't even been planted.

First settlers on the Jamestown Peninsula had struggled with a sickly kind of tobacco which grew freely around, but had a "byting taste" . . . little better than nothing at all when compared to that brought into England by those who sailed the southern seas . . . an extravagant luxury, but worth the price, some said.

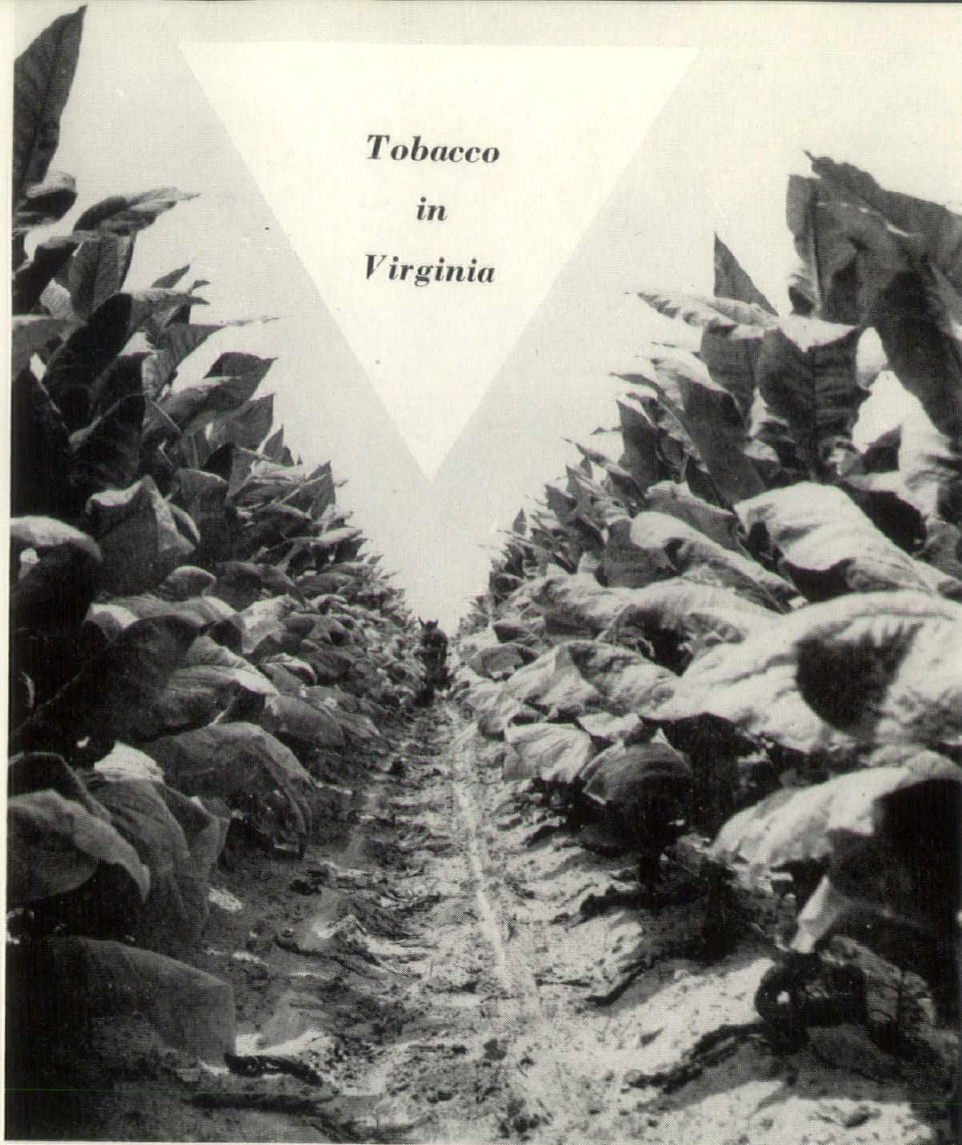
The man with the seeds, secured by devious means from Trinidad, studied the soil, and finally planted. He experimented, cross-bred and tenderly nurtured his tiny seeds. When they broke ground, and started up, the harvest was much more than tobacco.

It was *Currency* for the young nation . . . it launched her world trade . . . was salvation for her citizens . . . transportation for her fair, young "brides" . . . tax money for her college . . . made possible her war for freedom, and with even the Ministers of the Gospel were paid, (200 pounds for a marriage, 400 pounds for a funeral).

The seeds were of the specie "Nicotiana Tabacum" . . . (unlike its smaller sister "Rustica") and the first to be grown in North America . . . the cultivation of which, in several varieties, was eventually to almost exclusively supply the skyrocketing demand for tobacco.

The American Tobacco Industry had

*Tobacco  
in  
Virginia*



—Va. Chamber of Commerce Photo by Flournoy

been born. Its father was the twenty-six year old, Anglo-American Tobacco Agriculturist, JOHN ROLFE, widower, who, in 1609 had been shipwrecked off the coast of Bermuda on his maiden

voyage to Virginia . . . reached Jamestown in 1610 . . . established tobacco in 1611-12 . . . married "a Princess" in 1614 . . . was a member of the first freely elected Legislative Assembly in

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The earliest printed illustration of the tobacco plant—1570-71, London.



the New World in 1619 (Governor's Council) . . . took unto himself a third wife (1619-20) and died by Indian hands before his fortieth birthday.

The first tentative tobacco shipment went overseas from Virginia in 1612-13 and three years later the inventive genius himself, who fathered America's first profitable export crop, went back to England and reported in person.

"Tobacco (though an esteemed weed)" said he, is "verie commodious, which there (in Virginia) thriveth so well that (no doubt) after a little more triall and experience in the curing thereof, it will compare with the best in the West Indies. . . ."

Even though Mr. Rolfe had not had his lovely wife and young son along, his fame would have preceded him, for

the Secretary of the Virginia Colony, Ralph Hamor, had already reported to the English authorities that it was Rolfe who was responsible for the Colonist's success with tobacco 'partly for the love he hath a long time borne into it, and partly to raise commodity to the adventurers . . . no man hath laboured to his power, by good example there and worthy encouragement into England by his letters than he hath done. . . ."

Fragrant, and soon earning the name "sweet scented," Virginia's tobacco of her own blend and nurture, was soon competing abroad with the Spanish variety while at home, according to Captain John Smith, everybody went promptly to "rooting in the ground about tobacco like Swine . . ." even the market places and streets planted with tobacco, to the neglect of other crops . . . for suddenly, *money grew in fields.*

One of the first laws passed by the first Legislative Assembly in 1619 was for the inspection of tobacco . . . no doubt suggested by Mr. John Rolfe himself . . . and America's system of highways sprang from the "Rolling Roads" which developed as the hogsheads of tobacco were rolled from fields and plantations to the nearest waterway.

The first tobacco warehouses (Rolling houses) were ordered by the Assembly to be built in 1632, only five at first, and to these the planters were obliged to take their tobacco before the last day of December, there to be repacked, viewed, and tried by men under oath. All that met the standards was placed in the warehouse to the account of each grower . . . all that was bad must be burnt, and for those who disobeyed, the punishment fit the crime. These first "Rolling houses" were at "James Citie, Shirley Hundred Island, Denbigh, Southhampton River in Elizabeth City and Kiskiyake." Two additional ones were added the following year.

Eighty long years later (1713) minimum standards for tobacco were first required, with all Tobacco placed in official depositories and the famous Tobacco Notes came into being. In 1730 the inauguration of the warehouse inspection system, with trained inspectors was declared to be the Agricultural Milestone.

Although King James blatted away at the uses of tobacco in 1604, calling it "A custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black stinking fume thereof, nearest resembling the horrible Stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless" . . . (probably referring to the earliest grown English Tobacco) his discourse had little effect

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among his subjects. Not only was England a mass of pipe smokers but tobacco's therapeutic powers had so spread around the world that doctors in the sixteenth century recommended it for virtually all the ills that human flesh is heir to . . . as an ungent, gargle, emetic or cathartic.

Around 1560, Jean Nicot, French Ambassador to Portugal, became so intrigued with the therapeutic powers of tobacco that he sent some seeds back to Paris where the names "the Ambassador's herb" and "Nicotaine" were given it. Nineteenth century chemists gave him more enduring fame by the designation of "Nicotine."

Queen Caroline sought to whiten and cleanse her teeth by chewing tobacco and, in fact, a "chaw" was recommended in that day for children at bedtime.

During the "Great Plague" (1664-66) children were required to take a "medicinal pipe" of tobacco and in 1721 one of Virginia's foremost tobacco planters, William Byrd, recommended

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the use of this "God-given herb" as

(Continued on page 39)



*Sitting Around the Barn*

Chris Baker —

# FAITHFUL SERVANT OF MEDICAL SCIENCE IN VIRGINIA

by

G. WATSON JAMES, JR.



"CHRIS"

—Colonial Studios Photo

ON JUNE 8, 1919 one of the most colorful as well as valuable figures in Virginia's medical history, particularly that of the Medical College of Virginia, passed to his reward. He was Chris Baker, major-domo of the dissecting hall at the college.

Chris' demise rated no long biographical sketch, only a "stick" on the front page of the Richmond News Leader, yet he was one of the most famous, beloved, respected, and in some quarters feared character in the Richmond of his day.

When the news of his death spread through the city and elsewhere hundreds of distinguished alumni of the South's great medical school paused in their missions of healing to recall student days when the black stocky figure of Chris Baker with his inevitable towel, moved about the macabre anatomy hall, placing "stiffs" here and there on the long tables. Nor did their memory of him fade after that June day of his passing for shortly thereafter this writer, when collecting notes on Chris' career found that mention of his name to a score of Richmond doctors was like the magic "sesame."

For example: A mayoralty campaign was swept aside as the late Dr. J. Fulmer Bright forgot campaign engagements to recall the days when he was first a student then assistant in the anatomy hall and later Professor of Anatomy. Chris Baker was always his "loyal, devoted and faithful assistant, who breathed the very spirit of the old college." Nor could pressing business in the treasurer's office prevent the late J. R. McCauley from rendering every assistance to the writer in collecting data on Chris. In fact, Mr. McCauley's labors in this respect had extended over many years, for from 1904, until the death of Baker, Mr. McCauley had been his friend and a close observer of his remarkable career.

No family Bible or vital statistics

record the date of Chris' birth, but for more than seventy years his face was as familiar to the medical fraternity of Richmond and alumni elsewhere as the vine-covered walls of the old Egyptian Building. Chris succeeded his father, "Billie" Baker, as custodian of the "stiffs" and equipment of the dissecting arena. With but a few notable exceptions this remarkable Negro never left the immediate vicinity of the college; for to do so was to court death at the hand of members of his own race, because of his reputation as a "body-snatcher" and the right-hand man of "Beelzebub."

Through winter's snows and summer's suns, Chris lived in the basement of the old Egyptian Building attended by his faithful wife, Martha, and his son, John. Hard by in another section of the basement was his famous vat where he "pickled" the bodies of executed criminals, paupers and those unfortunates who from time to time were counted among those missing from a particular cemetery near Richmond. Near by was the boiling vat attended by its goulish gang of alley cats! But what was more "jittery" the famous well (now closed) deep, dark and cavernous into which all that was left from the dissecting knife was obliterated by barrel after barrel of quick lime.

But how was this supply of anatomical specimens secured prior to the passage of Virginia's first Anatomy Law of 1887?

Early in the year 1880 Richmonders were electrified by harrowing tales of grave robbers operating in Oakwood Cemetery. Terror reigned! Gossip was rife! Rev. W. A. Christian in his "Richmond Past and Present" paints a graphic picture of the situation. Forty graves had been robbed in Oakwood Cemetery. Bodies were being shipped over the C and O Railroad in coal-oil barrels—some destined for the Medical College. There was an immediate investigation. The superintendent of the cemetery was fired. There was a grand jury investigation, etc.

But for more concrete facts we turn to two paragraphs from the pen of that eminent medical historian, Dr. Wyndham B. Blanton, who in his "Medicine in Virginia in the Nineteenth Century," thus set the record straight:

"In Richmond the deserted hillside leading down to Bacon's Quarter Branch, back of the poorhouse was the old Potter's Field until the city enclosed certain ground adjacent to Oakwood Cemetery, placed under the supervision of a keeper, and dedicated

(Continued on page 50)

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# VIRGINIA BUSINESS REVIEW

by ROSEWELL PAGE, JR.

**T**ODAY, better than at any other time in history, consumers are meeting their installment credit obligations. Daniel A. Prager, vice-president of the National Foundation for Consumer Credit, said recently that despite the rise in consumer credit outstanding, in the past five years personal savings have increased steadily. In the five years ending in 1956 the ratio of personal savings to disposable income averaged 7 per cent while in the previous five years the ratio was only 5 per cent. The percentage of consumers' disposable income allocated to repayment of installment loans is only 3.6 per cent higher than in 1940 at which time "consumer debt was viewed with no particular alarm."

Mr. Prager said more than three-fourths of all installment debt is owed by families earning from \$3,000 to \$7,500 a year, and 55 per cent of American families are in that bracket.

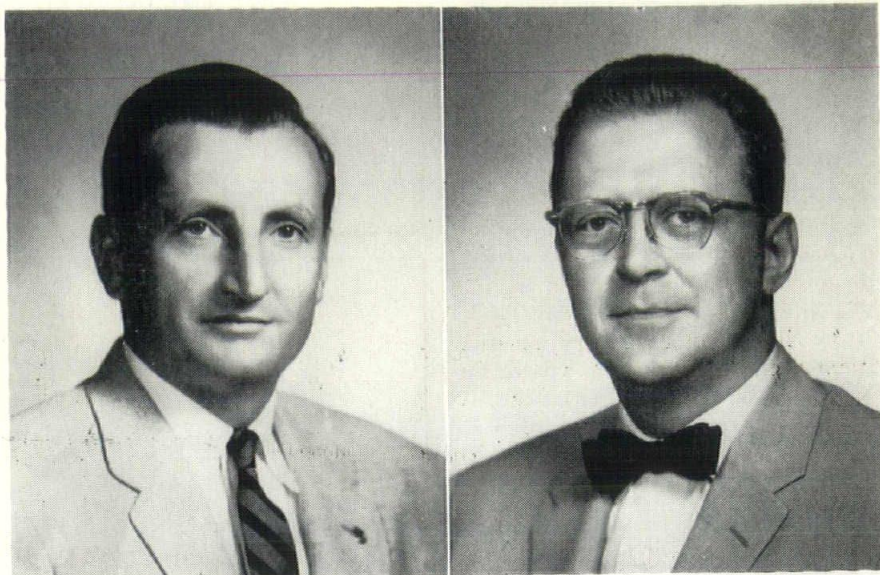
The two Loudoun County weekly newspapers, the *Loudoun Times-Mirror* and the *Blue Ridge Herald* merged recently. Hubert Phipps, president of the 158-year-old *Times-Mirror*, and John Eisenhard, president of the 68-year-old *Herald*, made this statement jointly a few weeks ago.

The merged paper will be published as the *Loudoun Times-Mirror and Blue Ridge Herald*. Eisenhard becomes managing editor of the combined paper and Fitzhugh Turner, who has been associated with Phipps for 15 years, has been elected vice-president of the publishing company and will be in charge of the merged paper.

During August, Lee Bank & Trust Company, with offices in Pennington Gap and branch office at St. Charles, observed the 25th anniversary of its organization by a merger of the following banks in Lee County: Pennington Gap Bank at Pennington Gap, Peoples Bank of Dryden, Bank of St. Charles, and Citizens Bank of Jonesville.

Miller & Rhoads opened its new Roanoke store on Wednesday morning, September 4, at 10 o'clock. More than 200 residents of the Roanoke area have been hired to staff the new store, according to John W. Marchant, manager.

Dan River Mills recently reported that its net earnings for the six months ended June 29 were \$2,616,949, an increase of \$609,487 over the comparable period last year. Net sales rose from \$49,402,735 to \$82,220,320. W.



**Daniel J. Korman** (left) has been elected president and treasurer of Cabell Eanes, Inc., it was announced recently.

He succeeds Joseph C. Eanes, founder of the advertising agency who has sold his interest in the company.

**F. Whitton Morse** (right photo) was named executive vice-president and secretary of the agency.

Korman has been associated with Cabell Eanes since shortly after its formation in 1947. He served as production manager and later as traffic manager and account executive. He was made secretary of Cabell Eanes in 1948 when the business was incorporated, and in 1955, he was elected vice-president and treasurer.

Before he went with Cabell Eanes, Korman served for two years as production manager of the advertising agency, Lindsey and Company, Inc.

Korman was born at Quinton in 1921 and attended public schools in New Kent County. He attended V.P.I. for two years before joining the Navy in 1942. A Navy pilot for three years, he served as an instructor at the Corpus Christi Naval Air Station and later on the Aircraft Carrier Lexington. He was separated from the Navy with the rank of lieutenant.

Morse, who was born in Gordonsville in 1915, attended public schools in Charlottesville. He worked for two years on the Charlottesville Daily Progress, first as a reporter and later as sports editor and city editor. Upon his graduation from Hampden-Sydney in 1940 with a bachelor of arts degree, Morse became a reporter on the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

In 1942, he received a commission as an ensign in the Naval Reserve. He served for three years in the Navy, more than half of that time on amphibious duty in the Southwest Pacific. He is a lieutenant-commander in the Naval Reserve and a member of the Richmond Naval Reserve Public Relations Company.

He returned to the Times-Dispatch in 1946. Two years later he was made Chief of Radio and Television for the VA in four states and the District of Columbia.

Morse became associated with Cabell Eanes in 1951. He was made director of public relations when he first went with the advertising agency. Later he became an account executive and account supervisor. He was elected secretary in 1955.

J. Erwin, president, said lower prices for textile fabrics this year lessened the profit margin.

Minneapolis-Moline Co., manufacturer of farm machinery and industrial equipment, plan to build a sales and service office-warehouse building in Richmond. Robert R. Greenwalt, vice-president, said the firm will close its Raleigh, N.C., office and move the staff here to a building to be erected at the northwest corner of Belt Boulevard and U. S. Route 60 in Chesterfield County.

From the Peoples National Bank of Whitestone, White Stone, Virginia comes word that business in the Northern Neck is on the move. In the bank itself, Branch Spaulding is now the cashier and Mrs. Lucella Brent has been employed as teller. The season in the area so far has been good for the fishing industry but, by reason of the drought, poor for agriculture, particularly the tomato crop. Important construction projects in the area include the bridge across the Rappahannock at White Stone and new road construction from White Stone to Irvington. A new dentist, Dr. Robert B. Drake, has settled in White Stone and a new real estate firm has been established there. This is the Pat Carter Real Estate, headed by Mr. & Mrs. James N. Carter,

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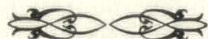
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formerly in the insurance business in Richmond.

At the Bank of Lacrosse, Lacrosse, Virginia, Miss Alice Carey has recently been made bookkeeper and secretary, and for the benefit of the public air conditioning has been installed, along with new bank fixtures and a complete paint job throughout the building. A new director's room has also been added on the second floor.

Metro Drug Stores, Inc., with eight branches in Maryland and Northern Virginia, plans to enter the Richmond area next year, according to Harold Boldfeder, president. He will locate one store at 2701 Williamsburg Road and another at 2530 West Main St.

The Virginia drought reached such serious proportions during August that Commissioner of Agriculture Parke C. Brinkley made an air inspection trip over the greater part of the state. He obtained first hand information for the Governor and also on-the-scene advice for helping the State Drought Committee in its deliberations as to what counties should have approval of their requests to become eligible for drought relief from the Federal Government. Mr. Brinkley's plane flew from 800-1,000 feet over much of this trip, so he got an excellent picture of the situation.

Prices on hogs and cattle are at this writing considerably higher throughout Virginia than during the comparable period of a year ago. Asked what is causing this rise in prices, Arthur N. Neuhooff, secretary-treasurer of Valleydale Packers, Inc., at Salem, replied,

**Howard G. Brooks**

***General  
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VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

"The simplest law in economics—supply and demand." This summer's hog kill is estimated to be off 5 per cent and the beef kill is off 3 per cent. "These factors plus an ever increasing population naturally force meat prices up," Mr. Neuhoff said.

A midseason survey by the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce shows 10 per cent more tourists traveling the Old Dominion this year than last.

The Chamber listed the Jamestown Festival, better promotion, and a national trend toward more traveling as the primary reasons for the increase. Col. H. K. Roberts, administrative director of the Jamestown-Williamsburg-Yorktown national celebration commission, said 642,463 persons had visited the Jamestown Festival Park as of August 1.

The Daniel Construction Company of Virginia, Richmond, has been awarded a contract for Philip Morris & Company's new warehouse at Bells and Ninth St. Roads in Richmond, Andrew C. Britton, Philip Morris vice-president, announced recently. Work will begin at once.

No figure for the contract was given, but in announcing plans the company said the warehouse would cost about one million dollars. Baskervill & Son, Hankins & Anderson are architects for the structure which will cover 100,000 square feet of floor space.

Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Association of Richmond has moved 38 notches up the ladder of the nation's largest savings and loan groups since the end of last year, according to a report



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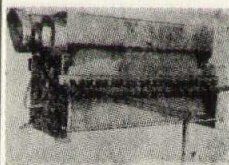
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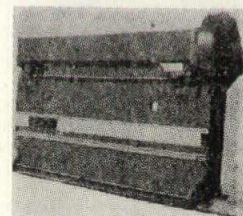
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Afternoon guests mingling during the open house festivities of the Triangle Branch of the First National Bank of Quantico. From left to right are Mrs. A. J. Porter, Mr. Porter, Z. J. Brown, Percy A. Brown, H. Ewing Wall, President and Gloria Anderson, teller of the branch.

**T**HE NEW HOME of the Triangle Branch of The First National Bank of Quantico opened its doors recently with an open house celebration for the friends of the bank in southern Prince William and Stafford Counties.

More than 1,000 people inspected the newly-remodeled building, its equipment and facilities for rendering a complete banking service at Triangle. Several hundred automobiles were parked on the spacious lot surrounding the new building.

Branch Manager Ray E. Caudle and President H. Ewing Wall were hosts for the occasion. They were assisted by Mrs. Gloria Anderson and Mrs. Clarice Scribner, the other employees of the new branch. Mrs. E. K. McInteer, Acting Cashier and Miss Frances S. Cloc, Assistant Cashier of the bank with the help of members of their staff greeted guests during the open house which lasted from 4 to 9:30 P.M. Refreshment tables were manned by Mrs. Marjorie A. Venable, Assistant Cashier and the employees of all three banks, including the branch at the Quantico Marine Base. Twenty-one of the 25 employees of the bank participated and all of the officers, directors, and members of the advisory committee except two mingled with the crowd and greeted the guests.

At 9:30 children selected from the crowd were chosen to draw the winning numbers for the five door prizes which were a RCA color television set, a clock-radio, automatic toaster, steam and dry iron and Sunbeam hand mixer. All prizes were won by local people. There were souvenirs for the children and adults.

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by the American Banker Newspaper.

Sears, Roebuck & Co., Inc., with stores in several Virginia cities, are recording a banner year in sales throughout the nation. Sales from February to July of 1957 reached a record \$1,783,570,877, a 5.8 per cent increase over the same period in 1956. This report was given out by R. Frank Duncum, manager of Sears' Lynchburg store who received it from the firm's Atlanta, Georgia offices.

English Construction Co. of Altavista has been given the job of connecting the Lynchburg Expressway to U. S. 29 south of the city. The contract award amounts to \$1,228,143.

Life insurance sales to American

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families set a record in 1956. They purchased a record of 25,200,000 policies from more than 1,100 life insurance companies representing more than \$55,313,000,000 of new protection. The 1956 total was \$6,900,000,000 more than the 1955 amount.

The average amount of life insurance owned by American families was \$7,600 at the end of 1956. This was more than twice as much as ten years ago. This report was made recently by the Institute of Life Insurance.

Lawrence T. Oliver, of Richmond, has lately been reelected to the Board of Directors of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society.

The Robertshaw-Fulton Controls Company, moving its central office to Richmond from Greensburg, Pa., will occupy about 7,500 square feet of space on the eleventh floor of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia Building in the 900 block East Broad St. About 50 employees including Thomas T. Arden, president of the company, will come to Richmond. Robertshaw-Fulton manufactures automatic temperature control devices at several plants throughout the country.

Rocky Mount's Thompson Products, Inc., has awarded contracts totaling \$600,000 to Daniel Construction Co. of Richmond for construction of a building at the 1,000 acre site of its new plant to house the assembly of auxiliary power units and provide temporary office space.

The State Corporation Commission last month approved the plan and granted to Mount Vernon Bank and

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Trust Co. authority to establish a branch at 903 Leesburg Pike in Fairfax County.

The new main office of the Piedmont Trust Bank opened on August 26. Located at Ellsworth and Church Streets in Bassett, the modern structure cost approximately \$241,000.

Fieldcrest Mills acquired the entire capital stock of St. Mary's Woolen Manufacturing Co., Inc., of St. Mary's, Ohio. This was a joint announcement of W. H. Whitcomb, president of Fieldcrest Mills, and P. H. Herzing, president of St. Mary's. Fieldcrest operates a towel mill at Fieldale.

Virginia Steel Co., steel fabricating

firm with plants in three states has been sold to the Buffalo Tank Corporation, a subsidiary of Bethlehem Steel Co. Bethlehem reported the sale but gave no sale price. Some 400 persons are employed by the firm which has plants in Richmond, Miami, Fla., and Birmingham, Ala.

IN THE NEWS . . . A. Lee Rawlings & Company, certified public accountants of Norfolk has announced the opening of a branch office in Smithfield. H. L. Chapman is to be resident manager. . . . National Cash Register Co. has transferred W. F. Mirguet from Atlanta to Lynchburg as branch manager for the firm. . . . Henry M. Bandy has been appointed judge of the Wise County Court and the Wise County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court

to succeed the late George L. Taylor. . . Ernest L. Carroway has been named general agent in Roanoke for the Massachusetts Protective Assn. and the Paul Revere Life Insurance Co. . . . Fair-Acre Feeds of Roanoke has appointed Robert L. Stevens, of Rustburg, district sales manager of south-central Virginia. Stevens has been a member of the Virginia State Board of Agriculture since 1951. . . . Armistead Acree is the new manager of the Salem Essotane store. This announcement from H. M. Leconey, Jr., local district manager of Esso Standard Oil Company. . . . A. W. Davenport, general superintendent of construction for Stone-Webster in the Lynchburg area, will move to Sao Paulo, Brazil. . . . James Edward Key, secre-



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tary and general manager of Piedmont Mills, Inc. since 1944, was chosen president and treasurer by stockholders of the grain and feed mill at a recent stockholders meeting of the Lynchburg firm. He succeeds **James I. Pritchett** of Danville who will remain a director. . . **Edmund G. Harrison** has been appointed assistant manager of the Richmond Telephone Exchange. He succeeds **James W. Henderson**, the new manager in Hopewell. . . **Fred A. McConnell**, of Abingdon, is the new Farmers Home Administration committee-man for Washington County. . . **Wil-**

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liam A. Chipley has joined the sales department of Southern Materials in Norfolk. Mr. Chipley has been football coach at Washington and Lee for the past two years. . . . James N. Hunter, general manager of the Natural Bridge Company, has been elected vice-president of the Southern Hotel Association. . . . Samuel M. Bemiss, president of the Jamestown Corporation, announced recently that Roger D. Sherman, of Williamsburg, has been named acting executive vice-president of the corporation to succeed the late Allen R. Matthews who had held the position since 1949. . . . Jesse Vaughan, of Franklin, was elected vice-president of

Thornton Stores, furniture retailers, with headquarters in Suffolk. . . . William H. Gentry, Jr., of Salem, has joined the staff of the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond. . . . Phil J. Bagley, Jr., city councilman of Richmond, has joined the sales division of Morton G. Thalhimer, Inc., realtors. This announcement from Adrian L. Bendheim, vice-president of the firm. . . . James M. Young has recently opened law practice in Salem as an associate of M. S. McClung with offices at 806 E. Main St. . . . Paul W. Manns was elected president of the Virginia Press Association at the recent annual meeting in Williamsburg. Manns is the pub-

lisher of the *Caroline Progress* in Bowling Green. . . . Tom Maddox has been named president of the Bristol Association of Life Underwriters. He succeeds Don Owen. . . . Andrew C. Brown, Jr., Farmville manager for VEPCO, has been appointed system supervisor of distribution methods in the transmission and distribution office in Richmond. He will be replaced in Farmville by William N. Cummins, Jr. . . . Donald L. Fitzhugh has been named plant manager at DuPont Company's spruance cellophane plant succeeding George G. Holman who has been transferred to the company's Wilmington headquarters. . . . William C. Heard,

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Jr., has been transferred from Danville to Lynchburg as manager of Leggett's Department Stores, Inc. there. . . . **Joseph S. McClellan** has been appointed superintendent of the Bishop Mine of the Pocahontas Fuel Company. He will be in the general office at Pocahontas. . . . **Hon. Roy W. Smith**, member of the Virginia General Assembly from Dinwiddie County and the City of Petersburg, has been named by **Governor Stanley** as a member of the advisory board on the budget. . . . **Central Virginia Industries, Inc.**, announced the appointment of **Fred H. Lawson**, vice-president of Appomattox Garment Co., Inc., to membership on its Employee Relations and Industry Education Committee. . . . **O. Roland Galliher, Jr.**, was recently elected trust officer of the Bristol Dominion National Bank at a meeting of its Board of Directors. Mr. Galliher will be associated with **C. S. Carter, Jr.**, vice-president and trust officer, in operation and development of the Trust Department of the Dominion National Bank. . . . **Harris L. Umstead**, president of Radio

Station WKLV at Blackstone, announced the appointment of **John Mac Williams** of Blackstone as manager of the station. . . . **Wilson Coleman**, Big Stone Gap's town manager, has accepted the position as City Manager of Radford effective August 31. . . . **Roger Stuart**, of Abingdon, was recently elected president of the Junior Section of the Virginia State Bar Association at the annual meeting of the association. . . . **Garland Smith**, of the Abingdon Oil Co., attended the seminar sponsored by Shell Oil Co. at Roanoke recently. **Joe Shandrick**, manager of the Powell Valley Oil Co. also attended. . . . **H. Freeman Roush** has been named yard foreman for Appalachian Electric Power Company's \$55,000,000 Clinch River Plant now under construction at Carbo by Sollit Construction Company of South Bend, Indiana. . . . The **George B. Powell Investment Company**, of Norfolk, announced the appointment of **Col. C. D. Wheeler USAF (Ret.)** and **Mrs. Wheeler** of "Willoughby," Mundy Point, as licensed registered representatives of the firm. . . . The

*Post*, Big Stone Gap newspaper, celebrated its 67th anniversary August 15, 1957. . . . **Col. Glover S. Johns**, veteran combat infantry officer, takes over as commandant of cadets at Virginia Military Institute. . . . **Richard E. Shannon** and **Nathaniel L. Armistead, Jr.**, are partners in a new Richmond real estate firm located at 4211 Dover Rd. in Windsor Farms. . . . **Howard G. Shelton**, Lynchburg native, has been appointed director of marketing for the Dyestuff & Chemical Division of General Aniline & Film Corporation. . . . **Willard C. Osburn** is the new sales representative of the south-east region in Martinsville of Lederle Laboratories

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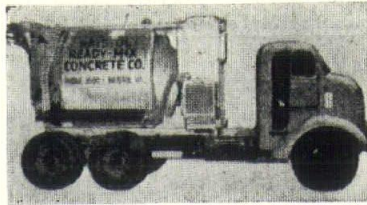
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Division, American Cyanamid. . . .  
Thomas C. Boushall, president and founder of the Bank of Virginia, recently received tribute from the bank's board of directors on the occasion of the bank's 35th anniversary. Dr. Carrington Williams presented a certificate noting that Mr. Boushall "created and guided the development of an institution which has made significant contribution to Virginia and the nation." Arthur J. Morris, founder of the Morris Plan Bank and a Bank of Virginia director, presented an engraved watch to Mr. Boushall.



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## State Registration Board for Contractors

(Continued from page 6)

that department has also established pre-qualification requirements similar to those of the State Registration Board for Contractors. The last exemption is for contracts for other federal government agencies in which the project is on a land site under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, either by deed of cession or statute.

Basically, land acquired by the United States within the territorial limits of Virginia prior to 1936 is under exclusive federal jurisdiction, while land acquired after that date may have certain jurisdiction reserved to the Commonwealth.

Violation of the registration law is a misdemeanor and a violator is subject to prosecution and punishment. In addition, the courts of record having equity jurisdiction have authority to enjoin any person, firm, association or corporation violating the law's provisions.

So much for the registration law and its history. The administration of a measure is often as important as its writing.

The State Registration Board for Contractors is made up of five members appointed by the governor. They serve five-year terms and may be re-appointed only once. They receive no compensation other than travel expenses.

The law requires that at least one member of the board shall have a larger part of his business the construction of highways, another the construction of public utilities and a third the construction of buildings.

Chairman of the board is Fred A.

Haycox, a resident of Norfolk and Virginia Beach, who has headed his own construction company since the 1920's.

Other members of the board are:

F. L. Showalter, vice-chairman of the board and president of F. L. Showalter Inc., Lynchburg industrial contractors.

William Albie Barksdale of Charlottesville, who resigned in June as president of the Charlottesville Lumber Co.

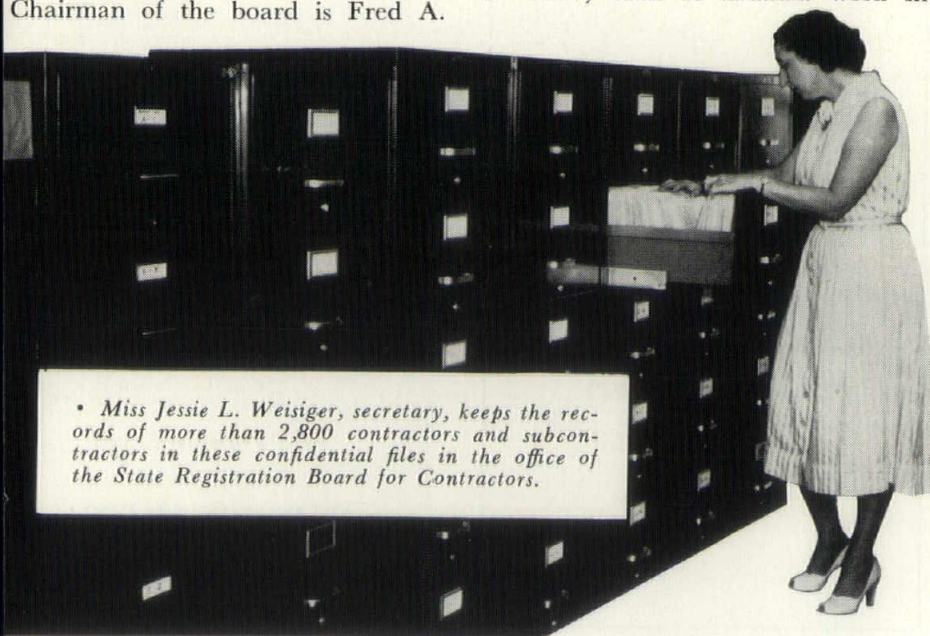
Donald E. "Pete" Ball, a resident of Falls Church and chairman of the board and secretary-treasurer of the Northern Virginia Construction Co.

C. Merle Luck, whose home is near Richmond, and who is owner of the Luck Construction Co. and president of the Royal Stone Corp., the Terrace Corp., and the Luck Corp.

Previous members of the board are C. R. Pettyjohn of Lynchburg, J. D. Blackwell of Warrenton, R. P. Liphart of Richmond, J. C. Carpenter of Clifton Forge, E. J. Weegan of Richmond and L. J. Boxley of Roanoke.

Board meetings are held four times a year, in January, April, July and October. At the April meeting each year, the board elects from its own members a chairman and vice-chairman for one-year terms. But most of each of the meetings is given over to the examination of applicants and applications.

Working for the board in its offices in the Lyric Building at Ninth and Broad Streets is Edward L. Kusterer, the secretary-treasurer. Mr. Kusterer, Malcolm Mann, the board's investigator, and Miss Jessie L. Weisiger, office secretary, are the persons who handle the heavy load of detailed work in-



• Miss Jessie L. Weisiger, secretary, keeps the records of more than 2,800 contractors and subcontractors in these confidential files in the office of the State Registration Board for Contractors.

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volved in processing and investigating applications and renewal applications for registration. Mr. Kusterer's recommendation for registration or rejection accompanies every application placed before the board.

That recommendation isn't easy to obtain. Board records show that in recent years more than 10 per cent of the applicants for registration are turned down.

"We require three major qualifications for registration," Mr. Kusterer said. "One is professional ability and capacity, the second is integrity and

the third is financial responsibility."

"In regard to the professional ability qualification," Mr. Kusterer said, "we generally give a good deal of weight to references and recommendations we obtain from other contractors, subcontractors and building and contracting associations. Usually, the person or firm applying for registration has done previous work below the \$20,000 level and we can obtain from such contacts a good estimate of the quality of the applicant's work."

The board may, however, require the applicant to submit to an examina-

tion. The examinations may be written, oral or both.

An extract from the board's by-laws says:

"In those cases where the board may require a further examination, the scope of such examination shall be to determine the ability of the applicant to make practical application of his knowledge of the business of general contracting or subcontracting, which shall include the reading and interpretation of plans and specifications, building codes and contracts, estimating, cost accounting, construction methods and ethics, and to establish the financial responsibility and performance record of the applicant."

Mr. Kusterer and Mr. Mann go to former customers, architects and engineers for an estimate of the applicant's integrity.

Financial responsibility is determined through statements by the applicant and in many cases through investigations of the applicant's resources and credit.

Would-be registered contractors pay a \$30 application fee. However, the

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pay the fee only once, and, if they fail, can apply again without charge.

Successful applicants are assigned a registration number and issued certificates of registration on the basis of proved qualifications in any of four classifications.

Those classifications include building contractor, highway contractor, public utilities contractor and specialty contractor. The latter includes such work as electrical, masonry, plumbing and heating, etc. Also sometimes issued is an unclassified certificate which may include all of the four classifications.

Certificates are issued for a calendar year and become invalid on December 31. Applications for renewal of certificates must be filed each year and must meet with the approval of the board.

The board may revoke the certificate of registration of any general or special contractor who is found guilty, after an appropriate hearing, of any fraud or deceit in obtaining the registration, or gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the practice of his profession, or willful violation of any provision of

the registration law. An appeal from the decision of the board in such cases may, of course, be taken to the courts.

"The number of complaints received by the board that could lead to revocation are relatively few," Mr. Kusterer said. "We check out each complaint that does concern registered contractors. We find that only a few of those require any action by our office."

When a report of a violation in which a non-registered contractor has undertaken a project of \$20,000 or more is received, the normal procedure by the board has been to suggest that the contractor voluntarily terminate the

contract.

In a great majority of cases, Mr. Kusterer said, compliance is obtained through this method and without resorting to legal action.

Kusterer explained that his office is not a police agency as such, and that no effort is made to inspect the work of registered contractors unless there is a complaint filed with the board.

"But," he said "we receive a number of unofficial reports from time to time from various sources. If such reports reflect against any particular contractor we require a complete explanation from the contractor at the time of his appli-

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cation for renewal of his registration."

The \$30 fee which must accompany new applications and the \$15 fee for renewal of registration quickly add up

From such revenue, the board pays its own expenses. There is no cost to the taxpayer. In fact, revenue surplus is turned into the state treasury by the board at the end of each budget period

Accounting and budget estimating are among the other duties of Mr. Kusterer and his staff, in addition to application processing and investigation.

Other duties of the Richmond office include public relations work among

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MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

contractors and the general public, and the publication each year of a roster of all registered contractors.

Publication of the roster, 45 pages thick this year, requires long hours of detail work listing in alphabetical order the names, addresses and registration classifications of each registered contractor. Supplements to the roster are published each quarter.

The roster and its supplements are mailed to registered contractors, engineers, architects, state and local government officials and others who may as part of their work call for bids on construction projects. Copies of the roster are available at the office of the board on request.

Public relations has become a major function for Mr. Kusterer, a native Richmonder and a veteran of 17 years of government service including service in World War II with the Navy before he took over as secretary-treasurer, of the registration board in 1953.

He succeeded Charles P. Bigger who had retired for health reasons after serving the board as secretary-treasurer since the registration board was created. Mr. Bigger is now secretary of the Richmond Builders Exchange.

Total registration has in 19 years grown to more than 2,875. Three-fourths of the registered contractors are Virginia firms, while the rest are domiciled outside the state.

Until December of 1956, Mr. Kusterer had only the help of his secretary in administering the registration board's directives, processing and investigating applications and checking into com-

plaints. Then growing registrations resulted in Mr. Mann joining the staff.

Mr. Kusterer now has more time to give toward establishing closer contacts with building and trade organizations, explaining to them and to the public what he considers the major function of the board:

"Protection of the public welfare."



### History in a Capsule

(Continued from page 21)

a prophylactic during epidemics . . . "Wear it about our clothes and about our coaches . . . Hang bundles of it around our beds." It was the "Parson's Cause" against low tobacco rates in 1758 that started the twenty-two year old Patrick Henry on his way to fame in Virginia, and four years later the Connecticut soldier Israel Putnam added to his fame by the introduction of cigars into the colonies, upon his return from a Cuban campaign. In 1810, according to census figures, twenty-nine million cigars were manufactured in the United States.

Chewing tobacco in the United States reached its upswing of popularity about 1830 and in such proportions and in such high places that Charles Dickens, upon a visit to America reported "the stranger will find (the custom) in its full bloom of glory, luxuriant in all its alarming recklessness at Washington." Spittoons blossomed in Congressional halls and a Methodist Divine, the Rev. Adam Clarke, exhorted careless chewers to refrain . . . 'twas "not

safe to kneel in prayer."

A hollow tube for smoking, prototype of cigarettes, is said to date from 1518 when Spaniards went into Mexico and were greeted by an old chief who, according to historian Oviedo, gave each one "a little hollow tube, burning at one end, made in such a manner that after being lighted they burn themselves out without causing a flame. . . . The Indians made signs that "they inhale."

Had Christopher Columbus but realized it in 1492 he might have sailed back to Europe with a tobacco "gold

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### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH of the Secretary-Treasurer

Edward L. Kusterer, *secretary-treasurer of the State Registration Board for Contractors*, took over his present post in 1953 after more than 17 years of federal government service, including four years in the Navy during World War II.

Mr. Kusterer was born in Richmond February 20, 1910, and attended parochial schools in the city and John Marshall High School. He also attended College of William and Mary extension classes in Richmond.

He is a member of Richmond's St. Benedict's Catholic Church. He is also past grand knight of the Richmond Council of the Knights of Columbus and is vice-president of the West End Catholic Mens' Association.

Mr. Kusterer is a bachelor.

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mine" in his pocket, for he carefully recorded that something "sweet scented" and with "wholesome leaves" was presented to him by the natives upon his arrival at San Salvador . . . they "must be a thing very much appreciated among them. . . ."

America's "Discoverer" may not have "caught on" but *Americans* very definitely have.

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Officers elected for the ninth annual Festival are: president, C. Bruce Renie, an executive of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co.; first vice president, G. B. Bridgeforth, head of the G. B. Bridgeforth Tobacco Company in Kenbridge, Va.; second vice president, Lee F. Davis, vice president of the Central National Bank; treasurer, Russell L. Rabb, president of the Spotless Company; secretary, E. Turpin Phillips, Jr., A. L. Phillips' Son; counsel, Paul N. Shuford, Wicker, Baker & Shuford law firm; managing director, Carlton Duffus, Carlton Duffus & Associates.



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***Letters to the  
Editor***

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I want to express the appreciation of our Office for the article by Mr. Shipley on Exits in Supermarkets that was so prominently featured in the August Edition of the Virginia Architect Section. We hope that this article will be of some assistance to architects and that it will stimulate some constructive thinking of what we regard as a rather serious and often overlooked hazard.

Very sincerely yours,  
C. S. Mullen, Jr.  
Chief Fire Marshal  
Bureau of Insurance  
State Corporation Commission

Dear Mr. Page:

We certainly appreciated the wonderful presentation you gave to our little forestry article. Ordinarily Spring is our most critical fire period but this year it would appear that the summer drought is changing our fire season by several months. Therefore, the timeliness of this article is ideal.

Thanks ever so much for the cooperation you have given our Division over the past many years.

Sincerely yours,  
George W. Dean  
State Forester  
By—E. E. Rodger, Chief  
Forestry Relations

~

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## GLIDDEN TOUR IN OCTOBER

● Roanoke, Virginia will see the start of the annual Glidden Tour on October 12th. Sponsored by the Antique Club of America, there will be some 400 cars and 800 people involved in the tour. From Roanoke they proceed to Charlottesville on October 14th where they will headquarter at University Alumni Hall; then on to Richmond to participate in the Tobacco Festival on October 15th. Leaving Richmond the tour goes to Williamsburg on the 15th and 16th, overlapping the visit of Queen Elizabeth. The tour ends in Hershey, Pennsylvania, where the annual fall meeting of the Antique Automobile Club of America will be held on October 18, 19 & 20. All makes and models of cars will be included in the tour up to and including 1929, the last year permissible . . . they will be gas, electric and steam cars of all vintages.

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## Down Our Throats

*From the Richmond News Leader,  
Aug. 29, 1957*

As this is written, South Carolina's Senator Strom Thurmond still is speaking wearily for the record, in a futile despairing effort to leave nothing unsaid in the South's fight against the "civil rights" bill. Almost no one listened to him in the Senate last night. Few persons ever will read the omnibus of State election laws he is inserting in the *Congressional Record*. At this point Senator Thurmond has nothing to gain but the animosity of men whose tawdry political motivations already have been glaringly exposed. The bill will pass.

So be it. Let no one, North or South, misunderstand what has happened here.

The bill purports to protect the civil right of voting. But voting rights already were protected under Federal laws long on the books. The real purpose of the bill—the only purpose

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the bill—lies in a supposed political advantage. Northern Republicans and Northern Democrats alike are bidding frantically, shamelessly, for the votes of a Negro bloc. That is all that matters here; that is all that ever mattered.

In order to gain this advantage, proponents have trampled upon the ancient right of jury trial. They were prepared to violate equally ancient rights of press freedom. They cravenly gave their support to a bill conceived in malevolence and born in chicanery—a bill so deceptive in its drafting as to stand forever as a monument to legislative trickery. In their desperation to ram this bill down the South's throat, proponents broke every known rule of orderly procedure in the Senate. The "compromise" finally agreed upon is a travesty upon sound legislation.

That is the civil rights bill that shortly will go to the President.

Is it said that "the South lost"? Yes, the South lost. But not only the South. The whole country loses here, in an act of political debauchery that cannot be excused and will not be forgotten.

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## Apple Harvest Festival

(Continued from page 15)

reason that the Festival first came into being. Each year the Appalachian Apple Service, Inc. (representing the states of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia) selects attractive young ladies from these states for a tour of the major apple markets of this area to publicize the region's apples. In our third year, 1952, our Queen, a Charlottesville girl, was Virginia's representative for this tour.

Now you ask . . . "Why change the Apple Harvest Festival to a Dogwood Festival if it has been so successful?" The answer is simple.

For the past seven years our Festival has been held at great expense, but what do we have to show for these good times except good times? We feel that in another seven years, with our new dogwood theme, not only will the public enjoy festivals but our community will have grown in beauty . . . something that will outlast a three or four day festival. This period will be used to encourage people to plant Dogwood trees. In time, the area will become an eden of Virginia's state flower.

We hope to have the co-operation of our Garden Clubs, the City Planning Committee, the City Fathers and each home owner in making Charlottesville a lovelier place to live in and to visit. At the same time, we can continue, through our Festivals to build an enduring good will between customers and local merchants.



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## Supreme Sociology

Lynchburg News, Sept. 10, 1957

Our nine supreme sociologists with their so confident ukase have with undeliberate speed got us into a national muddle and into international disrepute. They have effectively silenced the voice of reason and moderation all over the South, where before they interfered both reason and moderation were the rule and progress based on them was the order of the day. The white people of the South were pouring millions into the construction of schools for their Negro citizens, often better than they themselves were using. There was every disposition to ease the most distressing aspects of discrimination in daily life. . . .

This constructive program has been abruptly abandoned. In the place of the considered wisdom and conciliation of the leaders, supported by a vast deal of conservative public opinion, we have the blind prejudice and the unthinking recklessness of the mob, which can only embitter both sides and postpone longer the creation of a state of tolerance and understanding without which no reasonable coexistence is possible. The question of race relationships in the South is rapidly deteriorating to the point where only the emotions count and passion is likely to play too important a role. People become blind to the most elementary call of justice and fair play when they see their long established traditions threatened, and all on the ground of a purely speculative reading of our constitution.

In addition to the turmoil in the South, we find our detractors, our envious, and our enemies all over the world abusing the country and defaming the South. Sensational headlines proclaim our "brutality" and "intolerance," and we are represented as uncivilized and primitive. The South has weathered worse storms by its courage and tenacity and it will weather this one too, but the task has been made more difficult by a pronouncement which many consider un-judicial and all must now recognize as injudicious.

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## Why a Registered Contractor?

*(Continued from page 10)*

seemed solid and well constructed. There was only one hitch to the builder's proposal—he said he needed almost twice the down payment quoted by other builders before work could begin.

The would-be home owner, seeking a long-term saving, gave the contractor a down-payment of \$2,300.

But progress on the house was slow. The contractor became evasive. Before the young man could begin a new investigation, he was informed that his builder had been declared bankrupt. The home-seeker had nothing but an unfinished foundation and a mass of legal problems to show for his \$2,300.

The State Board of Registration for Contractors, on the other hand, requires proof of financial responsibility before it grants registration to contractors or subcontractors. Applications for registration require financial statements that demonstrate the applicant's ability to pay costs of materials and labor, and that the payments are made promptly.

The statements on the application are checked by a board investigator. And the contractor must explain any serious change in financial resources at the time of his application for renewal of registration each year.

Had the department store executive used a registered contractor, he would have been protected against such a loss.

Seeking a perfect construction job is similar to the search for a perpetual motion machine. There is generally an error or some small item that has been overlooked.

It is a common experience for buyers moving into a new home or office to find a doorknob that won't operate, a splatter of paint or a door that doesn't quite fit. A call to the contractor may—or may not—bring prompt, cheerful corrections.

The integrity of the builder makes the difference. And firms or persons granted certificates by the State Board of Registration for Contractors have had their professional integrity established by investigation by the board.

Board investigators put a heavy weight on references given by the

applicants for registration. The investigators also check with sources not generally available to the laymen—architects, engineers and customers for whom the applicant has worked, and contacts among building and trade associations.

Such an investigation, of course, immediately eliminates any applicants suspected of the rare but more serious breaches of professional integrity such as unapproved substitution for specified materials.

As further insurance against mistakes, the board of registration will, on request, investigate complaints about the work of the contractors and subcontractors.



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tors it has registered. Because it is designed to protect the public, the board will, if it finds a complaint is justified, take the matter up with the contractor.

Under the law, the board has the power to revoke registration of any contractor or subcontractor who is found guilty, after an appropriate hearing, of gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the practice of his profession. In addition, the contractor may be required to make a full explanation of any complaints received by the board at the end of the year when he applies for renewal of his registration.



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The board has never had to revoke a registration. Registered contractors and subcontractors have, however, on numerous occasions accepted the "suggestions" of the board for correcting errors that might otherwise have reflected on their integrity.

In seeking evidence of professional skill, the board again has means and access to sources that are not generally available to the public.

In addition to the investigation of the applicant's previous work record conducted at the time of application, the board can and often does require an examination.

The examination may be written, oral, or both. The scope of the examination may include reading and interpretation of plans and specifications, knowledge of building codes and contracts, estimating, cost accounting, and construction methods and ethics.

You can be sure that a contractor or subcontractor registered by the board knows his business.

If the construction project you have in the planning stage will cost \$20,000 or more and is to be done in Virginia, then you must use a registered contractor. It makes no difference whether the contractor or subcontractor is a Virginia firm or is domiciled in another state. Failure to require registration for such projects can be a misdemeanor and punishable by law.

There are only three exceptions to the law in such cases. A contractor need not be registered if he is working for the armed services, or directly under the State Highway Department or on a federal project the site for which is exclusively federal land. The exemption in the former two cases is because of pre-qualification tests already established that are similar to those of the State Registration Board for Contractors.

If you should receive a bid or an offer to bid on, or an offer to accept a contract for \$20,000 or more from a contractor or subcontractor who is not registered, you should notify the board at once.

The use of registered contractors is not, however, restricted to major projects. Some state and local government agencies have at times made it a practice to accept bids only from registered contractors and subcontractors, no matter what the cost of the project.

Many engineers and architects follow the same policy. They draw on the roster of registered contractors and subcontractors, published each year by the board, when they send out invitations to bid.

This year the list includes some 2,875

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contractors and subcontractors, their special fields, and their addresses. The roster is available upon request, from the office of the board in the Lyric Building, Ninth and Broad Streets, Richmond.

For protection, follow the lead of professionals, use contractors and subcontractors registered by the State Board of Registration for Contractors

**Chris Baker**

*(Continued from page 23)*

it for the burial of paupers. This latter Potter's Field in the eighties when Old Billy, veteran sack-em-up man and his promising assistant Chris Baker were in their heyday. These two servitors of the Medical College were viewed with wholesome respect in the college and particularly in the colored community. It was whispered among the negroes living in that vicinity that it was unsafe to traverse the near-by streets after dark. Stories of the janitor stealthily creeping up behind stragglers on the street and throwing bags over their head to smother their outcries as they were dragged away, were common in the neighborhood. The unusual aspect of the Egyptian Building and the knowledge that here dead bodies were kept, heightened the feeling of dread.

"Of the many stories told of body snatching the most authentic has to do with an occurrence in 1884, when the newly appointed keeper at Oakwood took steps to protect the graves in the territory in which he presided. Enlisting the aid of a policeman named Angel, he laid a trap for the law breakers. On a certain dark morning about four o'clock Chris and Billy accompanied by three students set out in a wagon for the cemetery, a lighted lantern marked the newly-made grave. Disinterment was hardly underway before a rush of footsteps was heard, and the whole party took to its heels. The trap was well laid. All were captured except one, a fleet-footed citizen of Louisa County. In police court the next morning the culprits were fined and sentenced to imprisonment in the city jail. Here the two students and the two janitors, fed and provided for by sympathizers, made the best of their hard luck until Governor Cameron pardoned them. At the next session of the General Assembly the anatomy act was written into the Virginia statutes."

That Chris was adept in the art of many students of that day were aware especially those who were privileged

hear his famous "Lecture on Anatomy," always the aftermath of a generous consumption of ardent spirits furnished by poor but willing students. Apropos of this lecture, the late Dr. Greer Baughman related to the writer an incident of his student days at the old college, when shortly after a Chapter of the Pi Mu medical fraternity was organized, his fratmates decided that they would "tap" old Chris. Preparatory to his initiation the prospective "brother" was dressed in his best raiment, which operation was accompanied by innumerable toddies. After his initiation, during which he was required among other antics to beat a large bass drum, Chris launched into his unforgettable anatomy talk, and later on gave a talk on the technic of grave-robbing.

Taciturn, a man of few words under all other occasions, Chris is reported as having scoffed at the technic of some of his grave-robbing confreres who sank shaft at the foot of the grave, broke open the coffin and attempted with the aid of a rope to snatch the body by the legs.

"Us dat knows how" he once told Dr. Baughman, "knows dat the smalles' part of de coffin is at dé feet, and how am can dey git the shoulder through dat way."

At all events five years after the Richmond scare the following entry was made in the minutes of the Medical College of Virginia, extracted through the courtesy of the late Treasurer McLauley:

"Dr Johnston asked" the records reveal, "and the Dean was accordingly instructed, that Chris Baker be instructed that he was violating the anatomy law in selling or attempting to sell skeletons, and if detected he would be turned over to the civil authorities for criminal prosecution."

Small wonder then that many middle-aged citizens of the yesteryears, both white and colored, remembered the effective deterrent to misbehavior that was Mammy's admonition: "Chile you don't 'have yoursef', Chris Baker wine git you,"—among them the late

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Mayor Bright. It is equally no cause for wonder that Chris' life was constantly in jeopardy or that there are of record several near-fatal attempts to remove him from this mortal sphere. Chris knew this, particularly after that memorable day when he was fired upon as he ascended the outside steps of the old dispensary and pathological building, since replaced by the Dooley Hospital. Dr. Baughman one-time Professor of Pathology and Histology recalled vividly the incident, as did the late Dr. J. R. Williams, whose reminiscences of Chris date back to 1895. No less vivid or informative are the recollections of the late Dr. Clifton Miller another occupant of the Chair of Anatomy.

There were two notable occasions when "The Professor of Anatomy Without Degrees" crossed the building line of 12th Street. The first recalled by Dr. Miller, was that night when Richmond celebrated Cleveland's first election with a monster torch-light procession. The medical students dressed in fantastic costumes and bearing flaming torches were headed by the macabre Chris, bearing an illuminated sign. All went well until the parade disbanded, when Chris was set upon by a gang of Negroes or Whites.

Following that fateful night it is not of record that he left the environs of the old college building under his own power but once. Very late in his eventful life he underwent an operation by his great friend the late Dr. Paul La-Roque, who when the elderly negro was convalescent took him in his buggy for a ride to see the "new" part of Richmond west of 12th Street.

But we would not leave Chris Baker in the minds of the coming generations as a grave-robber, rather as a simple, loyal devoted character whose primitive genius is treasured beyond words both by those who knew him, and the institution he served.

Perhaps one of the greatest tributes to Chris was paid years later by a Richmond editor. It was prompted by news that the discovery of Chris' old well by architects remodeling the old Egyptain Building necessitated a change in their plans. Space doesn't permit quoting the editorial in full, but these sentences are equal to a thousand word eulogy—

"If ever a servant of science knew how to keep a secret it was Chris Baker. . . . Others got the glory of the advancing science of medicine. Chris bore the stigmata. . . . Wasn't it stupidity of legislators who insisted upon starving science of its essential material that made body-snatching a necessity."



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Many are the stories told of Chris' remarkable gift as an anatomist. Many students could attest that he knew his anatomy like nobody's textbook, as could any of the past professors of anatomy at the old college. Scores of times a professor, deep in the subject of his discourse had called for the tibia, clavicle, fibula or maybe the temporal bone; to find faithful old Chris delivering the desired section of human anatomy with dispatch and accuracy. Were he alive today that beloved scientist, anatomist, and gallant Confederate surgeon, Dr. Wm. H. Taylor, for two decades Coroner of Richmond, would relate how splendid were the services of Chris when the noted author of "DeQuibus" performed his almost countless autopsies.

Other distinguished physicians in Richmond and throughout the nation have related the humor that was ever at Chris' side. That inevitable towel which hung limply from his trousers pocket. Or of the many times they crowded around the old man, who after a "toddy" might relate his experiences on the vaudeville stage, prior to becoming keeper of the "stiffs."

Chris' natural negro dialect was hampered by a slight impediment of speech which was the basis for a delightful story gleaned from the late Dr. Lazarus Karp, who told of an incident when Chris was conversing with a member of the Adjunct Faculty, whom he queried: "Youse' a member of the Junk Faculty?"

For one who literally walked with Death for seventy years it is strange to discover that Chris was a timorous soul particularly where lightning was concerned. "He would quit work and take to his quarters," we were told by Mr. McCauley, who cited the incident of the old Negro who upon one occasion was sorting glass apparatus for Dr. Taylor, when the doctor accompanied by Mr. McCauley, suddenly switched on and off an electric light in the laboratory, with the net result that Chris, thinking it was the awe-inspiring heavenly phenomenon, dropped about \$50 in test tubes on the floor.

That Chris was "sot" in his ways was illustrated by the anecdote we heard while interviewing the late Dr. D. Meade Mann. It was commencement time, according to Dr. Mann, and the beloved Dr. Lewis Boshier had instructed Chris to clean up the grounds. Later he encountered Dr. Mann, who ventured the remark "that he had things looking mighty nice around the place." Chris eyed the Doctor and laconically replied, "It jus'

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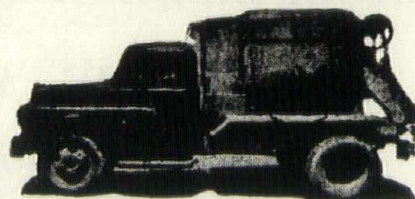


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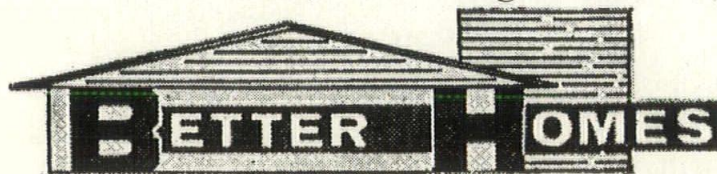
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a gran' misplace."

In contradistinction to his abject fear of lightning was the matter-of-fact manner in which he handled the "stiffs"; fittingly illustrated by an anecdote told the writer many years ago by the late Polk Miller. This inimitable student of the Negro, numbered among his host of friends a ventriloquist who often came to Richmond. In league with a student he was hidden in the dissecting hall about the time that Chris would be wont to go after the "subjects."

Chris approached the covered form. From beneath came a voice; "Niggah you doan want me." Never flinching Chris passed to another table where another inert sheet-covered form greeted him verbally. Unperturbed, the old Negro went to the third body. He lifted the shroud and was greeted by a sepulchral voice and in a similar vein of protest. Chris looked down with supreme indifference and replied "Damn you Niggah, I gwine take you anyways."

So we could write on until an extensive biography would result. However one cannot refrain from the thought of how proud must old Chris have been to enjoy the confidence and esteem of such eminent physicians and teachers as Drs. James B. McCaw, M. L. James, J. S. D. Cullen, and Christopher Tompkins, the deans under whom he served during the hey-day of his career, or that of the physicians who have mentioned in this chronicle—a of whom cherished his memory.

And so with this evidence of the contributions Chris made to the advancement of medical science in Virginia, may the writer suggest, as he did many years ago, that some tangible memorial be erected to Chris. We can envision somewhere in the quadrangle of the great medical center the bronze figure of Chris; or, perhaps a group of old "grads" might memorialize him with a gift to their Alma Mater. Perhaps there might be a pilgrimage to his forgotten resting place in Evergreen Cemetery—a wreath placed above the

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form of him whose life was nobly yet humbly dedicated to the advancement of medical science in Virginia.

And of Death, we can imagine that when he clasped old Chris' knarled hands that he must have found him unafraid, and perchance, Death said: "Come old comrade, I will lead you to the blessed hinterland of souls."



### Weep for Our Wildlife

(Continued from page 13)

flinch, and poison another hardwood, rip asunder another ancient rail fence.

What does it matter if the New South will feel the effects of man's deliberate devastation of wildlife habitats for decades to come?

#### IT WILL BE TOO LATE

Sure it will be too late then but we'll have that New South, all shiny on its chrome plated surface, but barren, cold and empty where its heart used to be.

And on Sundays in the New South we can take the kids to the zoo so they can see a bear, a deer, a grouse and a wild turkey behind one of those efficient wire fences.

We can tell them how it was when Daddy was a boy, about the heart-stopping explosion when a covey of quail was startled along an old rail fence.

At Christmas we can go to an efficient supermarket and buy some hickory nuts. Maybe they'll have some at the supermarkets.

Maybe we can buy a pitiful cluster of oak leaves with the acorns still attached and hang it on the wall so the kids can see what the wild turkey, the squirrels and the bear ate in the dreadful dead days of the Old South.

And Old Tige can howl mournfully through the snow and no one will care in this New South that has no birds for him to point . . . no one will care, that is, except Daddy who remembers exploding quail.

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about snow in the New South . . . no sir. Let it snow. There will be no game to starve in the snow. It will have starved a long time ago, the time Daddy wept for the oak, the hickory and the old rail fence.

~

## Deadly Parallel—Part II

*(Continued from page 5)*

a matter of speculation: the fact is that for military expediency he took a calculated risk with the South's future.

When Eisenhower, then, refers to Lincoln, it would be helpful if he understood his point of reference—and that is *not* ancient history, since *he* made the reference. Far from suffering any messianic compulsions, Lincoln, a master politician, risked the South's future in order to secure the Union. Whatever the justice in the Southern states' effort at self-determination, of Lincoln it must be said that he believed he was acting for the good of the whole. The upheaval and devastation his actions caused in the Southern states was incidental, and no part of a plan designed to destroy the region's established order. Of Eisenhower and his executioners, this most certainly cannot be said.

No conceivable good for the welfare of the nation can come out of the chaos and violence that inevitably will result from forcing separate races to mingle at the point of a bayonet. The disorder and confusion will not be contained in the South, and the NAACP, as with the abolitionists before, do not want it contained in the South.

The abolitionists could win their aim only by involving the whole country. From the viewpoint of the pragmatic Unionists like Lincoln, the preservation of the Union could be regarded as a good gained at a fateful cost to the region which evolved from the country's original colony. But to revive the Reconstruction era today will defeat the alleged purpose of favorably impressing the world by removing customs of

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racial separation. In trying to force the first step of eventual racial amalgamation on the Southern people, the acts of non-democratic discrimination against the whites will reveal to the world that the nation of presumed leadership against totalitarian government has gotten its own house in dangerous disorder by applying totalitarianism techniques at home.

Such a chaotic home situation is certainly not the purpose of President Eisenhower, whose intention—with or without the Lincolnesque image—derives from fundamentally decent impulses. The danger from the president, as with many men of good intentions, comes from ignorance. As he revealed during the Senate debates over the Civil Rights Bill, his habits of mental inertia, and practices of allowing non-connected associates to do the work, allowed the introduction of a bill which he admittedly did not understand. Apparently the capsule form provided by the President's guard for his approval did not include the jokers which were omitted by Southerners.

Eisenhower, evidently believing that the Civil Rights Bill was some generality concerning voting rights, regarded the measure as a practical illustration of his party's moral superiority to the Democratic Party on the issue of human liberties. Truman had talked a good game about civil rights, but the Eisenhower administration was doing something about it, and something that could spike the guns of the liberal-minded Northern Democrats.

However, the wily Mr. Brownell, the U. S. Attorney-General who would subvert the English-speaking people's long-cherished safeguard of a trial by jury in the name of *increasing* social justice, could seem to have regarded the bill as a means of forcibly thrusting integration on the South. As confident of the force of might as was the 1850's campaign against the South, this lover of civil liberties resurrected the statute from Reconstruction, the basest period in American history, to force this begin-

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ning of amalgamation.

At least, Thad Stevens and Sumner and that vicious crew waited until Southern people had committed what could be construed as an act of rebellion, and Unionists were gloriously united against the fallen Rebels, before subjecting the people to military occupation. In the second time around since it is obviously impractical for the Southern states to secede again and try to form their own nation, the plan is to treat the people as though they are already conquered.

It is also obviously clear that the Southern people are not going to submit quietly to a bayonet-enforced law that is antithetical to the nature of their society. With this knowledge, Mr. Brownell, like his cold-minded political precursors in subjugation, shows complete indifference to the consequences the Southerner will suffer directly, and the nation indirectly, just so long as enforced school integration opens the gates for eventual amalgamation of the races.

Whether or not the attorney-general is consciously serving the ends of the NAACP is beside the point; by elevating one minority group, through the debasement of the rights on which the country was founded, he is working for the goal of the NAACP as determined and as ruthlessly as if he were a NAACP leader. *It was the NAACP leaders who repeatedly asked if school-integration could not be enforced by arms, and it was Mr. Brownell who slipped in the clause to accommodate their purposes.*

In his role, the attorney-general has turned his office into a law-enforcement agency for the legally dubious mandate of Warren's Supreme Court. Warren, by his own admission, regards justice as the means to "make objective one's private sense of wrong." As his personal sense of wrong is wounded only by the plight of the Negro, and is untouched by the whites in whose society the Negro exists, he too is serving the goal of the NAACP. Between his court and the attorney-general's office, those American

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citizens who live in the South are threatened by an extra-constitutional government which is designed to wreck the stability of their social order and, incidentally, to flout the guarantees of "due process of law" and traditional democratic practices.

This could not happen in the nation unless parties of influence were concentrated on forcing their will on the South to the disinterest of the breakdown of traditional government and its implications for the nation. No such disinterest could prevail unless hate had become a ruling motive.

In the conflicts of the 1850's, a war resulted because democratic processes failed to resolve the differences, and questions of right were decided by questions of might. In this frightening reenactment of the past (which the South is supposed to forget), the expediency of politicians operates with more complexity than before when we had elements in both political parties acting like rival suitors in the courtship of minority group votes, especially the Negro. While the Eisenhower-Warren-Townsend cabal has adopted the Negro's "rights" as a party policy, in the Democratic Party the Negro champions are found in regions where it is both practical and fashionable for the individual office-seeker to identify himself with minorities.

When Congress first rushed through the Civil Rights Bill without a quiver, the Northern Democrats, as expected, revealed that nothing was as important to them as displaying that humanitarianism which embraces the cause of all minorities except white Southerners. Those people are not going to be elected at home or supported nationally by conservative Southerners. It is to their self-interest to stand up and be counted among those who, almost by definition, must vote for any bill that advances the cause of the Negro against the Southern white.

In the Senate, a Democrat from the West went so far in his dedication to the advancement of the popular Negro

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cause that he publicly reproached the president for drawing back somewhat when he discovered that Brownell's cleverness had provided a clause for reviving the horrors of Reconstruction. This strong stand for humanism will probably bring much admiration on the West Coast, where Dave Beck reigned but where Reconstruction will never cast its shadow—not in the foreseeable future anyway.

Among conservative Republicans in both houses, however, there was a definite doubt about the effect of such a bill on the national welfare and a reluctance over establishing, in the South, a precedent for rulings forcibly applied against the will of the majority. In the first passage of the bill in Congress, party leadership was able to overrule the principle of individuals. Men as dedicated in their hate of the South as their forerunners a century ago kept the legislators in line, and it looked as if a new Force Bill would be applied against the South.

In the Reconstruction era, it was declared that no legal state government existed in the South, and a military dictatorship was inaugurated; the way the Civil Rights Bill was being steamrollered, it looked as if state governments in the South was to be made in effect non-existent in those spheres of rule selected by Eisenhower's Court, and an Attorney-General's dictatorship was to be inaugurated.

The turn in the steamroller process came when Eisenhower, after admitting his haziness on the Bill, supported it anyway, and removed any confidence that he knew what he was doing. The turn came when new decisions of the Supreme Court began to sit as badly with other elements as their integration decision had with the South. A close look was also taken at Brownell, the graduate of the Albany School of Practical Politics, and this worthy refused to identify the humanist who resurrected the Reconstruction clause. For a time the tide ebbed and, with some astute politicking by Southern leaders, the Senate passed a milder bill.

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eliminating the objectionable Reconstruction clause and the trial without jury.

When the bill went back to Congress, the initiative was lost to the neo-abolitionists. With the momentum behind their movement fading off, the NAACP and its white radical allies were shrewd enough to recognize that the hour had passed for their victory, and they were willing to settle for a compromise measure. The liberal opportunists in Congress showed their utter want of conviction by voting for a compromise which they had refused even to consider a few weeks before when the abolitionist coalition, scenting victory, was pressuring for the full, harsh measure.

Yet, in the end, as in the 1850's, it is the victory of the new coalition formed around the new abolitionists. They have passed a Civil Rights Bill. In 1820, when the Missouri Compromise was passed to limit the physical boundaries where slavery was legal, Thomas Jefferson, then an old man, warned Southerners that they had made a fateful mistake in allowing a bill that established the legal *principle* of restricting slavery. Jefferson was a disbeliever in slavery, but he foresaw the harm that could come to the South from outside interference that, in tampering with one institution, could undermine the whole structure. The Southerners did not awaken to his wisdom until it was too late, when they found themselves fighting a defensive action against a force gathering to overwhelm them.

In 1957, the Southern representatives had little choice except to accept the compromise. The Texas powers in Washington, for varying motives, are playing it cozy, and there are simply too few men in Congress who will act on principle.

Eisenhower, and some of the publicists and publications who hew to the abolitionist line, would make it appear that the struggle was entirely over voting rights. The South, knowing the purpose behind all the maneuvers since

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the Supreme Court decision opened the way, must of necessity fight against the whole principle that threatens the organic nature of its society. In this fight, it must, after 137 years, get off the defense. More than a century ago, Calhoun, caught in the consequences that Jefferson had prophesied, urged then that the South meet the whole threat, "in its length and breadth," *at the border*—before the first inroad had

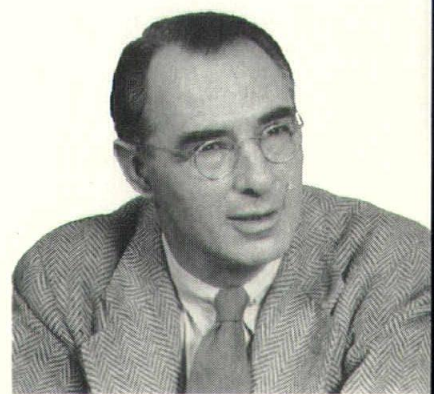
been made. His strategy, like Jefferson's warning, was ignored, and it is now 100 years too late to meet the threat at the border.

But the South must do more than contain the threat where it is now. The encroaching forces must be driven back with a counter-offensive. The South now, as before the War of Secession, is restrained by its moderates, by its own humanists, from taking a strong stand

against such a noble abstraction as human liberty. From any aspect of humanistic intelligence, the Southern position in relation to the Negro segment of its population is not objectively tenable. But, since moderate Southerners are the only ones trying to be objective, their efforts are obviously doomed from the beginning when abolitionist spokesmen smear the whole South with the term "racist."

As a contraction of the word "racialist," which means race-hater, its application to all Southern people manifestly does not constitute an objective approach to the South's problem or the solution of the Negro's status in the nation. It reveals instead that attitude to the nature of the Southern society which disregards facts and truths, as it withholds compassion and efforts at understanding. It is indictment without witness, conviction without trial, judgment without mercy: the accuser becomes as omnipotent as God, with God's forgiveness.

Against the forces represented by this attitude, the Southerner must do that which he does not wish to do: he must fight fire with fire. He must, perceiving the powers allied against him, recognize the Civil Rights Bill, *in whatever form* as the first foot of the enemy in the door. It is not enough to hold him there. The door must be closed, or the deadly parallel with the 1850's will be repeated to the ultimate climax of subjugation by a Federal power.



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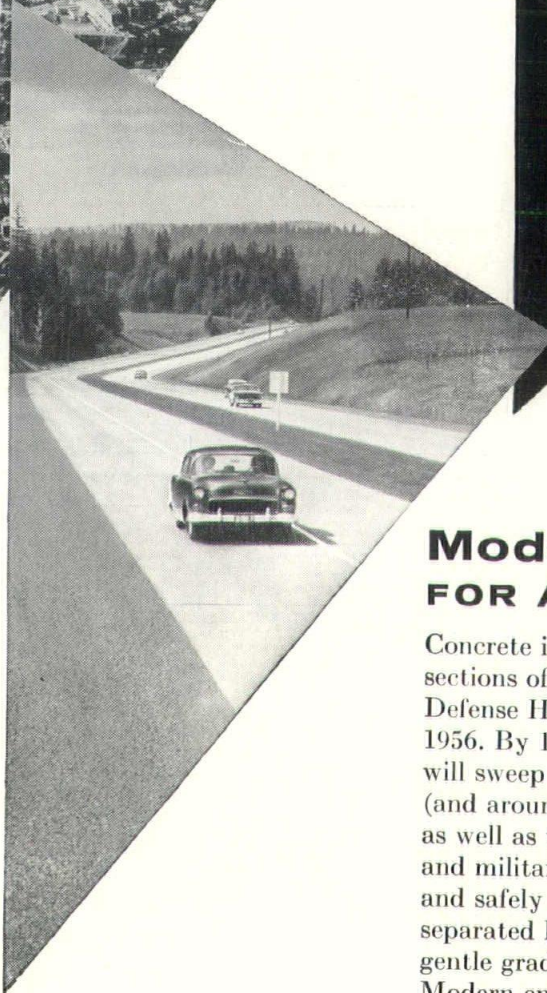
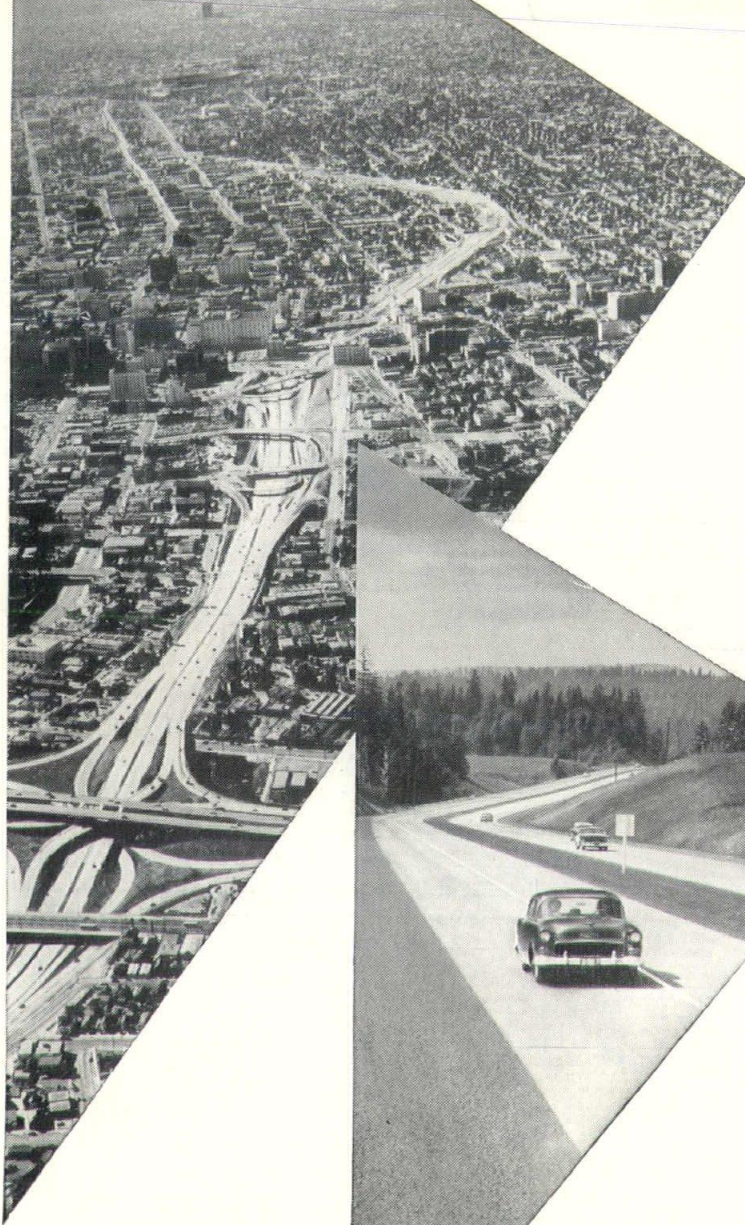


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## Modern Freeways FOR A GREATER AMERICA

Concrete is already being placed on many sections of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways authorized by Congress in 1956. By 1972 the entire 41,000 miles will sweep from coast to coast in and out of (and around) all our great cities. Suburbanites as well as transcontinental travelers, trucks and military vehicles will move swiftly and safely on multi-lane, controlled access highways separated by wide median strips. There will be gentle grades, wide curves, no stoplights. Modern engineering plus smooth-riding concrete pavement will save lives, save time and save money—and help build a greater America.

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A national organization to improve and extend the uses of portland cement and concrete . . . through scientific research and engineering field work