



LOUIS TASKER, first trumpet player of the Southern Symphony orchestra.

COMMENTS ON MEN AND THINGS
By Spectator

South Carolina needs a Ben Tillman. The outstanding feature of this legal muddle over the highway funds is the failure of our leaders to lead. Or, it may be that they are leading in the wrong direction.

There are few men in public office and the compassionate few who would kill not only the goose of the golden egg, but would give the golden egg to some one whose standard of living may not equal certain standards prescribed for those who feed and fatten at the public expense. The strange part of this standard subsistence idea is that half the self-supporting people of the country haven't all the things we are called on to give away to others.

Where our leadership in this state is lacking is that we have substituted personal honor, social qualities and oratorical gestures for vigorous leadership along fundamentally sound lines.

Looking over the budget of our state. Are we getting value in proportion to expenditure?

The State is the creature of the people, the people are not the dependants of the State. Perhaps in time of emergency we use an expedient, like a man seizing a floating log, but we are just about in the same condition as Italy and Germany. Sounds bad, doesn't it? But what is the difference at bottom?

Hitler and Mussolini say that the people belong to the State. Therefore the people must serve the State as the State ordains. Here we are claiming that we are the State; we, the people, are the State. But we call on the State for everything. The next step will be for the State to tell us what to do, as the National Government is doing now.

We need leadership here in South Carolina, firm, purposeful, informed, resourceful, even aggressive leadership, to survey, appraise, study estimate or evaluate what the State is spending our money for. We are spending and spending without knowing what we are doing.

Well, Congress finds the money for W. P. A. and P. W. A. and a dozen other agencies of spending, but it cuts deeply the farm benefits.

The National Government is finding millions for many so-called services which are of no great usefulness. Anything advocated by the President commands a large support, just on political grounds. Congress swallowed all the doses prescribed by Mr. Roosevelt, even to the disruption of the earning power of the nation; it now lamely and weakly follows the bell-wether into whatever pasture he leads.

Farm income and man's bread and meat are above any political party. No party means anything today. According to the standards of Woodrow Wilson, Wade Hampton and Ben Tillman we have no Democratic Party. What we have is a lot of shrewd politicians who have captured the South and are embracing all sorts of fads which are destroying the initiative of the people.

There was a big hearing here this week on the proposals to repeal the statute which imposes a special tax on income derived from interest, dividends, etc. This is a fine effort, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of the State and the South Carolina Federation of Commerce, Agriculture and Industry.

The House invited two citizens (not members of the Legislature) to present arguments for and against the repeal of the law intangibles. Hon. R. Beverley Herbert, widely known and respected, argued for the tax. Mr. J. K. Bredin argued for the repeal of the tax.

Cole L. Blease has been one of the notable figures produced by our State. He had the individuality, the vigor, the punching power and the personality to attract men, and he fought his battles on the strength of his personal force and program. Mr. Blease is now in the fullness of mellow wisdom and rich experience. As one of the most important and rambunctious of the old Antis I wish the venerable warrior peace, joy and the goodwill of all his fellow Carolinians.

Time changes us and we bury the hatchets of our rectic youth. Cole L. Blease has been brought out for one of the places on the State unemployment commission by a lot of "Antis" and he is being strongly supported by Antis of yesteryear. I am glad to see this healing of old wounds. Mr. Blease supported Wyndham Manning for Governor and Mr. Manning has made a handsome acknowledgement of his gratitude to Mr. Blease.

I agree fully with the argument that no man in public office has a lien on the place of delegate to the National Democratic Convention. We are becoming less and less democratic every year. Why should anybody have a reserve seat at the Convention?

Well the Senate did not wait out the

BALL PLAYER GOT \$180 AS UNEMPLOYED

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 30.—One of the ten professional baseball players who applied for and received unemployment compensation, collected a total of \$180, the maximum while another received a total of \$11.80. Unemployment Commission Chairman, Andrew J. Murphy revealed today.

Declaring that the unemployment compensation law prohibits him from divulging the names of the ball players involved, Murphy said that one player collected the maximum of \$15 per week for a twelve-week period, while the totals collected by the nine others over the three-month period ranged from \$11.80 upward.

More than 50 persons were killed and many more injured recently, as the worst blizzard in many years swept over northwestern Japan.

Arizona grapefruit prices have jumped from \$10 to \$25 a ton, as a result of crop-destroying weather in the competitive districts of Florida and Texas.

pitcher, but swung at the first pitched ball and is now on first base. Well, that's something. Here's hoping that the runner, now on first, won't go to sleep on the bag; we need a run. So, whoever is poaching the Senate, won't you please get the runner to try a little Ty-Cobbing and slide for home?

One hardly knows what's what. Are the Finns beating the stuffing out of the Russians? No, boys, beating the Russians is like punching a bag; you can punch it a lot without making any impression.

The admirals and other men of war are having a field day. To be able to submit vast plans for new ships—and all that—must delight the soul of any bureaucrat in the military (and naval) order catalogue. Oh, boy!

The courts have tied up the proposed use of gasoline revenue. I have never opposed the diversion particularly on legal grounds, but on grounds of sound financing and wise policy. No matter what you may think of the highway department the job before us is to do certain jobs, and we have not finished.

To think of this as a matter of the highway department is to go wide of the mark. The department is a group of public servants and will readily conform the law. But the problem of the highways is one which grows on me. Each year brings more cars, more buses, more trucks. All that means more traffic. That may sound foolish, or simple, but recently a man having occasion to travel frequently between Sumter and Georgetown told me he usually drives from Sumter to Manning by Paxville because it is wide and built for swift traffic, while the more direct route from Sumter to Manning (and three or four miles shorter) is by Alcolu. The direct road was built (the Sumter County part of it) years ago and is narrow and full of sharp and dangerous curves. My informant tells me that he always takes the longer route by night for greater ease in driving and for safety. Here, then, is a piece of road, possibly eight or ten miles long, built some years ago, that was a splendid highway for the traffic of 1930, but really is not suited to the needs of 1940.

ACCIDENTS KILLED 93,000 IN 1939

Springfield, Mass. Jan. 30.—W. H. Cameron, managing director of the National Safety Council, announced today that 93,000 persons were killed in the United States during 1939 from all types of accidents.

Cameron, here to address a local safety organization, and 330,000 others were permanently disabled and that 8,500,000 suffered temporary disabling injuries.

Federal aid for highway improvement and elimination of railroad grade-crossing hazards in the amount of \$156,000,000 has been apportioned among the 48 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

There were 88 air accidents in October, including only four minor ones by air transports.

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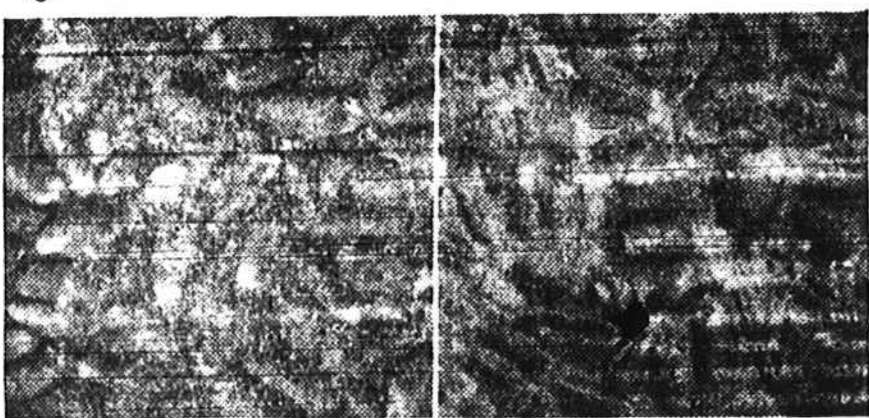
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If your fertilizer at planting was not high in potash, apply extra potash in 100-200 lbs. of a nitrogen-potash top-dresser as soon as growth starts, or apply 50-100 lbs. of muriate of potash per acre along with the nitrogen top-dressing.

Consult your county agent or experiment station regarding the plant-food needs of your soil. See your fertilizer dealer. You will be surprised how little extra it costs to apply enough potash.

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THIRTEEN WOOD FIRES FOR MONTH OF JANUARY

Kershaw county reports 13 fires during the month of January burning a total of 99.7 acres of woodland. Seven of these fires were caused by smokers and hunters, 2 by railroad, 1 campfire, 1 brushburning and 2 incendiary. We may readily see from the above report that these fires could have eliminated by a little more carefulness on the part of the public. We especially warn smokers to be

more careful while hunting in the woods.

Anyone seeing a fire, we would appreciate them calling the following numbers—as some of our good friends have already co-operated with us by calling some member of the organization:

Company Rangers office 166, Residence 512, Camden Tower 2004; Cassatt Tower 2003; Warden McKinnon 2013; Westville Tower 2012; 2002; Warden McLeod 2014. Is the request of W. C. Perry, county ranger.

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