

Battle For Congress Control Turns Into Home Stretch

A Charlotte News Report

City And County Consolidation: It Can Be Done

(Sixth in a series of articles on Charlotte and Mecklenburg governments, pointing out the need for city-county consolidation).

CHARLOTTE NEWS SPECIAL WRITER
BY BURKE DAVIS

If Charlotte and Mecklenburg tire of their dual system of government, of feeding two sets of office-holders where one would suffice, or of paying for services not needed in both areas, they can find reliable patterns to follow. If they decide, on the one hand, that City needs are so different from County needs that they should separate, they can follow the leads of hundreds of "cities of counties" in Britain and the U. S. If they decided that Charlotte and Mecklenburg should become one they can find fewer, but excellent, working models.

Democrats Make Final Vote Bids

Breather Taken By Republicans

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

The campaign for control of the 80th Congress turned into the home stretch today with Democrats pounding on a theme once expounded by Republican Abraham Lincoln from their house divided against itself: "cannot stand."

While Republicans for the most part took an oratorical breather and President Truman maintained his silence, Democratic Party leaders urged voters from coast to coast to elect Tuesday a House and Senate which will uphold the Chief Executive on international and domestic issues.

In Kansas City, House Speaker Sam Rayburn of Texas declared in a broadcast that the election of a GOP majority in Congress could bring only "confusion which would lead to chaos."

CHOICE OF 3 BROADS

Rayburn said the nation's voters have the choice of two roads: "One leads to the greatest prosperity this country and the world has ever known, the other will bring only confusion in a house divided against itself."

Red Unity Emphasized By Molotov

No Disagreement With Stalin

NEW YORK (AP)—Vyacheslav M. Molotov, Soviet Russian Foreign Minister, said the opinion expressed by some Americans that his address to the United Nations Assembly disagrees with Prime Minister Stalin's statement on Russian policy Monday "does not correspond to the facts."

In a two-paragraph statement written "for the Associated Press," the answer to the head of the United Nations Assembly said in a talk with the United Nations Secretary General on Monday that it is not difficult to see this "careful study of the texts in question."

Furthermore, Molotov declined to answer six detailed questions submitted late Thursday on what some American minds appeared to be disagreements between the two policy statements, one made by Stalin to a newspaper in London by cable from Moscow and the other made by Molotov to a closely-listening U. S. Assembly here at Flushing Meadows.

Truman Announcement

Estonians To Be Allowed To Stay In United States

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman said today the 48 Estonian refugees who recently landed in Florida without immigration visas will be permitted to remain in this country.

In a formal statement released by the White House the President said these refugees who sailed across the lower states in boats "will definitely not be deported and will in due course be given immigration visas which will enable them to remain in this country."

On October 24 Mr. Truman had pressed the course the Estonians in making the 6,000 mile voyage, saying they had displayed the type of pioneering spirit that built this country.

On the same day the Attorney General stayed an immigration order which would have required them to be deported. Meanwhile he directed that all arrived in Florida be allowed to remain in the United States and to eventually become citizens.

More Men Quit Jobs In Critical Mine Dispute

Negotiations In Week-End Recede

WASHINGTON (AP)—New railroads and increased absenteeism caused a further slump in West Virginia coal production today as the Government's showdown with John Lewis on new wage demands for his 400,000 miners remained in a "dilatatory" stage over a week-end recess.

A check of the West Virginia coal fields showed an estimated 4,000 men were off the job in that state today compared with some 4,000 yesterday. Operators attributed the increase to a "combination of yesterday's action" which they said stemmed from the miners' traditional "no contract, no work" policy.

CONTRACT STILL IN FORCE

The Federal Mine Administration officials, who operate the mines, said the situation on failure of the contract was not a "condition of yesterday's action" which they said stemmed from the miners' traditional "no contract, no work" policy.

er than this community. And of Virginia's 24 city-counties, only Norfolk and Richmond are larger than Charlotte. The others range all the way down to Williamsburg and Norfolk. Each of about 4,000 population. It seems clear that, in any case, a unit of population exists under the old-fashioned county rule, and urban centers are not a new government, a change of some sort is possible, and beneficial.

There are no legal barriers to the step. Both the state and local governments have the authority and administration. The Constitution makes it possible for the Legislature to create a new county from existing counties without any vote of the people, and the county representatives in the Legislature have the authority to do so.

TO REACH ITS OWN

Thus, if the citizens of Mecklenburg agreed to leave the heavy costs of maintaining streets, high schools, the health, the fire and law enforcement bodies to Charlotte, they could have a government exclusively their own. Under this separation they would no longer bear their share of costs in the library, the school buildings, the health and welfare funds, and under this arrangement, City people were paid for certain that they would mean caring for their own logical and their own business, their own libraries, their own police and their own fire departments.

Under the plan of consolidation favored by Miss Carrie Meekins and many prominent citizens, the City and County would be merged into one unit of them would perform all functions. Under the first method, the City would perform all functions, saving money in operations and setting complete local rules as a people would to supplement the City and County. Under the second method, the City would perform all functions, saving money in operations and setting complete local rules as a people would to supplement the City and County.

LOWER COSTS

The nine important U. S. cities operating under consolidation have over 15,000,000 population and a fact that they have retained the system after many long fights for it is evidence of their success.

In Philadelphia, after consolidation, police costs dropped sharply and the city's operating expenses were cut by a million dollars. In San Francisco, the consolidation of city and county, as against the city and county, has already come when the time has citizens can save money and get better services. In St. Louis, the consolidation was cut immediately from \$3.42 to \$2.90, and the city's operating expenses were cut by \$1,500,000. In 1940 the per capita cost of the city was \$15.22, and the city's operating expenses were cut by \$1,500,000.

Elderly Sisters Held In Prison

EDINBURGH (AP)—Three elderly sisters known here for their gentle ways and mild-mannered clothes were held in prison today on charges of playing at hotels with intent to defraud.

They were Amelia Gardner, 81, and Barbara Sangster, 70, spinners, and Mrs. Isabel Violet Log, 65. Officers of the three officers' address of notes to hotel managers to look for their payment to the police, against whom the sisters had filed a charge. They were held in the prison infirmary. For appearance in court on Nov. 7.

Fire Damages U. S. Ship

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)—Fire damaged the American freighter Mills Victoria at Bremerhaven today.

The fire was discovered in a hold containing Army rubber tires and was brought under control after ten minutes. No one was hurt.

Lint Buying Limit Ended

WASHINGTON (AP)—The OPA, under pressure from the White House, today lifted the lint buying limit, ending a program which had been in effect since the outbreak of World War II.

The order, which will be effective on Monday, OPA officials said, in view of what they regard as an edict from Reconstruction Director A. C. Stearns that it be eliminated.

The regulation prohibits mills from pricing finished cotton goods higher than the price of the raw cotton, and sudden decline of cotton prices from a record high reached early in the year.

PEPPER SPEARS

In Welch, W. Va., Senator Claude Pepper, Democrat, Florida, today called for a repeal of the law which makes it a crime to sell pepper spears.

Dog Bequeathed \$1,000 Yearly

VICTORIA, B. C. (AP)—In a swank suburban home, a wire-walker will spend its days in a dining room, bequeathed by his mistress.

British Writer Says America Has 96 A-Bombs In Stockpile

LONDON (AP)—The Daily Express newspaper today said that the United States has 96 atomic bombs in its stockpile, and that the British have 100.

British Labor Gains Scored

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Labor Party today announced that it had won 100 seats in the House of Commons in yesterday's municipal elections in 30 cities and towns, a total result showed today.

Florida Deputy Kills Dominican

BUNNELL, Fla. (AP)—Adrian Trujillo Rojas, 26, a Dominican Republic, was shot to death here last night by a deputy sheriff. He was the first of a number of Dominicans who were shot in self-defense.

Embezzlement Role Admitted

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Assistant District Attorney Joseph F. Hoy of New York said today that William Arthur Nichols had admitted his part in an alleged embezzlement of some \$625,000 by the "four" reformed in New York.

WEATHER

Clear, 60 to 70.

Ship Attack Story Denied

TRISTE (AP)—The British light cruiser Leander docked today and officers came ashore to host with incredulity reports spread abroad that the ship had been hit by Albanian shore batteries.

Senior Royal Navy Officers

As well as officers and crew, were categorical in describing as "absolutely untrue" the reports that Leander had been fired on by Albanian shore batteries.

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Fights For Controls OPA Rental Staff Being Expanded

WASHINGTON (AP)—A determined fight to maintain rent controls was signaled by OPA today with disclosure that the price agency is expanding its rental staff.

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