THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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WE'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR OUR GROWTH

CHARLOTTE voters this Summer will be called upon to pass upon a whopping big bond issue for the purpose of extending and improving the City's streets, sewers and water system.

The City Council has approved a bond issue totaling $5,750,000 for these purposes and an election will be ordered to give the people an opportunity to register their approval. And it appears vital that approval be given. Municipal facilities are falling below (in some instances are already below) minimum needs.

The Council has decided to ask approval of bonds in the sum of $2,000,000 for general improvements, including railroad grade separation, street extension and widening, drainage, paving, right-of-ways, etc.

Two million dollars for sewer extension, including $1,500,000 for sewer plant additions, and $850,000 for new lines.

One million, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars for extension of the water distribution system.

The Planning Board has made a careful survey of the City's needs and additions to and improvement of these facilities are listed among the top needs. Former City Manager J. B. Marshall, Planning Board engineering consultant, is convinced that there is no other way. He is convinced that this work must be done and must be done immediately if Charlotte is not to be stifled.

The pressing need has come about, of course, because of the great increase in population here. The forthcoming census figures will show an increase of more than 30 per cent in population in the past ten years and there has been no corresponding extension of the basic facilities needed to serve these additional citizens.

The sewage disposal system already is overloaded to the danger point. The two plants built in 1925 have a rated capacity of 10,000,000 gallons daily. They are handling now around 17,000,000 gallons each day. With proper handling of sewage a matter of vital importance to the health of the community there is no choice but to provide adequate plants.

The same applies to the water system. The system has been improved from time to time but is now inadequate for the load. New mains are rated as a "must" if water is to be available to all at all times. As with sewer lines each new building adds to the load and the map of Charlotte is cluttered with buildings that have been erected in the past three years.

The bonds for extending the water system will not be a charge against the City's debt limit. They are self-liquidating. The department will pay for the bonds without requiring an increase in the general fund tax levy.

Equally as important and pressing is the need for street improvement. Something has to be done about the railroad grade crossings that have bottled Charlotte's traffic for years, and there is ever increasing pressure for new streets and street paving. Assessments against the property will help, to an extent, in meeting the retirement of the bonds but not to the extent that the Water Department will retire its bonds.

Five million, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars is a lot of money. But it is the price that Charlotte must pay to take care of its growing population. The City Council appears to have had no alternative in approving the bonds. The voters doubtless will recognize the gravity of the problem and realize that they likewise have no alternative other than approval.

THE VALUE OF MORAL STRENGTH

SEN. BRIEN McMAHON, a lawmaker whose record indicates that he isn't afraid to speak out on important matters, addressed the toughest problem of all this week: How can we avoid atomic war? —and he did right well for himself.

His answer, in part: "We must expand the areas of military and economic strength in the free world, but even more important than this is expansion of the free world's moral strength."

McMahon, head of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, was talking to the editors of *U. S. News & World Report*, a news weekly. What he said wasn't original by a long shot, but he put it succinctly.

It is good to know that, while Secretary of State Acheson was handling the necessary, pressing question of expanding "the areas of military strength" in his speech before the joint session of Congress Tuesday, men of importance were concerning themselves with the problem of peaceful solution of the Cold War.

Sen. McMahon did not feel that the other peoples of the world are convinced that we want peace. He quoted Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan of Pakistan "The people of the East believe that you are interested only in making war on Russia and not in the improvement of the way of life and standards of living of the masses of people of Europe."

We must convince the people of Asia—and Europe, too—that we honestly desire peace, McMahon said. Tell the world, he said, that "we don't want to prepare for a war of annihilation, and, as proof of our true feelings, we'll offer not only to put our weapons away and stop building new ones, but we'll take what we save and put it in the United Nations to improve the lot of mankind."

It was Sen. McMahon, you will remember, who proposed to Congress that we offer to take two-thirds of the money we now spend on armaments—$50,000,000 over a five-year period—and make it available to the United Nations for world-wide aid and assistance to all countries, provided that they would all accept effective international control of atomic energy and reduce their own armaments spending by two-thirds.

"Through this offer," said McMahon, "we could give tangible and visible evidence of our good faith and our intense desire for peace."

There is much in what the Senator from Connecticut said, though it does strike us now as a rather extreme measure. However, we must understand that a continuation of the present armaments race will mean war; such races always have meant war.

To prevent war the armaments race must be stopped, says Senator McMahon. How we can stop now, without exposing ourselves to Russian attack, is a difficult question. McMahon may not have the perfect answer, but we believe he is on the right track.

THE VOTING AT CRAGGY CAMP

WHEN the superintendent of Craggy Prison Camp in Buncombe County allowed 22 prisoners, serving terms for misdemeanors, to vote Saturday, he raised a question that calls for some concentrated thinking on the part of Prison Director J. B. Moore.

So far as is known, no other prisoners voted Saturday—only the 22 at Craggy Camp. It is evident then that they are wrong at Craggy or they are wrong all over the State.

Director Moore isn't quite sure about what should be done, but he does realize that a State-wide policy must be established. He says he will investigate the Buncombe matter and decide.

His immediate comment ("I think when a man is in prison, he is deprived of certain privileges") indicates that the policy will probably ban voting for prisoners.

While it is true that a man is legally deprived of certain privileges in prison, he is not legally deprived of the privilege of voting—unless he has lost his citizenship by committing a felony.

Probably the only way prisoners could vote without causing considerable extra work for prison officials would be through the absentee ballot—a mighty dangerous political device, by the way. If a practical system can be worked out it would be best to allow the prisoners to vote, but if such a system cannot be found, then Director Moore is called upon to ban voting of prisoners over the entire State.

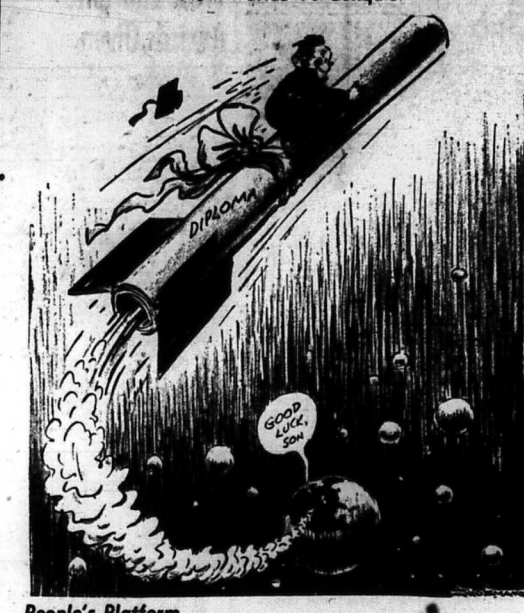
From The Washington Post

ON TOSCANINI

FOUR THOUSAND Washingtonians of all walks of life from the President and his family to the Government girl had a moment of perfection Thursday evening when they saw Toscanini at Constitution Hall and heard his NBC orchestra play a program of great music. The moment was not so much one of enjoyment as one of experience. When the mist comes to the eye and the catch to the throat—that is experience, a sort of physiological reaction to all the joy and all the tragedy of life, fused and drawn through the being in some strange and magical way. The event evokes the mood and unites with it. This is the effect on the person of sensitivity of the kind of concert that Toscanini gave to the Capital as the last but one appearance of his continental tour.

It is not often given to us to be party to this sensation of perfection. Once or twice in a lifetime, perhaps; as when one sees a velvet darkness creep over the Dolomites, the Grand Canyon suddenly, the Acropolis crowned in violet light, the olive trees swaying like ballet dancers on the shores of the sunny Mediterranean, a storm in full fury at sea, Pavlova in motion, the rapture of a first love, the stilled peace that steals over the soul at prayer in a noble cathedral. They put us in tune with the infinite. And then they leave a memory in the marrow that goes on and on when all the circumstances have fled beyond recall. When he left Washington, Arturo Toscanini, whose very name is a poem, endowed his audience with such a memory, and it will remain long after the sight of him, frail with the weight of 83 years, but vibrant with the spirit of his art, is dim in the recollection.

New Worlds To Conquer



Little Leigh Offers Test On Child Raising Methods

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

Little Girl named Leigh Patricia, aged 6, has just come to live in the United States, and this provides us with a magnificent test case on child raising.

"Leigh P. is, I suppose, a vastly underprivileged child. She has been raised in such places as Mexico, Chile and Argentina. Her papa is in the State Department, and I hasten to add that he is guiltless of all the things Sen. McCarthy dislikes.

Well, little Leigh has never seen television. She does not know Howdy Doody from Kukla, Fran or Ollie. She is ignorant of bubble gum. No comic book has ever met her eyes, poor lamb.

Leigh Patricia has never attended a progressive school. Her parents, being unexposed to most American periodicals have not read all the conflicting recipes for the care and feeding of a child's psyche. This is a retarded child, for she has been spanked for being bad. She curtsies when she meets grownups. She has been impressed with the doctrine that children must be seen and not heard at the table.

Leigh speaks some English, Spanish and Portuguese. She knows the ballet, having studied under the prima ballerina of Argentina, and she is investigating music. Dolls she has had. But that is all. None of the other privileges of American childhood.

I frankly do not see how little Leigh is going to make it in the land of the free ego. It is well-known that today's child is a psychic misfit if he speaks politely to adults, refrains from biting the ankles of guests, and does not hurl the cereal at his mother.

It is also a proven fact that no child can compete with his fellows unless he worships at the shrine of some comic book character, the great cultural influence of our time. Such is the juvenile devotion to adventure figures that tomorrow's American populace will be composed of nothing but old cowhands. Or else they will all be dragons or puppets by courtesy of Kukla, Fran, Ollie and Howdy Doody.

Having been rather strictly raised, little Leigh P. does not qualify for the current childish curriculum of reading, rioting and ridicule of elders. Her refusal to consume her spinach has not yet fallen into the lists of a psychiatrist.

What a brave new world for Leigh Patricia! Soon she will become familiar with baseball, by way of television, and will pipe to Papa, "Daddy, querido, Yogi Berra just connected for a Ballantine blast!"

Subject to the enlightening adjuncts of our age in the shape of announcer Dizzy Dean, she will learn her English the easy way. I will wager she won't take more than a month to discover that the past tense of slide is "slud", and she will be right up there swanging with the best of them.

Milton Berle has not yet come into her life, to lend it dignity and charm, but Milton is on the threshold, just waiting to be tuned in. Soon she will be able to remark casually that if Dux won't do it, just forget it, and she will wonder why cigarets are not included in her diet, if they are as health-making as claimed.

What a magnificent day when she learns that nothing she does is wrong, but merely free her of inhibitions! How joyful the hour when "trauma" and "psychoneurosis" creep into her childish treble!

I have only one fear for Little Leigh Patricia. It could be that the stern training of her early, formative years will so inhibit her that she will never be able to kick her mother or shoot a playmate without certain pangs of conscience, thereby spoiling her innocent fun and saddling her with complexes that will crop up to plague her in later years.

People's Platform

The Tariff Is An Issue

PINEHURST

Editors, THE NEWS:

YOUR editorial leader on May 29 captioned "Re-Elections Of The Election" seems to me in parts to be timely and there is one statement in it with which I agree 100 per cent and that is if there is a "run-off" that "both candidates get their supporters in hand and make them stick to the issue."

I am interested to see that you concede that "there are many issues, the chief are, being the basic argument between Liberalism and Conservatism". Frankly I don't like your use of the word Liberalism, it just doesn't describe the "Left" or "Fair Dealers". If one is to be called a Liberal because one favors wasting of the public funds, why then it is well chosen, but it might better be used to describe one who is in favor of rigid control of expenditures in order to make the money collected from the people accomplish as much as though it were expended by an intelligent and prudent man on matters concerning which he was competent to deal.

It seems more or less true as you vaguely suggest that a public whose mind is not overly retentive and on whom the shock of Chambers' and Bentley's revelations, followed by the conviction of Alger Hiss, Roosevelt's trusted adviser at Yalta, has largely worn off, even the imminent, that followed Acheson's statement as to his personal relations with Alger Hiss, Donald, a partner in his law firm, has more or less been forgotten, and it will doubtless take another diplomatic blunder, the fall of Indo-China or of Formosa or some other diplomatic tour de force to stir the mental lethargy of our nation.

There is one very present and important issue in connection with the nomination of a candidate for United States Senator that you have not touched on, kindly permit me to throw it as a solvent into the troubled waters of North Carolina politics.

When Gen. Hancock was the nominee of the Democratic Party for President the tariff was the leading issue in the campaign. Gen. Hancock stated a truism when he said that the tariff was a local issue. At the time he was laughed "out of court". Then it was the northern manufacturers who were asking for more and more protection for their "infant" industries that never seemed to grow up no matter how long they had been established. At that time the South was practically an agricultural region. Such manufacturing as there was had were not only few, but widely scattered. Now it is rapidly becoming the textile center of our country; and what do we see? After years of super fatted profits, already a part of them up about possible competition from Germany, Japan and even England. If we don't allow other countries, particularly those we are practically supporting, reasonable opportunities to trade with us, how are they ever going to get off our backs?

Now there are several well defined schools of thought regarding this extremely important and pressing issue.

1. There are those who favor building up countries other than our own, which have suffered greatly on account of the war even to the extent of allowing them to raid our markets in order to rehabilitate their own economy.

2. There are those who believe that we should at least, within reason, protect our own interests and that to have scores and possibly hundreds of thousands of workers discharged because there are no orders on hand, or even in prospect for the goods they manufacture would not have the effect of strengthening our own country either in what is euphemistically called the "Cold War" or even for what may follow it. Then, of course, there is the matter to consider whether having hundreds of millions of dollars invested in machinery and plants, cease to pay a return to those who invested their money in them would help to strengthen confidence already so badly shaken by ill-conceived legislation.

3. There is a large class of consumers, much more numerous than powerful, as they are unorganized, who would welcome at least a certain amount of competition, and yet would want the most careful handling of the problem so that all interests could be reasonably protected.

If there is to be a "run-off," it is most important that both of the candidates for the nomination of United States Senator state their position in unequivocal terms, no "weasel words" but a pledge which could not be repudiated without dishonor to the giver.

—FRANZ H. KREBS

Transcriptions A Help

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

WE would like to bring to the attention of the public the generous contributions of literature transcriptions from the management of Station WAYS to the Audio-Visual Education Department of the Charlotte and Mecklenburg County Schools. These were given to this department from WAYS during the past school year and have proven very successful in their use throughout the schools.

HAROLD B. DODSON, Director
Audio-Visual Education Department
Charlotte and Mecklenburg County Schools.

'Open-Mindedness' Lauded

DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Editors, THE NEWS:

PLEASE allow me to thank you for having printed the letter to the editor which I sent you a short while ago, for having corrected the one or two errors in it, and for giving it such a prominent position on your editorial page.

It is an encouraging sign of democracy that a newspaper such as yours, obviously biased in its viewpoint toward the campaign, should yet have the open-mindedness to print such a letter. It is an open-mindedness all the more remarkable because of the heated argument surrounding this Senatorial campaign and because of the lack of such open-mindedness shown by most of the supporters of the candidate you favored. Thank you again for printing the letter.

—GEORGE F. BASON JR.

(Note: The People's Platform belongs to the people, not the editors. We hope they keep on using it. Editors, THE NEWS.)

Candidate Thanks Friends

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

PLEASE print the following at your earliest convenience as I think it will be of much interest to the general public, many of whom are your subscribers.

To my many friends and all others who voted for and supported me so wholeheartedly in my campaign for U. S. Congress, 10th District, I wish to thank each one of you from the bottom of my heart. Even though our efforts were in vain at this time, let us continue to fight side by side at all times for a good clean, honest government as this is the only way to obtain it.

—EDGAR T. WILLIAMS

Civilian Defense In Atomic War Poses Terrific Problem

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON — When W. Stuart Symington was named chairman of the National Security Resources Board, neither he nor anyone else can have been wholly aware of what a fantastically difficult and demanding assignment it was. In the weeks that have intervened, the realization of this has been weighing down on the chairman.

In order to try to put the picture together in peace and quiet, Symington has gone off to his country place outside St. Louis. In this retreat he is poring over a mass of reports, proposals, plans, charts. These will give him the hope, or at least the rudiments of an overall plan for this most perplexing of the problems he faces.

That is the civilian defense of America's cities in the event of atomic bombing in a third world war. Merely to state the terms of this problem is to come up against its overwhelming scope.

Since he took over the chairmanship, Symington has been pressed on the one hand by those who have demanded that he produce immediately a master system to insure the safety of every citizen. City officials such as Mayor Roberts of San Francisco have criticized the NSRB chairman for delay. On the other hand, others have said that since any defense is virtually impossible, the effort had best be abandoned. This led to reports, which are not true, that it had in fact been given up.

SAFETY OR LIBERTY

Anything like a complete defense would mean such revolutionary changes as to alter entirely the nature of our free society. It would have to be made over into a pattern of total control exercised by the central government. Those who have given careful study to atomic defense, such as Senator Brien McMahon, chairman of the Atomic Energy Committee, have long realized that this was, in the deadly paradox at the heart of the problem.

At atomic bombing could come by sneak attack in the fashion of Pearl Harbor. The air space over the United States is not policed. Planes are requested to file their flight plans. But they are not compelled to do so. And the radar network to be put around North America is still in a beginning stage.

The contrast with the Soviet Union is striking. With one exception, foreign planes are forbidden to fly over Russian territory. The one exception is the plane used by the American Ambassador which is kept in Berlin. When the Ambassador wants the plane to come to Moscow for him, he must file a request five days in advance. A Russian navigator must be aboard the plane and its flight path is limited to a narrow corridor.

The belief is that the five-day notice is necessary to get anti-aircraft batteries and fighter defense units of the Soviet air force well to the front and will not shoot down the alien plane. We saw what happened when a U. S. Navy plane with a new and special reconnaissance equipment strayed across the Baltic on a flight path way outside the territorial waters of the Soviet Union but close enough, in the Russian view, to violate the secrecy of fortified areas.

Atom bombs could also be delivered by secreting them in the hulls of freighters sent into American ports. This has long been considered feasible. A law now on the statute books forbids any inspection of the contents of a ship's hold until after it has been in port for 90 days.

In any event, inspection in crowded ports such as New York, Boston or San Francisco would be all but impossible. What do you do when 50 of your ships don't show up for trade? If you do that, the great seaport cities will wither away.

These are some of the questions that have been put up to Symington. He has also been confronted with the extraordinary compartmentalization of American life in terms of the jurisdictional boundaries. Thus, a doctor licensed in one state may not come into another state to practice.

The size of fire hose and fire hose couplings vary from city to city and state to state. Because of this, it would be impossible for the fire-fighting apparatus of one community to help put out a conflagration in another community.

This is just to suggest a few of the difficulties that immediately confront the defense planners.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Johnson Puts Friends In Lucrative Jobs

WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of Defense Louey Johnson is not only a good national defense economizer, a good political moneyraiser, but good at passing out juicy plums to his friends.

One of the juiciest, but little-noticed plums in government is the giant German corporation, General Aniline and Film, seized by the United States during the war, and now operated by the Justice Department supposedly for the benefit of all the taxpayers. Thanks to Louey's adroit wire-pulling, however, it is being operated also for the benefit of some of Louey's friends.

The biggest gang controlled to have his law firm succeed him as counsel for the German corporation, and they received a total of $64,500 last year. It should be noted that Louey's firm, Stepton & Johnson, is one of the best in the East and does a highly competent job.

It should also be noted that before Louey became Secretary of Defense, and while he, himself, was counsel for General Aniline, he used it as a sort of pooling ground for friends. Several of them kicked into the Truman kitty when Louey was collecting money during the 1948 campaign.

Dye Experts?

MEANWHILE, General Aniline's profits have dropped. Net earnings after taxes dropped from $6,604,919 or $11.74 a share in 1948 to $2,926,810 or $3.39 a share in 1949. Maybe politics was the reason.

Anyway, here are some of the men who run one of the biggest German companies in the world, now owned by Uncle Sam:

Jack Frye—President and chairman of the board; salary, $72,000; contributor to the Democratic Party $750; ousted from Trans-World Airlines, he was given the General Aniline job at the urging of Bob Hannegan.

Donald O. Lincoln—Director and counsel; one of Johnson's law partners; gets $1,000 for each monthly meeting; contributed $1,000 to Democrats.

Richard C. Patterson—U. S. Ambassador to Guatemala; contributed $300; is part of the Floyd Odlum public utility hookup which is so close to Johnson.

Morton Downey—Singer and entertainer; delightful personality, but not skilled as corporation director; acts as parties for David Bazelon when he handled General Aniline as property director. Bazelon later copped one of the choicest judicial plums in Washington—the Court of Appeals —though he had scarcely argued a case in court.

Colvin Brown—Publisher of Motion Picture Daily and friend of ex-Postmaster General Frank Walker; another delightful personality, but no chemical expert.

William J. Mahaney—San Francisco attorney and Democratic bigwig; gave $5,000 to Democrats.

Other directors include: John S. Bugas, Ford Motor Co.; T. Colburn Davis, Missouri Pacific Railroad; Horace C. Flanigan, New York banker; Robert Heller, industrial engineer; Harold Pynell, Rhode Island banker; Seton Porter, former National Distillers Products Co.; James A. Purse Jr., Dallas furniture manufacturer.

Note—Two directors have experience in the chemical industry—Fred Keehan, Rhodes of Cornell University; and Cary P. Wagner, General Aniline's vice-president in charge of operations.

Servants Of Brotherhood

THREE powerful House Ways & Means Committe, burdened with tax headaches and besieged by lobbyists, has placed the welfare of a sick Negro ahead of the wealthy pressure groups.

The Negro is Hughlon Greene, former committee messenger who became incurably sick last July. When news of his illness reached the committe, Congressman Mills of Arkansas, a Southerner, offered a motion behind closed doors to keep Greene on the payroll. This enabled the ailing Negro to continue drawing his regular salary for nearly four months. Finally, when the committee was forced to hire a new messenger, Rep. Dorn of South Carolina, another Southerner, appointed a subcommittee to take care of Greene. Congressmen Cooper of Tennessee, Reed of New York and Woodruff of Michigan were named, and they have taken up a private collection, which they still send to Freedmen's Hospital to supply their former messenger with medicine and help.

Note—The Congressmen sought no publicity about their act of generosity, and this columnist discovered it only by accident.

Two Wisconsin Senators

GENIAL Sen. Alex Wiley of Wisconsin has had a change of heart regarding the McCarthy investigation.

In one newsletter to constituents, Wiley announced: "Quit trying to smear Senator McCarthy and start furnishing him and the rest of us with facts about subversive individuals employed in Government."

Two weeks later, after the full reaction to the McCarthy charges had reached Wiley, the Senator wrote: "None of us . . . should attempt to judge the guilt or innocence about particular individuals without awaiting the filing of all the evidence on both sides of specific cases."

Under The Dome

NATIONAL labor leaders are betting that the California A. F. of L. will not follow Teamster Dave Beck's out-of-state wire-pulling regarding the race for Attorney General. Most AFL votes are expected to go to San Francisco's District Attorney Pat Brown, whom Beck and the AFL convention plumped for Fred Hower . . . Chairman Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee will try to curb the powers of the Secretary of the Air Force, who now has fewer legislative restrictions than the Secretaries of the Army and Navy . . . Harlem's Congressman Adam Powell, who has one of the worst attendance records in Congress, now boycotts the House Labor Committee because of its passage of a watered-down FEPC bill . . . Frustrated Truman plans to appoint Florida's Senator Pepper to a top government job early next year . . . The powers are still wondering how Mayor O'Dwyer got himself in for the appointment of ex-Congressman David Potts, Republican, to the New York Civil Service Commission. Potts had voted against almost everything O'Dwyer stood for. Shortly before he was to take the oath of office, O'Dwyer changed his mind.