THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON ..... Publisher
J. E. DOWD ..... General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH ..... Executive Editor
C. A. McKNIGHT ..... Editor

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A WORTHWHILE PROJECT

IT IS HARD to think of a more worthwhile project for young Americans than Duke University's careful analysis of the evidence submitted by all participants in the battle between Senator McCarthy and the Administration.

Under the direction of Dr. Hornell Hart, Duke sociologist, a mass of charges, counter-charges and documented evidence has been compiled in what is called a Consensus Project. The material is being sent to Senator McCarthy, the State Department, newspaper editors and columnists, and various other public officials, with requests for additional evidence if there is any.

After all the data is at hand, Duke Consensus Project workers will sift and analyze it, and will release a statement giving conclusions about McCarthyism.

We assume the project is being carried out with the objectivity one expects of scholars. And we certainly hope that is the case, for McCarthyism has engendered so much heat and emotion on both sides that the intellectual approach has been sadly neglected.

In one sense, this is a natural result of Senator McCarthy's attempt to discredit the opinions and impugn the patriotism of scores of Americans. Certain fundamentals of American democracy, the principle that a man is innocent until proved guilty to cite but one, are cherished so zealously that any assault upon them stirs anger and indignation in their defenders.

Even so, the final answer to McCarthyism will not be found in more McCarthyism. It will be found in a patient and careful examination of the facts in an atmosphere free of doubt, fear and confusion—an atmosphere impossible of achievement in politics-maddened Washington, but quite the rule on a university campus.

We shall await the final report of the Duke Consensus Project with great anticipation.

RESTITUTION DOES NOT AMEND FRAUD

L. L. LEDBETTER, City Treasurer, is always alert to the best interests of the City of Charlotte, and it was due in part to his alertness to prevent unsound fiscal practices that the police caught a fellow who had been slipping flattened pennies into the parking meters and getting five cents' worth of parking time for a measly and unspendable copper.

Mr. Ledbetter's interests are, as we have indicated, primarily financial, as is natural in one of his position. When he had recovered 170 nickels for the 170 mutilated pennies, his heart was softened and he let the fellow go without prosecution. In doing so, we suggest that he made a mistake.

Most people don't realize that a crime is against the state, against the law and the statutes, rather than against themselves. A murdered man, for example, may feel that he has been foully dealt with, yet the corpse himself has no right to bring a criminal prosecution. This is the function of the state, whose laws have been outraged. The corpse may not even waive prosecution if the state prefers to prosecute, as it generally does.

And in this instance, while not criticizing Treasurer Ledbetter with any severity, we submit that the fraud which had been committed deserved something more than the simple restitution of $8.50, especially since it was compounded by a touch of counterfeiting.

THE SOUTH NEEDS TWO PARTIES

IT IS not often we find ourselves in agreement about Southern politics with the *Charleston News & Courier* and John Temple Graves. But both of them recently set forth a premise which we can accept unreservedly, even though it leads us to a different conclusion.

If the South is booted around at the Democratic National Convention again, "what do we do then?" asks the *News & Courier*. It voices the hope that South Carolina political leaders "will answer the question well in advance of the convention, so that the people can consider the answers".

Mr. Graves, a syndicated chronicler of the ultra-conservative Dixie outlook, says Amen. He writes:

". . . one thing we the people do need to know from political leaders is whether they are going to sulk in their tents if Truman or a counterpart is nominated or a Truman platform is adopted, or whether they will fight through to the general election and the electoral college".

We'd like to know, also. But that's as far as we can go with Editor Waring and Columnist Graves, both of whom seem to lean toward a new third party movement, led by someone like Harry F. Byrd, as a solution for the South's political ailments.

That may work as a temporary expedient. But this newspaper is convinced that the only permanent way for The South to regain its influence in national party councils is for it to break the shackles that bind it to the Democratic Party and vote Republican now and then. Once The South becomes a battleground for votes in Presidential years, it need worry no longer about sponsorship of legislation it finds inimical. But so long as it delivers itself blindly to one party, it may expect to be ignored by both parties.

THE PRODUCT OF APATHY

THE final, official tabulation of Tar Heel highway accidents in the month of August tells a grim and horrible story.

Total accidents reached an all-time high—3,404, an increase of 38 per cent over August, 1950.

The death toll was 93, an increase of 19 per cent over August, 1950.

Personal injuries reached an all-time high of 1,459—an increase of 35 per cent over August, 1950.

Total accidents in the first eight months of 1951 soared to 22,616, as compared with 17,148 through August, 1950.

The death toll through August this year reached 650, against 580 last year.

Prior to the convening of the 1951 General Assembly, a special commission on highway safety appointed by the Governor presented a series of recommendations for tightening up the laws and improving the enforcement of them. An apathetic General Assembly and an apathetic public ignored the recommendations.

This tremendous toll in life and property is the dividend from that apathy. And unless the people rise to demand more rigid rules and stricter enforcement, the grim figures will keep on climbing up and up and up.

From The Atlanta Constitution

SCHOOLS OR FILLING STATIONS?

WE MUST decide now whether to build that filling station or whether to sacrifice this type of project temporarily for our children's and the nation's future. It is obvious that additional steel can be found for school construction. Throughout the nation commercial building is at an all-time high.

The mounting birthrate, the school-building lag caused by depression, then war and the slow process of voting bonds of finding means of financing school buildings have presented us with a crisis. All over the nation communities are trying to meet the need before it is too late.

As Rep. Howard K. Smith of Virginia says: "A year's delay on a large theater or filling station isn't vital. A year's delay on a school building is."

Contractors are being forced to halt construction on many school projects. Cobb County's school superintendent, W. P. Sprayberry, points out that this is the case in his county. They hesitate to enter bids on other needed projects when they are uncertain whether the steel will be available. This is the national picture.

Manly Fleischmann, NPA administrator, has agreed to review steel allocations with a view to increasing the amount for school construction.

Much-to-do has been made over the fact that millions of tons of steel have been allocated for auto production. If steel for autos were cut back, it would have little immediate effect on the building of schools. Autos use sheet steel, useless to schools, which must have structural steel and tie bars used for concrete formation.

Manufacturing facilities for sheet steel cannot be diverted to production of steel bars. The need for schools can be met only through diverting steel from production facilities already in existence for structural steel or else through new plants. To get it now, steel must come from allocations for commercial construction, railways, highways and some types of defense construction.

Demands for structural steel to meet defense and other needs came to 223 per cent of the entire output in the last quarter of this year. Although school needs are less than one per cent of the entire output, they amount to 14 per cent of the entire supply of steel bars for the quarter. It is expected that the demand of defense construction will be largely met late in 1952, alleviating the present shortage. In the meantime, the school-building program will continue to suffer unless steel for commercial uses is diverted to it.

Let's decide whether we want school buildings and a stronger citizenry for the future, or whether we must have that filling station, theater or apartment house now.

Business expansion is important. However, it is more important to have a citizenry which in future years can assure this business a firm foundation of character, ability, efficiency and customers.

An old boy who lived all his life in Texas died and went to his reward. When he arrived at the gates of his eternal home, he remarked: "Gee, I never thought heaven would be so much like Texas." "Son," said the man at the gate, "this ain't heaven."—*Carlsbad (N. M.) Current-Argus.*

Visitors Day

People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

TViewer Objects To Blackouts

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

WHILE reading the proposed NCAA-Westinghouse television schedule of football games, I noted two Saturdays—Nov. 10 and 24—when no games will be televised. The reason stated is because of the Davidson-North Carolina State and the North Carolina-Duke games.

As was shown by the National League playoffs and the World Series, money-making gates were had despite local television. This shows that people will pay for stellar contests. On the other hand, should these "local" football games not fall in the above category, why should we owners of television sets be penalized for the sake of their gate receipts? These two contests certainly should draw at least the loyal local alumni and regional also, especially since these games were not originally scheduled for telecasting.

Are the seating capacities of Memorial Stadium and the Duke Stadium comparable to the Yale Bowl or Pennsylvania's Franklin Field? Pennsylvania, despite televising their home games, almost always filled Franklin Field; while at New Haven under similar circumstances the Bowl was not as nearly filled owing to the caliber of the home team.

Despite the NCAA's East-West television breakdown, two channels in the New York area have been carrying, for some reason, games not only scheduled to be seen in the East but also those sent to the West. Realizing that Charlotte has only one channel, I mention the above to point out that to my knowledge they are not going to experience a "blackout" despite the NCAA or what the Westinghouse television schedule shows. Why then should we here in Charlotte have two such "blackouts"?

Before closing, may I mention in passing a fact of which we are all too aware although NCAA may not be. Rising taxes and the increased cost of living are mainly instrumental in the decline of attendance of second rate teams with the exception of the loyal alumni who attend. Therefore many of us have sought television in the hopes of saving money in the long run.

The most fitting closing to this letter is to quote Mr. H. Graham Morison, Assistant Attorney General in charge of anti-trust activity who recently said, "We feel that the American people are entitled to have free of monopoly the right to see or hear what they want. We have got to remove these restraints which serve only to the detriment of the public."

Why not you all who are owners of television sets pass on your feelings to WBTV, Jefferson Standard Broadcasting Co., or Westinghouse?

—J. W. COOK.

The Vatican Is A Country

McBEE, S. C.

Editors, The News:

The Catholic Church need not be feared by American Protestants or any other sect for that matter. The Catholic Church is the greatest single factor for good in the world today. To appoint an ambassador to the Vatican is not unlike appointing an ambassador to the Court of St. James in England. The Catholic Pope is the head of a distinct country as well as head of a church. The American principle of separation of church and state here does not apply in this instance because the Vatican is a country within itself and the Pope is an elected ruler of that country.

The Catholics have contributed a great deal to the progress of America and the world. The first book ever printed in the world was a Catholic Bible, subsequent revisions such as the King James version are derived from it. The Protestant sect derives most of its beliefs from original Catholic doctrine and writings. The original Bible is read by Catholics and supplemented by the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Bible does not contain all the truths Christ revealed hence it is not necessary to prove every doctrine of the Christian religion from the Bible.

Here are just a few Catholics who have contributed to world thinking and progress: Paderewski, one of the world's greatest pianists; Balboa, discoverer of the Pacific Ocean; Gen. "Phil" Sheridan, one of the greatest Union leaders in the Civil War; Thos. Fitzsimmons, the largest single subscriber to the liberty loan of revolutionary days; Dr. John B. Murphy, of Chicago, one of the world's greatest surgeons; Saint Paul; Gutenberg, inventor of printing; Pasteur, a leading scientist of the 19th century; Bramante, a great architect of our time; Chauliac, the father of modern surgery; John Cabot, discoverer of the American mainland; Raphael, a world's great painter; Americus Vespucci, a discoverer whose name America is derived from; John Barry, father of the American Navy; Dante, a great poet; Ponce De Leon, discoverer of the state of Florida and many others too, too numerous to mention. Ah! yes, lest we forget—Columbus, the discoverer of yours and mine, America.

Now let me tell you my Protestant friends—especially you antagonists of this fine church of which I am a proud member—that if it were not for the Catholic Church or these fine Catholic men I've mentioned you would have no religion to base your fine beliefs upon and furthermore you would have no country in which to practice your God-given freedom in. It is good that we have Catholics. It is good too that we have Protestants, that I will not deny. We are here to live and work together in a free country and to worship as we please without molesting each other in bitter arguments. Competition is good for the soul but in the game of life . . . let's keep that game free from prejudice and clean.

—MARK A. BROWN.

Quote, Unquote

Mr. Myles Lynch at the hardware store said for us to be sure and mention this week that he has a shipment of hard-to-get-haywire, the most versatile piece of anything ever manufactured. As important around the home as the kitchen sink, and standard equipment in some automobiles. Altho gradually being replaced by the metal coat hanger it is still used extensively for tying hay together and will continue to do so until some durn fool inventor figures out a way to hold it together without wire. —OMEGA (Ga.) NEWS.

Davis And Kids Play Ball, But Old Bucks Go To War

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

WE ARE back again on the right of the armed forces to reach out and snatch a retread—retread being a man who's been to war and isn't purposely hooked up with an active reserve outfit—into military bondage while allowing the young hopefuls to peruse algebra and co-eds in an exempt status.

Right or wrong, my government, but . . . You've just got to claim some amnesty for the weary gents who stormed Salerno and got the malaria at Guadalcanal and who in general have fit and bled and more important put in time in a global war that held the fate of civilization in the balance. We are due for a breather, us old crocks from the last one. We are due to let the young bucks carry the ball, and instead they are carrying books for the pretty junior miss who sits in the sociology lecture.—RUARK IS FEEBLE.

Before the house falls on me, lemme hasten to say that this ain't personal. I am one of the few guys who found out that it was possible to resign a commission in the Navy before the Navy quit allowing resignations. I am the owner of a short and feeble arm (jeep, Solomon Islands, 1944) and a bum leg (overseas, iron decks and dreary islands, 1942 — V. J. Day) and I couldn't qualify for the Girl Guides physically.

They hollered at us once and we went. Now they are hollering again, but it isn't the majority of youngsters heeding the holler. They are jerking back the old blues, and the old, blues don't need it—not when there are lots and lots of youngsters who have not yet learned the delights of fungus and shrapnel. The young 'uns are being blanket-deferred because somebody got snobbish and decided that education was more important than the pursuit of middle-aged happiness by guys who earned a right to rest.

Even the regular military is more considerate of its alumni than the administrative forces that currently regulate the snatch-back of civilian veterans. I notice Glenn Davis still plays football for a professional team, along with several bakers' dozen of his military academy buddies. Davis put in his three years' post-war service, after spending a quiet war playing ball for West Point. So he plays pro football now, him that we educated as a professional officer, and they absolve him of duty to his country in what we now regard as a time of emergency.

But I know a civvy lad who went onto the beach at Salerno, which was rugged picnicking, and who is now suspending activity to go back as a first lootie. I know another one—an amateur captain of infantry with three years of ducking iron—for whom civilian cops were sent when he just happened to leave town on a vacation he earned. They didn't even bother to check that he had been retired on permanent disability. Cops came up in a prowl car and beat on his mother's door.

I see that the Navy, which never bothered to tell you that you weren't out, but only lapsed, is furloughing some tennis player named Trabert so he can play for the Davis Cup, length of leave more or less indefinite. What sort of damned nonsense is this, when half the guys I used to know are back in the moldered old blues on active duty? If they need a friend I have in a bank so bad they got to disrupt his career again, what sort of stupid insolence furloughs a tennis player?

Us old war horses are selfish. We are just selfish enough not to care a crack about the necessity of educating the new generation. All we know is that we were young once and they interrupted us plenty from our youth and our budding careers and sprouting families. Let 'em go interrupt somebody else at the moment, and leave us alone notwithstanding the mama lobby and the educational lobby and all the other lobbies.

We been there, bud. Let somebody else go now, until the situation gets desperate enough to demand maximum effort from all hands.

Democrats Fear That Vinson Won't Get Acheson's Post

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON

THE professional politicians in The Democratic Party are just about as nervous, nowadays, as so many cats on hot bricks. The members of the real inner circle — the Fathers of the Party as it were —have thought for some time that they knew what was going to happen, and have been pleased with what they thought they knew.

In brief, they thought they knew that at some suitable moment before the new year, Secretary of State Dean G. Acheson would lay down his heavy burden, making a place at the State Department for Chief Justice Fred Vinson. This, they expected, would in turn be only the preliminary for the President to lay down his burden, passing the Democratic nomination to his old friend, the Chief Justice-Secretary of State.

Six months or so ago in fact, the President actually signified his intention not to seek a third term, and declared his preference for the Chief Justice as his successor. He also indicated his intention to prepare the Chief Justice for the race by allowing him, so to speak, to use the State Department as a judicial disrobing room, where he could conveniently make the transition from the high formality of the supreme bench to the undress of rough and tumble politics.

REGULARS LIKE VINSON

Because a group of Democratic insiders close to the President and the Chief Justice were aware that these signs and significations had been given, they believed that the Democratic Party's future was fairly cut and dried. They thought the Chief Justice could beat any Republican candidate but Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. They thought he would make a good President. They were generally pleased with the prospect, as they understood it.

They are nervous now, for a very simple reason. The Chief Justice has also signified to his old political friends, that he will not leap from the supreme bench straight into party politics. Some sort of a disrobing room is essential for him. The State Department appears to be the only one available. For it is inconceivable that the President will replace Robert A. Lovett at the Defense Department, where the new Secretary is so brilliantly tackling his gigantic task; and it is equally inconceivable that the Chief Justice will leave the court to go back to the Treasury, where he was before his elevation.

Thus the Acheson-Vinson switch is regarded as being the inescapable prelude to the Truman-Vinson switch. And those who have been looking to see the Chief Justice as the Democratic candidate in 1952 are now beginning to fear that the whole project will die aborning, because there is nothing to suggest that the Acheson-Vinson switch is going to be made.

At least, if the Chief Justice is to replace the Secretary of State before the new year as anticipated, there are only two months left to arrange the matter. And the President, who indicated his intentions on this point a good many months ago, has more recently been notably silent about them.

ACHESON'S STOCK MAY RISE

Such is the background. Perhaps the professionals, in considering this background, have paid too little attention to the foreground, and especially to the peculiar relationship between the President and Dean Acheson. Those close to Acheson still appear to be convinced that he has no intention of leaving his office. Yet they also say that the failure of the Senate to confirm his friend, Philip Jessup, has been the worst blow that Acheson has received to date. And there is no doubt at all that if a truce is arranged in Korea, and Acheson comes back from his present journey to Paris and Rome in a position to claim successes abroad, a new situation will exist in which Acheson can retire gracefully, not "under fire."

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Far Away Places Calling Congressmen

WASHINGTON

WITH Congress taking the rest of the year off, vacation-minded Congressmen have suddenly discovered "official business" in South America, the Pacific Islands, the Mediterranean and other faraway places.

With Winter approaching, the greatest Congressional interest seems to be in South America, as compared with Alaska in the Summer. More than two dozen Congressmen have signed up for "surveys" of sunny South America in November and December. However, other tours are also planned through Europe, the Middle East and around the world.

While some of these trips are pure junkets, this columnist is of the opinion that some make worth-while additions to a Congressman's store of knowledge at a time when the American defense line extends from Korea to the Rhine. However, since the taxpayer pays for the air travel, the public is entitled to know the travel program and judge for itself. Here are the chief itineraries:

First to light out for a foreign vacation were Congressmen Monroe Redden, North Carolina Democrat, and Fred Crawford, Michigan Republican. They represent the House Interior Committee, chiefly concerned with domestic matters. However, the Congressmen explained solemnly to the Air Force that they had to inspect the Pacific territories entrusted to us and they then headed for the Pacific by way of Paris, Geneva, Cairo and Bangkok. This is quite a long way round. Crawford left word he hoped to be back in time to make another trip to the Virgin Islands in December.

Another expedition to the Pacific "trust" territories is scheduled in November by Congressmen Ben Jensen of Iowa, Carl Andersen of Minnesota, Lowell Stockman of Oregon, George Schwabe of Oklahoma and William Van Pelt of Wisconsin, all Republicans, of the House Appropriations Committee.

Popular Latins

THE first junket to South America has been scheduled Nov. 7 by Congressman Abraham Multer, New York Democrat, who is lining up a 45-day tour for House Banking Committee members. Presumably, they will take a long-distance view of U. S. banking problems, as seen from South America.

House Commerce Chairman Robert Crosser of Ohio has also made reservations with the Air Force for eighteen of his committee members to make a 30-day tour of South America, Nov. 10 to Dec. 10. They will be followed four days later by a delegation from the House Foreign Affairs Committee, headed by Chairman James Richards of South Carolina. South America is very popular.

Those who have signed up for this South American trip are Congressmen Tom Morgan of Pennsylvania, Tom Gordon of Illinois and Omar Burleson of Texas, Democrats, with Robert Chiperfield of Illinois and Don Jackson of California, Republicans.

Another House Foreign Affairs group will leave for Europe at the same time. They will include Representatives Clement Zablocki of Wisconsin, A. S. Carnahan of Missouri and Edna Kelly of Brooklyn, N. Y., Democrats, and Jacob Javits of New York, Republican.

Around The World

CONGRESSMAN PORTER HARDY JR., Virginia Democrat, has scheduled a trip to Europe for the House Armed Services Committee Nov. 7. A joint Senate-House group is also planning to tour Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, beginning Nov. 6. This group includes Senators Theodore Green of Rhode Island, Brien McMahon of Connecticut, William Benton of Connecticut and Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, Democrats; and Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin and Bourke Hickenlooper of Iowa, Republicans. Most of the above are members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, so have a legitimate reason for taking the trip.

With them will also go Congressmen Gene Cox of Georgia, Howard Smith of Virginia, Frazier Reams of Ohio and Donald O'Toole of New York, Democrats; and Walter Judd of Minnesota, Harris Ellsworth of Oregon and Kenneth Keating of New York, Republicans.

Meanwhile, another Congressional delegation has already taken off for a leisurely, two-month, round-the-world tour. They include Congressmen Herbert Bonner of North Carolina, Harold Donohue of Massachusetts, Sidney Fine of New York, John Shelley of California and William Lantaff of Florida, Democrats; together with Charles Brownson of Indiana, Thomas Curtis of Missouri, Cecil Harden of Indiana, Walt Horan of Washington and George Meader of Michigan. Their "official trip" is sponsored by the House Expenditures Committee which has no round-the-world business, but is supposed to keep an eye on Federal expenses.