

THE GRAHAM STREET CONTROVERSY

THE "uprising" in Fourth Ward over using Graham St. as a main truck artery is following the customary pattern of a group of citizens held a "mass meeting." They hired an attorney. The local newspapers, always alert to public controversy, gave the squabble big headlines. And the City Council, worried over thinly-veiled threats of reprisal at the polls, put the proposition in the cooler until after the approaching municipal primary.

This, of course, is a part of the democratic process—and we wouldn't change it for the good government of the city. The foundation of democracy, and any citizen or group of citizens ought to enjoy the right to protest anything at any time.

This particular dispute is just another illustration of Charlotte's severe growing pains. The City's street system was laid out in the horse and buggy days, and somehow it has to be fitted to the needs of the Motor Vehicle Age.

In one respect, the argument over banning parking on Graham St. is almost academic. At the busiest times of the day the single-lane traffic runs bumper to bumper. A motorist gets into all kinds of trouble if he tries to stop and then back into the place. He has about as much trouble getting out of a parking space and into the line of traffic.

If Graham St. becomes part of the truck network—and it must certainly carry a portion of the load because of its strategic connections—the traffic will be heavier than now, at off-peak hours as well as peak hours.

LEGISLATIVE CHANGE NEEDED

TWO members of the Mecklenburg delegation were quoted in The News the other day as saying they are reluctant to change the system of appointing Park & Recreation Commission members unless there is a demand for a change from persons in the community locally.

Agreed. In a state in which home rule is largely a joke, it's refreshing to find legislators paying attention to local sentiment.

In this particular situation, however, the legislative delegation has a major responsibility that it cannot, in good conscience, evade.

In the first place, the Park & Recreation Commission was given its independent, non-political status by a previous legislative delegation. The theory then was that the Park & Recreation Commission, like the schools, should be kept out of Council politics. It is that theory is still good — and we believe it is — the Mecklenburg legislators ought to take note of the way in which the Council City Council has put public recreation back into politics, and above the expense of the City.

In the second place, another legislative delegation, by shortening the terms of the

hours. And it is quite likely that the available parking spaces will go unused for the simple reason that it is too much trouble to get in and out of them.

Beyond that, we must sooner or later accept the premise that streets are basically for the movement of traffic, not for parking. The time square footage of pavement legislated by a parking car for one hour will pass hundreds of moving vehicles in the same length of time. Curb parking is not only the most expensive kind you can build, from a dollar and cents standpoint, but it permits the individualist to appropriate public space that could be used by hundreds of other people.

Furthermore, it is just a matter of time until off street parking will have to be eliminated in Charlotte's business district. Some of our streets have already reached the saturation point, and the number of registered vehicles is growing by leaps and bounds.

Traffic Engineer, Hoose's truck lane plan doesn't stand or fall on the single issue of Graham St. parking. And Councilmen, in their preoccupation with this flurry, should not lose sight of the larger objective—which is to get the big trucks out of the main business district. In addition, they might as well consider themselves now to a repetition of this opposition month after month a year after year unless they are willing to take one of three drastic steps: (1) widen many streets, at a prohibitive expense, (2) get busy on off-street parking facilities, or (3) limit the movement of private vehicles in congested areas.

Park Commissioners to three years, unwittingly made it possible for this Council, and every third Council hereafter, to appoint all seven members of the Commission. If the theory of staggered terms is valid — and we believe it is — then the Mecklenburg legislators ought to lengthen the terms and rearrange the appointment dates so that no Council can name a majority of the members.

In the third place, this Council was given notice weeks ago that the Park Commission appointment law was not working out as originally intended. It has showed utterly no disposition to ask for a change.

It has been suggested that the Commission be elected. That might work all right. But we hold that the system doesn't matter so much as the people who operate the system. There is nothing wrong with Council appointing the members of the Commission as long as the members of the Council hold themselves above pettiness and vindictiveness. Since a majority of this Council has failed to do that, it becomes incumbent on the legislators to do so. And the Park Commission will be able to turn Charlotte's growing public recreation program into a political football.

THAD LINCOLN TATE

SOUTHERN newspapers, when commenting on the passing of a Negro leader, often speak of him as an outstanding member of his race. In the case of Thad Lincoln Tate, it is more appropriate to speak of him as an outstanding citizen.

Thad Tate was a young man, only 37 years old when he died in 1947. He came to Charlotte from Morganton. In his 77 years of residence here, he fashioned a place for himself and his family in the community that will mark the memory of a quiet and reserved man.

Quiet and reserved. Thad Tate had hundreds of friends among all races. His barbershop, originally in the old Central Hotel and later on E. 4th St. was a busy place, and he was a thrifty man. As a result, he was able to get many of those who were laid down their lives for a cause.

From The New York Times

THE DEAD COME HOME FROM KOREA

WHEN the transport Gen. G. M. Randall Heemed through the Golden Gate into the harbor of San Francisco, he brought with him the first of the American dead to come back from Korean battles.

They came without distinction of race or rank. The body of Maj. Gen. Bryant E. Moore, commander of the Ninth Corps, lies beside that of a private. These men now have one thing forevermore in common: they belong to the great army of those who have laid down their lives for a cause.

We are now debating how much time a young man should give to the service of his country. These gave all the time they had. For them there will be no discharge. They will be carried on the rolls forever — and the others who have perished in Korea.

There are and will be many questions to ask about Korea. What shall be done about the famous Parallel? How shall democracy and prosperity be made secure in any part of Korea? How long must the blood-tainted flag fly over the land?

What place will this peninsula, remote from us and from our normal interests, have in the history of our time?

We cannot answer those questions. They will not be answered as the Gen. Randall with his half-masted flag comes to pierce the sky above the city. The flag is valid, as they lay down his life for freedom, in

defense of his home or in the uttermost parts of the earth.

The people of Western-Europe can feel more secure because this new war was made. The struggles of the people of Southeast Asia outside the Communist darkness have been reinforced by the work these men did and which they died.

The hope for peace is brighter because men from free countries have died. Americans but others, went far from home to suffer wounds and death for freedom.

The flag of the United Nations may come down to half-mast when all the dead of all the nations that participated in the Korean defense are counted. But there need be no flag at half-mast for the United Nations itself. It now speaks with strength as well as solemn pride.

The Randall comes in sorrow but in hope too. She can be a symbol of a day now "definitely dawning" when funeral vigils will be no longer necessary.

Maybe we need at Washington another "biggest office building in the world," a Repentation-Nashville (Tenn.) Banner.

A Moleman husband can divorce his wife by saying three times: "I divorce thee." Getting a chance to say that many words at once might be more difficult than it appears since the law says there are four wives—Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.

President's Statement
Is Too Late

By STEWART ALSON

WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT TRUMAN's recent press conference statement, in which he came out flat-footed against crime, reflected the unshakable concern of the Democratic Congressional leaders. They are convinced that both the Kefauver and Fulbright committee investigations have had a down-right murderous political effect. Thus Truman's statement was a rather belated attempt to place the blame for the crime squarely on the side of the angels.

There was, on the other hand, no praise for the work of the Fulbright committee. Certain Democratic leaders had urged Truman to get on the side of the angels here too, by adopting Senator Fulbright's proposal as his own, and appointing a distinguished commission with wide investigative powers to examine the moral standards of government.

The object would be to neutralize at least in part the political effects of the Fulbright revelations of moral slowness in the Administration. There were the Democratic leaders at least as much as the Kefauver revelations of the intimate connection between crime and the big city Democratic machines. But Attorney General McGrath opposed the commission idea. Truman himself heartily dislikes Senator Fulbright. And above all, he is still obsessed with the notion that his whole Administration is as pure as the driven snow. Thus nothing is likely to come of the proposal, at least as far as Truman is concerned.

Meanwhile, both investigations are likely to go on — and on — in one form or another. The Democratic leaders would of course dearly like to bring the horror to an end. But the Republicans are not likely to vote to end investigations which they think will reflect credit on the country.

WORK TO CONTINUE
Although Senator Kefauver himself has said he will not make some sort of crime investigation will be going on for months. As for the Fulbright committee, its jurisdictional battle between two Senate committees, to decide whether to investigate the Kefauver-Fulbright's mantle, is already in prospect. Senator Clyde A. Hoey, of North Carolina, incidentally, Mr. Tate's activities were planned, with approval of the Republican State Chairman, James Bailey, and not by any "faction of the Republican Party."

Briefly, Mr. Tate's activities of March 16 were as follows. 9 A. M. private breakfast at 10:30, attendance approximately 75, many of them influential Democrats, 12:30, luncheon (\$3.50). Attendance approximately 700, some of whom were Democrats. 4 P. M. Courtroom speech (gratis) at Newton, attendance approximately 500. 7:30 P. M. dinner (\$7.50) at Charlotte, attendance approximately 300, about half of whom were Democrats.

The Charlotte dinner has been specifically criticized on two points. One is that an outrageous fee of \$7.50 per plate was charged to hear Mr. Tate. As alleged by the letter this charge more than covered the cost of the dinner. It also provided part of the cost of three radio broadcasts on March 16 which enabled people in many parts of the State to hear Senator Tate. It also provided part of the cost of publishing the North Carolina Republican News, which is generally considered a useful medium for circulating Republican views throughout the State. Interesting is the fact that when Senator Tate spoke at the Courthouse in Charlotte (gratis) a couple of years ago, less than fifty people attended. Of course, radio time was financially impossible on that occasion.

The other point of criticism was that a large proportion of the attendance was Democratic. To this writer that was the best feature of the activity. The voting record rather clearly indicates that the number of regular Republicans in North Carolina is insufficient to win most of the State's seats. Most other voters are Democrats it might seem that to change the loyalties of these voters would be desirable.

Possibly the remainder of those attending the Charlotte dinner were "servile sycophantic party seekers," as the letter states. One can hardly blame the Republican Party for the poor quality of its members. The letter also pointed out that the committee was getting to see these deadbeats paying their share in pleasing Mr. Tate's words to the general public.

Contrary to the implication of the letter, Senator Tate spoke to non-millionaires, apparently enjoyed doing it, and brought a message to the people of North Carolina concerning a hope for better government.

At any rate, months of illegitimate Republicanism and investigations are now apparently inevitable. In many ways, this is a welcome thing. The Republican Party has been attacking the American political fabric needs badly. This is the only line that any man has ever appointed to office is automatically the end of the Republican Party. At any rate, months of illegitimate Republicanism and investigations are now apparently inevitable. In many ways, this is a welcome thing. The Republican Party has been attacking the American political fabric needs badly. This is the only line that any man has ever appointed to office is automatically the end of the Republican Party. At any rate, months of illegitimate Republicanism and investigations are now apparently inevitable. In many ways, this is a welcome thing. The Republican Party has been attacking the American political fabric needs badly. This is the only line that any man has ever appointed to office is automatically the end of the Republican Party.

Drew Pearson's Merry-G-Round

WASHINGTON
ONE trouble with holding down prices is that some officials inside the Office of Price Stabilization seem more interested in upping prices than in preventing inflation.

Here's an example of the public-banged behavior of certain officials which occurred at a recent closed-door meeting between price official Charles W. Carvin and representatives of the woolen industry.

This meeting was the most of the important price-control meetings held in Washington, had no spokesman for the consumer. The group consisted entirely of wool manufacturers and their representatives. Charles W. Carvin, however, is not exactly a friend of the consumer, having spent most of his life in the textile industry and currently is on leave from his own large New York City firm, Charles W. Carvin Co.

During their meeting Carvin and the wool manufacturers discussed the question of how much of a price increase the manufacturers should get, and Carvin astonished the group with this:

"Go see Mike DiSalle (OPS administrator). Make him give you a decent increase. With all those demands coming in from the military, the Government is going to have to come down on that price increase. You've got Mike over a barrel."

Carvin is supposed to protect the consumer, prevent inflation. That is the job for which OPS was created. However, the meeting ended with Carvin advising the wool manufacturers to talk to Robert O. Huffman, his immediate superior.

"Huffman's a straight thinker on prices," advised

'Much More Clever Than Bread Upon The Waters'



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.

More On Tate's Visit

MORGANTON

Editors, The News:
A LETTER appearing in your March 23 issue regarding the visit of Sen. Robert A. Tate to Charlotte warrants a clarifying comment because it gives a highly unfavorable view of the Senator's visit. This view may not be justified by the facts.

Firstly, the activities of Senator Tate were completely under the direction of the North Carolina Young Republicans, the Senate apparently having no confidence in that group to use him to the best advantage. Thus no blame is due Mr. Tate for any of his activities in North Carolina. Incidentally, Mr. Tate's activities were planned, with approval of the Republican State Chairman, James Bailey, and not by any "faction of the Republican Party."

Briefly, Mr. Tate's activities of March 16 were as follows. 9 A. M. private breakfast at 10:30, attendance approximately 75, many of them influential Democrats, 12:30, luncheon (\$3.50). Attendance approximately 700, some of whom were Democrats. 4 P. M. Courtroom speech (gratis) at Newton, attendance approximately 500. 7:30 P. M. dinner (\$7.50) at Charlotte, attendance approximately 300, about half of whom were Democrats.

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More Letters Needed

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.

Editors, The News:
I AM SURE Wilbur F. H. Radeline of the United States Army, recently returned from Korea, and now stationed at the Presidio in San Francisco, California.

I am not writing this in any official capacity but simply as an individual who is trying to keep a promise he made to his buddies overseas. I have spent over six years overseas and months in Army hospitals and I know the worth and value of mail from home. I also know the heartache and misery — when your name is forgotten and uncalled at "Mail Call."

I have seen many men, of all races, creeds and ages in Korea — in Japan — and yes right here in the United States, especially in our Armed Forces hospitals, who receive little or no mail from home; and no matter what their position in life was before they entered the service, this failure to receive mail from home, makes these men believe and feel as though they were unloved, forgotten and their efforts unappreciated. I promise them that I will prove that this was not so. But — only you can make this promise come true. How? By writing news, cheer letters — with your latest snapshoots — to relatives, friends, and acquaintances overseas. Or better still — why not send him a small package containing some inexpensive gift?

Well, I've told you my story — and it's up to you. Are you going to sit still and do nothing — letting those fellows continue to believe that their sacrifices are unappreciated and their pain is unappreciated and in vain? Are you going to make those men fight two battles — one against loneliness and homesickness as well as the enemy? Or — are you going to prove to them — by your letters and packages, that you do appreciate what they are doing and do not let them down?

Assure you — they will not let you down. I thank you.

NOTE: WILBUR F. H. RADELINE, Presidio of San Francisco.

Quote, Unquote

Milo Anderson, fashion designer, says most women in strapless evening gowns look like a chest of drawers with the top drawer left open. He never would not let them see the resemblance, though he might admit that such a gown openly draws attention to the chest. — Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.

Nearly every morning when we visit the post office we find a paper with "marked copy" printed on the intelligence section. When we open it up, we find anything that we want to read. It's from some distant individual with an ax to grind who wants us to read it — and print it. — Lamar (Ark.) Democrat.

Reality and Ritual Are Burdensome

MARQUIS W. CHILDS

IN TEMPERAMENT President Auriol and a President Truman seem to have many points in common. They are both unpretentious, kindly men who stand in sudden alacrity to the world stage with a certain diffidence.

But when it comes to their respective jobs, the difference is extraordinary. And this contrast is sharply pointed up by the late visit which the President of France and Madame Auriol are now paying to Washington.

In Paris President Auriol lives in the historic Elysee Palace. He is the chief ceremonial officer of the government on a constitutional basis; more nearly like a constitutional monarch rather than a President in the American sense. With the practical day-to-day affairs of the French Government he has little or no contact.

The American President must carry both the ceremonial burden and the work of the chief administrative officer in the government. He is the chief executive officer of the nation in the world. In France he would be both Prime Minister and President.

BURDEN PILE UP
Increasingly as a consequence it is becoming an impossible task for President Truman to have an opportunity — it may be a last opportunity — to show what the burden is and how it can and must be alleviated. I promise to appoint a committee of inquiry on the Presidency with authority to explore how the office has evolved in recent decades with ever new burdens piled in chaotic fashion upon the shoulders of the President. The focus of power. To insure the greatest possible acceptance for the President of such a committee, both the Supreme Court and Congress should have a part in naming its members.

On the political level, too, such an inquiry might serve the purposes of both the nation and the President. It would be a fact decided not to seek another term in the White House, a commission inquiry could take him out of the picture without diminishing his authority which has in any event been reduced in Congress position to the vanishing point. The way would be opened for the Democratic Party to choose a candidate who would not be directly antagonized by the Truman Administration.

To show what a hedgehog the office of the Presidency has become would be to prepare the way for the President to take possession of the powers and responsibilities of the President. The ceremonial burden of the job may seem comparatively minor. Yet in a week such as the one now ending, when Washington is filled with distinguished visitors, it would be interesting to know the exact number of times President Truman has had to devote to public speaking, handshaking and other ritualistic duties and courtesies.

SYMBOLIC VALUE
The visit of M. and Mme. Auriol has a high symbolic value. It is one of those festive occasions rare in the life of the President. It is the two republics from the time of Lafayette down through World War I.

But it does seem sometimes as though the preoccupation with the ceremonial surface and with a ritualistic display of the President's duties, obscures the realities that are so close beneath that surface. As American diplomats in the missions of Europe and Asia grow larger and larger, and more time is spent in winning the hearts of the missions of other nations.

The American taxpayer wants to know whether the Marshall Plan has been truly effective in building economic strength in countries devastated by the war, and the war of liberation that followed. This touches directly the question of whether Communism can achieve by an attack from within what it may be stopped from doing by a frontal attack from without. It is not the case, then all the ceremonies in the world will not make up for the lack.

Some Price Officials Sabotage Public

Carvin, "Huffman's no Administration man, no New Dealer."

War Pessimism
SECRETARY of Defense Marshall hinted in a public statement last week that he was a little more worried than previously about the Soviet's warlike intentions.

Inside reason for this worry is the "intelligence section" of the "marked copy" paper will not go to war this year because it lacks the resources and its fear of the atomic bomb. However, the analysis also warns there is a small group within the Politburo talking of a "preventive war."

Reasoning of this clique is: If Russia waits more than two years, the Western Allies will be so strong that the war for Russia would be suicide. It points out the growing strength of the West, the revolts spreading across Eastern Europe, and unrest in Russia itself. Therefore it is argued by extremist leaders in the Kremlin that war is the best way to maintain Soviet domination over Eastern Europe and China.

It is believed, however, that this view is not held by Stalin, nor by Molotov, his likely successor. They are understood to believe that capitalism will fall of its own weight, aided by inflation and corruption.

Wise Mr. Wilson
THE television audience wasn't a treat, but Defense Mobilization Charles E. Wilson was open to it. He banned TV cameras at last week's press conference.

Asked by a newsmen in the course of the conference whether he had sold his stock in General Electric, the