THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1951

Full Field Pack

REVOLUTION IN REVERSE

(Editorial Correspondence)

RALEIGH—Just two short years ago, what appeared to be a new and sweeping liberal revolution was in full swing in this traditionally conservative Southern state.

W. Kerr Scott, the fighting farmer from Alamance, had taken over the Governorship after soundly whipping the "machine" candidate in the 1948 Democratic primary with the help of several large voting blocs—farmers, school teachers, labor, white collar salaried workers, and Negroes.

Jonathan Daniels, liberal editor of the Raleigh *News & Observer* and associate of two free-wheeling Democratic Presidents, had been jockeyed into the strategic Democratic National Committeeman slot.

Dr. Frank Graham, famed progressive president of the University of North Carolina, had doffed his academic robes to accept an appointment to the United States Senate.

Reeling from the shock of these events, a basically conservative General Assembly began to yield ground. The House of Representatives was first to be stampeded. During the weeks that Governor Scott dangled the Senatorial appointment plum for all to see, several influential members of the House began running off in all directions in their frenzied efforts to put through Scott's "Go Forward" program.

Then the Senate gave ground. Before the session was over, most of the Scott program had been enacted into law, and the remainder—a $200 million rural road building program and a $50 million school building plan—was to get the enthusiastic approval of the people at the polls a few months later.

After adjournment of the General Assembly, Governor Scott opened the windows in Raleigh "to let the fresh air in", and before long dozens of key State positions had been filled with Scott men.

Thus the stage was set for a new era in North Carolina politics.

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POLITICAL students of the future will have a field day when they set out to determine the reasons for the rapid and total disintegration of the Liberal Revolution. For, in truth, the close observer is hard put to find any signs of life in the movement.

Most of the individuals are still around. Dr. Graham, of course, fell by the wayside in last year's bout with Willis Smith. It is in the cards for Jonathan Daniels to lose his national committeemanship. The Governor is still in office, as are most of his appointees.

Already they are "lame ducks". At his press conference this week, Mr. Scott mused good naturedly that any North Carolina Governor in the second half of his term is a "has been". It is especially true in his case.

This General Assembly is in the firm grip of conservatives.

The Speaker of the House, Frank Taylor, played shrewd politics when he appointed his committees at the first of the session. Many of the free-spenders on the 1949 appropriations committee found themselves on the finance committee in 1951. And, with one or two exceptions, they were not quite so eager to suggest new taxes to pay for their cherished projects and services.

As the same time, Taylor loaded the appropriations committee with known economy advocates. The net result is that all efforts to increase State spending in the next biennium beyond the estimated revenue came to grief, and both the appropriations measure and the revenue measure sailed through the House substantially as reported out by the two committees.

Both are finding the skids greased in the Senate. Under the leadership of able and experienced Grady Rankin from Gaston County, the overwhelming conservative majority in the Senate hasn't been seriously challenged on a single issue, major or minor. Nor will it be in the closing days of the session.

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THE only hope of Tar Heel liberals to regain control of State politics is to capture the Governorship in next year's election. And that hope is slender indeed at the moment.

The main reason is that former Senator William Umstead of Durham seems to have a lead so commanding that he cannot be overtaken. That, of course, does not assure victory. Charles Johnson was also an early favorite in 1947, but he was trounced in the run-off by Mr. Scott. But Umstead is a strong candidate, and his supporters are enthusiastic about him—two factors notably lacking in Mr. Johnson's candidacy.

Another reason is that the Go Forward movement has not produced new leadership with Statewide influence. The strongest Scott man in the General Assembly is Rep. Fred Royster of Vance County, but he is unknown in the West and would have considerable difficulty running ahead of Umstead in the East.

Capus Waynick, ambassador to Nicaragua, is considered a Scott man—or at least sympathetic with Governor Scott's philosophy of government. Waynick has left the impression that he will run, but his chances of success are discounted here.

Thad Eure, Secretary of State, is making eyes at everyone without getting much reaction. Eure is an affable and popular fellow, but is hardly the man to carry on the Go Forward program against such powerful opposition as Scott has faced.

There are other potential candidates for Governor, of course. State Treasurer Brandon Hodges of Asheville, his fellow townsman D. Hiden Ramsey, the 1949 Speaker of the House Kerr Craig Ramsey of Rowan, Commissioner of Agriculture L. Y. Ballentine. And a few weeks ago there was much hullabaloo when a trial balloon was sent up for Supreme Court Justice Sam Ervin of Burke. It apparently has come back to earth.

Mr. Umstead, however, will loom larger than his challengers in any field made up of these candidates. He already has many commitments of support. He will have no difficulty financing his campaign. And he has definitely decided to seek the office—if the word of his closest friends can be trusted.

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THE Speakership of the 1953 House of Representatives will undoubtedly go to a conservative, too. Heading the list at the moment is Eugene T. Bost, the cool, keen chairman of this year's finance committee. Also in the picture is Mecklenburg's Robert Lassiter Jr., vice-chairman of the finance committee and chairman of the public utilities committee. Lassiter has enormous prestige and popularity in the House for a second-termer, but there is some doubt that he would want to get in a race with Bost.

The Speakership is supposed to go to the West in 1953. The only western Representatives who have sided consistently with Governor Scott in the picture at the moment are Roy Taylor of Buncombe and Tom Turner of Guilford. But neither has the following of Bost or Lassiter.

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IF THE Go Forward program lacks leaders for the future, it also lacks issues. There is, of course, still the matter of the State's education program. There will be continuing agitation for higher teacher salaries, but many members of the General Assembly are swinging around to the belief that the uniform State salary schedule can never be made a maximum, but must remain a minimum, to be supplemented locally if the citizens want to pay teachers more money.

The farmers are pretty well satisfied with Scott's road and school program, and with the results of his campaign to improve rural electric and telephone service. If the current prosperity is maintained, they are not apt to get up in arms about anything.

Organized labor still wants to lift the ban against the closed shop, and would like to have a State minimum wage. These are not popular issues this year, nor will they be in 1952.

Finally, it will be extremely risky for any candidate to attempt to rally openly the support of Negro voters. The continuing debate over admitting Negroes to State-supported graduate and professional schools, and the fear that it will mean the eventual breakdown of segregation at the undergraduate and public school level, have created an unfavorable atmosphere for any appeal to Negro voters.

Without these large groups, it is almost impossible for a liberal candidate for Governor to win in North Carolina. And there appears to be no way to get them stirred up.

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IT SEEMS safe to predict then, that the pattern of State services and the tax schedule necessary to support them, will prevail in the foreseeable future pretty much as written into law by the 1951 General Assembly. With the single exception of teacher salaries, there is no big demand for expanded services, and there is a resistance that almost amounts to hostility against the new taxes to pay for expanded services.

Nothing, of course, is certain in politics. One of the conservative leaders of the House, who has fought Scott all the way, put it this way:

"The trouble with Scott is that he does not know when he's licked. Just when you think he's been put away safely, he comes at you from another direction. A pup like that is always hard to keep down."

It may be that canny Scott has other plans for North Carolina's political destiny that he will reveal later. If so, they had better be good, for it must be clear even to the casual observer, that he is, as he says, a "has been" as of April, 1951.—C. A. McKnight.

Our own theory is that the recent cold weather in this latitude was caused by the Nevada explosions which split the upper layers of our protective atmosphere and let the cold of outer space rush in through the hole. People shouldn't make a hole like that in the sky unless they have an old pair of pants to stuff into it.—*Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.*

Pome In Which Disapproval Is Voiced Concerning Persons Who Continue To Use A Certain Broken-Down Expression:

I could choke with fiendish glee
Folks who say, "Long time no see."
—*Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.*

One thing to remember, about Spring gardening, is that if you can find a good excuse to put off for a while, presently it is too late.—*Wichita Falls (Tex.) Times.*

It's easy to make a girl with beautiful teeth smile at you. — *Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.*

Don't turn your car over to a mechanic unless it needs fixing. Also an individual who is pretty well doesn't do too bad by staying away from the doctor.—*Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.*

Collected By Bill Sharpe

TURPENTINE DRIPPINGS

Lost Connection

(Sanford Herald)

Last week the two sons of Mrs. Kate Livingstone, Sonny, nine, and Charles, six, were spending the night at the home of their aunt, Mrs. Ralph Smith.

After the two boys had gone to bed, Mrs. Smith heard them arguing who was going to sleep on the front side of the bed.

She went into the room and in order to settle the argument told them to say their prayers and to ask God to forgive them and to also tell them which was to sleep on the front side.

All of a sudden, right in the midst of the prayer, Sonny, the older, exclaimed: "God just told me to sleep on the front side."

"That's funny," the younger one said in a somewhat surprised tone of voice: "He didn't tell me nothing."

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Hurrah For Greens!

(J. M. Eleazer, Sumter Herald)

Spinach is one thing I never could eat. Even though I have the digestion of a horse, the stuff always disagreed with me. I forced it down for a while, but eventually just quit trying. And now I'm glad, for word comes from the nutritionist that my old friend Turnip Greens carries more nutritional wallop than long-tooted spinach does!

More folks like turnip greens anyway, I believe I'm fond of 'em. We always ate a lot of 'em at home, and we still do. I liked 'em for their taste, not for their rich content. I knew nothing of that. But now listen to what Professor Van Blaricom, the foods man of Clemson, has to say about turnip greens:

They have three times as much calcium in them as spinach does, almost three times as much vitamin A as butter, twice as much calcium as milk and almost as much protein. Fresh turnip greens have nearly three times as much vitamin C as fresh orange juice, some of which is lost though in cooking. They are good sources of phosphorous and also contain considerable of the B-complex vitamins. And they contain more thiamine, riboflavin, and half as much niacin as regular corn flakes.

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Discrimination

(John Wesley Clay, Winston-Salem Journal)

While giving in my taxes the other day, I noticed a sign in the Courthouse about dogs. All male dogs are taxed one dollar per year while female dogs are taxed two dollars.

I, as a citizen of the county, protest against such rank discrimination. I claim that a female dog has just as much right to freedom and liberty and the pursuit of happiness as any male dog that ever bayed the moon.

Female dogs do not eat as much as male dogs do, they do not bark as much and their bark is more refined. They are just as polite as male dogs are, and perhaps more polite.

Furthermore, if you tax female dogs to death what will become of the males? They will all die off and then there will be no dogs at all.

Next thing you know we will be taxing the goose that lays the golden egg, in fact we are already taxing her, and there is such a thing as taxing her to death. Then there will be no goose to lay the golden egg or to be taxed either.

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Bomb Follows Lady

(Montgomery Herald)

Hy Gardner tells in the Herald-Tribune about a lady living in New York who became so jittery about the possibility of an atomic bomb that she sold everything she owned at sacrifice and bought a small house in the remotest spot she could find —in the Carolinas. Last week, she got the shocking news: her new home town was the site chosen in which to produce the H-bomb!

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Cheaper By The Dozen

(Smoky Mountain Times)

After "buying" our second parking meter violation ticket in four weeks' time the other day, we started thinking that the town should do better by its steady customers.

We submit this resolution for careful consideration by our town fathers:

Four parking tickets for the price of three.

Or how about dollar days and one-cent sales?

For us dreamers who don't carry enough pennies around with us, it might be a good idea to have sort of a bargain month every now and then; December, for instance. Four overparking tickets then would cost $3.01.

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Move Over, Bud

(Southern Pines Pilot)

Charles MacLeod of Carthage, when approached last week in behalf of a worthy cause, replied with a firm negative.

"I've given to so many causes lately, I'm about to become a cause myself," said Charles.

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The Fair Racket

(Goldsboro News-Argus)

Oland Peele, head of the Wayne County Fair, appeared with George Dewey and Neil Seegars to tell the board the fair could not operate without a carnival. "I realize considerable evils go along with a carnival," Peele said, "but we can't operate the fair without the carnival."

Dewey states: "We don't condone gambling and other evils, but we have to more or less turn our heads to it to run the fair."

Peele declared that in a contract made for the coming fair, the carnival is prohibited from having nude-girl shows, but can have girl shows, and is restricted to a $1 limit on gambling.

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Might As Well

(Greensboro Daily News)

In St. Louis, a man who was indicted for stealing a pair of shoes explained that he had taken them because he didn't know where the next payment on his television set was coming from. He evidently calculated that if he lost his set he might as well learn to walk again.

A Dead GI's Face Doesn't Show Extent Of Schooling

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

IT SEEMS we have now seen everything. Lo, behold and forsooth, we now have a poor man's war, a draft in which the college man is mainly exempt from exposure to the military, and a brand-new caste system in the country.

Our President, in his widsom, has ordered deferment from military service for young men who are passing their work in college, and shortly will subject other young men to special aptitude tests with an eye to deferment if they are smart enough to make a certain grade, as yet unannounced.

Of course, if a man is too poor to entertain the idea of college, or not spiritually attuned to higher education, he is still draft meat. Fall in, bum, you're in the Army now. We draft the Al Smiths, in other words, and exempt the Alger Hisses.

A NEW LOW

This, finally, seems to be as gross a violation of individual rights as has come down the pike lately. To choose a soldier on a basis of educational opportunity is almost, if not quite, as unfair a proposition as drafting only redheaded, blue-eyed boys with a strawberry mark on their right shoulders, while everybody else goes free.

It is admitted that education is important, but a great many successful people never went to college, and a great many bums did attend the better seminaries. But this is really beside the point.

The point is that the draft, like death and taxes, should be democratic in its administration. If there is a war stirring, and if a draft is necessary, then the obligation belongs to everybody. The load is shareable by all — not just a few. You can't segregate a war according to culture.

It would, per se, be foolish to make a foot soldier out of a budding doctor, or throw a carbine at a brilliant physicist or engineer who is winding up his studies. But most of the men affected by the new draft order are not special cases. They are just youngsters taking general courses.

It is a human oddity that nobody cares to be drafted, and very few sane folks are eager to die. When a man is ordered by his government to conform to one or both penalties against personal freedom, he sort of likes to think that everybody is getting the same deal. A man without a college education is just as dear to his family and friends as a double dome with a triple degree in botany. And it is hard to tell, by looking at a dead GI, whether or not he was fortunate enough to get the full dose of schooling.

To make a privileged class of any massive group of healthy young men is a downright insult to every candidate for the press gang. It would be of small comfort to a young man unfreezing his feet in Korea to reflect that his friend Bill, who could afford to go to college, was at the moment chasing a coed around the drinking room in a fraternity house at dear old Bless U.

This new move by Truman and Draft Director Hershey also does another cute thing. It automatically defers every college athlete in the country who can pass enough courses in physical education to stay in school. Right there you lose a heavy strand of desirable sinew for war.

The other angle is that your college man is highly usable in the armed forces, because if he can pass his courses the chances are he can think. Thinkers make great nonconms and officers. What do we seek here, a military composed strictly of fools, disgruntled poor boys, and morons?

If the great brains in Washington wish to really louse up the morale of their handcuff volunteers, this is a gorgeous way to do it. I still say the thing is to draft everybody within the limits of age, physical qualifications, and dependency, and then sort 'em out according to their best use from a military standpoint. This block deferment of students and smart guys is an insult to every cross at Anzio, and to every civilian who presently wears the uniform of his country.

Housing Scheme Could Draw More 'Influence Peddlers'

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

TO BUILD A pipe line into the Federal Treasury, preferably with the sanction of a law cleverly drawn, is the goal of a great many smart men around Washington. Some of their schemes are being exposed by the rash of investigations now going on.

But at the investigation stage the padlock on the barn door has long since been broken and the horse stolen. If the Treasury is to be protected — and, incidentally, the taxpayer — the proper start must be made when legislation involving Government billions is adopted.

The other day the Senate Banking and Currency Committee heard Alexander Summer, president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, recommend 100 per cent Government insurance for housing loans. This drew down the indignation of Chairman Burnet Maybank of South Carolina. Maybank had previously announced his intention of looking into defense contract provisions which permit a builder to write off the cost of new plants by tax deductions in a few years and come out owning a valuable installation paid for by the Government.

It goes without saying that Maybank is a staunch defender of private enterprise. But he holds to the apparently old-fashioned notion that private enterprise involves at least some risk, apart from a subsidy or guarantee by Government, and also some element of competition.

In this connection, analysis of a housing bill introduced in the House by Representative Jesse Wolcott, Republican, of Michigan shows a remarkable "come and get it" approach. Authorizing $75,000,000 for insured mortgages, the bill provides that on default within one year the mortgagee would receive from the Federal Housing Administration 102.5 per cent of the unpaid balance of the mortgage; in two years he would get 102 per cent, three years 101 per cent, four years 100 per cent and thereafter 99 per cent.

The Wolcott bill, which is said to have been originally intended as a substitute for a defense housing measure killed in the House, also contains extremely liberal tax amortization provisions. According to one study that has been made, the following would be perfectly possible — and legal:

Builder X could have the FHA insure loans on 60 individual houses for defense workers at $10,000 a house for a total of $600,000. Mr. X doesn't have to put up anything but some raw land and his time. The bank, with up to 102 per cent protection from the FHA, lends the mortgage funds to the builder.

After Mr. X has built the houses, for purposes of Federal income taxes he may get a deduction of $100,000 a year as a result of a purely theoretical depreciation in that large amount. If Mr. X has a total taxable income of $200,000 a year, this deduction will be worth to him a net of about $50,000. If the project defaults in five years, Mr. X has a total of $450,000, in effect, paid out to him from the Treasury of the United States.

The banker is perfectly content, too, since it earns about $24,000 a year without any risk in view of the FHA insurance. If the project defaults in, say, two years, the bank will have earned about $50,000 in interest and it will get back the $600,000 principal plus $12,000 more to cover any small amount of cost the bank might otherwise have to pay.

The Wolcott bill permits a $9,000 mortgage for a one-family house and an $18,000 mortgage for a two-family dwelling, with increases of $1,200 for each additional bedroom. The comparable figures in a similar bill before Maybank's committee are $8,100, $15,000 and $1,080.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

U. S. Town 'Adopts' Yugoslavian Town

WASHINGTON

FOUR brief years ago an American plane flying along the Yugoslav-Austrian border was shot down by trigger-happy Yugoslav troops. Tempers flared, diplomats protested, ill feeling between the United States and the most powerful nation in the Balkans reached a dangerous climax.

Today, in contrast, the small farming town of Chester, N. J., is adopting the Yugoslav town of Kumrovec, which happens to be the birthplace of Marshal Tito.

There is nothing official about this adoption ceremony. It was worked out not by the governments of either country, but through an exchange of messages between its citizens, in which 300 Chester school kids participated.

Most interesting thing about Kumrovec is that, though the birthplace of Tito, it's getting quite sick of Communism and is vigorously pro-American. Gaston Coblentz, Belgrade correspondent of The New York Herald Tribune, describes the town as "a lovely picturesque place in the Croatian hills, but the atmosphere is far from gay. The peasants are clinging to their land. All but two of the village families have defied local authorities by refusing to join a Red collective.

"The 250 families of Kumrovec are happy about their new tie with the United States; it signifies to them that a beneficent American influence may be exercised on the Communist government."

When I was in Yugoslavia recently, I found the Yugoslav people vigorously pro-American, violently anti-Russian. What is happening is that the United States long has maintained it did not care what kind of government another country had as long as it did not try to force its type of government on the rest of the world.

The people of Yugoslavia are now taking us up on this, and today's ceremony at Chester, N. J., is one indication.

G. I. Gripe Bag

IN ORDER to help enlisted men with their many problems, this column will publish from time to time excerpts from G.I. letters received, and the answers. Names are not published without permission:

"A bunch of sailors," Naval Station, San Diego, Calif.—"We feel a grave injustice is being done to us, and indirectly to our families, by the recent increases in clothing prices. The ship's store now charges more than double for most articles, whereas our standard maintenance allowance has been increased less than 50 per cent."

Answer—You are absolutely right that the cost of living has shot up in the Navy, so that enlisted men must now pay $39.65 for the same overcoat that sold for $17.50 before Korea, $20 for a blanket that previously sold for $7.50 and $16.50 for a jumper that used to sell for $6.70. This column has found that Navy clothing prices have increased from 127 to 146 per cent. Yet the monthly clothing allowance for enlisted men has been increased only 20 to 71 per cent, depending upon rank. The real blame, however, rests with the White House for not ordering inflation controls early enough. For, the truth is, the cost to the Navy of basic fabrics has shot up even higher than the prices charged in the ship's store.

Lloyd Hoppes, Wabash, Ind.—"I am 20 years old, and I am also married. I went to see the recruiting officer today, and he told me that married men could not enlist in the Army. We want to help our country just as much as the single men do."

Answer—Paradoxically it is true that at the same time the Army is crying for more manpower, it will not enlist married men below the grade of sergeant, though it will draft them. This column has protested to Congress. But if you wait around long enough, you may be drafted and still get a chance to serve.

A noncommissioned officer, Keesler Air Base, Miss.—"On Saturday, March 10, the NCO's were told if they did not become members of the NCO club by midnight, they would be restricted to the field. Yet an Air Force regulation plainly states that membership in an NCO club will be voluntary."

Answer—Brig. Gen. J. F. Powell, Keesler's commanding officer, admitted to this column that nonjoiners were restricted on the technicality that they hadn't paid up their debts. He explained that all non-commissioned officers "automatically" belong to the NCO club, therefore those who hadn't paid their dues were restricted. However, he claimed that any NCO could have got out of this punishment by writing a "letter of resignation" from the club. This still smacks of intimidation and coercion to push the NCO's into a club which they weren't required to join. The real reason this column has learned, is that the $1 membership fees surely needed since the slot machines were abolished. This cut out the club's main revenue.