

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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

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A BUNDLE OF PREJUDICES

FRANCIS GABRESKI was glad to be home. Thousands of San Francisco residents were cheering him, just returned from Korea where he had become the nation's No. 1 living ace, credited with 40 planes destroyed—14 in Korea, 33 in Europe during World War II.

But Colonel Gabreski, when he replied to his admirers, didn't talk about himself. He told them about his dad.

"He came over (from Poland) in 1904 looking for freedom and an opportunity to live in spite of lack of knowledge of the language and customs. He worked hard for \$1 a day—in a grocery store. Finally he was able to own his own grocery business."

"He was able eventually to make a comfortable living and to send his five sons and daughters to the university to become better citizens. Only the hard work and effort of my dad and mother gave us the advantages we have today."

Dad Gabreski raised a boy who has done well for his country. But most of the Gabreskis still in the old country—and the DIMAGIOS in Sicily, the JABARAS in Lebanon, the KAGIMAS in Japan—will never get to the States.

Immigration to the U. S. has become increasingly difficult during recent years. If the McCarran-Walter bill, passed by Congress and now on the President's desk, becomes law it will be even harder yet, and a "second class" citizenship for immigrants will be established.

This bill, in the old racist "quota" pattern (based on the 1920 census, therefore unrealistic) assigns large quotas to countries which don't use them, small ones to countries with many would-be immigrants. Unfair.

For years the governing bodies of Charlottesville and Mecklenburg County have given the back of the hand to local hospitals. They sent charity patients to be cared for, and then refused to pay the full cost of treatment.

That policy forced the hospitals (1) to operate in the red, or (2) to charge paying patients more than their fair share in order to make up for the loss on charity patients.

This week, the Council and the County Commission rectified this long-standing injustice. Under a compromise plan, the hospitals will be repaid on the basis of actual costs, less the \$250 per-patient-per-day the hospitals get from the Duke Endowment and the State of North Carolina, and less the depreciation allowance on buildings.

In other words, the County Government, which is legally responsible for charity hospitalization, will pay service from hospitals just as it buys any other goods or services—by paying the going market price.

The decision has been overly long in coming. Year after year the hospital officials appeared before the public officials, pleading

used quotas cannot be transferred from one nationality to another. Thus, in the case of Poland, for example, immigrants of Polish origin would have to wait until about 1960 for admission because of the backlog.

Only 185 Japanese, 105 Chinese, 103 Indian Asiatics would be permitted entry annually. A person of half-Asian ancestry residing outside Asia would be charged to the quota of that Asian country from which one of his parents came.

Under the terms of this bill, a citizen may lose citizenship if, within five years of his naturalization, he joins any organization which the Attorney General considers a Communist front, or if within ten years of obtaining citizenship he refuses to testify before a Congressional committee investigating subversive activities. Neither of these measures apply to native-born citizens.

This bill is largely the creature of Senator McCarran of Nevada and extends his exclusionist philosophy (except when it comes to Raquel Shepherds for the ranches of his constituents). As usual, North Carolina's Senator Smith is obediently following the line of his Nevada mentor, telling his constituents that this bill will prevent a "flood of immigration." That is pure trade. Nothing approaching a "flood of immigration" could occur under existing law, and this bundle of prejudices will exclude many deserving persons.

Immigration always has been and continues to be a great asset and source of strength, not a liability. This nation has grown great because of its immigrants. Congress, in passing this bill, missed a great opportunity to modernize and liberalize its immigration policy. A Presidential veto is in order.

THE HOSPITALS GET A BREAK

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for fair compensation. Year after year, their pleas were ignored. Arbitrary figures, far below actual costs, were set.

Members of the County Commission are properly concerned over the growing cost of charity hospitalization. The decision this week will send it soaring even higher.

The remedy—if there is any remedy short of abandoning public legal responsibility for charity health—may be a tightening up of the screening process. Each application should be screened carefully, and if the patient or his family is able to pay any part of the bill, he should be made to do so.

We suspect, however, that the Commissioners will find no great relief through one local official who is in a position to know. The News that he thinks the system is already too rigid, that persons who merit charity hospitalization are being denied it.

In this case, the Commissioners may get some slight reprieve from the thought that they are not the only ones who feel the burden of the growing cost of medical care.

STANDS PERHAPS, BUT NO CAB CRUISING

PRIOR to the adoption of the current taxi-cab ordinance, cabs were leased to individual drivers. Fares were figured on a flat rate basis. Cruising was permitted.

The result was chaos. Only one cab company attempted to assure adequate service. The others disclaimed any responsibility for the actions and attitudes of their semi-independent drivers. The drivers, in turn, chose customers as they pleased, preferring short-haul riders. They frequently overcharged their income by illicit side activities.

After long study and debate, the City Government made these fundamental changes:

1. Meters replaced flat fares.
2. The leasing of cabs was forbidden.
3. Cruising was banned.
4. The companies were required to install and maintain a system for answering telephone calls.

POLITICS STAYS IN THE POST OFFICE

THE Senate voted Wednesday to continue the spoils system as a means of selecting many postmasters, U. S. marshals and customs collectors.

By a few votes more than the required 66, the Senate turned down the President's reorganization plan affecting these three job classifications.

Most important of the three plans was the one concerning postmasters. At present the heads of large post offices are chosen by the President from a Civil Service list, and confirmed by the Senate. The President of course cannot spend his time getting acquainted with prospective postmasters' qualifications, so Congressmen are chosen to do them anyhow—are inclined to suggest a man who has helped or will help them politically. When a postmaster confirmation comes up "Senatorial courtesy" is the rule. Senators happily approve each other's nominees. As a result of this means of selection the post office sometimes suffers.

The new system has eliminated all of the old evils. By the testimony of an attorney representing one of the companies, the business is now on a "round" basis. Service is good in all parts of the city.

The second proposed change the system are currently before the Council. One would authorize cab stands in the business district. The other would remove the ban against cruising.

The first merits serious consideration. Property placed and regulated, up-town cab stands could improve the service from the center of town to the residential areas.

The second should be rejected. Cruising creates traffic congestion and also tends to relieve the company of the responsibility of answering telephone calls. If cruising has any advantage for the passenger, that advantage will be obtained through cab stands.

speaks well for the merit system, and the Senators seemed determined not to let this last big political pull get completely away from them.

The President has tried, we believe sincerely, to take the post office out of politics. The next time post office jobs are "sold" in Mississippi, or padded payrolls discovered in Boston's post office you can thank the Senate. Senators, including North Carolina's Senators Hoke Smith and Smith who voted down the line for more of the spoils system.

Only one of the more elderly old-timers can recall when the butcher was inclined to give his constituents a little more of liver with his cornmeal to the cat—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Every great scientific truth goes through three states. First, people say it conflicts with the Bible. Then they say it has been discovered before. Lastly, they say they always believed it—Ven Buren (Ark.) Press Argus.

It cannot be too often repeated that hell hath no fury like the taxpayer snapping out of a long trance. That's how this republic got started.—Hartford (Conn.) Courant.

Every one's first job is to get out of his own skin. So far post office jobs are out of his skin the other night and hasn't come back yet.—Kempner County (Miss.) Messenger.

There — That's Much Better



People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writers' name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

Mr. Lamb Isn't Needed

EDITORS, THE NEWS: I SEE by The News that a Mr. Bernard Lamb has been named to the position of Chairman of the Mecklenburg County Republican organization. Mr. Lamb says he hopes to "round up" an organization here which will work for Mr. Jones. He hopes to "round up" at least 500 people. He intends to conduct an intelligent campaign and educational program as well as a vote getting crusade.

It is my personal opinion that Mr. Jones would be better off without Mr. Lamb. Charles Raper Jones stands on his own feet. The people of the Tenth District know him. He knows them. They do not need to be "rounded up" by a Mr. Somebody from somewhere.

BOTT LEAVES

Regular Southern GOP Defended

EDITORS, THE NEWS: I find that both my morning and afternoon papers, The Greensboro Daily News and The Charlotte News respectively, are pro-Eisenhower for the nomination for the presidency by the Republicans. Certainly my answer is that it is natural and normal.

Taking up first the contention that the Taft forces are ruthless and arbitrary in the selection of delegates from the Southern States, I shall not attempt to defend what has been done in that respect. My answer is that it is natural and normal.

But let's dig a little deeper. For more than half a century there has been little organization of the Republican Party in the South. President Taft inveighed against the situation, stating that the Republican Party would be stronger in voting power if there were no patronage available to the South during Republican national administrations, and he made many Republicans fighting hard to implement that thought in an appointment here in North Carolina.

But (and isn't it the test?) it is not natural nor is it to be expected that the Republican organization, such as it is, will submit meekly to the taking over of the organization by neophytes. The minority party must have some kind of a bank, must have recruits from the majority party and most of the independent voters. However, it comes to a matter of principle and honor for the recruits and independents to wish to support those who have been carrying the burden of the organization through the years. This, and the situation, is the cause of the time.

JOHN O. WEST JR.

For One American Party

EDITORS, THE NEWS: HOW IS IT that a nation that professes to be democratic and flashes its constitution before the world to prove it searches out its aristocracy for candidates less likely to uphold its democratic constitution and the human dignity of its people? Some Americans are searching for a candidate that will oppose civil rights and it seems a political virtue to be able to interpret the constitution as a democratic defender of states rights, rather than protectorate of the American people.

It must be a great shock to the world at large to hear talk of the danger of a developing "one party system" and such terms as "party loyalty" which sometimes over-awards American loyalty. I should like to think that we really are evolving to a one party system — a true American party loyal only to the American people a party striving for a better and more democratic America.

Instead of separating church and state, it seems that true Christianity is the greatest need of the American government, and most of all a welfare State is needed. We need a government that is highly concerned with the welfare and well-being of all the American people.

ROBERT F. WILLIAMS

Eisenhower Well Qualified

EDITORS, THE NEWS: TV. R. MacKenzie's light-hearted but serious comment on the Texas Republican convention fiasco was rather interesting.

In the light of the present Swedish incident with a Russian plane shot down an unarmed Swedish airplane, I wonder if Mr. MacKenzie's opinion of Taft's reasoning would still hold up.

"Possession is nine-tenths of the law." Therefore, if Russia can possess, either forcibly or peacefully, the land and peoples of other countries, then it is nine-tenths right in what she does. According to popular conception, Taft would close his eyes to these matters until the Russians began pouring it on our ships, for is he not right much of an isolationist in the end?

Senator Taft is a smart man, and I don't believe he would knowingly do anything he didn't feel to be for the good of his country. Unfortunately, he hasn't learned enough to avoid the foreign situation to be of much help here.

This is the time, place and moment for a man of his knowledge, both of foreign and domestic affairs and the armed forces. No other American is so well qualified to lead this country at such a time as this.

JOHN O. WEST JR.

When It Comes To Education Our Priorities Are Not Right

By ED MURKOW ON CBS

PRESIDENT TRUMAN stood in the white House last night the other day, and said that "next to a child's mother, the greatest influence on his character and his growth into a good citizen is his teacher." Mr. Truman paid tribute to all teachers, including his own, and said "One of the reasons this is the greatest republic in the world has been due to the teachers who have nurtured and trained them to be citizens as they should be." The President's remarks were made in congratulating Mrs. Geraldine Jones of Santa Barbara, California, who had been selected as "Teacher of the Year."

Mr. Truman's words about the influence of the teacher were probably correct, but he might have expanded his remarks. He might have said that in Mississippi, schoolteachers receive an average of \$4,662 per year. And that's an increase over what they had a year ago.

SHORT ON FACILITIES

He might have said that we are short of classrooms, short of teachers; that at least 10 million children are going to school in basements, rented store buildings, and other quarters not suited for school purposes.

The President might have reminded us that in 1959 we were spending about two percent of our national income for schools. In 1962, during the depression, we were spending a little more than five percent of our national income. And last year we were spending two and one-half percent of our national income for schools. Less in proportion than we were in 1959. This can hardly be regarded as progress.

In 1949, our total expenditure for public schools was \$1.5 billion. In that same year, we spent almost as much for tobacco. We spent almost \$8 billion for alcoholic beverages; that's about \$3 billion more than we spent for public education. We spent almost as much for admission to amuse-

ments as we did to support our public school system. So where we don't seem to have our priorities right. We are still operating under a system where the child who happens to be born in what might be called a "poor state" is going to get less good education than the child who is born in a state where revenues are higher.

Teachers, like the rest of us, want to live. But generally more is expected of teachers than is required of the ordinary workman. There is a tendency on the part of parents to assign their responsibilities to the teacher.

A more exemplary existence than is required of other citizens of the community. In ethics and morals the teacher must be a first-class citizen. But in terms of economics, of income, the teacher occupies a second-class position.

HIGHER PAY PAYS OFF

There is a lot of evidence to believe that teachers behave pretty much like other mortals. Communities that pay good salaries and have a good number of well-prepared teachers go where the rewards and the opportunities are best.

It seems to me that the average citizen can do but little to influence or control directly many of the major issues that plague this planet. He doesn't know how many atom bombs we have in the country. He can't tell whether the Russians are going to do it. He can't measure the importance of a military budget.

But he can recognize that we have a shortage of teachers. He can be so concerned about the quality of his investment that he will pay dividends in terms of human beings better able to cope with the problems of the world than they are now. They will still be there when they grow up.

Stubborn Hand Of Past Grips Future Of Republican Party

By MARQUIS CHILDS

AS one result, according to this strategy, Sen. William F. Knowland of California will be the Vice-Presidential candidate. Knowland is a conservative Republican. He will be with the full consent and approval of Governor Warren in California recently known as the Republican candidate and 500,000 in the Democratic primaries in the Senate race. He got 1,498,768 votes in the Republican contest and 500,000 in the Democratic, demonstrating his own strength and the democratic strength of the Democrats.

In view of this strategy, the Eisenhower managers will be under severe handicaps. For one thing the Republican convention in Chicago will be, in part at least, a lame-duck convention.

OLDESTORS OUT

In one state after another oldtimers have been replaced as national committee members by younger women with younger leaders. This has been done in many instances. The names of Elmer B. Brown, John D. Dunn, have been replaced by George Ertel, and the names of the national committeemen, Mrs. F. Peavy Heffelfinger, strongly preferred, helped to bring this about.

But the old timers will hold their seats on the all-important National Committee. They will vote the Chicago convention. They will vote, even though they have been responsible for their own states, in which delegates are to give temporary seats in the convention hall pending a convention vote on the issue of the Chicago convention. They will vote the same ducks could do a lot to help direct the convention machinery for Taft.

There may well be, as the Republicans insist, a new Republican party struggling to be born. But the old party, the party of the past still has a grip on the future.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

A LOT has been said about the reasons why able Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois does not want to run for President. Probably the most cogent reason is his wife. Wives have played an important part in the lives of American Presidents and Presidential candidates, from the days of Thomas Jefferson.

There is nothing secret or unusual about Governor Stevenson's domestic problems. They are no discredit to him. He was unhappily married for many years, is now divorced, and has a young daughter, Miss Dorothy Fredrick, daughter of the noted Baptist clergyman, Harry Emerson Fredrick. Miss Fredrick is now a member of the State Department's public relations board, one of the top diplomatic jobs in the nation.

But politics is a cruel business. And a man who runs for President virtually has to sacrifice children and marital happiness, to say nothing of facing the opposition of those church leaders who do not believe in divorce.

Governor Stevenson's wife was Ellen Borden of Chicago, daughter of a Chicago lawyer and no relation to the Borden milk family. Mrs. Stevenson, however, always seemed to look down her nose just a bit at marrying a boy from the corn belt, even though Adlai was the grandson of a Vice-President of the United States.

Poetess Vs. Politician

QHE didn't particularly like living in downstate Bloomington, where Adlai once was an interest in The Post-Tribune, of which he was once assistant editor. In Chicago she was happy. There was a lot of poetry in the air. Considered a better than average poetess, and had a fairly good play, in verse, produced by a college theater.

Domestic Problems Deter Stevenson

Came the election of Franklin Roosevelt in 1932 and Adlai went to Washington as special counsel to Henry Wallace's AAA, returning to Chicago after a year to practice law, then going to Washington just before the Pearl Harbor attack to succeed Frank Knox, a Republican, whom FDR had made Secretary of the Navy.

Ellen Stevenson notified at returning to Washington. She complained that Adlai's friends always talked politics and economics. They didn't understand art. In fact, they didn't even know the difference between a sonnet and a canto.

She also complained that Adlai was always "assistant to somebody." He always played second fiddle to the assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, later assistant to the Secretary of State, and he was assistant to the U. S. delegation in establishing the United Nations. He was never top dog.

Mrs. Stevenson did, however, like England. Adlai went to London with the U. S. economic mission toward the end of the war, and she and Adlai found congenial people. They appreciated literature and she was happy.

Block Dinners

FINALLY, the day came when Adlai was no longer assistant to anybody, no longer played second fiddle. He became Governor of Illinois. But that didn't seem to help her much either.

One day Mrs. Adlai was engaged in Springfield, Mrs. Stevenson started out quite bravely. She was polite and

gay. But before the day was over, she dropped. "She was obviously bored and inclined to insult the people who trooped over her lawn and the politicians on whose cooperation she was so much depended."

Then, followed day after day, the same thing happened. Friends noticed that Adlai excused himself after dinner, retired to his study to work. Eventually, Mrs. Stevenson was a dispirited, discouraged, and angry woman.

The Governor is reportedly dithering most about a Presidential campaign is the effect it might have on his two boys. There's also the fact that a divorced President has never yet occupied the White House. Finally, there's the political possibility that the Catholic vote, though a large one, is not as solid as it once was. If his new wife was the daughter of Harry Emerson Fredrick, an outstanding Protestant clergyman.

There are things that have weighed heavily on the mind of the man who still remains the top choice of most Democratic leaders and who has been the best governor of Illinois in many, many years.

Washington Pipeline

CONGRESSIONAL leaders now doubt they will be able to adjourn Congress before the GOP convention, July 7. Instead, both Houses probably will reconvene July 7, adjourn on August 15 or September 15, to take up the conference reports on the Eisenhower administration. The conference reports in Senator McClellan's Appropriations Committee. Mr. McClellan for a time returned to let his committee report on the Eisenhower administration. He was not so sure as he seemed to be.