THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1952

NIXON SEEKS TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE

IN AN EFFORT to allay some of the criticism stirred up by his acceptance and use of a special expense fund of more than $18,000, Senator Richard Nixon, the Republican nominee for the Vice-Presidency, has moved boldly to lay all of his personal financial affairs before the American people. The report will be given this week in a nationwide radio and television broadcast.

The decision was announced after Nixon and General Eisenhower conferred by telephone, so it presumably was made with the General's approval if not at his bidding.

Nixon obviously hopes to persuade the American people that his motives were honorable, and to explain to them how difficult it is for a man without independent income to serve in the U. S. Congress. And he will further contend that the prominent Californians who contributed to the special fund in amounts ranging up to $500 apiece have never asked him for favors and had no intention of doing so.

It is not yet certain whether this report on Nixon's personal finances will satisfy General Eisenhower's demand that his crusade be as "clean as a hound's tooth". The Eisenhower cause has been given a definite setback. Even though Nixon now tells the whole story, the suspicion of improper action has been planted. Those Republicans who have carried on a calculated campaign to impugn the honesty and patriotism of Democrats in the Administration know full well how rapidly the seeds of suspicion grow in the atmosphere of doubt and disillusion that they have created.

The American voters, if they are wise, will reserve final judgment on the Nixon case until all the facts are in. As we said the other day, he showed incredibly bad judgment in accepting what amounts to a subsidy from a group of wealthy supporters. Whether this lapse in judgment, no matter how good his motives, is too great a liability for the Eisenhower candidacy is a matter for the General to decide.

We're still waiting for some headline writer to refer to the Nixon story as "Poor Richard's Almanac".

CONGRESSMEN USE INFLUENCE, TOO

FROM time to time, the names of Congressmen have cropped up in the continuing investigation into the use of improper influence in conducting the people's business.

The RFC inquiry turned up Frank (Everything Is Made For Love) Boykin of Alabama, who pressured RFC officials to grant a loan to a company in his state. Senators H. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire and Owen Brewster of Maine were linked with the mystery man of the income tax inquiry, Henry W. Grunewald.

And now North Carolina's Theron Lamar Caudle has called the names of some others, including Senator Clyde R. Hoey and Rep. Robert L. Doughton of this state.

On the face of Caudle's recital and the statement of Senator Hoey, there is evidence of nothing more than questionable judgment on the part of the Shelbian in representing a client before the Government after his nomination for the Senate but before his election. By the letter of the law, it may have been permissible. But it is hardly likely that Attorney General Tom Clark, with whom Mr. Hoey is said to have discussed the Coxe Lumber Co. case, would not be aware that nomination on the Democratic ticket in North Carolina is equivalent to election, and that Hoey would certainly be in the Senate within a few weeks or months.

It may be, as Senator Hoey says, that Clark really decided that the case did not warrant prosecution after once ordering District Attorney Caudle to proceed with it. Similarly, Rep. Doughton may not have employed anything more than plain logic in arguing to the Justice Department that the facts did not support the charges against his old friend back in the 9th District.

It is highly important, however, that the Chelf Committee and every other Congressional investigating committee examine the intervention of Congressmen just as critically and just as persistently as they would the efforts of outsiders. Congressmen may feel some measure of responsibility to protect their constituents against unwarranted prosecution by the Federal Government. If so, it is a misplaced sense of duty. That is the job of grand juries and of the courts. A Congressman should apply to himself an even more rigid ethical yardstick than he uses on outsiders, for the very nature of his lawmaking duties gives him a club to wave over the head of Federal bureaus and agencies and require them to do his bidding.

All too often in the past, Congressional committees look the other way quickly and pass on to other business when the names of their colleagues pop up in inquiries. Will it happen again?

THE DUTCHMAN MEETS HIS MATCH

JUDGE MATTHEW T. ABRUZZO of Brooklyn merits a bouquet. He's done what other judges and Congressional committees have failed to do, namely, get the heretofore silent "Dutchman" Grunewald to talk.

The judge was apparently so successful that the Dutchman got carried away and talked too much in his three grand jury sessions. For now Mr. Grunewald has filed a motion to suppress and expunge his testimony.

Perhaps the secret of Judge Abruzzo's success lies in his approach. For almost a year the Dutchman claimed he was oh, so sick. Illness was a popular condition at the time for men involved in tax scandals. Danny Bolich, the former Assistant Commissioner of Internal Revenue, could only submit to "limited questioning". Former Commissioner Nunan went to the hospital. Carroll Mealey, a former Deputy Commissioner, was unable to testify, said his doctors. And the Dutchman got his doctor to say his appearance would be "unsafe".

The Dutchman tried the same dodge with Judge Abruzzo, Grunewald's doctor said his patient "had developed a heart beat which was disorganized. . . I'm practically certain that his appearance here would endanger his life."

Judge Abruzzo was unimpressed. He noted the correlation between subpoenas and the Dutchman's health.

"I want him to come here peacefully," he said, "but if not, I'll send a marshal to bring him here bodily."

The Dutchman came—peacefully, bodily, meekly, and, as it turned out, loquaciously. Other judges and Congressional investigators might profit from Judge Abruzzo's simple formula, which seems to boil down to two words—talk turkey.

FOR HOME FOLKS AND TOURISTS ALIKE

THE approach of cool weather, bringing with it the promise of that annual change of scenery in the North Carolina mountains, prompts us belatedly to join a campaign that Bill Sharpe has been waging by letter and through *The State*. The objective: to get the Highway Commission or some state agency to mark adequately the streams, gaps, flats, gorges and other geographical features of Tar Heelia.

That makes the third campaign of this nature we have undertaken recently in these columns. The first was to persuade the Highway Commission to assign numbers to the hundreds of newly-paved secondary roads, so that North Carolinians might leave the heavily-traveled thoroughfares and make their way more leisurely through some of the fascinating rural sections of the state. The second was to provide a place for interested motorists to stop and read carefully the many historical markers that dot the roadsides. As it is, the driver is upon them before he knows it, and there is no place for him to stop should he wish to do so.

This is the kind of road-marking that Sharpe is agitating for. For example: when you enter the Kartoogisha Valley west of Franklin, he would place a sign at some appropriate place saying, "Entering Kartoogisha Valley which runs for eight miles. Indians once had villages in this valley, and the word means in Cherokee, The Village Beyond". He is more interested in informing motorists that "Gillespie Gap was the famous route of the men over the mountains than in marking the home of Old Cleveland" or in "putting up a marker near Joyce Kilmer Forest Road saying that this is the home of the Russian Wild Boar than in saying something about some obscure Cherokee chief who might have done something at this spot."

Many Tar Heel motorists must have felt the same disappointment Sharpe writes about in *The State* when they cross a beautiful stream or river without knowing its name, or when they ride over handsome bridges across such well-known waters as the Tuckaseegee, Little Tennessee or Cullasaja without seeing a trace of their identity. There is no marking, for instance, at Cowee Gap, and Bridal Veil Falls is not identified except on the map. Nor are such mountains as Texaway and Beech noted on the roads that pass nearby.

It would not, of course, be possible to identify every point of interest in North Carolina. Even so, there are hundreds or perhaps thousands of spots that should be identified. It would add to the pleasure of living and traveling in North Carolina, and it would be a real attraction to the thousands of tourists who now give us one of our largest industries.

The lion that leaped on an automobile in Africa and scared the occupants was fortunate. Should a lion hitch a ride on an automobile in North Carolina traveling at the customary speed and with the customary regard for traffic laws, said lion would promptly die of fright.—*Asheville Citizen.*

Few jobs can equal a traffic jam in conspicuously separating the men from the boys. The boys all lean on their horns.—*Christian Science Monitor.*

Almost invariably, as even a cursory inspection of history will verify, government-by-whim eventually becomes government-by-whim!—*Nashville Banner.*

A radio technician in California has been arrested for operating an unlicensed station for his own pleasure. He should be able to plead insanity.—*Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.*

Exploring Party

Results Of A Grass Roots Poll

Voters Keeping Mum So Far

By STEWART ALSOP

DUBUQUE, Iowa

IN the crow-eating period after the 1948 election, newspaper men were much belabored for "not getting out into the country and finding out what the voters really want." Accordingly, this reporter has dutifully braved fierce dogs and suspicious property owners to feel the voters' pulse. The pulse feeling took place in the politically crucial farm area between St. Paul, Minn., and Dubuque, Iowa. Unfortunately, it is necessary to report that the voters either do not have any pulse, or if they have, they are not letting complete strangers feel it.

Also on this inconclusive expedition was a perspicacious native of the region, Walter Ridder, of The St. Paul Pioneer Dispatch. The result of the Ridder-Alsop farm poll reads about like this:

Eisenhower	8 per cent
Stevenson	0 per cent
Don't know or won't tell	92 per cent

One of the first to be interviewed was a dour, elderly farmer on a 44-acre farm near Kasson, Minn., where both Eisenhower and Stevenson recently made major farm speeches. He responded as follows:

On his vote this year: "Well, I guess I'll keep that to myself." On his vote in 1948: "Well, I guess I'll keep that to myself." On the Eisenhower and Stevenson farm speeches: "Yep, I heard 'em. Had a lot to say, didn't they?" Subsequent efforts were a little more rewarding—but not very much. There was only one man in a day of interviews who stated his intentions flatly and unequivocally. He was an elderly country gas station owner in Iowa. He had been a Republican for 50 years, he said, and he saw no reason to change. He was going to vote for Eisenhower. Yet there was certainly no real and universal enthusiasm for the Eisenhower cause.

* * *

ONE exceptionally loquacious farm lady, who wore an enormous turban, seemed well informed on most matters. But she entertained a curious notion about the Eisenhower political strategy. "He has no call to talk all the time about this Stevenson being divorced," she said. "That's not fair." She claimed to be undecided, but she clearly favored the unfairly used Stevenson.

The pleasant, open face of a young farmer farther south clouded with anger as he talked. He had enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve—"Thought it was my duty to my country." He had served his country, he said "by busting up 198 nearly new Cadillac amphibious tank engines with a sledge hammer—that's where your tax money goes." An enlisted friend got even cheerfuller for taking a gas can, while officers had the men make trailers for them out of government property. "You expect me to vote for a general after that?" But he too was undecided—"they say Stevenson's tied up with the big boys, too."

On only one point was there unanimous agreement. Farm prices were too low and other prices too high. No doubt farmers have always talked this way; and there were a good many new cars in the back yards and freezers in the kitchen. But it is also true that many farmers even in this area with its rich, oily-black soil, were obviously hard put to make ends meet. And the way these men talked, Eisenhower was well advised to come out flatly for parity supports—but there remains a lingering suspicion of Republican intentions where the farmer is concerned. "That's what he says," said one farmer, "but does he mean it?"

Stevenson is in no better case—although the minority who had heard him speak did not think he was "talking above the voters" and did not complain of his levity. But to judge from this most inconclusive sampling, Stevenson is hardly known at all—at least two farmers thought his name was "Stevens".

And he suffers badly from identification with Truman, who is repeatedly described as "not big enough for the job." Indeed, the Mid-Western farmer seems to have no heroes at all. Asked whether they favored Taft, most of those questioned replied monosyllabically, "Nope." One very fat man in a truck remarked with an ear-splitting laugh: "Jackasses have been running the government for the last twenty years." But, he said, he had voted for Truman in 1948, and he had still not made up his mind for this year.

* * *

IN short, the American voter is just as mysterious a fellow in the farm belt as elsewhere. Nothing could be more silly and pompous than to try to draw firm conclusions from this day of frustrated pulse feeling.

But the experience did leave certain impressions behind; that neither candidate can yet by any means count on the Mid-West farmers' allegiance; that there exists in these parts a wide-spread feeling of puzzled resentment, about the Korean War and many odd things; perhaps most striking of all, that the number of people who have quite honestly not yet made up their minds is much, much greater than is generally supposed.

Finally, this rather unsuccessful little inquiry seemed worth making anyway, if only as a reminder of how shrewd (though sometimes uninformed), how fiercely jealous of their independence of mind, and how downright nice a lot of ordinary Americans are, even in these fear-filled times.

Quote, Unquote

One of the nuclear scientists says that life is possible on other planets. Given a little peace and quiet, it would be on this.—Carlsbad (N. M.) Current-Argus.

More and more, Federal price control recalls the tot of tender years, with a St. Bernard dog in leash, and crying "Don't worry. I'm holding him."—Asheville (N. C.) Citizen.

When you feel that the whole universe is in a mess—particularly your own personal problems—hook up a fishing pole and get rid of your troubles for at least a coupla hours.—Jones County (Ga.) News.

Stevenson Keeps Hammering At Big Issues Of Campaign

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WITH STEVENSON TRAIN

GOVERNOR Stevenson, campaigning for the Presidency from town to town, lacks one very great advantage that his opponent has. That is the built-in reception and response that automatically are accorded General Eisenhower.

Switching from one campaign to the other, as this reporter has done, you are acutely aware of what that advantage means. For ten years the Eisenhower name and face have been publicized in every newspaper in America. Stevenson must establish an identification in a very short time.

He is not flamboyant or spectacular in either manner or appearance. You might miss him in a crowd, as some people do when he whisks through small communities in a motorcade.

TAKES HARD WAY

Furthermore, he has chosen to establish his identity by making the voters think about the issues. That is the hard way. You can see a somewhat-puzzled look in the upturned faces of the crowds. It is possible that in these troubled times people would rather not think.

Stevenson, the political schoolmaster, tells them to think and think hard about what lies ahead.

As with every speech thus far, the governor's talk at Hartford on atomic energy was handwritten by the candidate himself. This meant that it had the same careful phrasing, the often brilliant thrust and the determined effort to state a specific stand or a complex and difficult issue that characterize Stevenson's prepared addresses.

Actually it contained little that was new in the way of a prescription for peaceful control of atomic power. But in stressing the need to go on pressing for realistic controls that meet Russia will eventually accept, Stevenson reminded the world of the vacuum that now exists in the face of an atomic arms race, with total destruction at the end of it.

This business of a candidate hand-tailoring his own speeches in the fury and the distraction of a national campaign is something new in our day. We have become accustomed to the assembly-line product — the adjectives filed off at one point, the verbs toned down at another and the ideas refined to a thin, almost transparent, consistency. Inconsistency might be more accurate; just as the product, it comes off the line.

Whether Stevenson can continue this handicraft enterprise as the fearful urgencies of a gruelling campaign press in on him is something that he himself is beginning to wonder. Shortly before this latest trip, one of his staff walked into his private office in the Executive Mansion at Springfield close to midnight. There he found the governor at his literary labors with a pad of paper and pencil. Inquiry developed that he was at work on an article he had agreed to write for the Atlantic Monthly.

"It isn't going the way I want it to go," the governor complained somewhat bitterly. "I think I'm going to have to rewrite what I've already done."

The assistant entered a mild protest that his chief with so many demands on his time and energy, should be devoting himself to a literary labor for a magazine with a limited circulation in the upper-income bracket. The protest seemed to make little impression on the conscientious craftsman, who went on with his struggle to say what he wanted to say with clarity and precision under the light of his office lamp in the otherwise dark and silent house.

A MASS ATTACK

A Presidential campaign must inevitably be on a wholesale rather than retail basis. The media of mass communication must be exploited to the fullest with a constant hammer, hammer, hammer, on certain basic themes. Belatedly, Stevenson and his staff are learning what this means in terms of advertising and public relations techniques. Their resources in this respect seem ridiculously small in comparison to those of the Eisenhower camp.

Governor Stevenson was amazed a few days ago to find that his campaign headquarters staff had grown to a total of 71. He had originally thought that it could all be done with a half-dozen associates and three or four secretaries. Amateurs are still discovering the facts of a big-time political operation by the painful method of trial and error.

Whether this will be too great a handicap for a candidate unknown to at least a half or two-thirds of the great American public, with its apathy and indifference to political issues, we shall learn in the weeks ahead. But at the center of the whirlwind there will be a determined individual striving with a curious stubbornness to say what he believes and to say it in his own way.

Congress Rejected Proposal To Report Outside Income

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON

SENATOR Richard Nixon might not be in his present situation—having to explain the $18,000 fund donated by fellow Californians—if Congress had listened to President Truman and Sen. Morse, Oregon Republican, more than a year ago.

They suggested Congress pass a law requiring members of Congress and all other government employes receiving a salary of at least $9,000 or $10,000 a year to list in a public record any other income or financial help.

If Nixon had had to list the $18,000 collected for him for political purposes, there would be no news or surprise now in the fact that the fund existed. This public record, at the same time, would have provided Gen. Eisenhower with more information about the man he picked as his running mate.

Truman made his suggestion Sept. 27, 1951, in a message to Congress. Morse has been introducing a bill for the same purpose since 1947.

COOL TO IDEA

Congress gave Truman the same treatment it has been giving Morse for five years: a good chill. Although they spend a sizable amount of time investigating other people's financial dealings and disclosing them publicly, members of Congress have shown small enthusiasm for disclosing their own.

The President said the legislation he suggested would prevent "improper conduct" and "unfound ed suspicions."

He sent his message to Congress at the time a Senate subcommittee of which Nixon was a member, was investigating charges of political influence in government loans. At that moment the chairman of Truman's Democratic party, William M. Boyle Jr., was before the committee.

The President said the public record on income and financial help should be made not only by members of Congress and employes of the executive agencies, but also by judges, admirals, generals and even national party officials (which would have included Boyle).

But Sen. Millikin, Colorado Republican, called the message "hogwash" and a "cheap political trick."

Not only income above $9,000 or $10,000 should be included, according to Truman, but "some items, which are not ordinarily counted as income, such as gifts and loans, should be included in the statements filed under this statute."

The penalties for violating the kind of law he proposed, Truman said, should range all the way up to fines of $10,000 and five years in jail.

Morse put the "Caesar's wife" tag on his bill because, he said, members of Congress, like Caesar's wife, should be above suspicion.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Influence Peddling Is Bipartisan

WASHINGTON

GOVERNOR Stevenson complained recently about a one-party press and the fact that 75 per cent of the newspapers are against the Democrats. Unquestionably he has a point there, and to some extent I may have been partly responsible for lopsided newspaper coverage.

When, over a period of years, a column has unearthed the extra-curricular activities of Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan, the events which helped send John Maragon to jail, the income-tax finagling of internal revenue official Dan Bolich, the Egyptian cotton leaks which led to the indictment of Clovis Walker, etc., naturally it accumulates into a big stockpile of political ammunition.

However, this is not only a reporter's job but it so happens that my score-sheet contains quite a few Republicans, such as the kickback that resulted in jail sentences for Congressmen Parnell Thomas of New Jersey and Walter Brehm of Ohio; also the lobbying of Sen. Owen Brewster which led to his defeat; the $10,000 Lustron fee of Senator McCarthy and the tax finagling of Senate Republican leader Styles Bridges of New Hampshire.

Covering the news consists not only of reporting what goes on from day to day, but digging up the things below the surface which some people don't want dug up but which the public has a right to know about.

In fulfilling this reporter's obligation, however, I personally shall do my best to be fair to both sides, and do equal digging regarding both parties and candidates.

Ike's Taxes

TO this end, here is the result of some digging in the Stevenson entourage which shows one of his men in the compelling of an influence-peddler; also the answer to questions asked by a great many readers regarding General Eisenhower's possible use of influence in paying only a capital-gains tax on his book, "Crusade in Europe."

The man on Stevenson's staff who sold influence is Neal Roach, assistant treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, and now organizer of train and airplane schedules for the Stevenson campaign. He received a fee of $1,000 from the Builders' Control Service of Los Angeles in 1950 for getting a ruling changed by the Veterans Administration permitting the builders control service to charge a one and one-half per cent fee for securing and administering loans on housing projects.

There was nothing illegal about this, but unquestionably influence was used.

The facts regarding General Eisenhower's taxes are that he was paid $1,000,000 for his book, written after his return from Europe. Ordinarily he would have paid taxes of around 77 per cent on this income, leaving him a profit (after taxes) of around $230,000.

Instead, he paid a capital-gains tax of 25 per cent, leaving him a profit of $750,000.

The General secured this highly beneficial tax ruling perfectly legally, but a certain amount of influence probably entered the picture.

The 'Eisenhower Amendment'

THE General called personally on Charles Oliphant, who later resigned under fire as a result of income-tax exposes by this columnist and the King Committee. He argued to Oliphant that he was not a writer, but a soldier, therefore the sale of his writings was the sale of a capital investment, the investment of his own experiences.

Oliphant, who had rolled out the red carpet at the Treasury, took advantage of a tax loophole to give General Eisenhower a favorable ruling in the affirmative.

The most interesting thing is that Congress later moved to prevent anyone else from getting such a ruling by passing what was dubbed "the Eisenhower amendment" to the 1950 tax law.

As a result, Gen. Omar Bradley, who wrote his memoirs last year, also made a lot of money. But he had to pay most of it to Uncle Sam in taxes.

The "Eisenhower amendment" to the 1950 tax law specifically provides that a person selling a book or other artistic work must be taxed the full rate, rather than the bargain, 25 per cent, capital-gains rate.

Stevenson Henchman

THE influence used by Neal Roach was when he served as a paid employee of the Democratic National Committee in Washington and used that position to write a letter to the Veterans Administration to get it to change a ruling by which the builders' control service could not charge a commission of more than a one-half per cent for securing loans on housing projects.

Builders' control service functioned in connection with several big housing projects, one of them at Victorville, Calif. It secured loans for these projects, and paid out the money on behalf of the bank's owner as the project progressed. Both the Veterans Administration and the Federal Housing Administration ruled that this commission could not be charged to the cost of the project.

However, when Russell N. Anderson of the Builders' Control Service was introduced to Neal Roach at Democratic headquarters in Washington, Roach wrote a letter to the Veterans Administration and thereafter the commission was okayed.

Later Roach stopped in to see Anderson in Los Angeles and collected $1,000 from him in cash.

Roach came to Washington originally as the protege of Ed Pauley, Democratic fund-raiser, and worked under Chairman William Boyle and under his successor Frank McKinney. At Chicago recently he helped make arrangements for the Democratic convention and is now on Governor Stevenson's campaign staff.