



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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City Limits Extension Offers Much To Those Who Are Now Opposing It

IT is unfortunate that the proposed extension of the city limits has already become a public issue, productive of rising tempers and categorical statements before it is known precisely what the argument is all about.

Over the weekend, for example, several members of the City Council committed themselves strongly in favor of extension of the limits. And two newly-nomined members of the House of Representatives, their ears attuned to the increasing protests from county residents, appeared to take a dim view of extension.

Before too many local officials stake themselves out to positions from which it will be difficult to retreat, in the interest of compromise, it may be of some help to review the question and look at some of its tangents.

AS OF TODAY, this is the situation. The City Council requested the Charlotte Planning Board to study the feasibility of extending the city limits in the near future. Members of the Planning Board, using the engineering services of the city government, recommended an extension of the city boundaries and suggested a tentative line that would conform with the basic principles of sound municipal planning.

Before the City Council got around to examining the Planning Board's suggestion, protests began to roll in from the affected fringe area. Neighborhood meetings were held, and plans made to obtain petitions demanding an election on the extension.

The City Council and the Planning Board may have erred in even talking about a specific line before carrying out a broad educational program explaining the need for the moderate expansion of the municipality's territory. But it is our opinion that the residents who are now opposing extension before they have looked at both sides of the coin.

On the one side—the side immediately apparent to any home owner beyond the city limits—is the fact that he doesn't pay city property taxes. That's a tangible factor that the home owner can measure. Let us compare the tax load on a man on whose house and lot are worth \$16,000 today and market (at a \$15,000 house on a \$1,000 lot).

Outside the city limits his county tax bill in this fiscal year was \$72.80. Property of the same value inside the city limits was taxed a total of \$179.20 by both county and city governments. Here the county resident had an apparent saving of \$106.40 or about \$8.87 per month.

But that was not a real saving. There is another side to the coin.

Take fire insurance, for instance. Outside the city limits but within a volunteer fire department zone, the home owner would have to carry at least \$15,000 in fire insurance. On this, he would pay a rate of \$4.90 a thousand, or a total of \$73.50 a year. Inside the city limits, he could get by with \$10,000 in insurance, since the chances of total destruction would be virtually nil. On this, because of the city's better fire protection, he would pay at the lower rate of \$2.10 per thousand, or \$21 a year. His fire insurance bill would be \$52.50 higher outside the city—almost half that apparent tax saving.

Outside the city, he would also pay \$40 a month for garbage disposal. Another \$18 per year of his apparent saving gone.

In building or buying a house outside the city, the owner paid a minimum of \$300 for a septic tank installation against \$60 to \$80 for connecting with the city sewer. (And in many sections of the county with poor drainage, septic tanks are a continuing expense and health hazard.)

More of the apparent saving gone.

THERE ARE other things for the fringe area resident to remember in his calculations:

1. He pays a premium of 37.5 per cent if he uses city water, and the city government, hard pressed for revenue, may well be forced to raise that to 100 per cent or higher in another year or two.
2. He doesn't have access to city bus service which would cut down on the expense of operating his automobile and in many instances, keep him from having to own two automobiles.
3. In most cases, he has to ride or

walk to a near highway to pick up his mail, instead of having it delivered to his front door.

4. His property is not protected from unregulated commercial and industrial encroachment, for the city's authority to zone is limited at present to the area within its boundaries.

5. If he lives within one mile of the city limits he is getting free minimum protection against poor residential subdivision planning, but the law is without effective enforcement teeth. And beyond a mile, he has no protection at all.

6. Since no building permits are required beyond the city limits, he doesn't have the assurance that his home was built, or will be built, in accordance with the city's strict requirements for safe, solid construction.

7. If more money can provide better schools, he is denying his children a better educational opportunity. Many rural residents apparently believe the city schools offer better opportunity, for the parents of some 325 children are currently paying a tuition fee of \$56 per child per year to enable them to attend the city schools.

8. The city's urban health laws provide better protection through strict food handling regulations, weed control, insect and rodent elimination than do the more lax state-wide laws that apply outside the city. Moreover, county residents with private water supplies are denied the protection of the city's water fluoridation program and the constant checking on the purity of the city's water supply.

SO MUCH for the more intangible advantages of living inside the limits of the City of Charlotte. After calculating them as closely as possible, fringe area residents who are now demanding opposition to extension of the limits might profitably search their consciences on a few other matters.

They use, without showing any particular gratitude to the city, the expensive municipal airport built with federal and city funds. And they will soon use the new administration building there.

They have been using the municipal recreation facilities—the golf course, the parks and playgrounds, the swimming pool. And they will soon use the four million dollar coliseum and auditorium, to which they have not contributed anything.

Their garbage has been disposed of, without their knowledge, at the city's garbage disposal area.

They have benefited from the city's huge expenditure for better traffic engineering, wider streets, parking regulations. Indeed, much of the expenditure for the city's expenditures for fire and police protection, water and sewer supplies, health and sanitation and all other services made necessary by population congestion, have been higher than otherwise would have been necessary.

Refusal to contribute these factors, in our opinion, is nothing less than ingratitude.

Moreover, they often forget that 86 per cent of the taxable values in Mecklenburg County are inside the city limits, and that city residents have borne, without too much grumbling, 80 per cent of the cost for the city's government services paid for by property taxes and enjoyed by rural residents.

Because our suburban neighbors work in Charlotte in such large numbers, the city's expenditures for fire and police protection, water and sewer supplies, health and sanitation and all other services made necessary by population congestion, have been higher than otherwise would have been necessary.

Refusal to contribute these factors, in our opinion, is nothing less than ingratitude.

THERE IS the other side of the coin. Extension of the city limits will mean a far smaller net tax increase than it first appears. In return, it will bring many tangible and intangible benefits to those who now live in the fringe area. And for any honest man, it will quiet what must be a nagging conscience if he admits to himself he is carrying less than his share of the burden of operating the metropolitan community.

The issue is one to be worked out by reasonable men on both sides of the boundaries who have a joint interest in the continued orderly growth of the best metropolitan area in the South.

By THE ALSOPS

WASHINGTON
TWO more Soviet secret agents of the highest rank have recently defected, and are now telling their stories to the American intelligence authorities.

The names and identities of the new defectors have not yet been revealed. It is known, however, that they were key figures in the Kremlin espionage net in Europe. They are believed to have worked in two of the great centers of European espionage, Vienna and Berlin, where this has not been confirmed.

The meaning of the news is far greater than may appear on the surface. There is much more to these defections than mere spy drama, with mingled overtones of E. Phillips Oppenheim and George Orwell.

To grasp the meaning, consider how Washington would react if half a dozen officials in the Central Intelligence Agency, including at least three in top positions, should suddenly defect to the Soviet Union. It would be a major blow to the American intelligence system had been compromised, and that many vital

American secrets had fallen into Soviet hands.

The defections, added to those which are already known, make just that kind of picture. It is not clear whether the defectors are a closely guarded secret, are understood to have occupied posts at least equal, and probably superior to those of Igor Gouzenko, Rastvorov, who led the parade in Japan, was second secretary in the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo for public purposes. It can now be stated, however, that he had ministerial rank in the Soviet intelligence system.

The other known defectors are the somewhat lower ranking Australian pair, Vladimir Petrov and his wife Patricia, and the much publicized but relatively unimportant Nikolai Kholikov, who is now in this country. Besides these, it is further reported that there have been other small fry of the Soviet intelligence have recently come over without attracting public attention.

With two defectors from key posts in the European net, and with Rastvorov's own defection, the Petrov couple from Australia, the free world now has in its hands a representative sample

from the two critical areas, Europe and the Far East. It is not too much to say that the Soviet system is thoroughly compromised. Thus the Soviets will have to reconstruct it from the ground up. The reason for this sudden rash of defections among the secret agents, who are the most carefully tested of all Soviet officials, is not very difficult to find. Lavrenti Beria has fallen. The MVD was Beria's apparatus. And the fall of Beria has therefore sent a thrill of terror, a fearful spasm of doubt and apprehension, through the ranks of the MVD.

The suspicion directed at all Beria-linked officials, the even greater suspicion aroused by the recent defections, must surely have caused the Kremlin to lose faith in the MVD intelligence system everywhere in the world.

It is well to remember, however, that the first defector, Igor Gouzenko, revealed to the Canadian authorities that no less than three and perhaps as many as five, different Soviet intelligence systems were all in business in Canada. The main one may be broken, but the subsidiary nets, not connected with Beria, are still intact. And with the MVD are no doubt still working order.

The case of Yuri Rastvorov, ex-acting head of the MVD and a complex of the two new European defectors are being so closely guarded. Rastvorov originally

intended to give himself up to the British Secret Intelligence Service. He had made the necessary contact with the SIS. He was even ready to board a British plane for London when he changed his mind at the last moment.

After this disappointment of the SIS, contact was established between Rastvorov and Central Intelligence Agency representatives in Tokyo. Curiously enough, the tennis courts—for he was an enthusiastic player, and played often with the Americans and British—formed the needed bridge.

When Rastvorov intimated his desire to defect to CIA representatives, he was in great agony of mind. He insisted, particularly, that the fact of his defection must never be published or admitted. That was, he said, members of his family and his friends in Russia would be far less likely to suffer. In the end, before taking his final decision to come over, he exacted an iron-clad promise of secrecy.

THE LEAKED STORY
The promise even included a commitment to deny Rastvorov's defection to the Soviets, if they ever inquired officially about him. On this basis, Rastvorov finally came over. The fact may well be denied, but it is undoubted that the story was thus leaked, coupled with name, by Army G-2 in Tokyo. No doubt G-2 had been hankering for a little publicity

since the dear, dead days of Gen. MacArthur when the CIA was all but forbidden to operate in the Pacific theater.

There are other curious facts about these defections. In the case of Kholikov, for example, the man's story was at first not based on the fact that he was a spy, but under orders as an assassin, sounded more than suspicious. Before his bona fides were accepted, Kholikov was subjected to the most ruthless grilling, of the fly, scientific kind that is customary in this Orwellian world. He passed all tests, however. And so his firm conviction that the CIA could snatch his family from the heart of Russia, has now been taken as an indication of the fear of this country in the ranks of the Soviet intelligence system.

Over-all, the significance of the pattern of Soviet defections can hardly be exaggerated. The setback to the Soviet Union has certainly been very serious. In achieving this setback for the enemy, the American intelligence service has done admirable work. But most of the credit must go to the Soviet system which, Melchik, consumes its own; in which the spies are those most spied upon, and those most feared have most to fear.

People's Platform

What's Wrong With North Carolinians?

Charlotte Editors, The News:

LISTENING to a program on TV last night about some of the boys and girls' point of view on segregation was quite something. One girl said that they could not afford to go to school with a Negro because it would lower a white person's standard, because Negroes did not come up to their standards.

I am very sorry, because I think from most speeches I heard last night most Negroes' standards are below the standards of the white people who spoke as they did last night. What a Negro has, he has, and is very proud of it. Let each one examine himself and see if he will find any difference only in the color of the skin. Our skins are black, but it is something to be proud of.

Let us think about how the Negro will go to school with the white children and fight against the enemy. You will all around and bring the enemy into this country and accept them as citizens.

I think about our boys and fathers who went right along with you all and gave their lives and still aren't accepted.

We mothers and daughters leave our homes and go into yours from seven in the morning until seven at night, and take care of you and your families when no one else will. Still we are not accepted. What is wrong with the people of North Carolina?

I think twice before you speak and ask yourself if this is a free country we live in. We are only asking for a chance to be recognized and we're definitely not satisfied with second class citizenship. We want to go to get paid decent salaries so we can live decent like you all do.

Let the white race remember God created the Heaven and Earth and made no race conqueror of it. So let us be careful how we speak. Think twice.

I love my state, but with the hate in it, it would be hard to call it the "friendly state." No one wants to go to your churches or come into your homes to visit, you as you seem to think, although we are just as good as you are.

—H. C. COCHRANE

States Might Act Under 10th Amendment

Marshallville Editors, The News:

SINCE the day of the land, and since the social segregation issue has been firmly decided, why do the various states concerned accept the fact and force the Constitution as it now stands? If the 14th Amendment is applicable, then the 10th Amendment is just as trustworthy. I quote: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to the states respectively, or to the states respectively, or to the states respectively, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the states respectively, or to the states respectively."

This amendment gives to the states their seven "Reserved Powers." Among these powers are the states' rights to protect

life, health, safety, and morals, and to maintain order. I suggest that this has always been the basic right that has enabled the States to carry out their "police powers."

May I also suggest that if the Assembly or the executive considers a situation detrimental to the welfare or safety of the people that they will be in the future, as they have been in the past, perfectly within their Constitutional right in doing what they may be considered proper for the people?

If at any time in the future a situation arises in a non-segregated school that endangers life, safety or order, is it not proper that the situation be remedied by removing the cause? I do not believe that anyone can be so naive as to ever remotely think that these situations will not arise.

I may be wrong, but I do believe that this is an answer to our dilemma.

—C. W. MCGEE JR.

New Dealers, Northern Republicans To Blame

Charlotte Editors, The News:

I believe in mixing Negroes with white children in school together. We are southerners down here. I think it is high time we band ourselves together and get rid of some of these crooked politicians, before it is too late.

I think it is the New Deal Democrats and Northern Republicans that want to mix the white and colored children in school.

—J. A. NULLIS

Yankee Will Accept Offer Of Free Move

Charlotte Editors, The News:

I WISH TO take up the offer of Ralph N. Jones, whose letter in the People's Platform was published May 28.

I am proud of Mr. Jones' Confederate flag, six feet by four feet, but cannot say too much about his plan to start a new party.

I am a Yankee, proud of it. Have lived in the South for 30 years. Want for better than 30 years. Can stimulate a Southern brogue as well as a native son and have tolerated so-called southerners as well as a matter of course; put up with high taxes, ignorant as well as uneducated voting, enticed by moonshiners and bootleggers, and figured by the constant religious might to govern practically all walks of life throughout the South. This is a free country.

This is a free country. Freedom of religion—freedom of the extent of the religious factors, the opportunity of life and what we can make of it. Life's struggle is a tough one, without the steeper and harder and more vicious struggle to make this nation what it is today.

In token of Mr. Jones' appreciation I do want to be one of the first 10 Yankees he will pay complete moving costs for up North.

—D. E. WICKLAND

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THOUGHTS on welcoming a Lion of Judah—Washington is a blasé city. It takes a lot to make people get out on the street corners and cheer. Visiting prince and princesses have toured the length of Constitution Ave. from Queen Marie of Romania in Hoover's day to the President of Turkey in Ike's.

The clerks and cliff divers of the nation's capital remain unenthusiastic and unimpressed.

But they turned out for a ducky, state-by-little man from Africa the other day. I suppose one reason was basic sympathy for the American people for the underdog. They knew this little emperor had undergone the most ruthless invasion of any preceding World War II. The civilized world stood by, wringing its hands, but doing nothing.

So last week the conquering Lion of Judah, Emperor Haile Selassie, was in the White House. The altitude of Washington is about 35 feet. And at the White House reception given by the Ethiopian ambassador, the Em-

peror guests were slightly faint. He sat down. Guests were asked to excuse him. He had taken a lot of punishment in his 61 years, from Mussolini's Black Shirts to Hitler's SS, and he was a Washington social scene was a little more than he could stand.

I don't go to many of these brawls but I did this time. Sampling the Emperor's food—from beef steak to chop suey—my memory went back to the Grand Old Party in 1932. The King of England sent a one-ton coronation cake. The President of France sent an airplane. And Herbert Hoover, then President, sent a photo of himself.

Little McCarthy quiz—Wonder what the Rockefeller family now thinks of the Republican Consumer War? The spirit testimony that their foundation is the next thing to communism?

The Rockefellers contributed a neat \$84,000 in 1952 to elect a Republican

administration. Today Congressman Carroll Reece of Tennessee and other Republicans have permitted testimony which makes the Rockefeller Foundation's great work in stemming typhoid, bubonic plague, disease, and other world look as if it was dictated from Moscow.

The Ford's also shelled out heavily for the GOP. Ford dealers all over the country were asked to pony up for the Grand Old Party in 1932. Last week GOP Congressmen permitted testimony indicating that the Ford Foundation is akin to communism.

Henry Ford and John D. Rockefeller, two business buccaners who were criticized for a lot of things, but never for being communistic, must be turning over in their graves!

Dr. Bunche's loyalty—The loyalty check of Dr. Ralph Bunche, the distinguished Negro diplomat, nearly gave the Republican high command heebie-jeebies. They figured they would lose the Supreme Court's decision plus Sen. Maybank's slap at nonsegregated public housing—seems leaning a bit toward the GOP.

Actually Dr. Bunche's loyalty investigation has been under way for about

two months. It was kept so hush-hush that for a time not even his knew about it.

However, Dag Hammarskjold, Secretary General of the United Nations, did know. He was so serious at the Eisenhower Administration he purposely promoted Bunche to be Undersecretary of State.

He had great confidence in Bunche as does everyone who has ever known him. It was to offset political repercussions of the Bunche promotion that the White House carefully made it known that he was invited to the official dinner.

Sometimes it pays to be a member of a minority group. When Dr. Philip J. Lee of Columbia was appointed delegate to the U.N., Senate Republicans refused to confirm him because he had belonged to one subversive group many years ago, even though he had an OK from his boss, President Eisenhower of Columbia. But Chairman Towles, Negro leader who belonged to nine organizations listed by the anti-American Activities Committee as subversive, was confirmed as a U.N. delegate like a breeze.

Republican Senators afraid a well-organized minority group vote, were afraid to oppose him.

From The Greensboro Daily News

VOICE OF A TREE

WRITING of the late Dylan Thomas in the ATLANTIC magazine, Elizabeth Sitwell says:

In my Poet's Notebook I have a quotation about a painter who, becoming a tree, this condensation of essence, this power of "becoming a tree," is one of the powers that Dylan Thomas a great poet. His poems, at first sight, may appear strange. But if we heard a tree speak to us in its own voice, would not that voice appear strange?

We don't know why it should appear strange. Miss Sitwell must be thinking of people who live in cities and never get out in the country.

Trees are always talking to people, and

in their own voices, of course. Those else would they use?

You go in a pine forest and the pines say, "Shh, shh." If you thought you had something important to say, after that it doesn't seem so important.

Oaks, elms, maples, poplars all have their voices. We ought to listen to them more. Beauty and terror are in their speech. They are telling us today what they told the Persians, the Greeks and the Chinese thousands of years ago: "If you destroy us without replacing us you will have erosion, floods and famine, and your civilization will shrivel up and die."

Washington Soiree Hard On Haile

WASHINGTON

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