

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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1954  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1954

## Breaking The Metropolitan Bottlenecks

**T**HE HANDS of the clock point to progress. That moment arrived when:

- 1—State Highway and Public Works Commission spokesmen announced they have earmarked four million dollars for a new Highway 20.
- 2—Plans for Charlotte's \$1,600,000 rail crossline to eliminate midtown grade crossings began falling into place at City Hall.

The bypass will funnel traffic swiftly and efficiently through busy Mecklenburg, steering it away from metropolitan bottlenecks. Satisfactory entrances to the business district will surely be provided.

The long-sought crossline will be the first important step toward curing Charlotte's ailing heart—midtown. It will ease congestion at 17 key grade crossings on the city's east side by rerouting the Southern Railway's Columbia Division trains.

State Highway Chairman A. H. Graham of Raleigh and Division Highway Commissioner J. A. Hardison of Wadesboro promised Mayor Phil Van Every that Charlotte's \$500,000 highway surplus allocation will be invested in the crossline project if the city submits convincing proof that it will ease traffic congestion. This would be a simple task for the mayor and his corps of experts. There

can be no doubt about the great advantages of the move.

Charlotte still needs another \$300,000 for the crossline but there are encouraging indications that the funds can be found somewhere. The city has already set aside \$400,000 for the project and the Southern has promised a matching \$400,000.

These two items—crossline and bypass—will help prevent further hardening of Charlotte's traffic arteries. Old trouble spots will be eliminated. The Columbia Division's slow freights will no longer stall cars for long, wasteful intervals. Town driving may even become less of a chore.

The whole midtown area suffers when traffic congeals. And quick travel in a metropolitan area is a matter of uninterrupted movement perhaps even more than rate of speed. Charlotte is badly in need of smooth, rapid transit.

These two items—the very necessary heart of metropolitan existence. This is particularly true in Charlotte with its tight geographical boundaries, tied to the limited needs and vision of years ago. A healthy, thriving midtown is a major source of revenue to Charlotte. The bypass and crossline will help protect that economic fountainhead.

## He Says So, But Will He Do It?

**P**RESIDENT Eisenhower should be pleased at Administration spokesmen to press for tariff cuts next year. However, the administration record on tariff suggests that commitments should be delayed until the talk has been translated into action. Before his election, Eisenhower spoke forcefully of the need for drastic tariff cuts.

After his election the President took the position that trade legislation should be renewed for one year, pending completion of a commission report on the subject. This was an understandable position, based on a desire to have plenty of facts on hand before taking action.

This year the commission made its report. The President associated himself with the majority recommendations, which were in favor of substantial tariff reduction.

But, under pressure from Old Guard protectionists, the administration backed away from its original position. It agreed to another one-year extension. Instead of a three-year extension and more presidential powers to cut tariffs, as the administration originally suggested.

Then the President decided to boost the tariff on Swiss watches.

We hate to drag out this old cliché, but "Actions speak louder than words."

## A Salute To The Charlotte Hornets

**C**HARLOTTE Chamber of Commerce doffs its hat to the Hornets tonight at Griffith Park.

It's to be an "appreciation night" with a double-barreled purpose: To pay homage to individual players on the battling Sally League team and to express burning love and pride by having a Charlotte professional baseball club in Charlotte.

And then—before you can bat an eye—back into diamond warfare against Columbia and resume the quest for fifth place.

We add our own salute to the Hornets. We two are proud to have their team. And we will be shouting encouragement from somewhere behind the first base line when action begins.

The place of spectator sports like baseball in urban life is well recognized. And the need for such recreation in Charlotte

is greater probably than ever before. This is not only because the population and the area served have grown. People seem to have a greater need for release from nervous tension and nose-to-the-grindstone routine today. Modern citizens live longer, have more time and are equipped with a new outlook on life—which can be expected to turn more and more to wholesome leisure-time pursuits.

The great game of baseball, a fiercely competitive sport, satisfies this public demand for means of expression, relaxation and release. Home town club sports provide civic pride, local loyalties and a healthy appreciation for sportsmanship as well. They are a source of community, give thousands of ordinary citizens a sense of identification with a cause.

These are reasons why the Hornets are important to Charlotte—and should receive wide support.

From The Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press

## EASY AS PI

**B**RANCH RICKEY has come out with a mathematical formula for determining the factors that win or lose ball games but is receiving wide attention. The general manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates is one of the most astute baseball men of all time. He has worked out his formula with the aid of some of the country's top mathematicians.

It uses figures on ABs, Hs, BBs, ERs and other factors familiar to box score hounds in work out measurements of a team's offensive and defensive powers and relates them by an additive equation which provides an answer to G for "games." This formula may be of use to baseball managers in analyzing their teams but it tells the public nothing it didn't already know.

If you want to find out which is the best team, the second best team, etc., all you have to do is look at the standings after the season is well enough along that a representative number of games played by the public from day to day as simply as the baseball scores can be. Each of these mathematical formulas for telling who's ahead would be a great thing. Take the field of foreign relations, and the cold war. If something like the Rickey baseball formula could be devised to tell how we're doing in this area where the weak spots are, then the public would have something. Perhaps some box score symbols could be worked out, such as BS for billions spent, AB for allies

bought, PSD for planes shot down, PN for protest notes, and others for the rest of the activities, and the proper mathematical values assigned to each factor so that the resulting equation would equal P for peace.

Then the public could work out a solid basis whether the Americans or the Russians are ahead, where the British, French and Chinese stand, and whether material values assigned to each factor or worse than Truman and Acheson. There is almost as much argument on these points as there is over the pennant races but with far fewer facts to base it on. Another thing is that in this field the public can swap the weak whereas in baseball the Dodger fans, for example, are helpless to do anything about the Bums.

The tall blonde greeted her pet friend as she stepped from the train and the two dawns embraced. The tender scene was taken in by two marines sitting nearby astride their luggage.

"That's the whole trouble with this country," one youth moaned. "Women are (F. L. A.) News-Press."

Every so often someone in the community brings to the office an oversized egg laid by one of their hens. While some of them are whoppers, they're nothing compared to the ones some TV program bring by all evening long.—MATTOON (ILL.) JOURNAL GAZETTE.

As we understand the Senate's compromise resolution on Sen. McCarthy, a good proportion of our senators say, "It's not running this year, but we are."—LINGTON Herald.

One of the best reasons we have found for having a farm is for city children to come to.—CONVERS (Ga.) News.



## People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's 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.

### Jazz Expert Praises Editorial On Swing

**R**E "SWING'S The Thing In American Jazz" (News, Aug. 16). It was an invigorating sight—seeing a set of articulate, challenging comments about jazz in the context of a recent editorial page.—NAT HENTOFF Associate Editor Down Beat Magazine

### Perhaps The Legion Could Delay Parade

**W**ITH reference to the recent article in your paper about the circus and school competing with each other on the morning of Sept. 2, perhaps the American Legion Post No. 9 could arrange with the King-Bear Circus to delay the start of their parade until 10:30. This might let more of our school children get down town in early morning parade.

### Writer Asked To Stick To Issues

**I**N A LETTER, which recently appeared in The News, a writer takes me to task for certain opinions which he erroneously attributed to me in a previous letter to The News.

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

**I**N A BRIEF VIGNETTE, the Washington Merry-Go-Round is being written by several of the editors, including the well-known actor, Clifton Webb.

### 'How's Your IQ?' Man Takes A Gulp Of Crow

**T**HANKS for calling Miss Mary W. Hoot Breeze's letter (in which she questioned the use of "was" instead of "were") to my attention. The peak of irony is reached when a reader is asked to correct a sentence with each other on the morning of Sept. 2, perhaps the American Legion Post No. 9 could arrange with the King-Bear Circus to delay the start of their parade until 10:30. This might let more of our school children get down town in early morning parade.

### A Report On Guatemala

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### Clifton Webb Prefers To Play Himself

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### All Things Possible

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## Tories Favored Attlee Trip, But May Change Tune Now

By DORIS FLESSION

**L**ONDON  
HERE IN Great Britain, as in the United States, the election is the payoff on the actions of politicians. The Conservative government will exercise its prerogative of calling an election at a time most favorable to it, which is not expected to be before spring. Thus, it promises to be at least six months before the British pass formal judgment on the highly controversial call that leaders of the Labor Party have made on the Red regime in Moscow and are now making in Peiping.

The British are being told bluntly that America is angered by that pilgrimage. There also are signs that the Churchill government is retreating from its original sympathetic attitude.

That retreat, however, seems to be the fault of the Chinese Reds so swiftly and arrogantly altering the balance of the visit from the West. Their claim that they were being helped by strategic supplies from NATO countries, when normal for anything but which Sen. McCarthy and so became an embarrassment to the Eisenhower administration.

The McCarthy hearings on strategic supplies were that rare in the senator's stormy history—a documented and sober story. It was thoroughly prepared by Robert Kennedy, now counsel to the committee's Democratic majority, and brother of Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts. It revealed more or less evidence, there is no normal for anything but which Sen. McCarthy's is attached.

Had the Chinese Reds desired to cooperate with Sen. McCarthy, they could not have done better. This was apparently brought home

### Benches Would Benefit Out-Of-Town Shoppers

**I** POUNCED ON The News while changing buses at Raleigh, Aug. 24, and read with great pleasure your fine editorial on benches for the Old Settlers' Cemetery.

May I add a comment? Many county folks and out-of-town visitors write me saying Charlotte friends inviting them here to shop, but there is no place where they can sit and wait for friends or family to pick them up for their ride home.

If you are successful in persuading the City Council to put benches in this new lovely spot, it would be the ideal place for our out-of-town visitors to wait.

Do keep plugging this project.—DOROTHY KNOX

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to the Prime Minister, and dominion followed promptly.

Mr. Churchill still remains sponsor and spokesman for coexistence with the Communists. The Attlee-Beveridge journey is a logical extension of a policy of coexistence. It is said responsibly here that the Prime Minister not only knows but has personal contacts but favored the trip. It conceivably could be that he was happy to have the loyal opposition float the actual trip balloon.

It would be a fair guess at home if leaders of both parties cooperated in a policy to assume that the American people were for it. It is a fair guess here, too. So it is necessary to accept the firm statements made by press and politicians that British opinion generally is closer to Mr. Attlee at the moment than it is to his critics. Both he and Prime Minister Churchill, of course, though so different from each other, are thoroughly representative Englishmen.

### NOT BIG BUDDIES

Mr. Attlee is believed to be about as thoroughly devoted to his traveling companion, Aneurin Bevan, as was his late Labor wing, as Sen. McCarthy is to Sen. Ralph Flanders. They are together — like President Eisenhower and politicians who mediate Joe Meek in Illinois — for reasons of party politics.

### Fight For A Federal Pay Raise Will Be Renewed

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

**W**ASHINGTON  
THAT political hot potato, the federal pay raise, will be juggled back and forth in this fall's session debates and in the next session of Congress if lobbies involved have their way.

A Congressional Quarterly survey of the postal and employe unions indicates the labor leaders will press for a "bigger bill" next year. President Eisenhower has asked for a 3.5 percent pay raise.

William C. Doherty, head of one of the bloc's leading members, the National Association of Letter Carriers, Aug. 25 told CQ: "Any way you look at it, we'll eventually need a more adequate bill. . . and we're going to fight to get it."

### POST OFFICE CLERKS

A pioneer union representing 115,000 members, NFPCC is headed by Leo George, who entered the postal service in 1907. NFPCC's legislative representative is Elroy C. Halbeck, also a former postal worker.

Another union expected to be involved in next session's pay-raise fight is the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), with 60,000 members. This is our one big objective, and we're going to keep after it until we win."

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