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Curing Charlotte's Hardening Arteries

SOMETIMES municipal aches and pains require a good operation rather than an aspirin. This is the case with Charlotte's hardening traffic arteries.

Many streets must be widened in the future as the number of automobiles competing for moving and parking room increases. Yet engineering field work for the designation of setback lines is in progress on just two streets—5th and 6th between College and McDowell Sts.

In 4 1/2 years, setback lines have been formally designated by the City Council on only eight streets. Since five of these were approved in 1954, it is to be hoped that officials are at last recognizing the need and value of this sort of enlightened planning.

Council action in authorizing setback lines must be taken individually as each street proposed for widening is added to the list on the city's original ordinance. After the line has been drawn, the property owner is paid for land taken for street purposes only at the time he presents definite evidence of his intention to use that portion of his property for the erection of a building. Until that evidence is presented, the city is under no obligation to cough up any cash—although that portion of the owner's land shown on the setback map may not be used for any building.

If setback planning had been instituted years ago, many a traffic headache and costly operation might have been avoided. Where traffic stagnates, tax values decline, motorists' money evaporates in the idling exhausts and business suffers. It is expensive any way you look at it.

Setback lines—in preparation for future widening projects—provide only a partial solution. But the setback system is an important ingredient in any over-all plan. It permits gradual widening of streets and allows the cost of land acquisition to be distributed over a period of years.

Charlotte is smack in the middle of the motor age today. The problems will probably get worse before they get better. This is no time for aspirins.

Bill Murphy And The Bank Robbers

BANK ROBBERS must not read the papers. If they did, they would quit pulling jobs In North Carolina. For bank robbery, although frequently attempted, is most unprofitable in this state, thanks primarily to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

It's an amazing thing, this preoccupation of hold-up men with small North Carolina banks. Since Jan. 1, 1953, there have been only two bank robberies in South Carolina. During the same period there have been nine in North Carolina. They were at Burgaw, Garner, Williamston and Maiden, in 1953, and at Carrboro, Fremont, Calypso, Fletcher and Bostic this year.

Convictions have already been attained in five of these cases. Arrests have been made in connection with three more. Only the Maiden case is still unsolved.

We detail this record of speedy solutions because of the credit it reflects upon a man we sorely regret is leaving this area. He is W. A. (Bill) Murphy, special agent in charge of the Charlotte FBI office, which has jurisdiction over North Carolina and western South Carolina. He is being transferred to the Dallas, Texas, office, where he will again be special agent in charge.

Bill Murphy, more than any FBI man who has served here, with the possible exception of Ed Scheidt, now N. C. commissioner of motor vehicles, has disabused the popular misconception that special agents are stern, tight-lipped, all business fellows. His engaging manner and irrepressible good humor have made him a congenial member of various community gatherings.

He will be missed by all who knew him—except Klansmen (the mop-up of the Klan was under his supervision) and any others who were unwise enough to tangle with the FBI, including those outsmarted bank robbers.

'The Enormous Flywheel Of Society'

THERE may be more truth than fiction in a Boston business executive's observation that the majority of America's workers are "good natured slobs" who want to be left alone in routine jobs. William H. Eastman, speaking at a New England industrial opportunity conference, said thousands resist promotion today because they don't want to be lifted out of a rut.

This is a chilling thought at a time when the western world needs vision, leadership and ingenuity to prevent civilization from crumbling into mediocrity and chaos. In a way it demonstrates the remarkable power of what can be called the tyranny of habit. William James referred to habit as "the enormous flywheel of society, its most precious conservative agent." He also noted that genius is little more than perceiving an unhabitual way.

The most disturbing thing about habit is the fact that it is preserved and increased by corresponding action. The longer a person remains within the narrow walls of his personal rut, the more difficult it will become for him to climb out.

But it is perhaps more than habit that keeps people puttering away at routine jobs when they are capable of better things. Reluctance to accept responsibility is also to blame. There are individuals who simply prefer to be without moral accountability for the actions of others.

But if all men were willing to scamper like squirrels on the same old treadmill, civilization would soon grow stagnant. T. S. Eliot, in his new verse play, "The Confidential Clerk," seems to teach that man should be resigned to his lot in life, accept the terms life imposes on him and adapt himself "to the wish that is granted." If the whole world subscribed to this theory, there would be no struggle, no rebellion, no human progress. It encourages docility and meek acceptance of established authority.

Man's path leads upward—out of the ruts. It is not only a question of earning power but of yearning power as well. When man ceases to yearn for something better, the darkness will begin closing in around him.

And He Thought Nazis Were Tough

WE PREDICT a black future for the audacious colonel who tried to tell U. S. Army wives and daughters how to dress in Frankfurt, Germany. And he thought the Nazis were tough! Nothing, but nothing, can match the wrath of a thousand American females when the steam begins to rise. The best thing the officer can do now is go dig himself a foxhole and bury his head in it.

What this poor, misguided Col. John H. Dilley dared to do was to issue an order advising U.S. women on his post that their everyday clothing was "not in good taste." He promptly outlawed, among other things, blue jeans on "mature women," shorts and bare mid-riff costumes.

"Our freedom is threatened," huffed an outraged Army wife. What she meant was: "This is war."

They don't teach it at West Point but Col. Dilley should have known that no silly old male is going to tell an American woman how or how not to dress. Why you can't even tell one that she has on too much lipstick and remain perfectly healthy.

What the colonel may have done was touch off the opening skirmish in a full-blown battle of the sexes. You know who will win. When the smoke clears away, the world will have a full-fledged matriarchy on its hands.

Women and elephants never forget. That precept, Dorothy Parker assures us, was coined in Eden and exists yet. We have only to consider black widow spiders, grizzly bears and Bengal tigers to deduce that the female of the species is often deadlier than the male. In the human race, she has just been biding her time for a few thousand years. Now some headstrong colonel may have triggered the open battle women have been waiting for.

We can understand the gentleman's reservations about "mature women" in blue jeans. But let's face it. Women have not only taken over man's sacred trousers. They are on the march everywhere. They have streamed into industry by the thousands, gained a foothold in practically all the "masculine" professions, grasped control of most of the wealth of the nation and even invaded the political arena. The sky's the limit now. In another decade or so, there will be a woman in the White House with a cabinet of 10 chattering females. The men of America will be tomorrow's baby tenders and kitchen slaves.

Watch your step, Col. Dilley, or you'll be blamed for the whole ugly business.

"You say this remedy is good for man and beast?" asked the woman at the drug counter.

"Yes, madam."

"Good," said the woman. "Give me half a dozen bottles. It's just the combination for my husband."—LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.

One observer says Red China showed "moderation" in the agreement slicing up Viet Nam. A few more such moderate gains and the rest of Indochina will be just China.—NEW ORLEANS STATES.

A scientist says mosquitoes can live a day and a half without nourishment. Then why don't they?—FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

'Okay, Men—It's Safe To Come Out Now'

The Pennsylvania Turnpike

A Miracle Of Achievement

By THOMAS J. EVANS
In The Pittsburgh Automobilist

(Editor's Note: North Carolina, now considering construction of a multimillion-dollar turnpike of its own, can profit from Pennsylvania's example. Mr. Evans is chairman of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.)

THE PENNSYLVANIA Turnpike Commission was created by the 1937 legislature with authority to construct a 160-mile express highway between Carlisle and Irwin.

The original turnpike was made possible by a grant of $29,250,000 by the Federal Public Works Administration and a loan by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation amounting to $40,800,000. It was built in 23 months—a miracle in highway achievement — and opened to public travel on Oct. 1, 1940.

The growth of traffic on the turnpike, ranging from an average daily vehicle use of 5,000 in the period immediately following World War II to a daily average use of 50,000 vehicles during the past year shows the growing popularity of the turnpike and the recognition of its advantages to all types of motor travel.

GREAT POPULARITY

In 1953, more than 12,000,000 vehicles used the turnpike and paid upwards of $23,000,000 in tolls.

Since the turnpike was opened in 1940, more than 65,000,000 vehicles, carrying over 150,000,000 persons, have used its facilities.

The revenue from tolls already has passed the $100,000,000 mark.

The tremendous value of the Pennsylvania Turnpike has been convincingly demonstrated in its 14 years of operation.

Today, it is firmly established beyond all question as the greatest, safest, express highway in the world.

DEFENSE VALUE

Not only does it provide the best transportation available anywhere, but it is also a factor of the highest importance in national defense because of its potential value as a military highway.

The turnpike has greatly increased the tourist and vacation travel in Pennsylvania — a business now approaching the $700 million mark each year. Motorists are attracted from all corners of the globe.

The turnpike connects with all important north-south national and state highways, leading to numerous historic sites, shrines, mountain vacation spots and industrial centers within the commonwealth.

It has encouraged the growth of new industrial areas and new markets along its length and in the regions easily accessible to the system.

Its effect has been similar to the wave of prosperity which followed the construction of the first railroad across the state in 1852.

OPPOSITION

Before the era of the turnpike, businessmen in many sections of the state opposed its construction. They felt it was the end of their business with the possible loss of millions of dollars.

But the results have been just the opposite of that forecast.

Millions of dollars worth of new business has poured into a wide belt along the superhighway. And along with the new business has come new vigor for old and established businesses and industries.

TURNABOUT

The pre-turnpike critics are now its strongest supporters.

Even the people who forecast the loss of tourist trade in the state have done an about face. They felt the tourists would "fly" non-stop across Pennsylvania. The turnpike statistics show that only 3.6 per cent of the vehicles using the turnpike travel its full length.

The turnpike reduces maintenance and repair costs of the state's free-road system by diverting to it a large volume of inter-state traffic from other principal parallaling routes.

Last year, for example, some two million trucks moved more than 50,000,000 tons of freight over the turnpike, thereby reducing the wear and tear of the free highways that otherwise would have borne these enormous loads.

MONEY SAVER

It is estimated that during World War II, if the movement of war materiel and the normal traffic load had been diverted to roads other than the turnpike, those roads would have had to be rebuilt in their entirety.

Not only does the Pennsylvania Turnpike pay for itself, but it contributes an average of $1,250,000 a year from gasoline taxes to the Pennsylvania motor license fund for the building, maintaining and repairing of state roads. The proposed extensions will add to this amount, while again not exacting a single penny from the taxpayer.

There can be little doubt that the financial success of the Pennsylvania Turnpike is the source of most of the current interest in toll highways.

At last 30 other states are following Pennsylvania's pay-as-you-go building example, and are planning their own super-toll roads.

Congressional Quiz

Q—What happens if there's a tie vote in the House or the Senate?

A—The Vice President, who presides over the Senate, may cast a vote and break the tie, though the constitution forbids him to vote under any other circumstances. In the House, the speaker may debate and vote the same as any other member. Some speakers have participated freely in voting. However, House rules provide the speaker is not required to vote on ordinary proceedings, except for instance, where his vote would be "decisive." According to congressional specialist Floyd Riddick, if the vote is a tie or if it takes one vote to make it a tie, the speaker has a responsibility to vote. If a motion receives an equal number of votes for and against, even after the speaker has voted, the motion is considered to be defeated.

Q—Is it true the party out of power always picks up seats in Congress at mid-term elections;

A—Since the turn of the century, the "outs" wrested seats from the "ins" in every non-presidential election except 1934. The opposition party captured control of the House four times in the 13 mid-term contests since 1900, but won a majority in the Senate only twice.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Senate Wives Irked At Mrs. McCarthy

WASHINGTON

THE latest McCarthy incident has Senate wives just as mad as some of their husbands.

Seats in the "family gallery" of the Senate are not reserved. However, it is a long-standing rule that no one except a senator's wife can sit on the front row of the gallery. Not even a senator's daughter can sit on the front row. Wives only can sit there.

Imagine the surprise of three Senate wives, therefore, when they were barred from sitting on the front row because they were "reserved for four friends of Sen. McCarthy and Mrs. McCarthy."

When Mrs. James Duff of Pennsylvania, Republican, together with Mrs. Paul Douglas of Illinois and Mrs. William Fulbright of Arkansas, Democrats, entered the family gallery to listen to the Flanders resolution debate, the gallery attendant called them back from some empty seats in the front row.

The sergeant-at-arms, he said, had given strict instructions to hold those five front-row seats for Sen. McCarthy. The three Senate ladies pointed out that the sergeant-at-arms apparently didn't know the rules. McCarthy had only one wife, and she alone could sit in the front row. But even she could not have a seat reserved in advance. But the attendant insisted. So, to avoid an incident, the ladies quietly sat in rear seats.

Imagine their surprise, therefore, when in walked Mrs. McCarthy accompanied by Mrs. Constantine Brown, wife of the Washington Star columnist, and sat down in the front-row seats from which the Senate wives had been barred. With them was a bulky man, who looked like a bodyguard, and two elderly ladies, neither of them a Senate wife.

Things the Senate already knows about McCarthy—A lot of time, stenographic ink, and money will now be spent in another investigation of Sen. McCarthy. Meanwhile, the sworn official facts already on file regarding Jumpin' Joe take up a young library. There have already been five investigations, directly or indirectly, of either McCarthy or his charges. . . Here are some facts the new Senate committee can easily document without wasting any time whatsoever:

Malmedy Massacre — First investigation of McCarthy resulted from his charge that the American Army had tortured the Nazi Elite Corps who shot down unarmed American prisoners in cold blood at Malmedy during the Battle of the Bulge. Though the Democrats were in power, they made a Republican, Sen. Ray Baldwin of Connecticut, chairman of the investigating committee, which ended with McCarthy's walkout in a huff and charging his own Senate colleagues with deception. . . The probe showed that American officers had not tortured the Nazis, but McCarthy charges did play into the hands of German Communists who charged the U. S. with murder and torture.

Anna Rosenberg — McCarthy was one of the few senators who helped cast suspicion on Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, nominated to be assistant secretary of defense. . . He sent his chief investigator, Don Surine, to New York, and, with Ed Nellor of Fulton Lewis's staff, he consorted with anti-semitic conspirators against Mrs. Rosenberg. . . Further investigation by an impartial Senate committee showed that Mrs. Rosenberg was just the opposite of a communist and she was overwhelmingly confirmed as assistant defense secretary.

Maryland Elections—A Senate committee spent months hearing evidence on McCarthy's involvement in the 1950 Maryland elections. It found that McCarthy had raised money from the Chicago Tribune and the Texas oil millionaires. . . It showed how he had faked a photo of Communist leader Earl Browder in supposed friendly pose with Sen. Tydings. .

State Department Communists — McCarthy's charges of Communists in the State Department were investigated for months. First he said there were 205 card-carrying Communists known to Dean Acheson. Then he changed the figure to 57, then to 81—all in one week. Then he claimed he had never made the charge of 205 Communists—though the staff of the Wheeling, W. Va., radio station where he spoke swore under oath in the Benton libel suit that McCarthy had made exactly that statement. . . The Senate probe ended with a majority voting McCarthy could not substantiate his charges, but with Sen. Lodge of Massachusetts voting with McCarthy.

McCarthy's Finances — This probe lasted a year and a half. It not only confirmed the $10,000 Lustron fee previously exposed in this column, but showed that McCarthy had used $10,000 advanced him to fight communism by Congressman and Mrs. Bentley of Michigan to speculate for his own profit on the soy bean market. It also showed how he owed $170,029.03 to the Appleton State Bank when first elected to Congress in 1946, but had wiped out that indebtedness while in the Senate. . . It showed unidentified cash deposits of $19,000 and unidentified deposits of $59,592.52. . . All this and a great deal more the new McCarthy Committee can find, sworn to under oath, in previous reports on the harum-scarum junior senator from Wisconsin. The investigation should not require too much time.

People's Platform

No School Teacher On Study Committee

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

YOUR paper has been as friendly to the Negro race as any. It is time for your help now.

The governor of North Carolina is running true to form. Not a single teacher has he appointed to his committee, not a principal of any public school, white or Negro.

His Honor may have political sagacity, but if so, he fails to show any evidence of it at times. There are more public school teachers than all other employes but they are the forgotten people, as they often are.

What does a Negro demonstration agent have to do with the problem? What other than to please the honorable chairman from Nash - Edgecombe County with his possessions running far and wide. Why shouldn't the governor have put one of our good, down to earth Negro teachers on the board instead of a home agent who sees the schools about six to nine times a year? He didn't care enough about the white teachers of the state to recognize them either. The folks who have to deal with the problem, if one, are the forgotten.

I am one of many who will be glad to see another administration come in.

O. B. STARNES

City's First Foreign Student Due In Fall

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

THANK you for the well-written publicity attending the recent arrival in Charlotte of the foreign students sponsored by the American Field Service. The understanding coverage by Mr. Scheer and the splendid photo by Mr. Hunter have elicited much favorable comment.

This fall, Charlotte will have its first foreign student, a Norwegian boy, to study at Myers Park High School. I hope this is our first step in Charlotte's adoption of this scholarship service with its accompanying good will. (Minnespolis began with one student in 1952, had four in 1953, and over a hundred in 1954).

As this movement develops in Charlotte, other southern cities may upheld this example to sponsor similar students, benefiting and stimulating their own students and others.

—LEON K. GUTMANN,
American Field Service

Tampering With City Water Supply Illegal?

Charlotte

Editor, The News:

A NEWS item states that the City Council of Shreveport, La., adopted a resolution authorizing fluoridation of the public water supply, thereupon a group of citizens petitioned the court to issue a preliminary writ of injuction. The plaintiffs contended that the city council had no authority to fluoridate the public water supply.

The court upheld this assertion, oberving that there was no specific statute or constitutional provision conferring upon the city the authority to fluoridate the water supply. Further the court concluded that the matter of personal dental health and hygiene was for each to decide for themselves and the powers of the government did not extend to such jurisdiction. Judge James Galloway ruled that fluoridation of public water supplies is illegal. It is encouraging to know that San Diego, Calif., after using fluorine in its water for three years voted it out.

It looks like we still have some intelligent Americans left, after all.

—PARKS A. YANDLE

Sen. Fulbright Emerges As McCarthy's Chief Opponent

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

I DO NOT believe that we are all cowards," said Sen. John McClellan to his fellow senators last Monday.

No doubt there were uncowardly men among the 75 who, like McClellan, voted to duck the issue of censuring Sen. Joseph McCarthy, by creating a special committee to study the matter. But the little band of 12 senators who refused to duck the issue, and fought on to the very end, were certainly not cowards.

Indeed, special medals might be struck off for Republican Cooper of Kentucky and Democrat Douglas of Illinois—both performed remarkable acts of political courage when they voted with the minority, since both face tough, close, fights for re-election. Crusty old James Duff of Pennsylvania, a conservative with rock-like integrity, probably deserves at least a mention in dispatches, and so does Sen. Flanders of Vermont, who fired the first shot.

TOP FIGURE

But the most interesting figure in the battle was probably Sen. William Fulbright of Arkansas. Fulbright was the floor manager and major strategist of the fight Flanders started. He is also the only senator who, from the very beginning, has never given an inch to McCarthy. He was the only senator, for example, to vote against a lavish appropriation loudly demanded by McCarthy last spring.

Fulbright is interesting also in another way. He is a senator who reads—an eccentricity he shares only with Douglas, Duff, and a few others.

Because he is both intelligent and a practicing, practical politician, Fulbright's analysis of the McCarthy phenomenon is interesting. McCarthy is powerful because he accurately reflects the sense of insecurity of these times. But Fulbright also considers McCarthy, in his own peculiar way, an authentic genius. McCarthy has an extraordinary capacity, rather like the sense of smell in a carnivore, for sensing and exploiting the reactions of others.

For example, McCarthy can paralyze some adversaries by sensing their anger and creating in them a sense of furious frustration, thus reducing them to inarticulate splutterings. Fulbright himself, he admits, was "so damned mad" when McCarthy launched a typically squalid attack on him as "half-bright" last Monday, that he left out of his reply most of what he had intended to say.

There are those who McCarthy can also paralyze with fear—with some, this fear is in a curious way almost as much physical as political. But almost more effective, according to the Fulbright analysis, is McCarthy's genius for rendering himself invisible to those who do not want to see him.

This is especially true, Fulbright believes, of the older men who have been in the Senate a long time. "They have a real reverence for this place, and they just can't bear to see it defiled or brought into disrupte." Some of these older men have got into the curious habit of pretending that McCarthy does not exist.

LOST BATTLE

Partly thanks to this myopia, Fulbright considers the McCarthy battle almost certainly lost for the time being, despite all the unctuous promises of a vote before adjournment. "Joe can buffalo any committee on earth," Fulbright says. "For example, he can just go on calling witnesses—five hundred or a thousand—and anyone who objects is soft on communism."

Yet Fulbright, ordinarily an easy - going man, is passionately convinced that the battle has got to be won. This is, he says, "the single, most important issue before the country."

For with his genius for confusing all issues, McCarthy has succeeded in "preventing all rational discussion or consideration of all the great national issues." This is why, the unscared senator from Arkansas believes, McCarthyism itself is the great central national issue which must be settled one way or another, once and for all, and soon.