



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Dragons Cannot Be Slain By Rhetoric

INFLATION is a bulking, amorphous foe of U. S. prosperity. Its disagreeable qualities are almost universally deplored.

But inflation is already too pronounced to be greatly affected by oral attack, appeals to business and labor to put "broad public interests" ahead of personal gain or by minor improvements in unsuccessful tools.

"Nor will it go away and die a natural death."

President Eisenhower's economic message yesterday correctly appraised the size and shape of the emergency. But he offered nothing that is particularly hopeful—in the way of a solution. As a matter of fact, his 38 recommendations to Congress for action boiled down to a reshuffle of bypassed 1956 proposals.

Concerning the federal government's controversial "tight money" policies, the cornerstone of the anti-inflation program, the President did not note the existence of "public concern."

"Public concern" is justified. The philosophy of present monetary controls is fairly simple and forthright: By raising interest rates and reducing (or increasing less rapidly) the funds available for lending by the banks, the Federal Reserve Board discourages borrowing and investment. Economists explain the consequences this way: Investment, of course, means spending for capital goods and inventories. Less spending for these means less demand and less pressure on prices. In principle, this monetary policy should also reduce consumer spending somewhat by reducing consumer

borrowing. But this, of course, means a slower rate of investment and of business expansion; thus, a less dynamic economy. It encourages big business and big borrowers at the expense of little business and little borrowers. When banks limit credit, they do not naturally protect their biggest, strongest and most reliable customers. Furthermore, the larger, stronger firms have resources more or less independent of loans—plus the market power to allow them to pass higher interest rates just naturally to protect their higher prices. Small businessmen and farmers, heir to none of these advantages, get nothing but non-negotiable sympathy.

Some special areas of our economy have prospered beyond the usual hearse described as numbing—the housing field, for instance, pre-eminently a field of small businessmen.

Meanwhile, prices are still rising—and at a slightly higher rate of speed than is healthy. Inflation tightens its grip on the economy and public services, schools, hospitals, churches are feeling the squeeze, along with small business firms and individuals.

An inflationary future is not a bright future for America. The condition of the economy should be remedied even if it takes fairly drastic measures. But the nation need not expect a drastic prescription from the White House. The best hope today rests with an independent commission to study the nation's whole money and credit system. Congress should not hesitate in getting such a body organized and at work.

A Quality Complex Grows In Charlotte

INTO the rather tomy subconscious of Charlotte sports fans Sportsviewer Sandy Gray has moved the Coliseum and made it fit.

"The Coliseum complex" that enthralled local aficionados of anything interesting has made them demand "the top excitement, the top teams, the top personality," and shrug off with dry disdain anything average in the way of fistfights or football.

Grady finds his proof in gate receipts—the very best place to look.

Come to think of it, and we just did, the Coliseum would make a very suitable, and eminently southern, landmark for other phases of Charlotte community life—education, government and the arts. Not because of size, which is only an incidental attribute, but for those of the Big Dome's aspects which really make it

a conversation piece.

Of these the largest is quality—blended of fresh civic ideas, architectural originality and a striving for perfection.

As a matter of fact, Charlotte strived through three bond issues to get the Coliseum built and get it built.

But cash, as any southerner knows, is not the prerequisite of any quality, and not the end requirement of all. A great deal can be built into a city at a price no higher than the active citizen interest and participation in community affairs.

Certainly it was the idea and support of individuals, and not the rather small appropriations, that made the Children's Nature Museum a distinctive and highly useful community institution.

"A Coliseum complex" Charlotte can accommodate and profit by.

Quality abounds in southern people, but it looks good in institutions, too.

UNC's House Will Remain At Home

AS A MEMBER of the rough and ready school of practical pedagogy, Robert Burton House spurs sentimentality. Consequently, nary a soul will murmur "Goody, Mr. Chips" when he steps down this year as chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

As he sees it, farewells of any kind will be inappropriate because he's not going any place at all—except right across campus to a classroom.

It is marvellously fitting that the rough-behaved humanist who has become one of North Carolina's foremost educational philosophers will shun the pasture and join the University's English faculty instead.

It means that scores—possibly hundreds—of unsuspecting underclassmen will yet be exposed to the wit and wisdom of a rare and wonderful figure on North Carolina's educational landscape.

For Chancellor House, it will be the realization of a 40-year-old dream. For Tharbell's younger generation it is an invitation to enjoy one of the most civilized minds of our time.

There is something of the rustic in Chancellor House and he has exploited this quality to the fullest in a life-long campaign to prove that art and beauty are neither silly nor useless. In fact, he has waged an effective battle at Chapel Hill against the solemn academicians who have been by and large divorced from life and the esthetic from the practical.

"My thesis is that the humanities are utterly practical," he once wrote.

"Poetry, the mother of all arts and sciences, and the soul of the humanities, has taken care of the fundamental emotional, intellectual and volitional concerns of the human race from the times of the Bible and Homer to those of Robert Frost. Insofar as the health and the wholeness of man is an issue, poetry is as practical as plowing. . . .

"Without the language of beauty there can be no language of science. The first stage is intuition; the second, concept; the final step is art as expression. Science is the art of knowing; art is the science of expressing."

The author of this remarkable exposition is the same gentle academic war-horse who entertains the stuffiest of gatherings with utterly uninhibited harmonica playing ("Every speaker ought to have a few notes") and a rich store of down-home humor.

"During the Civil War," he likes to tell visitors to the University, "a company of Union cavalry, from Michigan, came to Chapel Hill, and they quartered some of the horses in the library, which is now the Playmakers Building. The library shelves made excellent stalls for the horses. In due time the Yankees and their horses departed. Ever since that time Michigan horses have been noted for their intelligence and Carolina students have been recognized for their horse sense."

The source of any horse sense among Carolina students is not Union cavalry mounts. It is probably Robert Burton House.

From The Washington Post & Times-Herald

THE THREE-LEAFED BLUES

POISON IVY, says a news item, was the only major vexation aboard the Navy's first atom-powered submarine, the NAUTILUS.

The skipper, it seems, had a brush with poison ivy before he went to sea (let us hope the substance isn't fissionable or radio-active) and his writings were the only medical disturbance which the Navy doctor aboard had to report to the Association of Military Surgeons. No doubt this was enough.

We can speak with some sympathy and feeling on the subject. Poison ivy is the conrdsnt, cussedst stuff ever touched by man, and unhappily there is a great profusion of the three-leaved plants in

these parts just waiting to caress you when you mow the lawn, rake leaves or wander innocently in the woods. Poison ivy appears to spread when you merely look at it or think about it (although there is a medical card that you must actually brush the oil from the leaves in order to be afflicted with those pernicious little blisters).

A good many nostrums are on the market that are said to be effective in relieving, and possibly some of them work; but we don't know anyone who has had the fortitude to keep the lather unmolessted long enough to find out. Only major trouble indeed! If it can truly form the scratching alone probably was enough to power the Nautilus!

People's Platform

DID Phillips Russell really say that North Carolina is the only state among the 48 which has no large cities?

Sixteen states have no community as large as Charlotte. The Queen City's size is irrelevant but a 1600 per cent error removes Russell from the ranks of those competent to judge.

—M. B. BETHEL, M.D., M.P.H.

For Certain Crimes, Let's Ration Mercy

THE legislature should amend the law, and not let juries bring in a guilty verdict with a recommendation for mercy for murderers, rapists, highway robbers and homebreakers. . . .

There is no value in mercy. Human life has a certain class of both races that will kill you and think nothing about it.

It is to be hoped the legislature makes such crimes punishable by death regardless of who the victims are.

—WILLIAM C. MCINTIRE

Kudos For Kuralt Was Well Deserved

THE news of the presentation of the Erie Pyle Award to Mr. Charles Kuralt was most pleasant to many readers of his column, "People."

The dramatic insight into the drama of people, who otherwise go unnoticed shows clearly in his columns and it was indeed pleasant to learn recognition of his remarkable facilities for the expression of his own opinion, and that of other outstanding journalists. My congratulations to The News and to Mr. Kuralt.

—MORGAN BISSETTE
 Public Relations Manager
 Allstate Insurance Co.

Middle Europe Critical Point

ANONYMOUSLY, I have been accused of being pro-Russian for saying that I thought the Huns and blood-thirsty Germans were partly attributable to the Voice of America. Of course, I may be wrong, but that's not my point. I please do not act the moral coward by attacking me anonymously.

I have just inaugurated President Eisenhower for the second year. His stated objective is to bring about peace in the world. I more worthy objective he does not have. The world is in a ferment and it is difficult to determine what is to be done. I think it is most likely to break out in the middle of Europe.

How are we equipped to meet that danger? We have six divisions of land army in western Europe, England four, two of which she has announced that she will withdraw. There are only two, or a total of ten divisions, barring some token units of the other NATO countries. This means that there is not land force in Europe belonging to the Western powers that can match the Russian land divisions; and this further means that in the event that fighting breaks out there, we are forced more or less to weapons if we fight at all; and this further means that a world conflagration with civilization itself at stake will be the making. No, I did not overlook Western Germany. I regret to say that there has been more than a police force, and the indications are that she has no intention of invading Russia's wrath by organizing any NATO army.

The foregoing situation should cause us to do something of the most serious thinking that I have ever done, and we should begin by a withdrawal of more people do not know war and its ravages and that we should abate as quickly as possible all trigger-holding action on our part. Maybe we would have been better off had a few bombs been dropped upon us during the last war for then we would have had less taste for war.

But behind all the foregoing, there is this further for us to consider: Is there any likelihood of Russia surrendering any of her buffer territory in the middle of Europe so long as the U. S. Army

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

GOP National Chairman Lee Hill isn't supposed to meddle in its business, but he has been pressuring the Federal Communications Commission to grant a multimillion-dollar channel to the Boston Herald and Traveler.

Secretary of Commerce Weeks and Sen. Leverett Saltonstall (R-Mass.), who also has nothing to do with the FCC, have added their political pressure. It now looks as if the commissioners, mostly Republican appointees, will give in.

Violating Rules

This means they will not only overrule the FCC's veteran chief examiner, Col. James Cunningham, but will violate one of the FCC's own rules — namely, to diversify control of public channels of expression.

Two Big Papers

The Boston Herald and Traveler not only operate two big metropolitan newspapers, but also control Boston's biggest radio station, WIDH. Now the papers

Noted: A 1600 Per Cent Error About Charlotte

is in Western Europe? And if she does not intend to do it, can we make her do it? We must conclude from what has just happened in Poland that Russia is not serious to giving this buffer territory local autonomy, but she is not going to surrender the right to maintain her armies there, as she is going to keep the Polish flags always open for the use of her arms and that fighting will be limited to the middle of Europe rather than on Russian territory. And believe it or not, Germany, both East and West, will remain neutral if humanly possible, as she does not want to be reduced to ashes as a result of somebody else's war.

To my way of thinking, prudence is the best part of valor. If Russia is to be expected to get out of the middle of Europe, we have got to do some negotiating and we must begin by realizing, not stating — for we should preserve the poker front as long as possible — that Russia most likely will not budge until we agree to withdraw from Western Europe and Germany is demilitarized. This is not appealing, but if we are realistic and want to live with one sleeping with one eye open and one foot on the floor the rest

of the way, we have got to make concessions we do not like to make.

And this further thought, and I will ring off, rather quiet: Is any rational man sure that you can count on the slightest aid from any Western ally in the event that Russia and we begin to throw nuclear weapons at each other? Will they not blow up every air base and military installation we have in the continent of Europe, Asia and Africa? If they permit us to use them, they, ipso facto, become enemies of Russia and subject to the same treatment given us.

Think it over, and gratefully.

— JOHN W. HESTER

Lee And Lincoln Can't Be Equated

HAS the once liberal Charlotte News succumbed to the vainglorious inherent in its editorial material? Has the once courageous and righteous voice of southern journalism become a mediocre, fence-straddling tabloid that panders to the bandwagon of chau-

vinism? There is no slander in total truth, but truth abridged to the whim of prejudiced innuendoes becomes a vehicle of deceit. It is ironic that The Charlotte News (especially during this time of widespread racial animosity) is expending its talent assailing the Negro's contribution to American culture in a negative atmosphere presided with Daddy Grace and a series of blood-curdling murders. It is a statement of fact and not worthy accomplishment of the Negro has ever warranted such prized attention.

Obviously, The News does not care to portray the Negro in a desirable sociological role. Yet, on Saturday, Jan. 19, 1957, The News ran an editorial in which it espoused a move to whitewash and glorify a fanatic rebel who betrayed the Godliness inherent in democracy. The News rightly acclaimed Lee a military genius, but the road to hell is paved with military geniuses who embraced the cause of tyranny.

It approximates sacrilege to attempt to place Lee on the same pedestal with Mr. Lincoln.

What I want to know is whether or not the slanders of Charlotte. In two appearances on the show she has failed to even mention our fair city.

I used to hear the Johnson family on radio quite a few years back and used to enjoy them very much. I was very proud when Betty got her chance to go into big time, but I do believe that she owes a debt to Charlotte and its citizens.

She could have at least mentioned it, especially since there were millions of people watching. I feel she has let us all down.

—EDWARD L. SULLIVAN

Bible Poor Support For Racist Theory

FOR centuries past and to come, racists have come up with arguments such as the one advanced by nimble-witted Hitler in "Mein Kampf": "A camel does not go with a chicken, so a German should not marry a Jew."

Forever racist will try to base their statements on the Bible while the Bible never even mentions race, as such, but because of the religious implications involved in that time, it is alarming shape, and for this the so-called "mixing" of the races is not responsible.

Forever they will talk about inferior "mongrels" while these same mongrels are among the slenderest and most intelligent in the U. S. at the Olympic games or attaining fame as great singers, etc.

Racism has no basis other than hatred. One of the most impossible arguments ever attempted is the one by a Platform contributor explains how God cursed the builders of the Tower of Babel because they decided to live, work and build together.

The reason God confused these people was because of their motive; in their pride they wanted to immortalize themselves.

People who are really concerned about the human race had better think about our mental, physical and spiritual health. Statistics show all three are in alarming shape, and for this the so-called "mixing" of the races is not responsible.

—MRS. R. H. LINSEY

Christ Will Ease Pain & Trouble

EDITOR, as I write this, my heart is sad because of the passing on of a dear friend. But I know our loss was heaven's gain, and she was a good woman. I know of so many today who have broken hearts, and if we are never alone, one person doesn't know what trouble and sorrow the other one has.

Only one knows it all and He doesn't put more on us than we pressure for many years I have not been without a pain, but the world doesn't know, for I carry my troubles to one who can help me bear them. If people would live for Christ, when our trouble comes He is with us with His love and gives us strength. And if you look out all around you, I am sure you will find many who have their sorrows and troubles. If we have Christ for our partner, we will always be happy and never walk alone.

—MRS. MAYNE BANGER

A Beacon In The Storm The Test Of A Newspaper

By THOMAS L. ROBINSON President, North Carolina Press Association

Editor's Note: This discussion of the proper role of a modern newspaper is condensed from North Carolina Press, official organ of the North Carolina Press Association. Mr. Robinson, publisher of The News, has headed the organization since 1936. NCPA is made up of publishers, editors and personnel of North Carolina's 40 daily newspapers and 175 non-dailies.

THE yardstick by which we measure the constructive service to humanity rendered by our respective newspapers is not truly a yardstick at all—it is more nearly a collection of impressions which we feel that our papers are making on our readers.

PUBLIC SERVICE

It is my own conviction—and I have repeatedly expressed it—that that of us in the newspaper business are sufficiently concerned in appraising our own products. We are inclined to feel that if our own newspaper is making some

money and growing in circulation, — well, that's about enough to keep us complacently happy. We are lulled to sleep by a favorable balance sheet.

But the test of a truly first-rate newspaper is not to be found in either the size of its circulation or the volume of its advertising. The real test is, in my opinion, built around the question: "Does this particular newspaper for which I work render the maximum amount of public service to its readers?"

WADING INTO TROUBLE

Some newspapers, as we all know, are fat with circulation, fat with advertising and fat with financial profits. And yet some of these same newspapers seem fat in their apathetic approach to many civic and humanitarian problems which plead for dynamic and frank solutions.

What we must constantly remember is that a good newspaper should never settle into a rut, reaping in the profits and slyly away from controversy and trouble. The vigorous and effective newspaper wades into troublesome issues which should be resolved. The virile and inquiring newspaper searches for the truth with enterprise, imagination and unrelenting energy. . . .

COURAGE NEEDED

It takes what is actually a compound of both courage and imaginative genius for the leader of a newspaper to make his convictions and those of his associates stand out with such indelible clarity that they will serve as a beacon light for thousands of people in our communities who seek a better life.

If our newspapers fail to strengthen their position as molders of public opinion and wielders of public opinion and action, we shall simply fail miserably to live up to our birthright and our God given responsibility.

'Darn Good Speech But I Didn't Catch All Of It'



Politicians Pressure FCC Decisions

are trying to do a TV station, worth an estimated \$20,000,000.

In the past, the FCC has usually denied TV licenses to newspapers, especially if they already owned radio stations. Lately, however, powerful Republican papers have had amazing success with their applications. The Herald and Traveler, of course, are both Republican.

No Legal Voice

These three powerful Republicans have no legal voice on TV licenses. Under the law, the FCC is supposed to be an independent agency, free of pressure from the White House. Its decision means millions of dollars to the applicant so favored. That is why Congress established a quasi-judicial agency independent of the White House.

Taking Orders

They take their orders from Republican higher-ups to such an extent that they have made a farce of the hearing system. Most of the juicy TV licenses are now handed out as political plums. In fact, the FCC has so abandoned its legal duty of upholding the public welfare that congressmen are

talking seriously of abolishing the agency.

Note — Sen. Saltonstall reluctantly helped the Herald and Traveler in their application for Channel 5. The strong pressure from Chairman Hall and Sinclair Weeks.

Adlai And Louis

In Washington recently, Adlai Stevenson was being bribed with his "future" by Charles Kress, a New York Republican.

"One more campaign wouldn't hurt you, Governor," said Kress. "You look fit enough to take on Joe Louis."

"From all I hear, Joe Louis is through with championship bouts. So am I," replied Adlai.

Nazi Banker

Herman Abs, the German banker who was a director of the Nazi-controlled Deutsche Bank under Adolf Hitler, has just entered the United States to direct the lobbying campaign for the return of German property, especially General Aniline and Film.

HERB LOCK