



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON — President and Publisher
BROOKS S. GRIFFITH — General Manager
ROBERT H. LAMETER — Advertising Director
CECIL PRINCE — Editor
PERRY MORGAN — Associate Editor
R. L. YOUNG JR. — Managing Editor
HUBY STENSON — Circulation Manager

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1957

The Long Search For A Little David

A FIVE-POUND hunk of iron would float freely in all the salty political waters that have been shed over the shrinking status of the state. No subject over the past two decades has produced quite so much continuing anguish, so many prophecies of national doom, so eloquent appeals for a Little David to slay the Goliath of a federal bureaucracy.

The inauguration of a Republican administration in 1952 was to bring a reversal of the trend to big government. The Republican candidate had been South making such promises and receiving in return the support of some prominent southern Democrats. His words also lifted some of the gloom that had settled over the Taft camp following the Republican convention. Somehow, though, little emphasis was attached to state responsibilities during these hopeful days. The old notion that the revival of states rights was simply a matter of returning stolen goods was left largely undisturbed.

So, it has followed naturally, have federal-state relationships. The various missions of the federal government failed noticeably to shrink during the first four Eisenhower years. Nor did the states' increase. A quarter-century's pattern of government centralization had failed again to yield to campaign oratory. But last June President Eisenhower did contribute some plain talk to the task of restoring and maintaining the position of the states. In proposing a federal-state commission to work out ways to shift rights, responsibilities and tax sources back to the states, the President said:

"The tendency of bureaucracy to grow in size and power does not bear the whole blame. Never, under our constitutional system, could the national government have siphoned away state authority without the neglect, acquiescence, or unwitting cooperation of the states themselves. . . . Every state failure to meet a pressing public need has created the opportunity, developed the excuse and fed the temptation for the national government to poach on the states preserves."

SINCE this speech to the Governors' Conference by the President, there have been two significant developments. One was the creation of the commission he recommended and its report suggesting abandonment of federal aid for vocational education, sewer treatment and planning for urban renewal on condition the states supply the aid from tax sources also to be abandoned by Washington. The other development was the country opinion survey conducted by the House Government Operations Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee headed by North Carolina's Rep. L. H. Fountain. The 3,000 pages of testimony taken by Fountain's group suggests little support for even the minor cut-

backs in federal aid recommended by the commission. Georgia Gov. Marvin Griffin, a perpetual states rights advocate, said "any drastic departure" from existing grant-in-aid principles "would create confusion and chaos" and penalize the poorer states.

Nonetheless, the negative outlook needn't foreclose all hope for at least slowing government centralization. The Fountain subcommittee's findings have at least arrived at the real causes for centralization and at the reasons for resistance to reversing the trend. Their findings offer a basis of realistic study for any states rights advocates who are interested in doing rather than declaring.

THESE are some of the arguments advanced to the subcommittee by opponents of the transfer of federal grant-in-aid programs to the states:

1. Experience with rural-dominated legislatures indicate the cities would be short-changed if states took over management of the grant-in-aid programs.

2. Even if the states imposed new taxes, they might not be used for the same purpose as the discontinued federal grants.

3. Many state legislatures are unenthusiastic about some of the existing programs, and might drop them.

4. The tax sources mentioned for return to the states are largely of the "nuisance" variety, expensive to collect and uncertain sources of revenue; only a rebate on personal and the corporate income taxes would offer sufficient new sources of state revenue.

5. The federal programs have strengthened local government by providing incentives for local programs. If the states took over, these incentives would be withdrawn, by setting high standards for the execution of those programs and by equalizing to some extent the resources available to various states and cities for those purposes.

THE essential fact in all this is that the road to a reduced federal government is piled high with practical political problems. It will be tremendously difficult to overcome them. One can hardly imagine, for example, a serious effort by the North Carolina General Assembly to help Charlotte deal with an urban problem such as slum clearance. But difficult as the problems are, it is better to recognize them than to rail about the alleged theft of states' rights by a conspiratorial bureaucracy.

There is only one swift, sure way to trim the growth of the federal government. That is for the President to propose and Congress to approve cessation of certain expenditures. This way, in view of the Alphonse-Gaston act staged by the President and Congress on the current budget, can be ruled out. Seems the current White House nor Capitol Hill could define the word "certain."

People's Platform Surround City Library With Country's Beauty

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
I am a newcomer to Charlotte. I arrived here while your new library was being built. The design of the library indicates that the old hotel between it and the corner was slated to be removed, so why not come right out and give the planning board credit for this far-sightedness?

When I first saw the layout I thought it was perhaps a set-up where leases had to run out before these buildings were demolished. Afterward I thought and spoke to friends about it. Here is a perfect time to get the citizens of Charlotte behind a project and collect the money by public subscription to buy and remove this property. The big hazard is that some of the merchants will want to use this space as a parking area, whereas, in my opinion, it should be a grassy place with perhaps a fountain and native shrubbery, dogwood and other of your lovely flowers to make a beautiful site for Charlotte worthy of your beautiful library, and in the center of the city.

Concerning the library itself, a recent disappointment to me has been the alleged necessity of a policeman in the lobby. This seems to me to be a city which brags of her churches, unless perhaps the churches are spending more time and thought on their own building programs than on the morals of their people. Before anyone is stirred to anger at this thought, let me ask: How many sermons were given on honesty from the churches after the article appeared in the newspaper about the necessity to post a guard in the library because of the many thefts of books?

F. A. JONES

Zero The Missiles On Kremlin Bosses

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
THOUSANDS of dead and enslaved Hungarian freedom fighters are mute but powerful testimony to the absurdity of your editorialist's "More Security Means Less Security," appearing in The News of Dec. 18. Yes, once again the News has lost its sense of reality — this time by applauding the egghed gun-beating in England of George F. Kennan, former U. S. ambassador to Russia.

The right of private citizen Kennan to disagree with his country's proposal to stockpile nuclear weapons in Western Europe cannot be questioned. Is it quite "cricket" though when he undermines this key proposal of his government, in a foreign land, addressed to a foreign audience, and at a time when the important NATO Conference is in process? I am fairly confident that if the alleged theft of states' rights by Joe McCarthy (these things) had ever been so crude and undiplomatic in similar circumstances, The News would have screamed to heaven — probably accusing him of trying to "wreck the world."

But with George Kennan the popular liberal "double standard" must apply since, after all, George is not only a "liberal," but a "darling" of the liberals. Yet, the reputed author of the policy of "containment of communism," in true vacillating liberal form, is now clearly implying doubts about the wisdom of his policy. (I too have doubts for that matter. Sanctions against communism — not containment — is the far wiser and better weapon.) But at least containment is better than appeasement or surrender.

Now, however, egghed Kennan seems to believe there's much hope in the idea of "negotiating" with the liberal maneuver with Khrushchev (that incomparable monster) about disarmament. The knowledge of the Communist conspiracy which George Kennan surely must have acquired as a diplomat in Russia should move him to speak more intelligently than he did over the British Broadcasting network. Did he not learn that non-Communists cannot politically negotiate with Communists except on the latter's terms — like the fatal Yalta "negotiations" — for example? Cannot Kennan and you, Mr. Editor, see that even as recently as the Hungarian revolt, the fight continues to unmercifully crush civilization, and there's absolutely not a single thread of believable evidence that the long ago stated aim of world



Put More Plants Outside The Library

conquest has been repudiated by the tugs?

A pox on you and George Kennan! What's in this country's best interest is the security of the negotiating, not the fact of "negotiating" with incorrigible tyrants but rather the employment of sanctions against them — and more missiles and missile bases any place in the world where free men cherish freedom and are willing and ready to fight for it!

And let's not forget to cock those missiles and zero 'em in on Nikita Khrushchev & Co!

J. R. CHERRY JR.
Editors' Note: What missiles?

Eat Natural Foods And Shed 'Softness'

Zirconia
Editors, The News:
PAUL BARNES made some worthwhile remarks in People's Platform—"Americans 'Soft' and 'Insecure'." Soft—insecurity is a condition for a healthy society. However, when Mr. Barnes blames our "inability to relax" for our high crime rate, divorce rate and mental illness he is not going at the root of the matter. I think the primary cause of degeneracy is that we are fed on trash.

Everyone agrees that if we stop eating we soon die, but so few realize that what we eat decides whether we are really strong or belong to the "half dead millions" that we see in the streets. It has been well proved that rats fed on our devitalized white flour and white sugar products soon become "unable to relax," sick, cranky and finally devour their offspring, while those fed on whole natural foods are healthy and contented.

When we give our children candy, white bread and soft drinks we give them a really lovely little, delicate, dainty, dentist-bait, crankiness, and are laying a foundation for every disease in the book.

Norman Vincent Peale says that both natural and spiritual law come from God. I think that when we ruthlessly destroy all vital elements of the natural food we break the law and are sentenced to sickness.

MRS. R. H. LINDSEY

Birthday Of Jesus Can't Be Determined

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
PARKS A. YANDER has recently written in the News that "Christmas is the birthday of our Saviour, Jesus Christ."

It is only fabricated tradition that fosters this erroneous premise. Neither secular nor ecclesiastical history supports the assumption

Davis Bible Dictionary, among other Christian authorities, conceded that "The observance of Dec. 25th did not arise until the fourth century, so that it has no authority."
"All attempts," says Dr. Canon Farrar, "to discover the month and day of the Nativity are useless. No data whatever exists to enable us to determine them with even approximate accuracy" (Life of Christ).

Dr. Adam Clarke, having meticulously examined the question, states emphatically, "The nativity of Jesus in December should be given up" (Commentary).

A. W. BLACK

Christmas Carols Make Us Reverent

Charlotte
SINGING CHRISTMAS Carols bring to mind past happiness we have enjoyed by being with loved ones and singing our Saviour's birthday. Carols help us to become humble and reverent so that Christ may enter our hearts. God uses the carols to prepare our hearts to receive his Son.

As we enjoy our Saviour's birthday let us think of Him as having our life in His hands and celebrate with respect for Him, and not get drunk thinking you are happy. For you are only hurting yourself and will one day answer for all your deeds. We should thank God for giving us a chance to live a better life.

I am getting so many cards I can't possibly send all cards in return but I wish you one and all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

MRS. MAYME BARGER

Don't Deny Council Privilege Of Secrecy

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
I AM backing Mayor Smith and the gentlemen of City Council 100 per cent in holding secret meetings to work out their stand on any subject.

Then they can open all the doors

Fireside Chat



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editor's note—While Drew Pearson is taking the Harlem Globetrotters on a good-will tour of North Africa, his column is being written by his associate, Jack Anderson.

WASHINGTON
THERE'S an unkind story behind the Christmas card mailed out this year by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and the tremendous haul given it by the White House press corps. Samples were sent out to reporters which, in itself, was highly unusual. Publicity turned out to be an indirect plug for the Hallmark greeting card company, which for many years the White House Christmas cards but also thoughtfully imprinted its trademark on the reverse side.

This almost unheard of in official circles where stationery, invitations, and greeting cards are prepared with the utmost of tea-and-coffee formality. In this case, however, it happens that Mrs. Eliza both Hall, wife of Hallmark's president, is a close friend of Mamie Eisenhower's. She was named by her in the year to represent the United States at the in-

auguration of President Hector Trujillo of the Dominican Republic.

Booster Shots

U. S. Surgeon General Le Roy E. Burney has unofficially recommended that polio "booster" shots be given to children who completed their Salk immunizations in 1954 or 1955.

The Public Health Service has shied away from making any official statement, because there is no scientific proof that booster shots are needed. However, many doctors believe the antibodies produced in the blood stream by the Salk vaccine may level off after a few years. If that's the case, then a booster shot would be needed to restore the antibodies to a fully protective level.

Burney has let it be known that he plans to give Salk booster shots to his own family.

Missile Fences

Behind the guarded gates at Cape Canaveral, Fla.—Major Gen. Donald "Pat" Ryan, commander of the missile test center, in-

tends to erect strategically placed fences to block newsmen from photographing missile tests. He has ordered his engineers to scout the reporters' favorite lookouts and plan a series of fences that will stop "bird watching."

The missile crews call off 20 to 25 missile tests each month. The majority are "scrubbed" by the manufacturers because of technical difficulties or design problems. The countdown. Trouble along the 5,000-mile testing range has also caused several postponements. Frequent problem: Breaks in the submarine cable, the main communications link between the missile stations.

Extra Expense

Pan American Airlines' big, six Dick Mitchell, civilian chief of the missile range, refused to authorize the extra expense of stationing medics on the picket ship crews off our missiles as they soar over the South Atlantic. A few weeks ago, a crewman developed an abscess tooth that puffed up his face with infection until it closed both eyes. The picket ship was forced to leave the missile range

and windows and let John Q. Public in when they are ready to give their decisions. To deny them that right would be absolutely silly. Do doctors, lawyers, or businessmen call in the public when they are trying to make a decision, or do football players when they huddle call the fans in. Hell, no!

So why all this hubbub about a secret meeting before going into action? It is a lot of fuss. Naturally, they don't call in the lady of the Council. No woman can keep a secret.

The people elected the Council to do what they believe is the best for the most people. The proper way to do that is to rehearse it before Council goes into the Council room to deliver their decisions.

—W. C. McINTYRE

Sheriffs To Boost Banned Book Sales

Myrtle Beach, S. C.

Editors, The News:
ONE not too many years ago a great dictator who enslaved half of Europe said: "Get me control of the public press and I will control the wills of the people." He did just that.

Freedom of the press in North Carolina is being seriously invaded by the various sheriffs in their blacklisting of certain publications and publishing a blacklist.

How do we know that these self-appointed messiahs of literature selected by the sheriff are not overly narrow-minded and overly sensitive to what they consider as salacious. Possibly some others of us would not.

Some literature, especially novels, on the market give me a glorious pain in the neck. I don't waste time reading them but others, many of whom are women, do. They enjoy the facts of life without a puritanical twist to the deal.

September Morn' was an example. Nobody paid any attention to it until bluenoses in Boston raised hell over it. Then it outsold the best sellers.

Now I wish a list of the books being banned by the sheriffs and read 'em all. More waste wasted.

—WALDO C. JONES

For The Man Who Has Everything

The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings, and you know how happy kings are. —JAMES THURBER

EVERYBODY has a helpful hint for the Christmas shopper during these last disordered days of massive procrastination — even the good, grave U. S. Department of Commerce. "Why not give a STATISTICAL ABSTRACT for Christmas?" chirps one of the department's press releases in a brave effort to fabricate the holiday spirit. Why not indeed? It seems that this year's edition of Uncle Sam's own book of knowledge contains such essential intelligence as:

1—A heated steering wheel for driving in cold weather.

2—A stainless steel and wood portable motel (40' x 12') that can be moved on a low-bed trailer; it contains two full-sized bedrooms, two complete bathrooms, air conditioning, Formica walls, vinyl tile floors.

3—A mousetrap that dumps the victim into a pool of water by means of a trap-springing platform.

4—A circular portable ice rink (16 1/2 or 20 feet in diameter) of weatherproof steel with plastic lining.

5—A less-than-two-pound air sampler (with built-in power source) that detects contamination in the atmosphere.

6—An aerosol garbage can deodorizer.

7—A completely automatic lightweight swimming pool heater that can be installed easily and quickly.

8—A stainless steel home soda fountain (5 1/2' x 27") with compressor, instantaneous soda and water cooler, freezer or refrigerator compartment, syrup dispensers, sink, reflux case and drip trays.

9—An inexpensive, 10-watt self-powered portable public address system with transistorized amplifier.

10—A B-52 bomber; special, this week only, \$8 million.

So don't let us ever catch you blubbering again about not being able to think of a thing for the man-who-has-everything. Now—what are your other problems?

DIXIE SHOWS

Show: Positive and absolute.
Poach: The poor man's verandah.
Foe: What comes after three.
Gaw News: The place where they have the Mardi Gras.

The list could be extended. Does anybody have any other additions?

Every rush-hour driver is accustomed to seeing traffic crashes. The problem is whether to yield to curiosity and stay on the main drag when the jam looms ahead, or peel off to a side street and get home on time without knowing what happened.—MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR.

From The Asheville Citizen

IF YOU are "tarred" of reading about current problems and world worries, then take a few minutes off, sit on the "poach" and study a language lesson.

The November issue of OUTRANST, publication of the North Carolina Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc., Chapel Hill, says Matt Biller submitted these additions to the November dictionary:

Tarred: Plum bushed.

Dough: What opportunity comes knocking on.

Roar: The noise a lion makes.

Aaron: Usually done by the Aaron-boy.

The Hoopla Behind White House Cards

auguration of President Hector Trujillo of the Dominican Republic.

Booster Shots

U. S. Surgeon General Le Roy E. Burney has unofficially recommended that polio "booster" shots be given to children who completed their Salk immunizations in 1954 or 1955.

The Public Health Service has shied away from making any official statement, because there is no scientific proof that booster shots are needed. However, many doctors believe the antibodies produced in the blood stream by the Salk vaccine may level off after a few years. If that's the case, then a booster shot would be needed to restore the antibodies to a fully protective level.

Burney has let it be known that he plans to give Salk booster shots to his own family.

Missile Fences

Behind the guarded gates at Cape Canaveral, Fla.—Major Gen. Donald "Pat" Ryan, commander of the missile test center, in-

Fishing For Missiles

Promoter Lou Berger, who fishes out fallen missiles out of the ocean and hauls them back to the test center, is having income-tax difficulties. A slice of his annual \$90,000 fee has been claimed by Internal Revenue. . . . Secret films of the Vanguard failures, which were supposed to be rushed to Washington, were delayed two hours in order to go through the "proper channels." Pan Am, the range contractor, refused to let its chief subcontractor, the Radio Corporation of America, deliver the films directly to the Air Force.

Private Blast

Col. Paul Cooper, the Air Force contract officer, has blasted Pan Am privately for failing to work closer with RCA. He has accused the two companies of "random" planning.