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Teapot Tempest Blurs Annexation Issue

This week's brief, blistering storm over school district lines was precisely the wrong way to solve the immensely complex problems that accompany city limits extension.
Legislator Frank Snep mentioned it would be nice if extension of the city school district could be accomplished at the same time the city limits are extended.
County School Supt. J. W. Wilson, understandably concerned lest perimeter area citizens lose their legal right to vote separately on which school system they want to be a part of, brought the matter up at a school board meeting.
For some three hours, board members tussled with the problem. Such alarming phrases as "destroy us" and "classic blunder" popped into the press. There seemed to be an insoluble problem here, one that threatened the whole school system in some way.
North Carolina law, however, is explicit: No act of the legislature is required to extend school district lines. All it takes is approval of the city and county school boards, the State Board of Education and the people living in the area concerned. The vote in the perimeter area can be taken simultaneously with the vote on city limits extension (though present city residents may not vote on the subject) or it can be taken later.
That's all there is to it. Somebody could have checked and saved a lot of time and trouble.
There are too many real problems connected with the extension of Charlotte's city limits for officials to become exercised over phony ones.

The Court's 'Swing' Man Served Well

For a quiet man, Stanley F. Reed spoke with surprising authority in the recent center of American democracy known as the U. S. Supreme Court. His resignation as associate justice yesterday marks the end of an unusual career. But, more important, it seals off a remarkable era of genuine disquietude in judicial affairs.
For years, Justice Reed was the "swing" man on the court. That is, his vote swung the decision one way or another in many of the tribunal's famous 5 to 4 rulings in the decade after 1938.
In one case, Mr. Reed might have found himself on the side of the court's liberals; in another, with the conservatives.
It was inevitable that his key position would be recognized and, often, determine how a particular case was presented to the court.
In presenting arguments to the full bench of nine justices, (lawyers) tried to figure in advance how to win Reed to their views," wrote Paul M. Yost in 1952. "Occasionally attorneys showed their anxiety to win over Reed by directing their arguments directly to him."
In those delicate days of social change and philosophical revolution, Justice Reed played his important role with conscientious care.
The South has reason to remember this egg-head, extremely dignified jurist. It was Mr. Reed who spoke for the court when it struck down the practice of barring Negroes from voting in primary elections in some states before the Mason-Dixon line.
"Constitutional rights would be of little value if they could be thus indirectly denied," he said.
Although Justice Reed frequently voted to uphold the authority of the federal government in its relations with the states, he once declared that it was "beyond imagination" that there could ever be any "serious impairment of the supremacy of the states."
He said:
Undoubtedly the more extended use of national powers in some degree detracts from the power of the states. But so long as the national powers are used only in these situations where states' actions can have little effect, the efficiency of the state governments in the affairs most important to their people will not be affected.
Defenders of the Bill of Rights have special reason to be grateful for the Kentucky-born jurist's meaningful eloquence in a case involving a newspaper accused of contempt because of the publication of two editorials and a cartoon criticizing proceedings in a county court.
"Freedom of discussion (by newspapers) should be given the widest range compatible with the essential requirements of the fair and orderly administration of justice," wrote Justice Reed, speaking for a unanimous court which had knocked out the contempt judgment.
"Without a free press there can be no free society."
Mr. Reed served his nation and the cause of justice well.

Local Weather Gets A Terrible Press

WEATHER news, the Shelby Star asserts without undue modesty, is selling Cleveland County to the world.
The Star recalls that one couple seeking a salubrious climate moved to Shelby after making a study of weather stories in its columns and in other southern papers. This example, the paper says, is weather's good the Star hopefully holds up to industry and anyone else looking for a new home. And weather being an economic as well as an emotional, physical, and conversational factor, who can foresee the limits of the empire Shelby may wreak out of cheery bulletins from the weather bureau.
"Mecklenburg, unfortunately, must woo greatness in subtler ways. The weather's fine, or about what you'd expect from a weather, toothless chatter, but it gets a terrible press. Great ice storms are forecast, along with stunning drops of temperature and veritable blizzards of sleet. Meantime the camellias bloom, jonquils bud and Forsythia exercises its accustomed impudence.
Even people are beginning to tire of the weather bureau's continual dabbling in doom and gloom. Igloo construction has practically ceased.
If the weather bureau must persist in undue pessimism, let it forecast a good snow storm. That would give the kids a momentary thrill, and cause no one any extra trouble.
Everybody knows it's going to rain.

Charlotte's Slogan Has A Blunted Point

CHARLOTTE'S slogan until a better one comes along, the Chamber of Commerce informs us, is "The Spearhead of the New South."
That has a certain point, but it's blunted by the fact that Charlotte is a missile-maker for the nation.
Trying to think of a better one is not easy, however.
"Smogville On The Catawba" may have discarded in hope that city smoke chasers will cleanse the atmosphere.

THE OLD CANDY STORE

TODAY, candy, like the subsidized athlete, usually comes from afar. Anyway, this is the universal rule in smaller towns. Of course, it is still marveled upon to the tongue, but the candy you eat today is not made fresh on the day you chew it, and it certainly isn't made in whatever filling station, cafe, or grocery store you buy it.
But it hasn't been so very many years ago that practically every county seat town in the state had its own candy store. Raleigh, fortunately, still has one in Royster's, a "rare survivor." In the old days in many such stores candy was made on the premises daily and the establishment didn't need a sign to tell folks where the exquisite stuff was sold. For the air was permeated with intoxicating fragrances. And it was hardly safe for a schoolboy who didn't have at least a penny in his jeans, even to walk within a block of the candy store. School control hadn't reached the point that a schoolboy could withstand the magic come-hither being so anguishly wined. Within smelling distance of the store he was as helpless as a child of Hamelin under the spell of the Pied Piper.
There must have been a hundred different kinds of penny candies, suckers, chocolates, caramels, marshmallows, oranges, lemons and limes. And the only problem confronting the lad with a whole nickel was the starkly momentous decision of which heavenly delicacies to choose. The old candy store was the rarest perfume of the gods miraculously bringing to Main Street the mystery and excitement of the ages. Oh, the times might be precarious and the crop short, but the most vacuous hour was saturated with the quintessence of the brightest, most enchanted day that the heart and mind of Maytime ever imagined.
Then there was the young wife just out of college who could compute the area of a triangle, but couldn't fold or pin one.—GREENVILLE (S. C.) FREDMONT.

People's While Dixie Slept, Tares Have Been Planted'

Editors, The News:
I FIND myself in agreement with the publisher of The News in that the Pearsall plan and Pupil Assignment Law have not yet been tested and that at best they are tools of but limited application in an effort to maintain segregation of public schools.

Being a segregationist and a realist as well, I voted against the Pearsall Amendments, for they are nothing more than shock-absorbers or cushions to ease the transition from segregated to integrated public schools. The fear of violence prompted their subterfuge and adoption, not a determination to maintain segregated schools. The people, I argued, should have been given an opportunity to say, on a straight issue, whether tax money should be made available for the support of integrated schools. This opportunity will never be given the people of this state. The people who control the political machinery of the state will not permit it.

New, I am going to the hard core of the situation, while the South slept there have been planted in its fields. The doctrine of one-race-and-one-blood has been promulgated by the churches of the North and accepted by many of our southern churches; schools are actually an amalgamation of the races doctrine, and the question is being asked by our young people in the best of our universities, high schools and even the non-state-supported colleges why integration should be delayed at all when the young people of today become the supporting layman and taxpayers of tomorrow. The churches that are the other works of life will be integrated and then we will have what the great old Charlotte warrior, Warren W. Woods, predicted, interracial marriages generally, and I will go him one better, that they will be celebrated in the top Protestant and Catholic churches of both races and that within the next 50 years.

There is one chance of avoiding what I above predict—challenge and confute the one-race-and-one-blood doctrine. The churches that I know best hate the idea of the amalgamation of the races, but they still support the policymaking organization of the churches. The Institute of Religion is now in session in Raleigh and one of the speakers is the appearance of the superintendent of our Louisville, Ky., public schools who will tell the institute how to integrate our public schools. We see that the one-race-and-one-blood doctrine has done in the countries in the south of the Western Hemisphere. There we have one-race-and-one-blood citizen, but he is neither white, black nor red, but definitely a blacker man product.

One morning in the fall of 1907 I walked into Horace Williams' dress shop in Charlotte. I found him looking out the window and, when the class assembled, he turned and said that man's knowledge did not transcend his experience. At that time we were moving the University of North Carolina building to the new Carnegie building and I was one of the assistant librarians. Being what I am, willing to challenge anything that I did not believe in, I asked him what in the heck he was talking about. He said that he was talking about the new building that we should burn them and forget the whole business.

Then the fur began to fly. He said that I, as usual, had gone half-blind. He said that he was talking about one thing and I another, that I was talking about information and he was talking about knowledge, something that we learned the hard way, for instance, the child never learned that the fire burned until it had been burned. That I would not profit by the experience of my dad, though he told me that he had made the same mistake that I was about to make and begged me not to do it, but that I would persist, thinking that he was an old fogey and did not know what he was talking about. Then he said that people were just like individuals, that history meant nothing to them, that they learned only by the hard way, by experience. And now I find the great English historian, Toynbee, in his great essay, "Civilization On Trial," stating that man's behavior is not perceptibly improved since he be-

Drew Pearson's Uncle Sam Kowtows To Oil Industry

WASHINGTON
THERE is one major thread running through the war and post-war American policy for the Near East as it affects the following rather remarkable charges in the News today.
1.—The manner in which Speaker Sam Rayburn of Texas rammed the Eisenhower Doctrine through the House of Representatives under a gag rule forbidding amendment. Regardless of the merits of the Eisenhower Doctrine—and this also applies to the bill which was open to full debate and amendment. The man who prevented this was Rayburn. Joe Martin, the man supposed to promote the doctrine, was the one who Rayburn who doesn't like Ike, was dictatorial and demanding that the House support him.
Johnson's Demand
2.—The fact that Sen. Lyndon Johnson, also supposed to be against Eisenhower, also demands that the Eisenhower Doctrine be passed soon.
3.—The fact that President Eisenhower is welcoming King Saud of oil-rich Arabia here just after he has refused to meet with the prime ministers of England and France; and that he took the rather unpopular step of greeting the King at the airport personally—the only time he has thus greeted any foreign visitor.
Charges Dropped
4.—The manner in which the Eisenhower administration dropped criminal charges in the huge antitrust suit started against the oil industry by the Truman administration, and has dragged out the civil suit.
5.—The interminable delay in the Justice Department's case against the Arabian-American oil group for overcharging the U. S. Navy to the tune of \$87 million. These are the same companies which support King Saud of Saudi Arabia.
6.—The ease, economic aid and shipments of arms to Saudi Arabia at the expense of the American taxpayer.
All of the above, some of them geo-



HISTORIAN TOYNEBE Words Remembered

came homo sapiens.

So I am satisfied that the white man will be integrated out of existence in the northern half of the Western Hemisphere just as he has been in the southern half and that it will be done in the name of God and in furtherance of His Kingdom—to mean a misapplication of the teachings of the Old and New Testament alike.—JOHN W. HESTER

U. S. Has Bartered Servicemen's Rights

Editors, The News:
IN HIS inaugural address, President Eisenhower assured foreign nations that we do not seek "to buy their sovereignty" any more than "we would sell our own sovereignty in never bartered among free men."
The first of these two phrases may well be true. The second however, in at least one instance, is not.
We have sold our sovereignty both by treaty and by executive agreement.
In 1953, the Senate, after a direct appeal from President Eisenhower, sold for a hill of beans the constitutional rights of the heart of our nation—the

members of our armed forces overseas.
This was done by approving the Status of Forces Agreement which surrenders traditional American jurisdiction over our servicemen who are accused of crime while off duty in NATO countries.

Only 15 senators refused to sell our sovereignty to foreign powers. Their number was not large enough to keep American servicemen 100 per cent American.

By another executive agreement our sovereignty has been sold to Japan; so this nation which made the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor now exercises jurisdiction over American servicemen. That is an appalling fact to consider.

Fortunately, there are still members of Congress attempting to regain the constitutional rights of our men who are expected to be ready at any moment to make the supreme sacrifice.

A resolution has been introduced in the House by Rep. Frank T. Bow requesting the President to take measures to regain the traditional rights to our servicemen.
Those citizens who still cherish the American system of justice may assist in this effort by making their views known to their representatives in Congress, particularly those on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The member of that committee from North Carolina is Congressman L. H. Fountain, of Tarboro.
—PETER J. KING

'It Really Hits What I Have Been After'

Chapel Hill
Editors, The News:
I WANT you to know that I am deeply touched and highly delighted with the editorial in The Charlotte News Jan. 24 ("UK's House Will Remain At Home").
It really hits what I have been after all my life as well as it can be done. It was an encouraging sort of thing and I appreciate it.
—R. R. HOUSE
Chancellor UNC



MAYOR WAGNER Words Regretted

Wagner's 'Impudence' Not In Public Interest
Charlotte

Editors, The News:
THIS impudent statement made by Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York City, concerning King Saud of Arabia and his visit to the United States, is devoid of all elements of truth and contrary to the dictates of common decency and better understanding among peoples. Mr. Wagner would be acting within his right as an individual when he chose not to "recognize" the presence of the Arabian King on American soil but, as a public official, the New York mayor should recognize the interests of the American people as a whole and not only the desires and interests of certain pressure groups who put him in office.

The Arabian King arrived in New York City as the esteemed and honored guest of a world leader and a great American, the President of the United States, for the avowed purpose of strengthening American-Arab relations, in particular, and world peace, in general. Mr. Wagner can rest assured that King Saud is not coming to New York City in order to rub shoulders with him, as it is indeed beneath his dignity and far from the purpose

of his visit to do so.
Upon reading the derogatory statement and false accusations which Mayor Wagner saw fit to level against the guest of the President and, hence, a guest of American people, one would reach the inevitable conclusion that Mr. Wagner was motivated by purely selfish considerations coupled with a lack of good taste and the apparent indifference to the true and vital interests of the American people at large.

The New York mayor's remarks are but an added example of the type of false and fanciful propaganda which has been conducted against the Arabian King and his people, with the sole aim of disrupting and defeating the very purpose for which the President of the United States invited the Arabian monarch, namely, the strengthening of American-Arabian relations for the mutual benefit of both sides.
—SHAHR HUSSEIN DAHIR

No Legislator He, But A Dynamo Still

Mooresville
Editors, The News:
JUST a note to set the record straight.
In your "Strictly Political" column the other day you said there would be two publishers in the 1957 legislature: "Tom McKnight, the Mooresville dynamo, and J. Roy Parker of Abbeville."
As far as we know there will be only one publisher—Mr. J. Roy Parker and a very fine gentleman.
Your writer was a little confused or misinformed. Mr. Tom McKnight is not a member of the legislature. You were thinking of Mr. James E. McKnight, a Mooresville representative for Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company and no relation to Publisher McKnight.
While Mr. McKnight appreciates your colorful description, he must decline the honor you attempted to bestow.
—LEONARD DUDLEY
Managing Editor
The Mooresville Tribune
Editors' Note: We erred. But Publisher McKnight is indeed a dynamo.

Forget Hit Parade, Play Good Music

Editors, The News:
WHAT has happened to our musical culture? There are many radio stations all around us, yet all of them try to present practically the same kind of music with very little variation.
We need one radio station in every town and community which will completely disregard the modern music and the so-called Hit Parade. Take a drink of water instead of the original white man's music.
One little radio station in a community as large as Charlotte that would operate with individuality and present this kind of program would become more popular and have more listeners than a station that is trying to keep up with the signs of these modern times.
There are musicians in this country who are well talented with the musical ability to help produce programs of this nature but they are never given a chance. Taking a drink of water is old-fashioned but it is still a very necessary part of life.
—CLYDE L. WILLIAMS

Singer Should Take Pride In Charlotte

Editors, The News:
I AGREE wholeheartedly with Mr. Sullivan and Mrs. Hudson in their comments regarding Betty Johnson.
Since Mr. Reich thinks it is all right for Miss Johnson to say "I'm from a bossom Walk, I would like to add something for his benefit.
I believe that she was referring to the old Possum Walk Road in the Oakdale section of the county. The road is now called Oakdale Road and has been so called for many years. Doesn't Betty know that?
I will be the first to admit that Possum Walk sounds quaint and backwards, but Betty should be proud to say she's from Charlotte, the most progressive city in the South.
—F. B. FISKE



HERBLOCH