

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Charlotte & Mecklenburg Are Ready For A Consolidated School System

CONSOLIDATION of the school systems of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is a public necessity.

The area is geographically, economically and socially ready for it.

Now, eight years after the Institute of Government recommended that a merger be given "serious thought," Mecklenburgers are behaving as if they may even be politically ready.

Enthusiasm for the idea yesterday on the part of County Commissioners, members of the County School Board and Rep. Frank Snipe was more than an amen. It was solid evidence of an awakening appreciation of the inevitability of the decision.

The opportunity for joint city-county discussions of consolidation possibilities must not be wasted. The time has come for a comprehensive plan to translate eight years of timid talk about a school system merger into action.

It is probably too late to prepare appropriate enabling legislation for the 1957 General Assembly. A suitable target date would be 1959. By that time, the plan of annexation plan should be in operation and the urgency of school consolidation will be even more apparent.

THE interdependence of metropolitan Charlotte and suburban and rural Mecklenburg is already compellingly plain. It was plain in 1949 when Henry W. Lewis completed his study of opportunities for consolidation in 1949.

"Merger of the two units would, for example, mean that future building programs could be planned from the standpoint of need for the whole area and with reference to true community-wide needs. The divisions caused by unit lines, in time this could mean more economy and better integrated attendance areas. Merger of the two units would also mean centralization of plant, operation and maintenance work. Centralization would offer opportunities for money saving in the form of competitive bulk purchasing and in the form of a maintenance crew

Zoning: Council's Blunder Is Showing

SEN. Spencer Bell has no confidence in City Council's willingness to support fair and effective zoning.

That is the import of his move to require a two-thirds Council majority to override decisions of the City-County Planning Commission.

Generally, his proposal springs from his experience with Council while chairman of the planning commission. Specifically, it results from Council's 4-3 decision to reject recommendations of the commission and to permit business development near Cotswood School.

In general, we oppose Sen. Bell's proposal. Majority rule of an elected body should suffice to govern an appointed body. And it is possible that in the future, planning and zoning might have a better friend in a council than in a commission. Majority rule is the wisest in the long run.

Specifically, however, the two-thirds rule could have been justly and wisely applied to the Cotswood case. The commission

mission preeminently was better qualified than Council to judge the case. In the first place, the commission knows or should know more about it than Council. Secondly, the citizens involved had representation on the commission, none in Council.

In other words, the commission was more nearly the representative body and had the greater right to final judgment. If Council did not err in the practice of zoning principles in this case, it certainly blundered in principle.

The blunder invited Sen. Bell's proposal. And in the light of that blunder, the arguments of some councilmen for "majority rule" and the rights of "elective bodies" sound rather hollow.

But believing that the principle of majority rule must survive bad practices, we urge that the principle be retained.

In the meantime, we hope that the citizens involved in the case will speedily receive the franchise by which they may participate in the election of the Council.

As a capitalist must have experienced a tremor or two as well. Lacking plane fare to Miami, nothing would please them more, no doubt, than a nice tax-deductible trip to the corner pub once a week to be thoroughly and methodically reconditioned.

Nervous farmers ought to get equal consideration. Consider what a few carloads of tax-deductible fertilizer would do to ease the tension and recondition the spirit about one a spring.

Just sitting here thinking about it reconditions us to the tune of a rather tidy sum. But it isn't our nerves that are frayed. It's our credulity.

From The Raleigh News and Observer

SLINGSHOTS AND HOOPS

SLINGSHOTS and hoops that you roll with a stick seem to have been relegated to limbo by some diabolical misfortune. Once they were cherished possessions. Actually, it was imperative for a youngster to have both. The boy marched diligently for the proper forked stick, and then with the aid of a little string, two inertube strips, and a patch of leather, he fashioned his masterpiece. Then he filled his hip pocket with pebbles, placed tin cans on the backyard fence and gradually backed up until he could deliver unerring salvos at a considerable distance. Finally, the great day came when he met with a host of expert marksmen in the woods. The contest continued until the pebbles were gone or darkness fell like a spent kite over the land. His proficiency was amazing, and the tales of his sharpshooting made those of big game hunters insipid in comparison. He was the monarch of the woods, a

Anarchy At Home: The World's Worst Brats Run Wild

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain
 I SHALL be descending on the Big Town soon for my biennial fling at the fleishpots, and like the farmer going on a spree, I must say I dread it.

It is not so much the giddy whirl that New Yorkers call living; not so much the TV, the theater, the saloons, and the consequent bankruptcy as the old lady gets carried away in the shops. It is mainly that I will be introduced afresh to the progeny of my friends.

I do not mind the older ones who are painfully polite and call me "Sir," because they will either be drafted or married soon and out of underfoot. They are at least old enough to have dates and have developed an aversion to staying home and kibitzing their elders. Also I've lived and suffered through their earlier wars against organized society.

POSTSCRIPTED APPLES
 The ones I dread are the postscripted apples of the parental eye who, having arrived in the early autumn of their progenitors' lives, are freely accorded rights and privileges which should be painfully earned, even by adults.

I refer here to the child of six



Modern Juveniles Are Great Whiners

to 10 who has been raised more or less a carte, without benefit of razor strap or the hard word, "No."

Mostly by doing parents who see their monster through a martini haze as an incipient genius whose development and free expression should not be hampered.

HIGHBALL ROAMINGS

These are the brats who must be allowed to eat when the adults eat, who must not be hustled off to bed at a given hour but must roam amongst the highballs until fatigue and cigarette smoke exert a merciful — to the guest—

anesthetic which sends the genius half-stupified, to bed.

These are the monsters who must have a sip out of Mommy's cocktail so they won't grow up thinking that booze is evil, although a fair squirt at Mommy does a handstand at 2 a.m. or necking in the garden with a neighbor might have some deterrent effect on the child, at that.

These are the darlings who grab food out of your plate, upset cocktail sauce on your best suit, crawl around under the table with lethal weapons, demand bedtime stories from strangers, and set up a howl when bed-die-by is timidly mentioned.

FAMILY TREASURE

Unless they have changed since I started this piece, American children of the modern unrestricted raising are the worst brats in the world. And of the American children, New York and Washington young'uns own the championship. It is an odd thing, but the child is the treasure of the average European family, and the life of the home revolves around the child, who manages to be polite to each other, respectful of elders, well-mannered and cheerfully obedient without tantrum. A visit



Some Little Monsters Never Hear 'No'

from a grandparent does not wreck the routine, and the word "papa" means more in the infantile intellect than in the American home where "Daddy" off as not referring to that seely old bum who'll let you get away with anything if you raise enough hell.

The modern American mother

has nurtured on a steady diet of predigested pap by the "resistant" with the six-year-old, and you might as well attempt to reason with a puppy.

There are no greater whiners and arguers than the modern juvenile. "If I can't go to the movies, why can't I go to the movies?" Tommy sits up until 12 o'clock every night. Why can't I?"

GOLDEN WAND

No more the golden wand of parental authority. It wouldn't be so bad if they allowed the monsters to practice their delinquencies on their own time, but they insist on feeding the guests a heaping share of their own intramural miseries.

All I know is, I'm all right up to my necks, sidden at full speed across the ankles, and the next incipient genius who knocks a chair out of my feet is on his own, sex of subject notwithstanding. I used to smack little girls when I was younger, and I still got the range.

'I Think I Begin To Get The Idea'



Discretion Is Crippling Republican Firmament Lacks Stars

Discretion Is Crippling Republican Firmament Lacks Stars

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
 NOW OBSERVERS would argue with Republican National Chairman Maude Alcorn that a pressing problem of his party is its need for attractive candidates.

Actually it was the national committee woman from New York, Mrs. Seymour Weiss, who first jolled that alarm bell. Mrs. Weiss frankly confessed, with feminine realism, that the inaugural parade was spoiled for her when all these attractive young Democratic governors rolled by and she failed to discover offsetting Republican stars.

Impending retirements, age and illness make the situation particularly difficult for Republicans as they begin their efforts to capture control of Congress next year. Alcorn sees the picture clearly, but there is not too much he can do.

CRY OF PURGE

Let Washington lay its hands ever so lightly on a state primary and the cry of "purge" rings through the land. Even when the local politicians accept Washington's dictation, the voters often don't.

Only last fall President Eisenhower picked up a state primary candidates and campaigned personally for them: Douglas McKay in Oregon and Gov. Arthur H. Langlie in Washington. The president went on a landslide but McKay and Langlie lost.

At the height of his prestige, Franklin D. Roosevelt undertook reform at the state level and succeeded only in putting the word "purge" into the political lexicon.

Even in his private conversations, Alcorn has to be discreet. What one politician knows, all know, and probably the press.

MEADE ALICORN Everybody Listens



It is a curious historical development that finds both major parties so much at sea in a time of great prosperity. President Eisenhower, with his smashing victories and his pre-emption of their welfare state issues, has hurt and disheartened the Democrats without helping his own party to any

thing like a similar degree.

The Democrats find their divisions accentuated as they grope for new leaders and policies. The President and his businessman's administration did not create the Republican division between the right and left, but they have done little if anything to build a strong center. It is fair to add that they have not had too much to work with in Congress, which again raises the candidate problem.

NATURAL PRESSURES

The natural pressures on the Republicans are to split and recombine in a new party. The second four Eisenhower years starts to come into sight. It could well be fatal for them.

The best direction is hard to find as the voters increasingly show an independence of party which gave President Eisenhower both a landslide and a Democratic Congress. But there is no evidence whatever that the country wants to revert to traditional Republican politics.

The present furor over the record budget is much more an attack on foreign policy — of which spending is so large a part — than it is on domestic issues. The Eisenhower domestic policy is popular, rightly or wrongly, but it is creating a wave of disillusionment which is expressed in a "cut spending" mood. It cannot be said to be illogical, for the big money is going into defense and foreign aid, military and economic.

Act for taking money from an employer to cross a picket line against a strike called by John L. Lewis' District 50.

Secret Session

The member of the Teamsters' Executive Council who proposed in secret session that the teamsters buy Beck's house was Sidney Brennan of Minneapolis, convicted under the Taft-Hartley Act.

When John Herlong, labor specialist for the Washington News, published a story

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. No money reserves the right to condense.

Hezekiah No Prophet: He Was A Monarch

Gatfney, S. C.
 Editors, The News:
 I THOUGHT I would offer a correction to an answer in the "How's Your L. Q.?" column of March 6. The question "Was Hezekiah a prophet?" The answer is: "No." This answer is unfounded by the Bible.

Hezekiah was a king, and was associated with the prophet Isaiah during his reign. See 2nd Kings, 18:20, to the conclusion of the 20th chapter. Also, see 2nd Chronicles, 23:27 to the conclusion of the 32nd chapter. No mention of Hezekiah as a prophet. Hezekiah was a king.

A 'Base Challenge' To Right Of Protest

Monroe
 THE RIGHT to protest is fundamental to the American way of life. For example, in the last Democratic administration, when President Truman proposed the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican, a storm of protest broke over his head.

The protests came from newspapermen, individuals and religious organizations. As a result, Mr. Truman canceled his plan to send an ambassador to the Vatican.

There were people at that time who doubted the wisdom of President Truman in surrendering to the challenge.

There was no one, however, who challenged the right of newspapermen, individuals and religious organizations to register their protests on the matter.

Racist Actions Harm America's Reputation

Monroe
 RACIST America must take cognizance of the fact that a chauvinistic nation is not qualified to stand at the helm of a world community of diverse races. A nation that is too weak-kneed to extend the hand of liberty to its own minorities is dirt-poor example before a world of nations for universal social order devoid of race egotism.

Inasmuch as the American white man is a white minority, he should be the first to realize the danger inherent in the oppression of the minorities precedent.

Quote, Unquote

Each citizen contributes to the State's honor by his conduct in order that his tenor of the rest may be secure. — Montaigne.

Two years ago which began: "Dave Beck has been dethroned as undisputed head of the Teamsters' Union." Beck hit the ceiling. He called a press conference, told newsmen in no uncertain terms that he was boss of the teamsters and would continue to be boss.

Some Truth

Actually there was a great deal of truth in Herlong's story. It was the beginning of the ascendancy of the tough little teamster from Detroit, who began as a grocery clerk who has taken over more and more power in the far-flung Teamsters' Union.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Is Beck Pleased By Hoffa's Trouble?

WASHINGTON

THE ramifications of Teamster Union politics is almost as complicated as the rivalries and jealousies of Washington society.

For instance, there is probably no one so happy over the hot water in which dapper, dashing Jimmy Hoffa is bobbing as the head of the teamsters, Dave Beck. Beck would never admit this. In fact, he stated just the opposite. Nevertheless, Beck has been so sure that Hoffa's fall is a "cut spending" mood. It cannot be said to be illogical, for the big money is going into defense and foreign aid, military and economic.

to say that the story of Dave Beck's and his sale for \$163,000 to the teamsters, was suggested to Beck by the Hoffa faction, then deliberately leaked to the press.

The member of the Teamsters' Executive Council who proposed in secret session that the teamsters buy Beck's house was Sidney Brennan of Minneapolis, convicted under the Taft-Hartley Act.

When John Herlong, labor specialist for the Washington News, published a story

leaking the story of the house purchase was Tom Hickey of New York, later engaged in a knock-out with teamster John O'Rourke, Gov. Dewey's former labor campaign manager. Both Beck and Hoffa hate Hickey, have now shunted him to the sidelines. Whether he or someone else leaked the story about the bizarre purchase of Beck's swank home with heated swimming pool, will never be known; the Teamster high command plays its cards too close to its chest.

No so close to their chests has been the rivalry between Beck and Hoffa. When John Herlong, labor specialist for the Washington News, published a story

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