



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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### A Report To Our Readers

## The Minutes Of The Last Meeting

All sorts of things and weather  
Must be taken in together  
To make up a year  
And a sphere.

—EMERSON

To take in together the things and the weather of 1957 would require the patience of Job and the composite mind of peasant poets, astronomers, mathematicians, politicians, merchandisers, mechanics and philosophers. It has been a year crowded on all levels of man's existence with portents and promise, fear and gloom of phantasy turned into fact, and of progress easily convertible into peril. Yet men and newspapers, too, must take stock as best they can in order to be wary of repeating past mistakes and to be grateful for past blessings. The future leads out of the past.

Traditionally *The News* shares with our readers a review of its goals of achievements in which the paper and our readers have had a part, and of bloopers we have committed solely on our own initiative. The minutes of the last meeting, we call it.

As usual events have served up to us a nice bait of crow. As the biennial session of the General Assembly approached, we were viewing with some alarm prospects that the honeymoon between the Assembly and Gov. Hodges was to be replaced by an unproductive period of spite, spats and partisanship. As it happily turned out we had underestimated the governor's ability to sail smoothly on rough political seas. We had over-estimated the Assembly's taste for partisanship. The session was marked by significant strides in progressive legislation for North Carolina and by such a high degree of cooperation between Hodges and the Assembly that the latter complained that the governor was exercising "undue influence" over the Assembly. We joined in the laughter that greeted his remark.

It was a year, too, when we changed our position on a major political issue. We supported President Eisenhower's program for an emergency program of federal aid to education, conditioned as always by our unchanging belief that federal aid must be kept free of federal strings. Unfortunately the President's support of his own program was lukewarm, as was that of many of its congressional champions. It died as its supporters coiled looked the other way. At year's end, the challenge of the Soviet's educational system in mathematics and the sciences had made mandatory a program of federal aid to education. However, that the schools must be the primary and continuing concern of individuals, communities and states. A great deal of new concern over the lack of opportunities and challenges for gifted students should be a first order of business in the new year.

On the local scene, *The News* tried its best to support and advance projects it believed essential to the growth, prosperity and health of the community. The score card is encouraging. It is reflective of the hard work and sacrifice of scores of community leaders and of the continuing belief of Mecklenburgers in a bright future for a busy, bustling and optimistic area. The score card includes the tight squeeze of city limits extension through the General Assembly and a sizable and satisfying vote of approval at home. After a slow start, City Council moved properly toward provision of facilities and funds for promoting the perimeter area. We rejoiced over completion of the first phase of the railway grade elimination program as a means of making everybody's motoring easier and of maintaining the vitality of the city's central business district. With relief, we saw an end to the long, wandering search for a health center site, and the beginning of an expansion program to equip Memorial Hospital to serve the health needs of all our citizens.

The year brought fresh hope and substantial signs that Charlotte can clean up the festering slums of Brooklyn, ending the human waste of their inhabitants and the physical waste of the land they occupy. After the menace of hurricanes to Eastern North Carolina made the legislature realize the tremendous burden of reconstruction, the way was opened for Tar Heel cities to have federal aid in rebuilding the man-made wreckage of slum areas. Charlotte's civic leaders and City Council responded with a vigorous effort to get urban renewal under way.

The Assembly also belatedly responded to many an editorial and civic plea for aid to development of community colleges. The prospect is bright for providing Charlotte and Carver Colleges, which have served long and fruitful apprenticeship periods with the buildings and other facilities needed to serve more fully the critical higher education needs of an increasingly industrial area.

Efforts to revitalize and promote Charlotte's cultural enterprises continued to attract our admiration and support. The resurrection of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra was particularly heartening as was new community interest in and con-

tributions to the Mint Museum.

Despite many a criticism of some decisions of City Council and disagreement to some of its attitudes, we continued to think that Charlotte on the whole is a well-governed city. We noted thankfully Council's lately-improved manners toward the city's hired help, and hoped strongly that the Council majority would come to a better understanding of the need for a strong planning and zoning program. There has been some improvement. There is room for a great deal more.

The internal backfires of the Park and Recreation Commission resulted in a fresh outpouring of editorial anguish, as did the outpouring of recreation facilities both in the city and in the perimeter area. The perimeter area kept growing, swallowing up and removing park sites as it moved outward.

The *News* continued to plump for school consolidation, additional space for governmental operations, first protection at the airport, and for improved traffic flow. We saw encouraging progress during 1957 in all these fields.

On the state level, the General Assembly provided the biggest—much of it as we've observed, good news. Besides favorable action on urban renewal and community colleges, the Assembly came through with teacher pay increases, backed with a tax reorganization program. Gov. Hodges' continuing bid for new industry and new income for Tar Heels, separated at long last the operation of state prisons and state highways, reorganized the highway department, and provided for a program of driver training. It wisely refrained from new legislative adventures in the segregation field, and from prescribing sterilization for mothers of two or more illegitimate children. All these things and more gladdened our heart and brought to a happy end some of our long-term editorial campaigns. Not enough, however, were our campaigns for legislative reapportionment and for a state minimum wage. Its inaction on these two matters represented the Assembly's most significant failures. We also will continue to work for judicial and lawyer reform, a new state constitution and for a vehicles safety inspection program.

On the national scene, the South's special burden became the nation's as we observed, good news. Greensboro and Winston-Salem moved with courage and common sense to begin and control the process of desegregation on the local level. Gov. Faubus in Arkansas invited a new whirlwind of violence and a destructive clash of federal and state power. We condemned with equal fervor the folly of Faubus in encouraging an ugly situation and of President Eisenhower's blundering response. But *The News* urged retention of the filibuster but warned against excessive use of it, opposed the administration's civil rights bill, bade a happy goodbye to retiring Attorney General Herbert Brownell and hoped at year's end for a cooling off period in the field of segregation and race relations. In increasingly difficult times for moderation on the race issue, we applauded the statesmanlike conduct of Gov. Hodges and Florida's Gov. Collins and wished for them a larger voice in the South and in the nation.

On other national matters, we greeted the second term of President Eisenhower with the hope that he would continue to translate personal popularity into the political power that he needed to come to grips with the perilous issues confronting the nation. The hope shrank as the President and Congress began to plan the old button game with the national budget. Later, as the spunkies shredded national complexity and made even more imperative strong presidential leadership, another serious illness struck the President. At year's end we admired his courageous efforts to carry on, and hoped fervently for the restoration of his health.

On the international scene, the dominance of a wily dictator named Khrushchev backed by the atom-bombs and the disciplined ranks of capable scientists, posed nakedly for the U. S. and the world the question of survival. We viewed with alarm U. S. lags in weapons and urged that the military balance be redressed speedily. At the same time we warned against a policy of shaking the big stick and urged an intensified search for some way to the beginnings of peace.

All in all, our editorial philosophy still holds to principles we have always held dear—a deep belief in the importance and the dignity of the individual and his ultimate triumph over any form of tyranny, profound respect for our system of constitutional government, great confidence in the American's resilience, staying power and willingness to sacrifice for national ideals, and the firm belief that mankind eventually will succeed in saving the world and itself from the suicidal follies of its national fears, jealousies, and ambitions for power.

# Khrushchev Pushes Hard For 'Dialogue Of The Giants'



NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV & LORD RUSSELL  
A Plea And A Response

By JOSEPH ALSOP

PARIS  
THE KREMLIN has begun a new kind of East-West talk — a "dialogue of the giants" between the U. S. and the USSR with all others excluded from the conference table.

The decision whether to embark on such a dialogue is just about the most serious purely diplomatic decision that can be imagined. The question has not been even tentatively discussed with the other Western allies. Yet some sort of a decision is going to have to be made rather soon, if only because the Kremlin's drive is rather well advanced.

Loudspeaker little attention has as yet been paid to this immense, significant and quite novel development. Yet the Kremlin's opening gun was fired some time ago. To be specific, Nikita Khrushchev reportedly told Anvar Bevan, an American reporter, that the U. S. and the USSR offered the one really honest way out of the world's present impasse.

The same statement was far and away the most striking feature of the letter that Khrushchev recently wrote to the "New Statesman and Nation," purportedly in answer to a published plea for a clear disarmament by Lord Russell. In the entire population of the British Isles, Anvar Bevan and the "New Statesman" editors are the people most likely to be alarmed and outraged by the prospect of executive U. S.-USSR talks. One can only guess that Khrushchev wished to appeal to their inconsiderable vanity by choosing them as his confidants, in the hope of winning them to his side in this manner.

More recently, these informal indications in the best Khrushchev manner have been reinforced by a formal and public statement. At the meeting of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow, in their official comments on the recent NATO conference, both Khrushchev and Andrei Gromyko rather elaborately pooh-poohed all the ordinary forms of East-West negotiation. But after remarking that the So-

viets had often proposed a meeting between the heads of government of the capitalist and socialist states "to solve the problems of humanity," Khrushchev blandly added:

### PREGNANT SILENCE

"If an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union can be achieved without prejudice to the interests of other countries, good results for peace will be achieved."

Short of sending a written invitation to President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles to join in a huddle with him, Stalin's heir could hardly have been more specific. If no sort of answer to his invitation is given, the silence will be taken by the Kremlin as the most chilling negative answer. In this turn can sharply affect Kremlin policy. So the question should at least be carefully considered in all its aspects, instead of being settled by mere default as seems to be the present tendency.

Curiously enough, Secretary Dulles himself appears to be in two minds about this question. He certainly did not want the NATO conference communiqué to include an invitation to renewed East-West negotiations.

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"If an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union can be achieved without prejudice to the interests of other countries, good results for peace will be achieved."

Whether anything could be achieved by such a dialogue is quite simply a question that cannot be answered until and unless a dialogue has been attempted. The Soviets are now giving two different kinds of signs. They are giving signs of great self confidence and increased aggressive-

ness, founded on their conviction of their own strength. But they are also giving signs of quite genuine concern for the future of a world in which the whole scene will be dominated by the new weapons that can destroy life on earth.

In these circumstances, if the Soviets could get down to business in a corner with the Americans, could they conceivably be induced to agree to a peaceful future of live-and-let-live? No one can tell.

ONE CERTAINTY  
But there is one thing that can be told, here and now, with absolute certainty. While John Foster Dulles is secretary of state a dialogue of giants is impossible. For any such dialogue in which Dulles is the American spokesman or the President's chief adviser, will almost automatically break up the Western Alliance. The distrust of Dulles, the lack of confidence in him, are too great and too profound among our allies. They would expect to be sold down the river. They would hurry to try to make their own bilateral deal with the Kremlin, and so the alliance would come to grief for good.

## 'I Was Just Going To Ask You The Same Thing'



### Heroes In The Lab

## Enticing Scientists By TV

WASHINGTON  
THE WHITE HOUSE is being urged to enlist television in the talent hunt for scientists and engineers to overcome the Soviet tests of technology.

Before it is an ambitious program for a series of television dramas designed to persuade a younger generation that such careers are a public service and offer a bright personal future. The program would be underwritten by industry and the actors and writers for it drafted in the name of a national emergency.

Nothing of this sort has ever been undertaken by the government short of a shooting war. Its appeal rests in the obvious need for surpassing the Soviets and in the fact that the federal government can be divorced from direct control, cost or content.

SPECIAL MESSAGE  
Industry circles appear to believe that the project has already been brought by officials who have the President's ear and that it will show up in his special message to Congress.

It is generally admitted that there are few better ways than television to attract the attention of the younger generation. It is also agreed that the situation is as critical as war and that all creative methods for meeting it ought to be tried.

to receive a cardinal hearing. Educators are, however, already showing some nervousness over the present stress on science education, fearing it may come at the expense of other aspects of learning.

The idea is attributed to Dr. Granam, a veteran radio and television producer. He is said to have backed by a business organization called Research Corporation, a private group whose directors include Chairman Lewis Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission, and Dr. James R. Killian, the President's scientific adviser.

EXISTING TALENT  
In that the project represents a competition for existing talent rather than an expansion of education, it does not meet the demands of many who have long worked in the education field. Yet this group has failed to instill in the White House any solid conviction that such expansion is vitally necessary.

Early drafts of the President's education program did not mention school construction. Instead, they were appropriations for laboratories or for such extra facilities for testing and research. Apparently the whole emphasis is now on re-distribution of effort rather than expansion.

### People's Platform

## Free Resolutions

Rock Hill, S. C.

NEW YEAR resolutions I wish our people would make.

Political leaders to resolve that they will counsel moderation in the field of civil rights.

Editors to resolve to follow the example of Editor Harry Anscombe's articulate championing of the forces of decency.

Statesmen to resolve to work with Dag Hammarskjöld and encourage efforts to seek peace in the Holy Land.

Labor leaders to resolve to lead their members in the continuing battle for anti-corruption goals.

Management to resolve to keep friction from destroying America's economic system.

Educational leaders to resolve to turn out students second to none in their desire for scientific and liberal education.

Cultural leaders to resolve to bring to the area an awakening of the great joys in music and the arts.

Religious leaders to resolve to bring their people to a greater understanding of the Golden Rule.

Newsman publishers to resolve to broaden the scope of their coverage and include wider international news in their papers.

Television managers to resolve to heighten the awareness in the national systems for quality programs.

Radio stations to resolve to lessen the jingo-box tone of their stations.

Teenagers to resolve to read books and waste less of their time in front of the TV sets and behind the telephone.

Cooks to resolve to prepare delicious foods with less calories.

Civic leaders to resolve to sweep the lice, hangers-on, and dynamites.

All the people to resolve to work for peace on earth and good will to all men.

—A. S. TOTILE

### Support Bond Issue For Local Colleges

Charlotte

THE citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County go to the polls to vote when the bond issue is brought up for Charlotte and Carver Colleges, will they be asleep or will they be awake? By the last part of the above statement I mean do they want their children educated or do they want their education to stop after high school? This is a great challenge to the voters of Mecklenburg County.

Through Charlotte and Carver Colleges many students have been able to further their education which would otherwise have stopped after high school. Many have gone on to four-year colleges. This will be the case for other students in years to follow.

If the citizens are aware of the part which they will play in the future of these two colleges they will do their part for the day to vote.

—BRONIA FOSTER

### Christmas Made Many Much Happier

Charlotte

I'M SURE today many people are happy because Christmas has brought so much love and joy to them. There were people who cared for others and gave so much that others could have a good Christmas. As for those who gave, I know that they are happy for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

### Literary Vigor

## Writing As A Power Source

THERE is more to language than expression or communication. Good writing is an investigation, an impression, a power. It is a source of power.

I speak for the reader, and I give him a caution which will all the same leave state and illustrate my point. "Books are not told, prepared to instruct or to amuse. Indeed," said De Quincey, "the true attitude is to knowledge, in this case, is not pleasure, but power. All that literature seeks to communicate is power. It is not literature, to communicate knowledge."

Literature is a transmission of power. Textbooks and treatises, dictionaries and encyclopedias, manuals and books of instruction — they are communications; but literature is a power line, and the motor, mark you, is the reader.

My metaphor falls short. You read something, and your attention is attracted by a phrase or a sentence or by some passage or other. If your mind is open, either in perplexity or in some benevolence or out of sheer curiosity, you will apply yourself to the passage, not trying to force a meaning out of it, nor to be heavy on it. What you want is not so much its meaning as its significance to you; and the more of your relevant self you can apply to it, the greater the significance will be. — Charles P. Curtis in "A Commemorative Book."

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

## Some Predictions For A Perilous Year

PREDICTIONS for the new year, 1958 may be one of the most crucial years in history. It may see the tide turn toward peace with Russia—or start a deterioration of our relations toward Russia for the time being.

The Kremlin's temptation will be to move now when the odds are heavy on Russia.

Russia would win a preventive war to day. Two years ago she couldn't. But the Kremlin sees the United States going bad with missile bases in West Europe. Pressure could be heavy in the Soviet President to move while it has the upper hand.

No one can predict what will happen in the future, except that Russia has the decision.

control the weather, including a plan to sprinkle oil on the waves in advance of hurricanes, then light the oil to change or modify the hurricane.

Postage stamps at long last will be increased. In 1958 you'll be paying four cents instead of three for a stamp.

There will be no tax cut in 1958. Congressmen Wilbur Mills, new chairman of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee, will try to abolish the 850 tax exemption for stock dividends which provides a \$600 personal exemption instead.

Veterans will be among the chief sufferers as a result of missile expenditures. Veterans hospitals will be cut, plus pension benefits. The administration will argue that the U. S. is becoming a nation of veterans, therefore they don't deserve special treatment.

Alaska will become the 48th state.

Benjamin's plan to end family farming will fail, also his plan to reduce price supports for wheat, cotton, corn, barley, peanuts, rice, the farm budget will continue at \$3 billion and farm surplus will be about the same.

Emile Christieson stocking in Washington was Vice President Nixon's. One month ago if looked as he might in the White House or else given very important new powers.

But the is now determined to stay on the job. He may, and the palace guard has pushed Nixon off the White House threshold.