



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Ike Removes The Nation's Real Worry

THE energetic and assorted Paul Revere who have battered at U. S. complacency for the last three months have not ridden in vain.

President Eisenhower in effect has joined their ranks by recognizing the "unmistakable" of a totalitarian society totally engaged in a cold war of expansion. The President who was not disturbed one iota by the ascent of Sputnik I underscored in his state of the union message "the vital necessity of action today in order to insure our strength tomorrow."

The chief danger, in other words, is that of an inadequate response to a certain threat in the future. But in the act of confirming the nation's fears the President gave it confidence that the Soviet's future threat will not succeed. For the real worry in the country has not been that America could not surpass the Soviet but that it would not take the trouble.

The trouble is going to be considerable, and the President seemed to sense it. While Congress is expected to agree quickly to the expenditure of whopping new sums for missiles and other weapons, it is going to be tempted mightily to take these funds from the foreign aid budget. Again and again the President pointed away at the duty of the Communist threat — military and economic. "Admittedly," he said, "most of us did not anticipate the psychological impact upon the world of the launching of the first Soviet satellite. Let us not make the same kind of mistake in another field, by failing to anticipate the much more serious impact of the Soviet economic offensive." The point is well made. But it is not going to sink into the convictions of Congress without continuing and compelling advocacy by the President.

Another strength of the President's message was its recognition of organizational failures in the defense establish-

ment. Whatever the extent of harmful interservice rivalries, he said, "America was them stopped." Coupled with his promise of executive action and proposals for legislation, this was a strong and timely demand for better teamwork in the Pentagon. But this field, too, is one in which action is exceedingly more difficult than the word. Years of presidential warnings and legislative actions against interservice bickering have failed to produce full benefit from the individual dedications of the services.

Despite attacks from stand-patters, the President should have less trouble with a program designed to ease the nation's deficiencies in education and research. He defended it rightly as paying "scrupulous attention . . . to maintaining local control of educational policy, spurring the maximum amount of local efforts, and . . . avoiding undue stress on the physical sciences at the expense of other branches of learning."

In sum, the President paid comprehensive attention to deficiencies in the defense effort, the schools, and to the lack of realization that economic aid to underdeveloped nations is an essential part of the nation's security. But the message stopped short, as have others, of defining the "sacrifices" that Americans must make to support his program. This definition will be at the root of whatever congressional resistance the program meets, and it is safe to say that unless the President specifies them the sacrifices may be haphazard indeed.

Difficulties aside however, the President's message constituted the catalyst required to make the U. S. move forward to new positions of strength in the defense effort, the schools, and to the lack of realization that economic aid to underdeveloped nations is an essential part of the nation's security. But the message stopped short, as have others, of defining the "sacrifices" that Americans must make to support his program. This definition will be at the root of whatever congressional resistance the program meets, and it is safe to say that unless the President specifies them the sacrifices may be haphazard indeed.

American Beauty Is Worth Defending

THE billboard lobby had some joyous times during the last session of Congress. Feeble efforts failed to kill its plan to line the new federal highway system with billboards and thus to encourage a new captive audience.

This session seemed even more promising. Surely a Congress deeply concerned over missiles, taxes and elections wouldn't find time to listen to those demanding that they be allowed to see the scenery along these 41,000 miles of roads through mountains, plains and valleys.

Maybe Congress won't find time the will to provide for the full benefit that should be derived from the millions to be poured into these roads. The theory that highways have only the functional value of moving machines and people prevailed strongly during the last session. But this view had been challenged all over again by Maine's Rep. Robert Hale who met returning congressmen on opening day with a bill to control the billboards.

His idea is that Congress should approve incentive payments to states cooperating in the effort to let the taxpayers see and enjoy that part remaining of America's unspoiled beauty. A similar bill was killed in the Senate last year. The House took no action. But it is encouraging to find that the bill that Rep. Hale is making another try.

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Small Concerns For A Small Issue

NORTH Carolina Superior Court judges are cooperating dutifully in the State Bar Association's commendable effort to bring new dignity to the bench. Most of them are wearing robes. Some of them are doing so despite unwillingness to be bound by the robes or by the idea that black cloth really bolsters the majesty of the law.

Willy-nilly, it is done and another issue has been cleared away from the bar's journals and convention agendas. But we have two small concerns for this small issue.

One concern is for Judge Susie Sharp of Reidsville, the state's only woman jurist and an exceptionally good one. We hate to think of what violence a black robe is going to wreak on Judge Sharp's feminine instincts. Suppose the lady judge's face be taken by the beauty and perfume of a rose on her way one spring morning to her sol-

emn duties. Must she forego the desire to wear the robe, thereby denying the bench a symbol of beauty and resurrection, while enhancing its bleak majesty by wearing a plain, steel robe? One reluctantly supposes the rose would have to how to the robe.

Our other small concern is for the irony involved.

There is one office in the land that requires the respect of all Americans, upright and errant alike. Its occupants deal with kings and rulers, armies and navies, pardons and reprieves, and, incidentally, the appointment of judges.

Yet he cannot wear a crown. He would not wear a robe. He cannot properly be addressed by titles of respect such as "your honor" and "your excellency," as judges and governors may be addressed. Here's only one way you can address this man whose uniform is a business suit, and that is as "Mr. President."

From The Wall Street Journal

APPLESAUCE

MANY parents for some time now have been wondering about the "benefits" of progressive and semi-progressive education. And no wonder, if one is to judge by the results of a survey this newspaper took in such diverse places as New York City, Shaker Heights, Ohio, and Opa, Alabama.

Some teachers are wondering about it, too. A New York City teacher says of sixth graders that they're healthy, happy children. "Of course, they don't learn much at school." And a Bronx school marm chimes in about "critical reading," "vitalizing" and "development of the whole child." Says she, "My children formerly had mastered grammar and decimals by the time they'd finished the fifth grade." Now her fifth graders are "terribly retarded" in grammar and are still on "concepts" in math. "In painting, clay-modeling and sewing, though, they are really in fine shape."

The result? At the University of Illinois 25 per cent of new freshmen must take a non-credit course in remedial English — starting with third grade gram-

mar and spelling. At Portland State College's School of Engineering in Oregon about 60 per cent of the new students must take a course in "bonehead math" — starting with advanced fractions and elementary algebra. Comments the head of the physics department: "A sorry situation."

Yes, indeed. And while educators some day might develop a better system than the Three R's, we think what a great many are using in place of reading, writing and arithmetic isn't nearly so good. And we don't see much room for improvement until the parents and the teachers raise their voices even higher about some of the things that go on in the academic circles.

Now do we see very much chance for the youngsters so long at schools do as the New York City school curriculum says to do. Limit first grade kids to learning numbers from 1 to 10 but teach them to make applesauce.

Too many people try to be happy by being good rather than by doing good. —ELBERTON (Ga.) STAR.

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON
IT IS beginning to seem at least possible that the huge Soviet rockets which hurled the Sputniks into the heavens may in the end also hurl Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas into the White House.

Johnson himself has said that the defense issue will dominate this session of Congress. The de-

fense issue in turn will be dominated by Lyndon B. Johnson. And Johnson's handling of the defense issue also suggests why Johnson is accounted by many able observers as the most gifted political leader of this generation.

One secret of Johnson's success as a political leader is his habit of getting all his ducks in a row before he shoots. Consider, for example, three of the things he did in preparation for this session.

CALLED IKE

First, he telephoned President Eisenhower, and talked with him at length about the release of the famous Gaither Report. Second, he notified all the Democratic senators of a party caucus that was held on Tuesday, the main purpose of which was a briefing on the defense policy. And third, he notified Sen. Styles Bridges and Everett S. Long, leading Republicans on his Preparedness Subcommittee, of his intention to call such a caucus, and suggested in effect that they do likewise.

All three actions were typical of the Johnson way of operating. Johnson undoubtedly realized that the release of the Gaither Report might become one of those side issues which bury the main issue. He therefore seized the bull by the horns, and called the President. The President took a firm line, asserting that the release of the report, which of course points out the weaknesses in this country's defense posture, would not be in the national interest.

This is the kind of argument in which the President is likely to have the last word. Johnson is therefore expected not to make release of the report a major issue. His calling of a Democratic caucus had other purposes as well.

For example, it may have served



SEN. LYNDON JOHNSON
A Dominant Factor

to fashion an agreed Democratic line on such touchy issues as reform of the Joint Chiefs of Staff system. Moreover, Johnson was careful to assign Sen. Stuart Symington a leading role in the briefing. He thus avoids any appearance of shunting aside the man who has the best claim to have been right from the start about the defense issue.

Finally, Johnson was also careful, not only to give Bridges and Long notification of his intention to hold a defense briefing, but also to offer them the services of his chief counsel if they wished to do likewise. He thus nearly cut the ground out from under Republican charges that he was using the defense issue for purely partisan ends.

Altogether, Johnson's handling

of the issue has been a remarkably adept performance. Johnson, it is said, is most acutely concerned about the national security, and his record on defense has been better than most. But he is also capable of recognizing a decisive issue when he sees one. And above all, he is shrewd enough to see that his appearance of political partisanship in handling such an issue would destroy its effectiveness once and for all.

Thus Johnson's theme song has been "non-partisanship and responsibility," a theme he has stressed so often that some of his colleagues have nicknamed him "Responsibility Johnson." His avowed purpose is to get a unanimous report from his committee, signed by all the Republicans as well as the Democrats.

Yet despite the Johnson theme song it is perfectly obvious that the defense issue nowadays has a profound political impact. It is an issue, moreover, which is making its way early in the year to order by Lyndon B. Johnson.

SECOND THOUGHTS
Johnson insists, even to his closest friends, that he is not and will not become a candidate for his party's presidential nomination in 1960. In the past, his warmest admirers have agreed that he has had virtually no chance for the nomination in any event. The accident of his southern birth, the old interests which dominate his native state of Texas, and his heavy attack have seemed together more than enough to bar his nomination. But now there are beginning to be signs that the defense issue is one of the few on which the Democratic Party is united. It is precisely the kind of over-

Mr. Rayburn Gets Ready For Trouble

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

THE different ways in which men exercise the power they have often reach for more were strikingly illustrated on the opening day of Congress.

The Senate Democratic leader, Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, offered his public a dazzling display of eloquence and organization by riding page early in the morning, all the principal correspondents received copies of a call from Johnson delivered to a Senate Democratic caucus. In form and scope it was a counterpart of the message of the State of the Union which President Eisenhower delivered to Congress.

OLD-SHOE TALK

The House Democratic leader, Sam Rayburn of Texas, held one of his famous old-shoe press conferences an hour before he banged the gavel in calling the House to order. The reason 100-odd reporters crowded in to listen and ask questions is that Rayburn never talks to or at them; he talks with them.

The first citizen of Bonham always assumes that the American people and his colleagues of the national legislature will do their duty. He also expects that they will do it in the usual rather inefficient and partisan manner which is the hallmark of representative government.

NO HARGREAVES

During all his years in his great office, which he has held longer than any other man, Rayburn has never felt it necessary to lecture either the public or the press. He will grouse upon occasion about the White House, including a White House manner by his fellow Democrats. He has still to hargrave a reporter on how the reporter should run the reporter's business.

Reporters, therefore, find that Rayburn exchanges a rather refreshing change from the more gaseous atmosphere of the Senate. They also learn to listen to the Speaker's ability to discern what he can and cannot get out of the 431 men and women who make up the House.

FEW HEADLINES

The Speaker says that Congress will vote whatever sums it is persuaded are necessary for national defense. Practically every other issue he can hardly pronounce controversial.

He will not join any effort to organize Democratic programs or policies. "It's up to the committees to devise legislation, not to a group of leaders sitting down with one another," he said. "We'll just make up our program as we go along."

There are not many headlines in such an absence of bombast, but there is a great deal of practical politics.

AMBITIOUS SENATORS

In a very real sense, of course, the aims of the House leaders, as contrasted to those of the leading senators, will be different in the next few years. The House can be held to concentration on legislation, since the chances of its members of the presidency are not remote; most senators, especially the Democrats, are now running for the presidency.

Johnson, with great skill is attempting to link the defense issue for himself. Not the least of the coming controversies which Rayburn has sensed, though, of course, he did not mention it — will be the effort of some of Johnson's Democratic colleagues to share it with him.

Quote, Unquote

"A sleeping child gives me the impression of a traveler in a very far country." —Ralph Waldo Emerson.

"Conversations take the importance of the sermon, the truth of everything I think." —Frank Kafka.

"I may be crazy," replied the inmate, "but I'm not stupid."

"That was Charlie Wilson's reply to Von Braun regarding space ships."

NO RACE

Note 1 — Remarkable Longview, Tex., publisher Carl Estes when he heard Jim Hatcher assert that the United States was in a race with the Russians to achieve the space ship. "Then why aren't we in such a race?" He said. "President Roosevelt had been in the White House we would have been in that race and we would have won it."

Note 2 — Address to Mr. Wilson, it should be recalled that in 1954 it was overruled by the President when he warned that a budget cut would jeopardize national defense.

Nation Must Add Ideas To Arsenal

By WALTER LIPPMANN

NEW YORK

THE CONGRESS will be more than willing to vote, indeed it will be insistent upon a substantial increase in military expenditures. The President can be criticized because he has asked for too little rather than too much. The realization has struck home that in the race of armaments the Soviet Union is moving at a faster rate than we are, and that the time is at hand when the balance of power will be decisively against this country.

What is not so certain is whether the country has been made to realize that the insecurity in which we are beginning to live cannot be overcome by weapons alone — that, put it concretely, our insecurity cannot be cured in the Pentagon alone, no matter how it is reorganized, streamlined, unified, and financed. The fact that we have fallen behind in the race is the result of a decline in our intellectual activities and of our public energies.

LARGER REVIVAL

This enormous deficit cannot be corrected by a crash program in which it becomes our supreme national purpose to acquire a supply of missiles. For if we whip ourselves into an hysterical frenzy about missiles, we shall just as surely as fate itself — alienate the allied countries in which the bases for the missiles would have to be placed. We can achieve the security, which we now believe to be threatened, only if our military effort is sturdy, firm and decisive — is part of a much larger revival — one which includes our diplomacy and our education and the intellectual life of the nation.

We shall have missed the point of the challenge to which we are put if this Congress, having voted an increase in the military budget, turns its back on education and research, and settles for some trifling and timid contribution. The American crisis today is the result of a long accumulation of errors and neglect in the field of education. And while it cannot be cured by money alone, without much more money, it cannot be cured without change in the popular attitude toward the support of education. By existing standards of education, we constitute a break-through to a new and higher level.

LOST OUR NERVE?

Nothing would so stimulate this country as the demonstration that we have read the meaning of Sputnik's, not its frightened men rushing excitedly for weapons but as lucid and honest men, unafraid and unshamed to admit their failings. Nothing, moreover, would do so much to restore the confidence of mankind in the United States, and to dissipate their fear that we have lost our nerve.

But that will not be enough. We shall have to re-praise some of the principal aims of our foreign policy in view of the fact that our military preponderance has ended. For let us have no illusions. If we do everything recommended in the Gaither report, we shall still be only one great power competing with a usually great power. The days of our military supremacy were brief and they have ended.

EQUAL POWER

The decay of our foreign policy is due to the inability of those who make it to recognize or to accept the fundamental fact that the United States is not the paramount power in the world. It is in the far East, in the Middle East, and in Germany, the official aims of our policy are those of a paramount power. These aims can be achieved only by the unconditional surrender of China and of Russia.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
GOOD old Charlie Wilson, the ex-ecutive of defense, is complaining that "there is a great gap out of me," regarding the American missile snafu. If he protests too much, however, here is an inkling of some of his ex-citizens' GOP friends may reveal.

On Nov. 29, 1954, Werner Von Braun, the Nazi missile expert, made a speech before the Women's National Press Club in which he urged the United States to "take the possession of the satellite, he said, could pry out the secrets of the world. It would be a tremendous propaganda weapon."

Rule The World

"The nation which gets this first rule the world," Von Braun said. He also

'Roll Out The Barrel'



People's Platform

Man's Creations Lose Their Luster

Editors, The News:
As we look all around us each day, we see things that convince us that there is a higher power than man, that made all these things. The most beautiful of the field should be proof enough that something made them and that something was not man.

Man cannot create life in anything, yet things live. So we must believe that life came from something and Christians like to think of that something as God. Without God we would not exist. We would go back to the dust of the earth from which God created us.

The sun should be proof that God exists. Man-made light only exists a short time and then goes out. The sun has existed ever

since God created it and it will always exist if God exists. The moon above was created by God. It has always existed since the beginning of time.

We should put our trust in God and not man because God can save our souls, through Christ Jesus. So trust God for guidance and not man.

—HAROLD T. RUMAGE

Quarrelling Couples: Kiss And Make Up

Editors, The News:
ONE of the saddest things I know of a divorce. When a man and woman take the marriage vow, they promise before God and man that they will remain true to each other until death parts them. It is impossible for two people to live together and never have any dif-

ferences, but they ought to have enough love and respect for their hearts when they differ and quarrel, to forgive one another and not go to the divorce court.

The Bible tells us that all men are sinners and the love of the Lord of God, but it is always ready and willing to forgive us when we confess our sins.

Sometimes there are children involved, who have to go through life without the love and protection of a good home and father and mother. I believe that when a couple marries and brings children into this world that God holds them responsible for their welfare and training. And even though they are divorced by the laws of man, I believe that God still holds them accountable for their marriage vows.

—PARKS A. YANDEL

Charlie Wilson Protests Too Much

predicted that man would be able to put a station in outer space, could then transfer to and back for regular excursions to the moon.

Next day Secretary Wilson held a press conference, was asked about Von Braun's statement.

Little Dreamy

"Von Braun said the project could be attained in a few years if the government would transfer to him the money of the McClelland of the El Paso Times, the Sherman Democrat, and other Texas papers. 'Are you going to recommend that we give him the money to replace the 'No,' replied Wilson. 'I would rather see my feet on the ground, figuratively speaking, as well as physically speaking. I don't know that anyone knows

how you would rule the world with a space ship. It's a little dream, I think. I'm almost tempted to tell a story."

The Joke

With a little prompting, Wilson did tell a story about the man who stood in front of an insane asylum to change a tire. While an inmate watched him over the fence, the inmate accidentally stepped on his hub cap which contained the nuts to replace his tire. They went nuts. The inmate, in a state of consternation, the inmate of the insane asylum suggested that he remove one nut from each wheel and thereby get enough nuts to replace the tire. "What is a man with your brains doing in there?" exclaimed the grateful motorist.

"I may be crazy," replied the inmate, "but I'm not stupid."

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