



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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### Another Runaway For Charlie Jonas?

CHARLES RAPER JONAS didn't break the Democratic grip on the Tenth District but he is doing as much or more than anyone else to restore it.

Rep. Jonas' announcement that he will seek another term in Congress constitutes a standing warning to Democrats that they must heal party rifts, raise party morale and make strong candidates out of their ample supply of strong leaders. This last task has special application to Mecklenburg which has supplied all of the three victims of Mr. Jonas' widespread popularity with the voters. It also is Mecklenburg which has a number of Democrats who have the potential of giving Mr. Jonas a race instead of a runaway. One big key to the ease of his past victories has been that the Democrats have not put their strongest potential on the ballot.

We're not trying to drum up trouble for Charlie Jonas. He deserves congratulations for his willingness to serve his

district in Congress. His success in that service is spelled out amply in returns from his three campaigns.

But competition in politics, real competition, is the secret of representative government. The Tenth district donkey wouldn't be so deep in the ditch today perhaps if there had been Republican competition to keep the Democrats on their toes when they were in office in Congress.

Rep. Jonas is the figurehead of hopes for a two-party system in Mecklenburg. He has given Republicans a seat in Congress, and hopes of capturing seats in the General Assembly. Further he has served as the rallying point for an effective GOP precinct organization.

Now he is helping the Democrats by challenging them to field more attractive candidates.

The response remains to be seen. So does any sign that a Democrat will replace Charles Raper Jonas in Congress.

### Where There's A Thirst There's A Way

PARDON our skepticism, but the news that the Hodges administration may abolish "social hours" (they mean cocktail parties, m'am) at Tar Heel political functions leaves us limp with incredulity.

There is just something about party conventions, legislative sessions, Jefferson-Jackson Day dinners and the like that raises an awful thirst in certain political types. In the past, arrangements to satisfy this peculiar craving have been handled efficiently and generously by the liquor lobby.

Now there seems to be some doubt in lofty places that custodians of the commonwealth can afford to get even moderately lacquered. The most serious assemblages, lest the electorate recall its Puritan upbringing some dark, brooding day at the polls and soberly resolve to throw the rascals out.

The governor, a political tripe-throat who handles a Puritan instinct with all the deftness of a split-T quarterback, has bravely taken his stand. He told newsmen the other day that as far as he is concerned there will be no alcoholic

beverages at the forthcoming Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner or any other affair sponsored by the Democratic Party except that paid for by the individual consumers.

That "except" offers the thirsty set an out. And an out they needed, for an really straight-faced attempt to make a dry run of Tar Heel politics would surely depopulate the ranks something fierce.

We can conjure up a serene vision right this minute of at least a thousand old pols rummaging through attic trunks in search of the one near-forgotten bottle of champagne that kept the Roaring Twenties roaring so satisfactorily through Normalcy, Harding and Prohibition. They called it a hip flask.

### Perspective

OMINOUS rumblings about the short-range cost of consolidating the school systems of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have understandably occupied the attention of local taxpayers. Worthier of public consideration is the long range cost of not consolidating.

### Eleanor Roosevelt: Laughter & Love

ANYONE reading the Gallup Poll on the world's most admired people must have felt a little pity for the caustic fellow named Westbrook Pegler.

Mr. Pegler's talent with a typewriter was vast. With it he turned for himself a tidy sum of the coin of the realm and, for millions of newspaper readers, more than a few memorable phrases. Words did his bidding unerringly. Pegler's meanings always were made very clear. His friends weren't exactly legion, one supposes. One of them, Quentin Reynolds, sued him for libel not long ago and won. But Westbrook Pegler and the English language have something of a love affair over many a year.

In '49 or '50, for example, Pegler wrote a piece about chili capable of inducing gnawing hunger in a reader who had just finished an eight-course dinner. The thing was, Pegler didn't chili and he could reproduce his desire for it in almost any un-uterated human being. Even the ulcerated could have savored Pegler's artistry with words in that piece.

It is hard to remember what else Pegler liked because his columns were not too revealing on that score. Mostly they were about people he didn't like. One of these, Henry A. Wallace, he tagged, with a trace of prophecy, "old bubble-head." Another was Franklin D. Roosevelt. Still another was a great American lady, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt.

Known to the public as Eleanor Roosevelt or Mrs. Roosevelt, and dubbed by Pegler as *la boba grande*, meaning big mouth. For years on end, Pegler hurled his sharpest verbal darts at Eleanor Roosevelt—darts dipped in venom, ridicule, sarcasm and whatever other caustic substance he might have had in his inkwell on a particular day.

And for years on end, Americans named Eleanor Roosevelt as the woman they admired most in the world. The current Gallup Poll assigns that honor to Mrs. Roosevelt for the eleventh consecutive year.

It wasn't the language that failed Pegler in his campaign to laugh Mrs. Roosevelt into obscurity. The failure was in his assumption that Americans don't like "dogooders." Mrs. Roosevelt assuredly is a "dogooder," and although some Americans have laughed at her with Pegler, most Americans apparently love her.

We've referred to Mr. Pegler in the past tense not because he is no longer with us but because he is largely forgotten, as is a grand pronouncement printed in 1963 in the CHICAGO TRIBUNE. The Tribune, reprinting the text of a two-hour speech at Gettysburg, Penna., by an orator named Edward Everett, added this remark:

"The President of the United States also spoke and made the usual ass of himself."

From The Baltimore Evening Sun

### ARTIST'S PRIVILEGE

EVERY reader of the literary journals is familiar with the biographer's appeal—"I am anxious to get in touch with anyone possessing letters . . . If Mr. Somerset Maugham succeeded in having his way, future biographers will be wise to save the postage. He tells us he is having all his correspondence destroyed. His letters he regards as 'my personal affair.' I cannot see that their publication after my death will serve any useful purpose."

It raises some fine points. Is an author of fame and stature justified in denying posterity its own closest examination of him as man as well as writer. Some have thought so and like Matthew Arnold (and, later, George Orwell) expressly stated they wanted no lives of themselves written. It is a request which soon or late is always put aside. What about the actual destruction or suppression of documents—whether they be letters or not—that might throw light on the personality and creative process of the artist? How much less likely is it that Byron or Keats without their letters. About ten years ago the French painter George Rouault had more than 300 of

his sketches and paintings dumped into an incinerator because he felt they did not represent him at his best. Now none but he can ever judge. Ruskin wanted to withdraw all his early writings on art from circulation and the aged Tolstoy tried to repudiate his great novels. They of course failed, happily.

As a man and a self-critic, surely the artist has a right to leave behind him only what he chooses. Yet the question nags, does he, as a public figure and one whose work will presumably have an influence lasting long into the future, enjoy the same privileges of privacy as the rest of us? More to the point, does Mr. Maugham believe he really will be able to persuade all recipients of his letters to destroy every last scrap of them?

The wife had asked her husband for \$50 to do some shopping. The husband angrily refused and stomped out to the front porch to finish reading his newspaper. Suddenly his wife appeared. "Henry," she said sweetly, "could I please have \$10 to tide me over until you're in a better mood?"—FOUR MYERS (FLA.) News-Press.

## Last Chance For Halting Bomb Tests May Be At Hand

other, including a recent one in which hydrogen bombs were exploded with a high degree of fallout.

### STEVENSON'S PLAN

In April of 1956 Adlai Stevenson, speaking before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, called for an end of further tests of the hydrogen bomb, saying that he questioned as a layman "the sense in multiplying and enlarging weapons of a destructive power almost incomprehensible." He added that he would call on other nations "to follow our lead, and if they don't and persist in further tests, we will know about it and we can reconsider our policy."

Taking up the plea for an end of tests in the campaign that fall, he was accused of being willing to disarm the United States with-

out regard to what the Soviet Union might do. President Eisenhower, and other campaigner, roundly attacked him for his proposal on the tests.

### NO RETURN

In sober retrospect, however, April, 1956, may have been a point of no return insofar as this the element in the arms race is concerned. Stevenson did not mean a unilateral suspension of testing. If such a proposal had been put forward by the government and if the Soviet Union had agreed to it, the next step, as he conceived it, would have been to call for an end to the production of fissionable material. The important thing was to make a start.

Secret tests—either high in the stratosphere or deep under the earth—can be conducted despite any control system. The

Atomic Energy Commission last September set off a two-kiloton explosion 900 feet underground that produced only a slight recordable shock wave. This is another strong argument against any agreement to end the tests with their resultant worldwide radioactive fallout.

### FEAR PERISTS

No matter how many reassuring statements the AEC and Chairman Lewis Strauss put out, the fear will persist that the earth is being slowly contaminated, with the incidence of deformity and cancer gradually increasing. And the continuing tests feed another fear—that the nuclear arms race cannot be brought to a halt short of disaster. The grave question today is how long the world can live under this intolerable tension.

### MESSE, STRAUSS AND STEVENSON

A Question Of Survival

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

WHILE President Eisenhower's reply to the Bolshoiu note suggested that nuclear testing be stopped, not for two or three years but "indefinitely," whether there is any real conviction on either side of the great East-West divide that the tests can be brought to an end at any foreseeable date is highly doubtful.

The tests are part and parcel of the race that has seen first one power bloc and then the other lead. The current contest is that the United States must quickly catch up in the rockets and missiles contest before any serious consideration can be given to suspending the tests. This is a real book to any serious negotiator with the Soviets.

### A CERTAIN END?

But among some observers who have followed the race at close range the fear is great that unless positive steps toward peace can be taken this year, it will be impossible to halt the contest. And like all arms races, despite the professions from both sides that the objective is solely de-

fense, the end is almost certain to be war. The odds are that this would be nuclear war, limited at the outset but unlimited before it was ended.

The Atomic Energy Commission is holding a series of tests in May to perfect tactical nuclear weapons. From the Pentagon the word is that these tests are essential to America's security.

### NEW ULTIMATE WEAPON

Beyond this are the tests—two to three years distant—of any anti-missile missile now in the development stage. This is a weapon that will be able to retaliate will knock down ICBMs with hydrogen warheads before they reach their targets in this country. It is billed as the ultimate defensive weapon, just as the ICBM is the ultimate offensive weapon.

Even if the United States were prepared to stop testing, the British are insisting that they must have more tests to perfect their weapons series. In the not too distant future the French will have nuclear raw material for a battery, or the fact that the United States has held one series of tests after an-

### Why The Itch?

## The Soul Doctors

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain  
I SUPPOSE somebody, some day, will hang a nickname on this postwar generation of ours, as the Twenties were called Roaring or the Era of Wonderful Possessions, and the so-called Lost Generation followed World War I.

Up to now I have been unable to capsule it, but a broad description would be the Hysterical Age, or the Age of Discontent, or the Age of Uneasy Self-inspection. What causes it I couldn't say, either, because never has there been a time of so much plenty in the land—so much wealth, so much employment, so many adjuncts to lovely living. And so much nervousness.

### CLUTCH OF PROBLEMS

You can barely find a newspaper that doesn't have a clutch of

will be dead unless some bifocal scientists invents a specific against disintegration.

What has turned the kids into young thugs? What brings on an epidemic of alcoholism, heart attacks, multiple divorces, insanities, and constant complications?

### WHAT'S BITING US?

We got vacuum cleaners and televisions, frozen foods and supermarkets, garbage destroyers and the like. We have more money in show business. We got airplanes and Kleenex and Scotch tape and cassette service. We got nylon stockings and shirts you don't have to iron. Even tattle-tale grey is on the lam from the housewife.

What's biting us? What gives us a series of destructive strikes, a regime of terror in the schools, a lost generation of youth before it's old enough to get lost, let alone found?

### TREMENDOUS FADS

We have had the most tremendous fads. One day it's Hopalong Cassidy, another day it's Davy Crockett, another day it's a girl with bigger bosoms than other girls and, thanks be, occasionally it's Walt Disney. Right now it's Westerns, but before that it was Liberace and the Continental and Johnny Ray and anybody else you want to name.

We don't even keep the people we make fads of very long. We remind me of my high school pup in that we can't center attention on anything very long and are suddenly distracted by a bug, a butterfly, or the fact that somebody's getting the ice out.

### SOUL MECHANICS

Once in a while I get rude enough to ask people why they want a change. The country people want to live in the city. The city people want to live in the country. The stockbroker wants to be a beachcomber in Tahiti, and the beachcomber wants to be a stockbroker. Then they wonder why they will freely admit it's not feasible, and then go lie down again on the couch to tell the soul-mechanic all about it.

It's a strange, strange age, and worthy of mature evaluation a hundred years hence—if there's anybody around to evaluate it. And there I may have shoved a thumb on what's biting us.

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON  
LOOKING both ways to make sure no reporters saw him, Doug Dillon, the State Department's able economic chief, ducked into the office of Sen. Olin Johnson of South Carolina to discuss plans for paying off Nazi industrialists whose property was seized during World War II. He was accompanied by Jacques Reinstein, director of German affairs, and J. P. White, a State Department lobbyist, who carried brief cases and also glanced around furtively. Waiting outside were the sad-eyed senator from South Carolina and his assistant, Harlan Wood.

### Pledge To Japanese

The State Department tip outlined a plan to have American taxpayers dig into their pockets for an extra \$100 million to settle German claims. This would double the \$50 million already promised by the State Department's solemn word that German and Japanese claims would be treated alike.

### Personal Staff

No. 3 man in the State Department now pushing for the return of German property, Douglas Dillon, was a member of the personal staff of President Roosevelt. He was paid \$200,000 a year, which poured about \$200 million of American investors' money into Germany. Shortly after V.E. Day, the head of Dillon, Read, Gett & Williams H. Draper, then in the Army, became head of German industrial reconstruction and appointed to his personal staff Dr. Alexander Kreuter, a former Nazi and former Dillon

### Ike Loses Advantage

## Tough Budget Battle Brewing

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON  
THE Eisenhower space age budget is too big for most Republicans and such ultra-conservative members of Congress as Sen. Harry F. Byrd of Virginia.

It is not big enough for most Democrats and for the eastern intermarriage of both parties whose views are expressed in the still top-secret Gaither report and the published Rockefeller report.

In various ways, too, which are clear to the experienced members of Congress, the new budget is shot with politics. There is the President's claim that it is balanced which rests upon transparently flimsy assumptions. The device here is to lay the basis for insisting that the Democratic Congress unbalanced it.

### NO WINGS

There cannot be any real expectation in the White House that an election-year Congress, with all members of the House and one-third of the Senate up, will enact five-cent postage and stand like granite for economies in farmer benefits, veterans' pensions, public assistance grants, slum clearance, reclamation, and such projects. Even if Congress

sprouted wings—an unlikely prospect—the administration view that a business recovery will provide enough revenue to balance the budget is challenged by nearly all economists.

The President has thus lost the moral advantage he might have gained by being realistic about the impact of the space age on his cherished concept of a balanced budget. He could never make cost-cutting or new taxes popular, but might have made them a moral issue.

### REAL STRUGGLE

The prospect instead is for a down-the-line struggle which will include defense. Within the past few days members unwilling to accept the President's military judgment have been enormously heartened by the Rockefeller report and the testimony of Nelson Rockefeller.

It is not that they think Rockefeller and his influential associates have necessarily come up with the right answers. Several experienced senators think, for example, that the group made a mistake in getting into the controversy over the command system of the services instead of concentrating on the broad task of

whipping up the country's realization of its peril.

What senators do feel is that Rockefeller and those associated with his views have removed any partisan stigma from the defense controversy. If these men, chiefly Republicans drawn from business, are willing to say that the program should be boosted still another \$21 billion in the next four years—as they have—the politicians figure that the light has switched to green for Congress.

The Gaither report is said to put an even higher price tag on survival, as it includes both missile and anti-missile programs.

### FEW REBELS

The budget press conferences this year at the Budget Bureau, the Treasury, and the Pentagon did not develop any dramatic controversy like former Treasury Secretary George M. Humphrey's "hair-curling" warnings against spending last year. Apparently the family circle contains no rebels now.

How the public feels at this point should soon appear. The White House reports a favorable response to the State of the Union message; members of Congress say they have not seen its reflection yet in their mail.

### Johnston Balks

The proposal for rewarding German property owners at the expense of American taxpayers which Ambassador Dillon outlined to Sen. Johnston was too much even for Johnston. The South Carolina senator has been most sympathetic to German lobbyists, but even he rebelled at taking money from American taxpayers to reimburse the Germans.

### Brownell's Plan

Wood suggested that former Atty. Gen. Herb Brownell, with approval paying indemnity to our former enemies, prob-

### Emotion Aroused

Both the senator and his assistant stressed that the assets were seized from private owners and should be returned to them. This issue seemed to arouse Johnston's emotions almost as much as federal troops in Little Rock, Ark. "The press has led the public to believe," he said, "that the properties under seizure belonged to the Hitler or Tojo governments. Many of the private companies no doubt invested here to escape Hitler's wrath."

The indignant senator didn't mention that the biggest claimants are German firms which have been paying in and later manufactured arms for him.

