



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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### The Recession Is Young But Real

President Eisenhower's economic message to Congress was politically optimistic rather than economically realistic.

The recession is young but real. Mr. Eisenhower's determined avoidance of the word does not change the facts of the situation.

While conceding that there had been a "decline" or a "downturn" the President offered an economic program which was distressingly familiar. Most of the proposals were dog-eared hooligans from other years—years that were far more bountiful than anyone dares hope for in 1958.

As in other parts of the administration's program for the age of the Sputniks, the people are left with the impression that the price of extra effort to meet the necessities of the hour is still the old price, that new challenges can be met in old ways. This is as doubtful in the field of economics as it is in the field of defense.

Mr. Eisenhower has apparently been persuaded that a rather modest amount of new spending will give corporations more profits and individuals more income to make his heady economic prophecies come true. Many economists and business specialists simply do not agree.

The President has pledged that his policies will be shaped to foster the earliest possible business recovery. But

he gave no hint that the administration is considering any medicine that has not been bottled before in five earlier economic messages.

The steel industry has been operating at 80 per cent of capacity. Personal income has been slipping. Automobile sales lost the acceleration that was promised for 1957 models and the industry's 6.3 per cent drop in sales during a 10-day period in November was the worst decline in the new-model season since 1953. Exports to some parts of the world leveled off in 1957 and threaten to drop off in 1958, meaning we shall suffer from our inability to reduce the world's dollar shortage. Businessmen are translating certainty of their misgivings into reduced inventories and less-ambitious planning.

Business is still good in an absolute sense but relatively adds a disturbing dimension. The psychology of fear has its effect, too, and many businessmen are profoundly afraid about the coming months. They apparently feel that it is neither right nor wise to expect that the rate of economic activity will be higher in 1958 than in 1957.

Perhaps the President is anxious to bolster the confidence of the business "fraternity." That is indeed a noble aim. But it is difficult to keep smiling indefinitely in the face of the hard facts of economic life.

### Charlotte Is Treated To An Icy View

WITH the quiet assurance of a man who is supremely sure of the validity of his cause, Under Secretary of State Christian A. Herter gave Charlotteans some hard facts about the high cost of waging peace in a bipolar world.

His message to Chamber of Commerce members and their wives was simple and forceful. The price must be paid if the free world is to survive.

In simple but thoroughly meaningful terms, Mr. Herter summed up the challenge facing the nation in an age of constant peril.

"We have unhappily had to take over the matters of the free world," he said frankly. "We have had to take over the freedom of those left with no freedom."

We could lose a cold war and lose everything that we stand for without a shot being fired. This struggle for the minds and the governmental control of the new nations as well as many of the older nations that are in a cold war we cannot ignore. It is a struggle that is progressive along two fronts. One is the test of economic freedom, and the other is political freedom on the propaganda front.

Mr. Herter made it abundantly clear that the economic struggle cannot be soft-pedaled or ignored today anymore than it could be neglected just after World War II when the Marshall Plan was so sorely needed.

"On the economic side," he said, "there is a struggle first toward existence, and it will exhaust that strength unless we hasten and realize what it means in the lives of people—this urge for something a little better than a miserably hopeless poverty in which most of these people live. And it comes to the point of having enough know-how from the technical point of view and capital in a comparatively modest sum that we are willing to risk in order to give them a start to a full economic life."

"We have made a beginning. We have carried out a program that was very successful. But we come to the crossroads in regard to a new program which

is going to require, on behalf of the American people, a very important decision. That crossroads is whether or not we are going to meet (the Soviet challenge) that has grown so violently in the economic field in the last two years to the tune of two billion dollars scattered in the nations that were subject to Soviet subversion and handled in such a way by technicians that make us a little ashamed of ourselves, in a field in which we ought to be preeminent."

"We have here an element of the cold war that is not an element of today and tomorrow. It is going to have to carry on and ... this struggle is going to take fortitude. It is going to take a continuing recognition on the part of the American people that there is a spectacular battle from the point of view of ultimate survival as a free nation—and a more conspicuous one than might be fought on the battlefield with materials of war as hideous as they are today."

Despite the anguished cries of "give-aid-or-lose-it" from the neo-conservatives, technical assistance and economic aid do pay off. After World War II, when a whole host of nations was in serious danger of falling into the Soviet orbit, Congress enacted the Marshall Plan. In the next five years the United States poured over \$13 billion into this bold adventure. The Marshall Plan's success, as Mr. Herter points out, can be measured not only by the fact that European productivity is many times greater than it was before the war, but, in an even more important sense, by the fact that the beneficiary countries of Europe are today spending annually on military defense alone as much as the United States spent the entire course of this recovery program.

The problem is somewhat different today but no less grave. Mr. Herter has helped us all grasp the significance of this new struggle. It is to be hoped that he is just as successful when the foreign aid budget goes before the Congress.

### Easy Answers To Hard Questions

THAT ancient wheeze about the good-for-nothingness of Washington's bureaucrats was never wronger. Two isolated items in the public prints attest to instances of good-for-nothingness that are absolutely above and beyond the limits of an ordinary mortal's comprehension.

In ransacking volumes of official lore, a reporter came up the other day with this quotation from a federal research report's conclusion: "Dishonest should be large enough to hold dishes that are too large for the sink."

From The Hutchinson (Kan.) News

### FLAWS IN THE 1958 CALENDAR

AS calendars go, that of 1958 is by no means unsatisfactory. It has but one Friday the thirteenth, even if it does fall right in the middle of June bride season. It fixes the Fourth of July on a Friday, which will enable the nation to set yet another record for persons killed in highway accidents during a three-day weekend.

But the calendar for this bright, new year has a major flaw. It places Christmas on a Thursday. With seven days to choose among, this is the worst.

The consequences are easily predictable. The federal government is overflowing with yuletide sentiment, will inform its 2,000,000 civilian employees that following their release from work Wednesday afternoon they will not have to re-

While still digesting the profundity of this assertion, we happened to run across a news item in Monday's New York Times which we will quote in its entirety: "The Department of Commerce, after extensive testing, has concluded that popcorn is practically useless as a cushioning agent for packaging."

Let it never be storied again that U. S. bureaucrats are just sitting around twiddling their thumbs at the taxpayer's expense. They are busy, busy and isn't it wonderful?

sums their duties until the following Monday morning

State and local governments may be counted on immediately to follow the federal example. And this will make the 62,000,000 privately employed, who for the most part will be back to their toil on Friday of that week, feel that they have been put upon. The consequences will be felt when existing labor contracts expire. Christmas 1958, in other words, will spread disunity and ill, rather than the traditional good will. So much so as to strengthen the argument in favor of fixing Christmas on the final Sunday of December with the following Monday celebrated in idleness as National Recovery Day.

## Ike Chills GOP Stalwarts With 'Take Away' Program

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON  
President Eisenhower will have to put together a new combination of troops for every battle he proposes to fight on Capitol Hill. This is the clear prospect after only two weeks of the 1958 session of Congress.

What has happened is that in his messages to Congress and in his budget, the President has struck at the vital interests not only of the Democrats who control Congress but of both wings of his own party.

The standard operating procedure is to put a little something for everybody in a presidential

program so that a working majority for the whole can be achieved. Eisenhower, however, has taken out more than a little something considered precious by members of the Senate and House from both parties and from every region.

### A TREND REVERSED?

Some, perhaps many, Americans may feel this is a salutary reversal of the modern trend. Certainly the President has an overriding purpose of supreme importance he is trying to serve, which is defense combined with the conquest of space.

The President has not been willing, however, to describe that purpose in such bold and sacrificial terms as to capture the imagination of the American people and make them disposed to alter their present ways. Instead he has offered a defense program his own original Republican backers aggressively attack as insufficient; he will not even suggest new taxes, but stands practically alone in insisting his budget will be balanced.

### NO UMBRELLA

Thus the prestige of the presidency offers no umbrella for members of Congress this election year who sacrifice their local in-

terests to the service of his broad purposes. They are quickly showing that they see this very clearly.

For example, the devotion of Sen. Clifford Case of New Jersey to modern Republicanism is new dispute. He can be counted on to go down the line on international policy. But he has voiced shock and dismay at administration proposals to cut back federal funds for housing and urban renewal, and he considers the education bill inadequate.

### CASE REFLECTS

In this he reflects his own campaign for office. Already he had seen his state fall twice to a Democratic governor; this fall he will be heavily engaged in an effort to elect another Republican senator to succeed his retiring colleague, H. Alexander Smith.

Case's problem is duplicated by Sen. J. Lee Rankin of Iowa and Purdy of Connecticut, both of whom fall. Similarly, Old Guard senators from the Midwest and Far West, who might cheerfully entertain an attack on the New Deal, feel betrayed by the Eisenhower farm program.

### TRUMAN'S SLOGAN

The weakest point of the Eisenhower administration has always



SEN. CLIFFORD CASE  
Shock And Dismay

been its party organization on the Hill, especially in the Senate. It has had to depend on Democratic votes in foreign policy matters of all kinds.

Now the GOP organization is in open rebellion, with many dailies declaring they will adopt the old Truman slogan to voters: "Vote for yourselves."

### Stamp Of Disapproval



### Portrait Of A Dreamer

## He Tripped Over A Diamond

By ROBERT C. RUARK

A MAN named John Williamson, an old man, was found dead in the last day of the big dreamers.

Williamson was so much a dreamer that he couldn't count his money except in hundreds of thousands of pounds.

I know him briefly when he was a boy; he could count his wealth in pennies. Borrowed, that is.

He was a dreamer. He was also a scoundrel, and he had a fever. Some people get fevers for gold, some for market manipulations, some for uranium. Williamson was not bitten by the gold bug. He was diamond happy.

### LAST BIG TRY

He figured that if South Africa had diamonds, Central Africa had diamonds, too. He went to Rhodesia in 1953 and poled holes in the ground fruitlessly for six years. He was as busted as a dreamer.

In Nairobi, he was down to shillings and pence. But he still held this dream. He financed a local expedition, his first in Tanganyika, on coins collected from friends—a shilling here, 10 bob there, and an occasional pound from the optimistic.

### STROKE OF LUCK

He went to Tanganyika, to a woody sort of place called Mwandu, with a safari crew so sketchy that he was positively washing his

own clothes, if the clothes got washed. He had this feeling for diamonds, and he went to where the feeling led him.

This now becomes sheer fiction. One day, out of money, out of luck, out of time, and out of any future, he stumbled on something that hurt his foot through the rubber soles of his bush shoes. Out of curiosity, he looked at the pebble that had affronted his foot and saw a raw diamond as big as a golf ball.

### A FAILURE?

He looked over his shoulder and saw that none of his boys had seen his mild accident. For a diamond this big, any or all of the crew would casually have killed him. He ground the diamond into the ground, rapidly memorized a translation from landmarks, and went back to Nairobi, an ostensible failure.

He raised some more dough, smoothed out his time, so long where he was holed. He did a boring-nicon course for his big diamond, and equipped him with labor and protection, proceeded to uncover the most fabulous diamond mine since the early days in South Africa.

At one time he had \$12 million worth of diamonds he couldn't sell, because the De Beers gentlemen from South Africa kept a rigid ceiling on the diamond business, and the dealers, who wanted to buy Williamson's diamonds, were afraid that the tremendous monopoly would light on their necks again. With 17 million dollars worth of

diamonds, Williamson was still more or less broke.

But, as usual, businessmen get together, and Sir Ernest De Beers and Bwana Williamson had a cozy little chat. What the actual financial arrangement was, I couldn't say, but at one time Williamson had refused more than five million bucks for his diamond mine. He joined De Beers, for a sum I should imagine was little less than a million pretty green things, with a pretty cut on the future.

It was reckoned at the time that the mine Williamson subdued his toe on produced at least five per cent of the international diamond supply. The entire mine area, privately owned until he dealt with De Beers, comprised only six acres in Tanganyika, and no had to sweep the hyenas out of the mine.

### FABLES STORY

It's dead now, and so is Sir Ernest De Beers, and what goes with the diamond business I don't know. But I can say one thing. It is very rare when a man of vision can finance a trip with money borrowed in his own pocket, strip his toe on a diamond, and bring the enormous diamond monopolies market to the same foot.

I doubt very much if Williamson had much out of the accomplishment after it had become fact. Like most of our old sourdoughs, he was a seeker, and, alas, he found El Dorado, it lost its glitter.

### People's Platform

## Public Must Help

Charlotte

A SUBJECT which commands a large amount of public interest these days is reform of the administration of justice.

The bar association admits to responsibility for a very serious and critical state of affairs in the reform of our most important public services.

I have had considerable personal experience with the seamy side of the bar, and have studied the experiences of others. I have written several constructively critical letters about the bar. In these articles I have commented at some length on the importance of the bar as a public service, its failure to appreciate its public obligations, its abuses of privilege, and have advocated joint administration of the bar by lawyers and laymen. My letters, although published only in local newspapers, have attracted nationwide attention.



JOHN C. BENNETT  
Five Years Too Late?

Consequently, I have been reading with some interest that the American Bar Association is now advocating the same thing I proposed in 1953, and the bar has only recently indicated its willingness to participate in a bar in a court reform program which is exactly what I advocated nearly five years ago in a series of "letter-forals" in local newspapers. So far as I know, I am not only a layman, but also a member of the public, to be charged the bar with responsibility for the evils in the administration of justice, which the bar now admits.

The roots of the evils are

1 - Lack of public interest in the bar as a public service, which leads to ...  
2 - Abuse of privilege by the bar.

The extremely strong reaction in my articles by the Mecklenburg and North Carolina Bars, and the nationwide interest in my locally published "letter-forals," has drawn attention to the power of public opinion. The bar knows that, professional editorial writers have to make a living and they swing their literary efforts accordingly. "Letter-forals" from the rank and file lack a certain conviction that cannot be ignored.

There is nothing wrong with the administration of justice that can not be corrected quickly and quietly by the public interest in the internal administration of the important public service known as the bar. When the newspapers print many "letter-forals" about the bar as they get about other matters of public interest, the government will promptly, and without misleading public statements from the bar and the governor's office.

Joint administration of the bar

by lawyers and laymen is absolutely necessary to insure honest and efficient administration of justice. We will get joint administration when enough of us rank and file have the courage to demand it.

— JOHN C. BENNETT

### Klan Deserves Equal Protection Under Law

Route 7, Concord

Editors, The News: Do ALL people have the same protection under state laws and the United States Constitution? If the answer is yes then I would like to know how a thousand Klans armed with pistols and shotguns, with President Mayer Oxendine's son as their leader, invaded a Klan meeting the other Saturday night and at gun point took things from people's cars that were parked on private property, shot at Ku Kluxers and women and children, and run them off private property the Klan had rented for their meeting.

If Attorney General Patton of North Carolina and the federal government don't take action on this armed robbery and assault with deadly weapon with intent to kill I'm afraid there will be a lot of trouble in our wonderful state of North Carolina.

I don't care who the Ku Klux Klan is or what it stands for, they have a right under the U. S. Constitution to have meetings just like everybody else, including the NAACP. Those Indians violated both state and federal law by moving on another's property with shotguns and taking their things and the police should have arrested them.

— RUFIN GRISSON

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

WASHINGTON  
When the Moulder Commission finally decided behind closed doors to step a penetrating probe of the Federal Communications Commission, it had before it a highly confidential document. The investigation that went into the document cost about \$250,000 and was the chief reason the commission decided to duck the public truth in the governmental agency which hands out precious TV and radio licenses.

### They Chickened Out

This column has now obtained a copy of the document. And since the commission, by a 6-2 vote, chickened out on telling the public the truth, this column will publish pertinent parts of the confidential memo.

The secret vote inside the committee to take this report out of the commission was a 6-2 vote. Two congressmen, both of California and Missouri, both Democrats, voted to proceed. All Republicans voted to chicken.

### What Scared Congress

Here are pertinent parts of the confidential memo prepared by committee counsel Bernard Schwartz which scared the brave daylight out of the investigating congressmen.

## Here's What Congress Had On FCC

"The Federal Communications Commission is the Supreme Court of the communications industry ... If the communications industry is to be controlled by the Federal Communications Commission, it will be deemed improper in a judge they have not lived up to such (judicial) powers. It is proposed that the first subject to be gone into be the conduct of members of the Federal Communications Commission intimating a deviation from the judicial standard which the Congress intended them to follow ... Evidence has been uncovered by the staff which indicated the following:

### 'A Criminal Felony'

"(1) A commissioner was fully reimbursed by the industry for the expenses incurred by him and his wife in attending an industry convention at which he delivered an address. This commissioner also claimed from and was paid by the government his full expenses (travel and per diem) to attend the same convention. Such a duplication of expense first subject to be gone into is a criminal felony claim was filed against the United States, with the posting of 18 U.S.C. 237 by the commissioner in question. See also 18 U.S.C. 1001, 1914.

Note—This refers to Chairman Dierfeldt's trip, reported yesterday.

"(2) Members of the commission have had their room, board and other expenses (e.g., cabs, valet, golf fees, etc.) paid by the industry while attending industry conventions. At the same time, these commissioners have claimed and received per diem from the government for living expenses incurred by them in attending the same conventions.

### Wives' Bills Paid

"(3) Members of the commission have had their hotel bills paid by the industry while attending industry conventions. At the same time they have claimed and received per diem from the government.

"(4) Members of the commission have had their wives' expenses paid for by the industry for attendance at industry functions.

### Constant Fraternization

"(5) Members of the commission engage in constant fraternization with individuals and corporations who appear as litigants before the commission."

Note—There was evidence that Frank Stanton, head of Columbia Broadcasting, was on intimate terms with an FCC chairman.

"(6) Members of the commission have received for their personal use color television sets and other communications equipment.

### Personal Calls

"(7) Members of the commission have received free service contracts for their personal telephone calls, and his sets from a company which appears as a litigant before the commission ...

"(8) Members of the commission have used communication telephones (at government expense) to make purely personal telephone calls.

"It is important to note that the comptroller general of the United States, in a report of Dec. 24, 1957, advised to Chairman Moulder, has taken a strong position on the propriety of practices such as those just mentioned engaged in by members of the Federal Communications Commission ... He concludes inter alia: 'The acceptance of the more expensive gifts, the payment of hotel bills and traveling expenses by outside agencies give rise to serious doubts as to their propriety. In our system, such practices are not in keeping with the conduct which the public demands of government officials and should not be condoned ... the avoiding an appearance of favoritism whatsoever.'"