



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1958

The Issue Is Not Race—It Is Education

THOUGHTFUL citizens—white and Negro—will dutifully support the proposed \$8,000,000 school bond issue and 2-cent county tax levy for Charlotte's two community colleges.

They will not permit racial issues of dubious validity to sabotage their better instincts.

Education in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is desperately in need of better physical facilities. The lack of adequate facilities affects Negroes and whites alike, weakening their mutual hopes and dreams. To withhold support from the program on the basis of unreasonable fears would be an act of monstrous folly.

If members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—or for that matter, white supremacists—oppose community efforts to improve the physical facilities of our public schools simply because they are not satisfied with the progress, or lack of it, toward integration, they will only be harming themselves and their children.

The issue is not race. It is education. The quality of education in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County will be placed in serious jeopardy unless adequate places to teach and learn are provided. Over-

crowded classrooms, double shifts and like inadequacies tend to lower the educational opportunities of all. As for community colleges, Charlotte will lose a magnificent opportunity to provide sorely needed post-high school education for citizens of all races if it does not meet requirements for obtaining state funds.

Citizens will not be voting for or against segregation when they vote on the school bond issue and the college tax levy. The placement of pupils is presently in the hands of the administrative boards of the two school systems and the colleges. Access to the courts is provided in cases involving alleged discrimination. But, in compliance with the Supreme Court's 1954 desegregation decree, the City School Board has already begun to admit some Negro students to white schools in Charlotte.

The immediate problem is largely one of bricks and mortar. The need for additional facilities is urgent. It must be answered first with dollars and cents. But it must also be answered with the realization that good schools provide the best hope for a healthy community. The schools of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County are in danger today of falling behind both the aspirations and the capabilities of our citizens. That must not happen. We must not let it.

Parks Plan Deserves High Priority

WHEN the Allen Organization's report on Charlotte's recreation needs was handed in two years ago there was considerable huffiness in high quarters over its intimations that the needs were great and pressing.

Happily, however, familiarity with the report seems to have bred respect. In more than one respect the Park and Recreation Commission's \$1 million blueprint for park development, which not only reflects the sound concepts and the broad vision of the Allen Report, the commission's blueprint can serve as a firm basis for remedying defects in the present recreation program and for providing a program in the park-less perimeter.

The plan should be implemented now. The need for facilities, particularly in the perimeter area, is great and is constantly growing. Parks and playgrounds are necessities—not frills. But City Council was correct in its decision not to include funds for recreation in the scheduled \$4,800,000 bond issue for perimeter facilities. The most urgent necessities—water and sewerage—must be first. City Council had no choice other than to defer action on the commission's proposals for the present.

Despite the deferment, significant progress has been made. The commission's program seems to accept the park-school

concept as the basis for meeting neighborhood recreation needs. By their nature the schools already are community centers. Equally important, they are suffering from the need of long-range planning to develop to fill community needs. As the perimeter has grown, choice recreation sites have been swallowed up one by one, and they cannot be reclaimed. The commission also seems to have recognized the necessity of long-range planning to provide recreation for the city as it will be tomorrow. It has made long strides toward the view that recreation facilities must be provided within the framework of a comprehensive plan for the entire community.

The commission's plan regrettably must be shelved for the present but it deserves high priority in the city's future book.

Lament

NOVADAYS everything grows old in a few hours; reputation fades, a work passes away in a moment. Everybody writes; nobody reads seriously.

A 20th century lament for lost values? Not at all. The author was Chateaubriand. The date was 1836.

Were there ever really any "good old days"?

Neely Couldn't Wear The Soft Gloves

DURING 35 years in Washington, Matthew Neely of West Virginia put his name on and his roaring voice behind a great deal of sound legislation.

But when his fellow senators were phrasing their tributes for the press services after his death the other day they put the emphasis on Neely's oratory. This might have pleased the West Virginian for in his last years he seemed to delight in making mighty pronouncements, particularly with regard to the subject of Dwight D. Eisenhower. Some samples:

"The President was first in war but he also was 'the first of all Presidents on the golf course and the last to leave it.'

The Eisenhower administration is 'the second (to the Tower of Babel) everlasting monument to confusion.'

"He is the confused and floundering one who, at the moment, occupies the presidential chair."

None of these personal assaults in-

jured the President. They probably helped to prolong into a second term the "moment" of occupancy which pained the senator so much. Indeed they may have been prompted by Neely's sense of frustration over the fact that it was fashionable even among Democrats to criticize the President. At any rate, Neely was about the only prominent Democrat who refused to put on the soft gloves in dealing with the President in the press-pit era.

Before the senator died, the President, as all Presidents must, had lost his immunity to criticism. Even so, Neely's brand of verbal black-jacking was still out of style. For most of the barbs directed at the President now are designed to encourage the President to take a more vigorous role rather than to destroy his prestige.

The Senate will miss Matthew Neely but he can go along bravely without his purely partisan oratory.

From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

KEEP OUT OF THE CASBAH

CHARLES Boyer, denying the lady-killing legend that has grown up about him, says he never said "Come with me to the Casbah." It was, he avers, the figment of a press agent. Mr. Boyer labors under the handicap that, though he did not say it, he looks as though he did. So we expect most people will go right on associating "Come with me to the Casbah" with Mr. Boyer, and romantic young ladies will not cease to sigh for never having visited the Casbah with him as their escort.

In the same way "I want to be alone" stuck with Greta Garbo because she looked as though she wanted to be alone. Even in some of her most tempestuous love scenes with, say John Gilbert, Miss Garbo had a way of looking as though her mind had wandered off by itself and was exploring those lone but never lonely pinnacles where, it is supposed, the mystique that became the Garbo legend.

The Mae West legend grew up exactly the same way. "Why don't you come and see me some time?" was something Miss West not only said but looked.

Very contrariwise, there was Humphrey Bogart, who introduced that immortal phrase "Tennis, anyone?" The words simply did not land with the music of the Bogart character and so, while the phrase became part of the American idiom, no one associated it with the legendary tough guy.

Anyone can toss off a phrase. It's looking the way that makes it stick. We are so convinced of this that we bet you if so Humphrey Bogart had been the one to say "Come with me to the Casbah" virtually everybody and his aunt would still have thought it was Charles Boyer.

Several women we know are wearing their hair its natural shade. Some people will do anything to be different—GREENVILLE (S. C.) PIEDMONT.

Economists have concluded that many family budgets fall mostly because they are too easily budgeted.—LAUREL (MISS.) LEADER-CALL.

A girl is like a candy bar: half sweetness and half nuts.—CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE.

People's Platform

Charlotte
Fifty years ago, the People's Platform was a caustic observer of the cultural scene in Charlotte and had acquired a reputation for daring to walk out on mediocre performances. Perhaps you will forgive me for now doing a complete "walkabout" and becoming a bit of a rhapsode over the magnificent concert of the Charlotte Symphony and the Oratorio Singers under Earl Berg on Saturday night.

In my estimation non-professional music in this city reached its zenith at that concert.

—LEON K. GUTMANN

Symphony 'Exciting' For Charlotte Visitor

Atlanta, Ga.
Editors, The News:
I WAS traveling through North and South Carolina last week and happened to be in Charlotte for the weekend. Having Saturday evening free, I purchased a ticket for the performance of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra at your municipal auditorium.

I must confess that I expected a rather amateurish group of local musicians. I was surprised instead to find an exceptionally fine musical organization of professional quality under the capable leadership of your Mr. Berg. And what an exciting program!

It was such a delightful evening that I just wanted the people of your time to know how much I enjoyed it. You have something to be proud of.

—ARTHUR J. HADLEY

New Warning Signals On Seaboard Tracks

Norfolk, Va.
Editors, The News:
I view of published comments which appeared recently in the Charlotte papers concerning protection at railroad-highway grade crossings in the vicinity of your city, it seems to me that you would likely be interested in knowing what has been and is being done to provide additional warning devices at certain locations where Seaboard tracks are crossed by a street or highway.

On last Dec. 18 new automatic signals were placed in service at the Rama Rd. crossing, then on Jan. 6 the installation of signals was completed at the Sharon Amity Rd. crossing.

Work of installing signals is now underway at three additional crossings—McLaway Rd., Richmond Dr. and Trade St. (Mathews). The McLaway Rd. signals will likely be in service within the next week or 10 days, to be followed shortly by those at Richmond Dr. The Trade St. signals are expected to be in operation by about March 1.

—C. E. BELL

Gen. President, Seaboard Air Line Railroad Co.

Judges & Solicitors Should Be Elected

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
THE North Carolina Bar Association has appointed a committee to study the operation of

the various courts throughout the state and make recommendations for the improvement of the administration of justice where and when needed.

This committee has a "king-size job" before it. All hands agree that the courts and those persons charged with their operation could stand a "bit" of improvement.

This committee would do well to begin to improve justice here in Mecklenburg County. The first necessary step should be to direct its attention to the judges and solicitors of the city, county, and domestic relations court. The judges and solicitors of these courts are presently appointed. This is not a good way to fill such offices. These important posts should be staffed with men who are selected by the citizens of the city and county voting in the secrecy of the voting booth.

I personally consider it to be an

improvement to the quality of justice.

—MAHLON CHANDLER

Bladenboro

Cole Not Connected With Baptist Group

Editors, The News:
A moderator of the Free Will Baptist Association of the Original Free Will Baptists, it is my wish to acquaint all of the people that the Rev. James Cole is not and has never been a minister in this association.

The Free Will Association is a member of the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist State Convention and comprises a territory located in Southeastern North Carolina.

Therefore, it is imperative that it be declared now that the Rev. James Cole, known to be connected with the K.K.K. which was involved in the tragic incident in Maxton, Jan. 18, is not a member or minister of the Original Free Will Baptists, in this or any other conference and, as so far as known, he is not connected with the South Carolina Original Free Will Baptists.

Your efforts in our behalf will be greatly appreciated in this endeavor to disassociate the Rev. James Cole with our denomination. I do believe that it is of the utmost importance that your readers be informed as to the correct denomination of the Rev. Cole, and I am sure that this is the proper time to make such corrections which will separate the Rev. Cole from our law-abiding people of the Original Free Will Baptists.

—REV. CARY CHESTNUT

Moderator, Free Will Baptist Association of the Original Free Will Baptists

Congressional Probers Defended By Reader

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Editors, The News:
MY FINE wife tells me—with a twinkle in her pretty blue eyes—I'm lazy. And, as most folks know, lazy people usually gravitate toward easy pastimes.

One of my favorites is "squaring off" against that group of pseudo-intellectuals known as "contemporary liberals." Especially is the word us common folk find most descriptive.

Mr. Henry Kaye registered in the Peoples Platform of Jan. 18 a few quite inadequate comments on a previous letter of mine in which I chided him about a letter he had written. The substance of Mr. Kaye's letter was that Dr. Frank Graham and Bernard Berenson would make great peace talkers for the U. S. at a "necessary" peace conference with Communists.

Not thus, I, in effect, disagreed—particularly with respect to Dr. Graham.

Replying to my dissent, Mr. Kaye found it convenient to ignore Dr. Graham's past Communist front window-dressing activities, but he attacked the congressional committee who exposed the guilt of Dr. Graham. This attack on a governmental committee whose task is to inform and guard the American people—against the effects of subversive communism is, strangely, standard operating procedure of the liberal clan. Communists they can tolerate. But anti-Communists and exponents of Communism and non-Communism are intolerable—not even fit to allow with grace. So goes, in effect, the liberal logic!

I challenge Mr. Kaye to name a few of those "innocent" persons he claims were "damaged" by the Congressional Un-American Activities Committee. Then we shall

practically see how already mentioned, engaged in by the members of a body like the Federal Communications Commission, strike at the very heart of the scheme of administrative regulation set up by the Congress. If these chosen to be the "judges" of the communications industry are themselves lacking in the integrity and uprightness of the judge, the regulation itself must fail in its basic essentials. It is to be hoped that a public hearing on this matter will help to restore the proper ethical standard and regain for the administrative process the essential integrity which the Congress intended it to have.

Off The Record Talks

Members of the Federal Communications Commission have discussed cases pending before the agency with litigants. Such discussion was had ex parte of the public record and was carried on either through personal conversations or over

the telephone. There are indications that such conversations, in at least some instances, referred to the merits of the pending cases.

'Wholly Improper'

"It is almost self-evident that ex parte relationships of this type between a quasi-judicial body and litigants are wholly improper. If engaged in by a judge, it would clearly violate Canon 17 of the Canons of Judicial Ethics.

Gifts And Favors

"It should be pointed out parenthetically that the existence of a close relationship between an administrative agency and those in the industry regulated by it bears a close relationship to the transaction between the agency and the industry, of the type already referred to. If the agency members have contact with members of the industry, it may be setting them an all but impossible standard and to expect them to cease such contacts when pending matters are concerned. This is particularly true where the industry habitually confers gifts and favors upon the agency members.

One typical case of fraternization which congressional probers had in mind was

Audience Awed By Quality Of Charlotte's Music



Guest Conductor Berg: 'Music Reaches Its Zenith'

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insult to the intelligence and understanding of the public that such haste and fundamental prerogatives of a free people are bandied about as though they mean nothing.

Solicitors and judges should of all public officials be free in their actions and operations of the courts. It is my opinion that including solicitors and judges, are closer to the people and more sensitive to the rights and feelings of the individual if they are elected to the office rather than appointed by other public officials. I wish this committee well and hope that it will be successful in its effort to improve the quality of justice.

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Yes, plenty of them. The great trouble is that they call for more bonds before they get the first set. And the trouble is that there are too many trimmings around those school buildings—swimming pools, here, yonder and elsewhere. We build the pools and they cannot get the ducks into them. Take a look at the one on Stateville Rd. Why pay for it? Not the ones that were in use.

So look out, old taxpayer. They are going to let you for another lead in 1958. We appreciate the one move that the County Commissioners made—a tie-in on the two lots on the corner of 4th and Myers Sts. But we hope the voters will stay off the block across the street on 4th St. from the Court House. . . .

—S. C. VAUGHN

The Little Things Do Mean A Lot

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
THE other day as I was reading "The Everyday Counselor" in The News I thought how true it was that these little things in life mean a lot. Look around you and see the little people with burdens and consider the little things that might be done to help them—things that would mean more than anyone would ever know. It is a way of responding to God's love.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Chummy Relationship

Congressional testimony showed that Lee and Sol Tashoff, publisher of Broadcast, had helped organize Glenn Edwards with Tinsley just as Tinsley's TV application was under consideration before the FCC.

Under FCC rules, Petersburg residents are supposed to get Petersburg TV licenses, not outsiders. But in this case, the applicant living in Baltimore got station WJXT-TV in Petersburg.

Tinsley's Advantage

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