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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1958

Oliver R. Rowe: Man Of The Year

WITH the sly casualness of a man who is fully aware of the dramatics of the occasion, Oliver R. Rowe strode smiling to the rostrum.

Before him stretched a sea of quizzical faces—city school teachers who, if anything, viewed the proposed consolidation of Charlotte and Mecklenburg school systems with mild suspicion.

After a few pleasantries, Mr. Rowe lowered his boom. Consolidation, he said, is not one possibility but the *only* possibility.

"It is inconceivable to me," he declared, "that the city would prefer to remain frozen to the present school district boundary—or even prefer to fight over it—rather than consolidate.

"To do so would be following the path of degeneration already experienced by so many cities around which small municipalities have grown up — thus hemming them in."

With marvelous effectiveness, Mr. Rowe pounded home the point that a merger is necessary to head off a bitter battle for possession of the city's rich perimeter area.

"The county school system cannot afford to give up the perimeter. To do so would be giving up all the progress they have made and practically wreck the system. On the other hand, the city school system cannot afford to be bottled up inside the present school boundary line . . .

"The only answer to this dilemma—the only solution that will save the perimeter for both the city and the county is consolidation of the two systems."

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WHEN he had finished, there were still doubts in the minds of some city teachers. But no one who watched Mr. Rowe's performance on that October afternoon had any doubts about his courage and his sincerity. He had done what other advocates of school consolidation had been reluctant to do —test the case for consolidation before perhaps the most critical audience in the county.

But Oliver Rowe did not stop with the teachers. His campaign for consolidation took him all over the county—before PTA groups, civic clubs, business organizations, anyone who would listen. Where he got the energy or the time or the dedication was anybody's guess. But it was this kind of performance that made Oliver Rowe THE CHARLOTTE NEWS' Man of the Year for 1958. He was elected by previous Men of the Year unanimously.

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IT was difficult during 1958 to regard Oliver Rowe as one man. He was at least three, possibly four. At least that is the way it seemed to newsmen and other run-of-the-mill human beings who attempted to keep up with him.

It is true that no other Mecklenburger worked so hard for the cause of school consolidation—an ideal that already has excited the interest and determination of both school boards. But he worked during 1958 no less diligently for the cause of higher education and for the betterment of the community's social health.

As a trustee of the Charlotte Community College System, he campaigned long and hard to rally community support behind Charlotte and Carver Colleges. Not since W. A. (Woody) Kennedy, had a Mecklenburger championed the community college idea with such tireless determination. Once during the year, he journeyed all the way to California with another trustee, Sheldon Smith, to survey West Coast colleges for local administrators, bringing back a briefcase full of ideas. During the bond issue campaign, he made more public addresses in behalf of the college system than any other citizen.

Mr. Rowe's formula to win local support for the two colleges was disarmingly simple. Without folderol, he would launch his campaign with a directness that was startlingly effective.

"I want to tell you about what I consider the most important step in the field of higher education since the establishment of the University of North Carolina," he would say.

"I want to tell you about the great opportunity we have right here in Mecklenburg County to build a college system that will bring first class college education to the thousands of our young people who do not have the money to go away to a dormitory-type college."

Mr. Rowe: Just One Of Him?

In a matter of minutes, his audience would be safely sold — their heads full of visions of great universities that would turn out thousands of educated men and women to raise the economic status of the entire community. It was the kind of enthusiastic pitch for progress that helped win an overwhelming vote of confidence in the community college idea at the polls last Nov. 4.

* * *

WITH other audiences, he hunted aloud for the resources the state and city had to find to produce a new era of progress.

"I have been looking around for some natural resource that might pull us off the bottom of the list economically," he would say.

"You know we have no coal or iron or petroleum around which great industries grow. All forest lands have been stripped of their trees at least once . . . All the economically feasible water power sites in the state are already developed or are in the process of being developed . . . We have no lead, no zinc, no tin, no copper, no sulphur. Our gold is hardly worth mining . . . Our farm income from everything is less than one billion dollars and over half of this is from the tobacco crop. (May Heaven save us from the cigarette cancer scare!) So what is this great resource we are looking for to pull us from the bottom of the per capita income list?

* * *

"I'LL tell you what it is! It's *babies!* Babies! that grow up to be people."

People have to be educated, of course, and people can be educated cheaper in a community college than in a large dormitory-type college. That was his message and Mecklenburgers responded to it magnificently.

* * *

WHEN Mr. Rowe was not beating the bushes for votes for Charlotte's community colleges or support for school consolidation, he was plumping for the United Appeal. As president of Mecklenburg's United Community Services, he was one of the key figures behind this year's record-breaking fund-raising effort. He was also prominent in the development of the new United Community Foundation, the new community trust that has just come of age so beautifully in Mecklenburg. His interest in Charlotte's health, recreation and welfare needs is utterly sincere and his approach to varied social problems is unusually imaginative and vigorous.

* * *

IT would take another editorial column or two to list Mr. Rowe's other civic interests and accomplishments. They are many and varied. Suffice to say that we have seldom seen one man work so hard and so selflessly for the general betterment of the community in which he lives.

He seems to have some terribly insistent inner compulsion to get things done. He has an almost inhuman store of nervous energy. He is a keen student of human relationships, a charming advocate of causes he believes in and a great believer in common sense.

It is a genuine pleasure to salute Oliver R. Rowe, Man of the Year for 1958.

Quotes Of The Year: These Were 1958's Salty Sayings

Editors' Note: During 1958 we packed away in their own vinegar and seasoned with their own salt this collection of quotations from the lips of various figures — local, state, national and international. If you don't mind flying metaphors and a little deadly nightshade, come on in and shop around.

CITY Councilman **Herbert H. Baxter** on job classification: "We're going to make an attempt to equalize these inequities."

BAXTER

UNC Dean **J. C. Sitterson** on Charlotte College's future: "Experts tell us that there are only three major administrative problems facing colleges today. Providing athletics for the alumni, providing sex for the undergraduates and providing parking spaces for the faculty."

Mort Sahl on Gen. Douglas MacArthur: "Originally he planned to walk ON the water, but Truman interfered."

Former UNC Chancellor **Robert B. House** on ideals: "A man had better be sure that he now loves something lest he fool himself with the idea that he already loves everything."

Gov. Luther Hodges on social amenities: "You get gun-shy about cocktail parties and things—you even get gun-shy about whether your wife registered properly."

GOV. HODGES

Dr. William C. Kvaraceus of Boston University on the younger generation: "Kids today are no better or worse than they were 20 years ago. It's just that our culture pattern has changed. Remember how this country worshipped Lindbergh when he flew the Atlantic? But do you ever see a kid nowadays walking around with a badge proclaiming 'I like Salk'?"

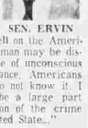
Former Police Chief **Frank Littlejohn** on Charlotte's court scandal: "There has been some comment about the way the court is set up. But if you put a safe in this building and put time locks all around it, the custodian could still steal the Lord's Supper out of it if he wanted to."

LITTLEJOHN

UNC Vice President **Billy Carmichael** on being asked the significance of the University's new Univac electronic computer: "Don't rush me. I still don't understand zippers."

Sugar Ray Robinson on his new career as a movie actor: "I have been highly successful as a fighter, but I detest fighting. It has always seemed barbaric to me."

Sen. Sam Ervin on the state of things in Washington during a particular week: "Nixon's in Venezuela, the President's at Burning Tree and Dulles, as usual, is up in the air."



SEN. ERVIN

Bertrand Russell on the American malady: "A man may be disconcerted because of unconscious wants. For instance, Americans need rest, but do not know it. I believe this to be a large part of the explanation of the crime wave in the United State..."

Poet **Ezra Pound** on being released from St. Elizabeth's Hospital: "When I was in the bughouse I used to think there were 160 million worse cases outside, but until I was driven through Washington traffic I didn't realize what the poor devils were up against."

Sen. Harry F. Byrd on his usual topic: "In addition to being unscientific, our tax system is hypocritical, undemocratic and un-American."

Lady Astor on "unwanted" children: "I was the seventh of 11 unwanted children and until I kicked my brother or cheated, or lied I was never frustrated. And then I was frustrated only where all children should be frustrated."

Eddie Cantor on taxes: "In the good old days a man who saved his money was called a miser; now he's called a wonder."

Gary Cooper on video: "I watch TV so I can fall asleep."

Playwright **Paddy Chayefsky:** "I don't know what Hollywood stands for, but if it stands for current values I am dead against it. American values are all wrong—the pursuit of security and comfort, with everyone plugging away to be as ordinary as possible. It's like Rome. I can hear the clanking of the barbarians at the gates."

COOPER

Mama Gabor after **Gen Rafael Trujillo** gave her daughter **Zsa Zsa** a $5,600 sports car and a $17,000 chinchilla wrap: "So what do you expect—for him to send flowers? To a girl like Zsa Zsa? Or mink? Zsa Zsa wouldn't even look at a mink. She has so many."

ZSA ZSA

Vittorio de Sica on why so many of his films deal with adultery: "But if you take adultery out of the lives of the bourgeoisie what drama is left?"

Ernie Kovacs on working in Hollywood: "I fell a little bit in love with the movies on the day when, after lying by the pool for eight hours waiting to shoot a 10 - second scene, a boy came up from the studio and slipped my weekly check underneath the Scotch sour. An assistant lifted the glass for him. You can't beat that for child labor."

GRAHAM

Greensboro's **Burke Davis** after being accused of dealing in "half truths" in his newspaper column: "Half truths seem appropriate. Many half people to deal with."

Novelist **William Faulkner** on education: "Schools are becoming more and more just babysitting organizations to keep the kids out of their parents' hair. Children today are being bribed to attend college with such inducements as the professional football teams and striptease cheerleaders."

FAULKNER

Bernard Baruch on being asked if Congress could do anything permanent about economic ups and downs: "Yes. Pass a law changing human nature and make it retroactive to the Garden of Eden."

Billy Graham on the sack: "It takes the sex out of dress."

Favorite epitaph of ex-Rep. **Brooks Hays** of Arkansas, to be found on the gravestone of a hypochondriac in an old North Carolina cemetery: "I told you I was sick."

Elvis Presley on transportation in the Army: "I miss having a car to drive when I want it. A tank is just a tank — three cars is a way of life."

Oscar Levant on the future: "I'm just like Eisenhower. Once I make up my mind, I'm full of indecision."

Poet Robert Frost on, himself: "I've waged a lover's quarrel with the world ever since I felt old enough to woo it with dash. I was stodgy only when I was young. I never dared to be radical for fear it would make me conservative when I was old. God seems to me to be something which wants us to win. In tennis. Or poetry. Or marriage. I'm like a modern car in religious matters. I may look convertible, but I'm a hardtop."

FROST

Daddy Grace, Bishop of Charlotte's House of Prayer For All People: "The man who drinks shall not inherit the Kingdom of Heaven."

Harry Truman on the press: "No President who hasn't been roundly abused by the press has a chance of living in history. I didn't care what you said about me . . . as long as you couldn't prove it. You reporters never really harm Presidents. You make them historically great."

TRUMAN

Martin Mayer on mass culture: "And, of course, there is only one civilized cultural comment on advertising: A rousing thumbs down. The great bulk of advertising is culturally repulsive to anyone with any developed sensitivity. So are most movies and television shows, most popular music and a surprisingly high proportion of published books. When you come right down to it, there is not a hell of a lot to be said for most of what appears in the magazines."

Robert Penn Warren after receiving a $1,000 poetry prize: "Poets, we know, are terribly sensitive people, and, in my observation, one of the things they are most sensitive about is cash."

Maurice Cathie on being arrested in England for riding nude on a train. "Everybody has his own peculiarities and this is mine."

Richard M. Nixon on GOP's woes: "The trouble with Republicans is that when they get into difficulty they start acting like a bunch of cannibals."

NIXON

Jayne Mansfield on Life: "Sex without love isn't anything. Mind you, love without sex isn't much either."

Walt Kelly on space exploration: "If what we know about the moon is 'true,' should our first manned missiles carry crackers?"

Evangelist **Billy Graham:** "Sin is bought on the installment plan and it costs you your life in Hell forever."

Sophia Loren on her mysterious charm: "I don't think I am voluptuous. I am matured. I must have something because men seem to like me. Women, too."

Dr. B. L. Ullman, chairman of the University of North Carolina Department of Classics on teachers: "It would help too if teachers were treated better by their communities, if they were given more freedom and their pupils a little less."

Ernest Hemingway on creativity: "The best writing is when you are in love."

Edwin Gill describing Charlotte's Harry Golden: "Socrates in a gray flannel suit."

HEMINGWAY

Novelist **Inglis Fletcher** telling how she came to North Carolina from Illinois: "It's all right for you to refer to us as Illinoisans, just so you don't make it Illinoyances."

Errol Flynn on money: "I never worry about money so long as I can reconcile my net income with my gross habits."

John S. Cross after being appointed an FCC commissioner replacing Richard Mack. "I may not be too smart, but I'm awful clean."

Greensboro-born **Junius Scales,** looking back on his Communist Party membership from 1939 to 1956: "I did some damn fool things."

SCALES

Richard Chase on Life and Letters: "A highbrow is a longhair. He likes Bach and Stravinsky, but not 'My Fair Lady.' He likes Joyce but not James Gould Cozzens . . . A lowbrow is a televiewer who watches Ed Sullivan because he finds Steve Allen too intellectual."

Actor **Cary Grant** on popularity: "Everyone hates you if you're rich or an actor. You simply cannot win."

Mort Sahl on FBI literature: "I see where J. Edgar Hoover has written a book. I think it is called 'How To Turn In Your Friends To The FBI for Fun and Profit.'" On his Army career: "I was so close to MacArthur I got radiation burns."

GRANT

Woman's College Poet and Professor **Randall Jarrell** on ennui: "You can bore some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time, but you can't bore all of the people all of the time. In the end everybody turns off the television set and goes out and looks up at the stars, in perfect silence, or starts an FM station to play Bartok, or prints Rilke in a paper-bound book, or plays with his cat, or throws kisses to his wife, or does something ill-adjusted, individual and personally satisfying."

Crooner **Frank Sinatra** on his trade: "I can't read music but I can follow it. Of course, I don't always go the same way."

Bernard Goldfine on influence: "A friend you call whenever you see fit."

Actress **Terry Moore** on the display of merchandise: "Acting and undressing are too different professions. I can't understand why producers and the public keep confusing the two."

MOORE

Oxford historian **A. J. P. Taylor** on street-walkers: "I wish the girls were not there for their own sakes. But they do not shock or offend me. They are quiet, friendly, mostly well-dressed and many of them pleasant to look at. No one is obliged to patronize them; and for my part I welcome a few cheerful greetings as I go to a restaurant. Of course it is very wrong that women should sell their bodies."

Oscar Levant on psychiatry: "Psychiatry bores me. I'm not on the couch. I just go to a psychiatrist so he can tell me his problems."

Former Tar Heel Attorney General **George Patton** on the federal government: "They talk a year or two, then do a little business."

Winston Churchill on fanatics: "A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

Model **Suzy Parker** on relativity: "I always tell the truth, but today's truth might not be tomorrow's."

Winston-Salem Mayor **Marshall Kurfees** beginning his (unsuccessful) campaign for the Democratic nomination for Congress: "Put the jam on the lower shelf, where CHURCHILL the little man can reach it."

Manager **Casey Stengel** when the Yankees won the pennant: "I realize I couldn't have done it without the players."

Frank Lloyd Wright on video: "Television is chewing gum for the eyeballs."

Randall Jarrell on relativity: "Publishers have to eat—if possible at the Colony . . . In an ideally good society 'Swan's Way' would make Proust and his publisher 20 or 30 million dollars, and Elvis Presley would be the favorite of a few 11-year-olds. In an ideally bad society 'Swan's Way' would not be published at all, and Proust would have written Presley's autobiography for the Saturday Evening Post."

WRIGHT

Erich Maria Remarque, looking back: "In life I have done everything in excess, except work."

A **Hartsville, S. C.** church bulletin: "Methodists Believe In Immorality."

Sugar Ray Robinson on taxes: "The way I figure it, three quarters of the money that goes for foreign aid is mine."

Jayne Mansfield on Principles: "I am absolutely against lust."

Sen. George W. Malone on Senate camaraderie: "You just don't understand senators. They eat together. They work together. They play together — and when one breaks his leg they eat him."

MANSFIELD

John D. Williams, head of the mathematics division of the Rand Corporation, on the traffic problem: "I am sure that there is, in effect, a desirable level of automobile accidents . . . The automobile kills about 100 people a day, which seems terrible to the individual. But society is more used to death and recognizes the obvious need for it."

People's Platform

Will City Employes Join Hoffa's Union?

Charlotte

Editor, The News:

I WONDER if the city employes of Charlotte will be foolish enough to let Jimmy Hoffa or Walter Reuther organize them in their unions? If it is necessary for them to be organized why don't they look for better leadership? With all the trouble in America caused by these leaders, we don't need any more. . . .

It is hard to understand why any working man in America would pay dues to a union with its kind of leadership. No person has ever gained back the money they lost while on strike. No matter if they do win the strike, Walter Reuther and his kind spend millions of dollars in politics trying to defeat honest men for public office in election, and should receive no support from right-thinking Americans.

If our politicians in Washington were the right kind to handle the affairs of this nation, they would put an end to union dues being used in politics. It is the lowest type of statesmanship to be found anywhere in the world.

And when unions try to force employes to join a union in order to work, they are not following the golden rule, to do unto others, as they wish others to do to them. When any persons demand their rights, they in turn ought to be willing to grant the same rights to their fellow man.

The present brand of union leadership in America stinks and should be thrown out.

—PARKS A. YANDLE

A Nation's Downfall Begins From Within

Hamlet

Editor, The News:

GOD ALWAYS has and always will hold the balance of power. No matter how powerful a nation becomes, financially or militarily, the people of the nation should always keep that fact in mind.

Many nations have become very strong in the past.

We cannot name a single one out of all the nations who, in the past, became the most powerful nation in the world. Not a single one of them remained the most powerful nation in the world.

Ordinarily, one would think that most or all of the nations of the past were destroyed from the outside. This is not true. The thing that brings about their final and complete destruction has its beginning within the nation.

One of the most poisonous of these things is SPECIAL PRIVILEGE.

— ROBERT CAMP BOYD SR.

The Cat

BENDING nearer, I listened to the double purring, treble and bass, that is the mysterious prerogative of the feline race; a rumbling as of a distant factory, a whirring as of a captive moth, a frail mill whose profound slumber stops its grinding.—Colette.

From The Chattanooga News-Free Press

QUESTIONS & 'ANSWERS'

IN these days when nearly everybody can read and write, there still is a major problem of communication, of getting the point across. That was shown by some miserable results received by two Sylvester, Ga., high school teachers on quizzes in English and civics classes.

This was one question: "Who becomes President of the United States in the event the President dies?"

Back came this answer: "Hise sun."

A literature question: "In the play Julius Caesar, why did Caesar ask Anthony to touch Calpurnia?"

Someone answered: "Because he didn't want to touch her himself."

Another problem: "Define anachronism."

The answer: "An anachronism is a kind of religion."

Problem: "Explain the term 'the congressman was on the fence' about the question."

One student answered: "He was a lazy man who sat on the fence instead of working."

It would appear, however, that the congressman was not the only "lazy" individual. The teachers clearly weren't getting across to the students.

—

They've got instant coffee,
And just give them time—
Some character will invent
Instant moonshine. — LEXINGTON HERALD LEADER.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Eskimos Spring Out Of The Stone Age

ANCHORAGE, Alaska has learned to work on electronics at has learned to work on electronics at our early warning stations, drives caterpillars at military bases.

THE chances are fairly good that the new Alaskan Senate will have an Eskimo as president. If so, he will be William Beitz, 46 years old, born at Bear Creek, Alaska, now a resident of the Eskimo village of Unalakleet near the Behring Sea.

The fact that an Eskimo is now one of the oldest members of the Alaskan Senate in point of service is a graphic illustration of the near miracle of Eskimo progress in the last two decades.

Eskimo Modernization

"After 3,000 years as primitive nomads," says Col. Marvin "Mukluk" Marsten, organizer of the Eskimo scouts of the Alaskan National Guard, "the Eskimo in 17 short years has become as modern as the white man. He has met the challenge of modern civilization. He can pilot planes, repair intricate radio sets, has learned to work on electronics at our early warning stations, drives caterpillars at military bases.

Stone To Machine Age

"In 17 short years he has advanced from the stone age to the machine age," says the colonel, "and I am proud of him."

Col. Marsten had something to do with that advance. So did former Gov. Ernest Gruening, now U.S. senator, who made Marsten his military aide and gave him instructions at the time of Pearl Harbor to organize the Eskimo Scouts.

Leaders Volunteered

"They had no reason to love the white man" recalls Col. Marsten. "He had taken their game, encroached on their fishing, pushed them farther north. However, when I met with their leaders in a council hut and told them I wanted men to defend Alaska, every one of them volunteered to fight."

Eskimo Spotters

The subsequent organization of the Eskimo Scouts under Marsten resulted in a network of Eskimo watchers and fighting men along the lenthy, rugged, almost inaccessible coast of Alaska, a network which continued to operate right up until the construction of Air Force early warning radar stations. At one time Eskimo observers turned in 800 sightings of unidentified airplanes in a month.

Fishing With One Eye

Eskimo children became experts at spotting jet planes in the sky. Sometimes on their say-so U.S. fighters would "scramble" and take to the air to investigate unidentified planes off the Siberian and Alaskan coasts.

It was not uncommon for Eskimos to have transistor radio sets beside them as they fished and keep one eye on the skies while they pulled fish through holes in the ice.

Spotting Days Over

This spotting of unidentified airplanes reached its peak when the Russians were constantly probing the Alaskan coast a few years ago. Today visual airplane spotting has been replaced by the DEW Line and the most intricate series of radar alert stations man has ever conceived. Eskimo Scouts still drill faithfully as part of the Alaskan National Guard, but their days of airplane spotting are over.