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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1958

## It's Already 'Tomorrow' In Mecklenburg

AFTER weeks of wishful waiting, proponents of a consolidated public school system in Mecklenburg County could relax today. The other shoe has been dropped.

Four days after the City School Board launched a broad comprehensive consolidation study, the County Board of Education did likewise yesterday.

In the city, a three-man committee headed by Douglas Aiken will investigate the whys and wherefores of the adventurous proposal. In the county, the whole board will plough the same ground tomorrow.

Methods of approach are unimportant. The significant thing is that both school boards have reacted logically and dutifully to the growing public demand for a single, efficient, uniform system of public education for all of Mecklenburg's children.

Just two years ago, a merger was looked upon as something for the distant future—10 or 15 years away, at least. The quotation is from lips of a high education official who is now personally in favor of consolidation by 1960.

The future is here. Sudden growth

and mounting inequalities have brought us face to face with "tomorrow's" problems today.

There is suddenly a clear and present need for greater governmental simplicity, efficiency and economy. But there is also a clear and present need to guarantee the same uniformly high standards of public education to every child in the county—no matter who he is where he lives or what the color of his skin happens to be.

It would be nice to believe that immediate savings can be enjoyed by one and all the moment consolidation becomes a fact. This, unfortunately, may not be the case. But in the long run a number of savings could be made by eliminating duplication. Other economies would result from better coordination.

The two school boards have a great deal of homework to do on these very problems. Let their studies be conducted with painstaking thoroughness. Let them overlook nothing—neither dollars and cents nor certain human values.

Then, when all the studies have been completed and all the answers have been gathered, let's have a little public examination.

## Mr. Truman Had The Town To Himself

WHY Mrs. Eisenhower is taking a vacation in Arizona onto the end of a vacation in Georgia is of considerably less concern to us than the progress of a courageous little crusade that is budding beside our front steps. In fact, we think a progress report on crocuses everywhere would have made more substantial weekend reading than speculations as to why Mrs. Eisenhower flew to a glorified beauty salon in Arizona and why the President forsook his quail shooting and flew with her.

Undoubtedly there is public interest in descriptions of the Arizona resort. "For \$400 a week and up," a Washington paper reported, "guests can revitalize themselves in a sugar-coated routine combining Spartan self-improvement with pampered luxury." But all things in which there is public interest are not necessarily in the public interest. Presidential Press Secretary James C. Hagerty commented sensibly that "when the President of the United States wants to go any place with his wife, that is his business and nobody else's."

Being sensible, though, is not the same thing as being politically smart. And the latter is Mr. Hagerty's job. No wonder he lost his temper when reporters, to whom he has fed a good bit of pap about the presidency, demanded another slice of pap for the Sunday papers.

This, really, was not a profitable time for a presidential press secretary to be

talking about vacations. With headlines centered on the recession, Mr. Eisenhower had been down in Georgia shooting quail with George ("Hard Money") Humphrey, former secretary of the Treasury.

Then the President made a 3,000 mile detour on his way back to Washington in order to drop the First Lady off at another resort.

Meantime, Herbert Hoover was at Valley Forge, Pa., proudly repeating a speech he made at the same place 27 years ago during the Great Depression.

The only president in Washington was a man from Missouri—name of Harry S. Truman. He was talking of all things, politics.

Maybe Mr. Hagerty should try a Milton.

## Tempus Fugit

QUEEN Victoria, returning from a six-week vacation, is said to have summoned her Prime Minister to the palace to ask, "What has the House of Commons passed in my absence?"

"Your Majesty," said the Prime Minister, "the House of Commons has passed six weeks, nothing more."

Anybody keeping score on the Second Session of the 85th Congress?

## Is Knowing 'Joe' So Very Admirable?

The only thing I did was pull, under cover, all the wires I could.

WITH this admission and some equally frank intimations a self-styled "cheap politician" named Jerry W. Carter has put in a nutshell for House investigators the problem of the federal regulatory agencies.

Carter intimates that pressure is put on the agencies both within and without the Congress, and that there is a vast gap between political standards which are given lip service and "the standards we live up to at the present time."

The use of influence, in short, is not something that can be thrown out of

office with "the rascals," nor rightfully charged up to any one political party. If the practice is common with politicians, it reflects a tolerance for it on the part of the public.

The investigation of the Federal Communications Commission already has indicated that dismissal of at least one commissioner would be a salutary thing. A need for stricter laws governing the behavior of commissioners also is indicated.

But these are only palliatives. The lasting cure will be postponed until Americans agree to admire a man who knows Joe or the right person—whatever his name.

Caroline Coleman In The Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont

## WHEN DRUMMERS CAME TO TOWN

"GUARD your daughter, a drummer is in town" was a favorite joke when the traveling salesman known as the "drummer" was in his heyday. In the latter part of the past century, the drummers were almost the only strangers who frequented the small towns and the crossroads stores.

The drummer's turnout, a shining bugle pulled by a spanking team of horses with a colored driver, attracted attention when seen arriving in town, while at the country store, the arrival of the drummer was an event in the cracker barrel circle. A smart figure he was, the shapely dressed gentleman in the close-fitting black suit, shiny patent leather shoes, high collar, and black derby—the big cigar in his mouth advertising his prosperity and good taste.

The inevitable trunk was strapped to the back of the buggy and the capacious body of the buggy was piled high with samples of his wares.

The small hotel was the drummer's favorite lodging place, and he knew every hotel-keeper over a wide area by name. Driving up to the hotel with a flourish, the gentleman left the turnout to be taken care of by the driver and entering the hotel with an expansive smile, he greeted every person around the place as a long-lost friend. Friendliness was part of the drummer's stock in trade. He appeared to know everybody and could call most of the people in every town on his route by name.

Arranging for a room at the hotel he required also a "sample room" where his wares could be displayed. When he lined up his customers, he would bring them to the hotel to view his sample goods; the smaller items he would sell from his trunks. A drygoods drummer had trunks full of clothing, yard goods and shoes; a hardware salesman would only carry a few new designs in one; one who sold medicine would bring with him implements his customers bought from year to year. The medicine drummer was a slick salesman. Adept at the art of slick talking, he could reel off the value and potency of the old tried and true "patent medicines" and he used persuasive powers to introduce new medicines.

The drummer was in his element when he joined the circle around the old black stove in the back of the store, with its sand box serving as a cuspidor. The traveling radio, news commentator and book of knowledge all in one, was the drummer as he retailed information to the listening group. He had a stock of jokes always on tap and knew the new twist to the old joke. Looking around the store to see if any ladies were in hearing distance, he would wink to the gentlemen with a "We are men of the world" camaraderie and delight the group with fresh anecdotes.

When the groundwork had thus been laid, the drummer would bring on his sales talk. If an old hand in the territory, he had little sales talking to do, his customers were ready and waiting.

Editors: The News  
 The article, "Spending Spree Under Defense Budget," published in a recent issue of The News has come to our attention. We note the "pork barrel" reference in mentioning rivers and harbors and flood control programs. We hope that you will believe the following facts will be of interest to your readers.

There is probably no legislation enacted in Washington that is less

understood by the public than that for waterway improvements. It is astounding that so many people, many of them well informed, still believe that old cliché "pork barrel" applies to all waterway legislation. Such legislation is free from so-called "pork" by reason of the method of its adoption and enactment and has been for a generation. Moreover, almost all projects are initiated by local interests, not by politicians or by Army Engineers.

Approved projects are those that have been certified economically sound after public hearings and long study by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, which first by the district officer reviewed by his superior, the division engineer, then by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, and finally by the Chief of Engineers. No part of the study is perfunctory. Having passed that test, they go to the Public Works Committee of the House. If approved

there, and later by the Senate Public Works Committee, they are incorporated in a river and harbor authorization bill which carries no money. After the bill comes law, funds for those selected for prosecution are eventually made available by Congress.

With over one-half of the project cost being paid through the years, the decisions by Army Engineers have been "the principal grounds upon which the adverse conclusions are based" and that the benefits to be anticipated are insufficient to warrant the expenditure of federal funds for the purpose.

There is no other federal expenditure subjected to closer scrutiny as to its worth. Labeling such legislation "pork barrel" impugns the integrity of the Corps of Engineers and its chief committee members, and all others of the House and Senate.

It is rarely mentioned that piers, wharves, elevators, warehouses, truckage and other necessary facilities are wholly the work of local authorities or private interests, the federal government improves only the waterways. The two, of course, are inseparable, one is utterly useless without the other. The waterway might have been derided as a "pork barrel" project if the land structures serving it commended as civic advances. Civic interests also often contribute to the cost of harbor and channel improvements with cash, right-of-way and spoil areas for dredged material. The derisive term "pork barrel" is absolutely untrue. No tax dollars are involved, it is a disservice to the people.

The great strength of the nation today owes largely to harbor and channel development done in the past. The greater strength of the future will come largely from continuing development. Money spent for this purpose is an investment in the building of the nation.

GEORGE H. PALMER  
 Publisher  
 Marine News

## Foundation Questions

Truth Of Statements

Editors: The News  
 The THIRD of Bill Hughes' articles on Presbyterian Colleges appearing on Feb. 20, "Church Determined to Build College," apparently reflected the opinion of Dr. Marshall Woodson. In the article, the statement: "a local group, the Scottish Foundation, offered to give \$50,000 annually for five years and then contribute a \$500,000 grant if it remained in Red Springs. The Synod turned the offer down. Dr. Woodson cited the refusal as evidence of the church's determination—contains two errors of actual fact."

The characterization of the Scottish Foundation as a local group is highly misrepresentative since only 8 of the 23 incorporators are from Robeson County. The group of distinguished citizens includes one U. S. senator and two of America's most outstanding novelists. Thus, Dr. Woodson seems to confuse the composition of the foundation with its purposes. "To maintain in Red Springs the college of the church and tradition of Flora Macdonald College."

The second error is in the statement that Synod turned down the offer of assistance from the foundation. Synod has neither received nor acted upon the offer. Representatives of the foundation appeared before Synod's Committee on Higher Education and told of the amount of assistance and the manner and conditions under which it would be made available. The committee felt that it could not make a decision on the offer and suggested that the foundation offer the assistance directly to the trustees of Flora Macdonald. This was done at a meeting of the board on May 28, 1957. Representatives of the foundation stressed the fact that no commitment of future policy was involved of the trustees. They urged that

When one of these "docs" says faintly, joking, laughing, having fun, spreading cheer, being friendly, etc., is an escape for a sick person, he needs to get down on his knees in prayer. While one of these coaches for an hour the "docs" should take his turn on the couch.

One of the great needs of this world is cheer. Everything we do should be colored and controlled by a feeling of cheerfulness.

PAUL KENDALL

## Smash Hits Only

## The 'Fright' Of Publishers

THE position of the New York publisher is becoming more and more like that of the Broadway producer. He is gambling on smash hits, and he can lose and less afford to take chances on a newcomer whose work is unproven or on a book that promises but less than commercial. What is more, in many cases he is frightfully short of cash. He can no longer afford the luxury of carrying on his list a writer who no matter how highly regarded he may be



Derisive Term Abhorred

the funds be accepted and used to strengthen the college during the time that the Consolidated College was being built and expressed their faith that these were the things that the improvement plus the increased demand for opportunity of college attendance would lead the church to change its plans and maintain Flora Macdonald even after the opening of the new school.

The trustees rejected the offer on the basis that that freedom of action is morally curtailed by the expressed intention of Synod and to accept money from the Scottish College Foundation in view of its avowed purposes, would be subject to misinterpretation.

No effort has been made by the trustees of Flora Macdonald to request the offer be again approved by Education to discover the sentiment of Synod on the matter. Synod has not rejected the offer; it has never had an opportunity of considering it. Thus, when Dr. Woodson says that Synod rejected this offer be again approved to be confused since he attributes to Synod an action of the Flora Macdonald trustees.

In a matter as involved as Synod's attempt to reorganize its program of higher education, some commission appears inevitable. However, in such an effort of concern to so many people, is our feeling that there is no place for misleading statements which are sure to add to the confusion. Consequently, we feel that we assist us in setting the record straight and are confident that you will be glad to do so.

JAMES W. CARRETH  
 Secretary  
 Scottish Church Foundation, Inc.

## A Few Psychiatrists

## Need Own Treatment

Editors: The News  
 A John published in The News Feb. 21, "Are You The Life of the Party," has captured my interest. I have read quite a few articles by psychiatrists. I have come to one conclusion: They are sick. They are sick because they are trying to enlighten their own ego. It exposes their own weakness to point out the weakness of others. After someone has been in one of these couches for an hour the "docs" should take his turn on the couch.

One of the great needs of this world is cheer. Everything we do should be colored and controlled by a feeling of cheerfulness.

PAUL KENDALL

## 'Now, Live From Washington—The Big, Big Payoff!'



## Portrait Of A Crusader

## A Visit With Lord Russell

By JOSEPH H. ALSOP

THE ROOM is colorfully comfortable without character except for the superb view of the Thames through the wide window. The room's inhabitant suggests a particularly shy bird. The nose is beaklike, the stock white hair, a superb crest, and even the voice, high, dry and sometimes a little harsh, is decidedly avian.

Such is Lord Russell, at the age of 85 and in the midst of his inexhaustible career's new phase as a most powerful influence on British and world opinion.

No one with a sense of history can first encounter Lord Russell without a spasm of downright incredulity. There he still is, you say to yourself, yet he said his ABC's to the man who moved Britain's reform bill of 1922 and reached the Prime Ministership before Palmerston.

## VIGOROUS CRUSADE

The grandfather, Lord John Russell, here the largest single share of the responsibility for ushering England into the new democratic age, and in order to do so, he led a crusade against the man who beat Napoleon. The grandson has been a donee thing—great philosopher, great leader, an First World War anti-Nazi and a passionate libertarian and passionate anti-Communist. But now his life and work are dedicated to a vigorous crusade to limit the nuclear weapons at all costs.

Age has not dimmed the power of his mind or increased his appetite for self-defense. What sets Bertrand Russell apart from the vast majority of his fellow crusaders is mainly his honesty in facing facts and hard choices.

## SURVIVAL AT STAKE

"I am for controlled nuclear disarmament," he says briskly, fixing his caller with an eye that is almost hypnotic. "I am for any negotiations any first steps, any efforts that may provide understanding—anything, in short, that may bring about a halt to the nuclear arms race."

Then, he says, with sharp emphasis, "I personally am for unilateral nuclear disarmament. It is a better choice. I have thought much about it, and I do not think I deceive myself about its nature. Unilateral disarmament is likely to mean for a while, continued domination of this world of ours."

As you know very well how I feel about the Communist danger, my choice may surprise you—and, mind you, I speak only for myself, not for anyone I am working with, and with little hope of



BERTRAND RUSSELL  
 The Mind's Eye Held A Vision

troubled disarmament a little nearer to mean for a while, continued survival of the human race, if we go on as we are going, we risk a nuclear war which the human race will not survive such a war."

There is something in him—something perhaps of those "canoeists voices prophesying war" that Coleridge heard in his dream—that makes one reluctant to interrupt the flow of his explanation. But the question has to be asked: "What if the Soviets cannot be induced by an imaginative effort, to agree to controlled nuclear disarmament?"

## BITTER CHOICE

"Then," he says, with sharp emphasis, "I personally am for unilateral nuclear disarmament. It is a better choice. I have thought much about it, and I do not think I deceive myself about its nature. Unilateral disarmament is likely to mean for a while, continued domination of this world of ours."

As you know very well how I feel about the Communist danger, my choice may surprise you—and, mind you, I speak only for myself, not for anyone I am working with, and with little hope of

persuading others. But if the alternatives are the continued domination of mankind and a temporary Communist conquest, I prefer the latter. It would be immensely preferable, but it would not endure, anywhere than Genghis Khan's altogether better empire endured. And the end of the human race on earth is, after all, an absolutely irreversible event."

He mused for a while after stating his ultimate choice. Then he began to set forth his arguments that "some men among the Soviets must be just as disturbed as same men on our side to find themselves in this prison of the balance of terror."

We have not really tried, he kept repeating, we have not really tried to find a way to agreement by possible stages and equal concessions. And so he felt to analyze, in great detail and with much seriousness, the various schemes for first disarmament steps, disarmament in Europe, closing the nuclear club, and all the other expedients now so much discussed.

## VOICE TO BE HEARD

At the close, he was asked another question, whether he did not think that it was better to maintain the "balance of terror" until the Kremlin gave stronger proof that it was ready to negotiate, and to this he replied again, "I tell you, if we do on as we are going, we risk the end of the human race."

As one felt the simple room, the mind's eye held a vision of the grandfather's time—Wellington's dispatch rider driving furiously into London with the Waterloo-victory standards of Napoleon's guards, packed out of the carriage window. And to make the contrast in time, the mind's eye held the echo of the dry, precise old voice of the grandson, setting forth his alternatives for the future age as he grimly perceives them.

You may think his advice altogether wrong, as does this reporter, but this was still a voice deserving to be heard and carefully considered in the final judgment.

## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE most important unanswered question about F.C.C. Commissioner Richard Mack and the \$250,000 he received during the National Airlines-Channels controversy is why he was appointed to the Federal Communications Commission in the first place.

## Whiteseide's Past

Interesting further facts have come to light in Miami which make this question all the more unanswerable. They pertain to Thurman Whiteseide, the man who paid Commissioner Mack the money.

## Why Was Mack Appointed To FCC?

Whiteseide, and although a majority of senators voted for impeachment, the necessary two-thirds vote was lacking.

Commissioner Mack's friend, Thurman Whiteseide, has been described by ex-committee counsel Bernard Schwartz as a "fixer." During Judge Holt's impeachment proceedings last July, Whiteseide himself admitted on pages 116-118 of the Florida Senate Journal that he had given Judge Holt a city Jaguar car, had also invested money for Holt which returned fabulous dividends. On April 11, 1952, Whiteseide invested \$200 for Holt and later returned him a check of \$1,124.28. In January 1953 he invested \$250, and one year later paid him a return of \$2,800. A lawyer who does this may not be

called a "fixer" in Florida, but in some other states the appellation is appropriate.

## Enter Mr. Mack

It's at this point that Commissioner Mack comes into the picture. Before he was appointed to the FCC, Mack was a member of the Florida Public Utilities Commission and as such, also upheld the contested rates charged by Peoples Water and Gas Company.

He Received \$7,830

Dating back to 1950, he received a total of \$7,830. One alibi which Mack gave for the money was that he had been paid money from Whiteseide during the Channel 10 controversy was that he had always received money from him. But that alibi, it will be noticed, is not a practice after he moved to Washington.