



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The U.S. Senate Grapples With Infinity

SINCE space is a distance extending without limit in all directions cynics might hold that politicians probably should be prohibited from discussing it and certainly from spending any money on it.

But the U. S. Senate, bless it, is preparing to do both. By a 784-1 vote it has created a blue-ribbon committee of senior senators to study "all aspects and problems relating to the exploration of outer space." Specifically the action indicates the Senate's desire to have a dominant voice in decisions affecting the organization of a national space program. Generally, we hope, it also means the Senate has accented as valid the opinion of Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson that this movement toward space will dominate the affairs of mankind just as the exploration of the Western Hemisphere dominated the affairs of mankind in the 16th and 17th centuries.

In one sentence the senator captured the essential and urgent meaning of the current uproar over satellites and rockets. It is not that Lyndon Johnson knows much about space. Nobody does. Nor will much more be known when the satellites now flying finish beeping their information back to earth. They are like eavesdroppers trying to suck up an ocean. But the satellites have furnished proof that the frontier of space can be crossed and that explorations in the infinity beyond can begin. What the senator has recognized is that virile civilizations can not turn away from frontiers. They must cross over and, this being so, it would be foolish for the U. S., irrespective of the spur of Soviet competition, to let the business slide.

There may be bitter irony in the fact that billions are to be spent on machines

that will hit the moon while millions of earthlings are dying for lack of bread and shelter. But nations historically have sought utopias abroad rather than building them at home, and this will not change.

Perhaps in the longer view, however, a costly conquest of space can bring to humanity the foundations of unity and peace it has not been able to build on its own planet. Space is a world frontier. Its exploration, if wisely managed, could produce a unifying sense of world nationality of the sort that now wells up in nations when they are dedicated to enterprises of great scope and challenge. Certainly this new frontier will have some sort of direct and lasting impact on all the inhabitants of this globe.

This future impact will be determined in large measure by steps taken today. If space exploration is to be merely a cosmic extension of the present dreary and dangerous competition between the U. S. and the USSR its benefits can be discounted now. But if, through the United Nations, it can be made a cooperative international undertaking, an overall lessening of tensions might result. Whether or not this could succeed, it would be to the U. S.'s benefit to propose to the U. N. that space be declared off-limits to great-power rivalries. The step would restore to the U. S. the initiative in world affairs that the Soviet claimed with its Sputnik.

Space is an infinity and so are the political possibilities connected with it, but they are infinities that must be dealt with. The Senate, in response to Lyndon Johnson's leadership, has acted wisely and well in recommending now the nation's irrevocable involvement in both infinities.

Our Handy-Dandy Guide To Editorialese

DEDICATED as we are to the proposition that all editorial pages ought to be thoroughly understood, we are about to perform a drastic public service.

This awful compulsion to do something welled up within us after we had stolen a peek at Robert Paul Smith's new book, *Transatlantic Editorialese*. It is to be published Feb. 10 by Simon & Schuster. It seems that Mr. Smith has decided for general consumption the euphemisms, circumlocutions and other forms of doubletalk now in common usage in certain U. S. professions and occupational circles.

For instance, Mr. Smith explains that when a teacher says to a doting parent, "I wouldn't worry about that," at this stage it's the social "We know what that counts," what she really means is, "The child cannot read, write, or count beyond nine, but has stopped throwing modeling clay into the sandpots."

It occurred to us that readers of editorial pages deserve at least the same degree of enlightenment. In an effort to raise Mr. Smith to the punch we have dissected from some of North Carolina's most favored family journals a few choice examples of "editorialese" and translated them for the puzzled public.

"Inquestionably"—Questionably.

"Broadly speaking"—To take a rather narrow, but socially acceptable view.

"Only time will tell"—We know what's going to happen but we aren't telling, either.

"Thoughtful people"—People who think precisely the way we do.

"The economy"—The bank accounts of all the best people.

"But one thing is clear"—And we could have said it in one sentence, but that wouldn't have made an editorial, would it?

"In the long sweep of history"—You don't have time to read this.

"If memory serves"—We don't have

time to look it up and don't hold it against us if we're wrong.

"In the context of the times"—We weren't exactly born yesterday.

"For all his sincerity"—He's still a rascal.

"On their motives"—He's still a rascal.

"This demands a great deal of study"—By somebody who has more time than we do.

"Responsible observers"—The boys at the club.

"It remains to be seen"—We have our doubts, too.

"In fact"—Now we're going to spell it out for the third readers.

"The proper Presbyterians"—The Proper Presbyterians.

"The times demand"—Nobody but us cares.

"In retrospect"—We had our doubts at the start.

"On the part of the community"—He left a large estate.

"For example"—Entrance for a 22-line quotation we have been saving since 1937.

"On the other hand"—We're tired, too.

"Undertaking this controversy"—We'd really tell you if we weren't afraid he'd sue.

"He had a great reputation"—If you can't say something nice.

"To be deployed"—Yes, but wasn't it fun while it lasted?

All of this gobbledygook was absent in the earlier days of personal journalism when editors spoke plainly and with a vengeance.

There will never be another formula for editorial writing quite like that one old-time editor used to impose on the readers. It was expressly designed for politicians and went something like this:

"1—What did he say?"

"2—Who is he?"

"3—To hell with him."

Labor Movement Shocked And Disillusioned By Purge

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON
MEETING in the lush setting of Miami Beach, Fla., the Executive Council of the massive AFL-CIO is beset with a host of troubles casting a long shadow

across the American labor movement. Corruption and gangsterism have been exposed on many fronts and, as a result, the big teamsters union has been ex-

posed with a loss in revenue to the AFL-CIO of a million dollars a year. The full score of the crime-ridden unions is still to be added, although the CIO labor committee has brought to light one shocker after another. Within the big circus tent of

the merged unions—described as a loose confederation of warring tribes—the struggle for power goes on between the old AFL craft concept and the CIO industry-wide approach. As though all of this were not enough, labor has suffered a self-inflicted blow, with serious consequences in morale for the whole organization.

Recently nearly 30 per cent of the AFL-CIO organizing staff was summarily fired. This might have been put down to economy in view of big labor's reduced pay envelopes. But it came just as the organizers were engaged in a fight to get recognition for their own union.



GEORGE MEANY
Where Is The Idealism?

worker, in the labor vineyard, and maintaining a privileged position in the economy. A vast army of unorganized workers, particularly migratory farm hands, with abysmally low standards of living, is ignored.

This same idealism sent men out on picket lines to stand up, as in the organization of the United Auto Workers in Detroit, to the savage attacks of company spies. The IAW today demanding a profit-sharing agreement with the automobile company, a kind of agreement that organized labor has opposed in the past because it linked the union too closely with management.

POLITICAL IMPLICATION
There is a political as well as an economic element here. In the '30s it was the fighters and idealists in organized labor who supplied a lot of the New Deal drive in the Democratic Party. Without this drive the party in the North will lack one of the factors that made for minority victory, and this is important with 1960 in view.

'How Many Are Now — Uh — Temporarily Inactive In The — Uh — Economic Readjustment?'



A Talking War?

The Balance Of Terror

by WALTER LIPPMANN

THE exchange of letters and speeches which is now going on between Moscow and the Western capitals is showing, as one studies it closely, that there is a military and political stalemate not likely to be broken soon or easily.

In the Soviet statements there is nothing, so far as I can see, to suggest that they think they have, or are on the way to having, decisive military superiority. Quite the contrary. It is the kind of propaganda that must soften them up too.

The overall effect of the talking war is to support the conclusion that there is a stalemate arising from a balance of terror.

Embedded in the military stalemate is a corresponding anxiety that if the continent were evacuated by the Russians and by ourselves, the NATO Alliance would soon disintegrate. For that reason, the official view is better the Red Army on the Elbe than the American Army out of Europe.

There is, on both sides, the unspoken belief that the threat and pressure of the other side is not easy to the morale of its own side.

HOW LONG?

In this stalemate both alliances are captives, unable to negotiate on the main issue of disengagement. How long is the stalemate likely to endure? The question cannot be answered concretely and definitely. But we can suppose, I believe, that the stalemate will last until it is broken either by a decisive turn in German interior politics, or by a great upheaval in Eastern Europe, or what is not improbable, by the two occurring together.

What is sure and clear is that neither Mr. Khrushchev in Moscow nor Secretary Dulles in Washington is likely to be able to break the stalemate.

a divided and occupied Europe. The Soviet position is the same as ours—only in reverse. They want us to evacuate our armies and dismantle our foreign bases throughout the world while they retain their dominance in Eastern Germany and Eastern Europe. This, obviously enough, is also a policy of stalemate, and not in any sense a policy of negotiation.

DISENGAGEMENT
The question then is why each side has a policy that is not negotiable. The answer is that both sides prefer the existing stalemate to the alternative, which would be mutual disengagement.

A reading of Khrushchev's recent speech at Moscow, and of many passages in the Bulgarian press, makes it plain that Moscow is very anxious indeed about the satellite empire, and profoundly concerned to keep a grip on it. The satellite empire might very well blow up if the Red Army were withdrawn from our side of the iron curtain.

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TAKEN TO NLRB

So determined was the opposition of the AFL-CIO to this union within a union that the Field Representatives Federation had taken the case to the National Labor Relations Board. The opposition was based on the claim that, as field organizers, the employees really represented the management—they were the personal representative of George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO.

This is, of course, what industry alleges over and over in resisting union organization of employees, having some management responsibility. Here was an opportunity for the long-time union organized labor to go to town, and they have made the most of it.

SARCASTIC COMMENT

The Wall Street Journal had a sarcastic editorial quoting the following statement made by the discharged field organizers: "Despite the pattern of anti-union behavior followed by responsible officials, we are none the less shocked by this sudden uprooting without cause of so large a number of faithful employees. If the real object of this reported move is to destroy the Field Representatives Federation, then it will prove to be an abortive move indeed."

STRONG REACTION

The president of the union within a union and others active in its formation were fired. They had been arguing the necessity of protecting themselves from long hours of work and low pay in responsible jobs. Tired as they were, they were not to be deterred. The answer is that both sides prefer the existing stalemate to the alternative, which would be mutual disengagement.

But quite apart from the fate of the union within a union, the sweeping dismissals affecting many veteran and dedicated

People's Platform

Pointed Postscript

Editors, The News:

I WOULD like to make a few comments on your editorial of Feb. 5 entitled "How to Exploit Myth & Lure Industry," in which you commented on a speech by Mr. G. Randolph Babcock made before the Charlotte Industrial Development Council.

I would just like to say that trade unions realized many years ago that southern workers were just as efficient and productive as their fellow workers in other parts of the country. The mystery is how long it took them to acquire themselves with this fact.

On Dec. 17, 1954, Mr. Babcock announced to employees of his Detroit plant that they were considering relocating the plant in Charlotte, N. C. There were four reasons given in the letter:

"1. Age and inefficient layout of our present building" (in Detroit).

"2. The impossibility of further expansion in our present location."

Then stating, "Since it is necessary to make the move, it seemed indicated to consider moving out of Detroit. This we have decided to do for two reasons:

"1. The company, unfortunately, does not have the money to build a new building, so it was necessary to seek a community that would build and lease us a building, a rental which we could afford."

"2. For competitive reasons we have never been able to justify paying the prevailing wage rates in Detroit and have been advised by both union leaders and industrialists to move out of the area."

It was their opinion that if

we could not meet the going rate, we did not belong in this community. This makes sense to us because your living costs are much lower than the automobile workers'.

The letter goes on to invite any of the Detroit employees to come to Charlotte and be employed in the local plant.

Your editorial states that the Charlotte employees are actually paid more than South than they were paid in Detroit. This is very likely since the Pelton & Crane Co. last announced their Charlotte wage schedule three years ago and since that time the federal minimum wage has been increased from 75 cents to \$1 per hour.

The last contract between local union 157 and the Pelton & Crane at Detroit, Michigan, plant had a great many benefits in addition to the wages paid under the terms of that contract. So it is entirely logical to assume that Pelton & Crane are after years of paying the Charlotte employees better than they were paying under the contract with UAW.

I certainly agree with your statement that too many of the South's salaried have, if I have mentioned labor at all, mentioned cheap labor and I might add docile labor. I also would like to add that almost any employer would not be human if he did not prefer to make the final decision relative to wages, hours and working conditions for his employees and that probably constitutes a paradise for the employer in North Carolina and the other southern states.

—CAREY E. HAIGLER
Director, Region 5, AFL-CIO

From The Raleigh News & Observer

ROADSIDE WRIGHTS

THAT many people bereft of typewriters and easels are latent poets and artists is demonstrated movingly by the ingenious mail boxes scattered about the rural state. In lieu of the prosaic metal sort of lunch box, you see letter havestacks of intricate fashion in many places. As we understand it, the postal officials do not object to these poetic flourishes so long as the mail box is legally accessible to the carrier. (Unofficially, they seem to prefer the box with the tattered metal flap that is impervious to all breeze dancing, but then the post office is not designed to be a haven for winners of Gold Medals and Paris Prizes).

Some are clever architectural innovations that could serve as models for housing developments. They have real windows and doors, stoops or porches, chimneys, and precisely slanting roofs made of shingles or asbestos. Some are Mr. Bernson and some go higher and yon in the wobbly-wobbly manner of a dollhouse. But someone who tires of drab conformity, someone who loves a splash of resilience, went to the trouble and time to think up and build these mail boxes that have the subtle difference. Perhaps, the traveler will never meet the owner, but you know much about him from a glance, by dint of the sudden burst of ingratiation.

ing difference. And best of all, this seems to be entirely a spontaneous movement. The program was not sponsored by any public beautifiers or professional uplifters.

Three Coast Guard cutters find a northward passage through the Arctic straits. This is the kind of navigation which would almost get a man through a crowded cocktail party and over to the table where the food is—ASHEVILLE CUREN.

So you take great pride in belonging to what you consider by far the smartest species on earth? Well, dig this: Wasps were making paper and bees were airconditioning their hives many centuries before man learned either of these arts—JACKSON (Miss.) STARK TIMMS.

Two lads kindergarten vintage, were in front of the school one morning having a serious discussion. Tommy, age 5, was telling his friend Dick, age 4 1/2, his theory of nuclear fission. When he finished, Dick expounded his theory of satellites and outer space. In the middle of Dick's explanation, the bell rang and Tommy said, "Well, I guess we might as well go in and start stringing these beads"—LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.



"Could this be Ike's reply already?"

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

RICHARD Nixon, who has toured most of the world since becoming vice president, has now offered to go to Moscow.

His plan as outlined at the White House and State Department would be to fly to Russia this spring and meet with Nikita Khrushchev in a general exploratory manner regarding a "summit" conference. The Nixon plan would be to test out Russian sincerity and see how far they would be willing to go.

Personal Diplomacy

Instead of the ambassadorial negotiations which John Foster Dulles has proposed, Nixon would conduct the exploration himself. Then if Khrushchev indicated he was really ready to smooth out

the snarled kinks in American-Russian relations and end the cold war, Nixon would recommend that a summit conference be held fairly soon.

Advisers Are Skeptical

State Department advisers are a bit skeptical over Nixon's dramatic gesture. They feel that as smart as the vice president is, he may be no match for the tough, sharp-tongued Khrushchev. They also remember that Nixon took a valiant stab at getting Director Sumner Welles together with President Eisenhower of Costa Rica, but failed. They also see undercurrents of Madison Avenue politics in Nixon's ambitious proposal.

However, the vice president seems to be dead serious and is anxious to go

ahead. He was apparently impressed by the visit of Soviet Ambassador Georgi Zarubin who went out of his way to call on Nixon at Capitol Hill before he left for Moscow.

Note — The Kremlin has made it a definite policy to warn up to Nixon. Apparently they believe that Nixon may be in the White House before 1960, and if not, then certainly thereafter.

Merger Predicted

In Damascus last September, the Syrian chief of staff, Gen. Adil Bizri, gave me a prediction which I didn't quite believe. He predicted that Syria and Egypt would unite.

This month February, Gen. Burris predicted that Egyptian unity was announced in Damascus and Cairo.

This poses some dangerous problems to the peace of the Near East.

In order to unite effectively, Egypt and Syria have got to have common borders, and taking over Jordan will be the first step in that direction. Israel will be next.

Washington Pipeline

General Motors lobbyist William Simon tried to stop the United Auto Workers from recording GM president Harold C. Green's testimony before the Senate anti-trust subcommittee. The union has been recording the sessions as a service for a string of radio stations. Simon now testified before the Senate subcommittee. Chairman Estes said that the union's demand that the committee be closed to the public was a big issue. It is Simon himself who withdrew his protest.