



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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St. Patrick Never Had It So Good

UPTOWN, downtown and cross-town, it was Erin Grogg Bhang today. And bless Paddy for that.

It mattered not a tad to Charlotte that St. Patrick's Day does not actually roll around until Monday or that the occasion is a distinctly Irish celebration.

It is, in fact, to the everlasting credit of radio's Grady Cole that this was a family affair—the family of man.

It is to the everlasting credit of Charlotte, too, that such an adventure in togetherness is possible. Surely the Irish, a warmhearted people, do not mind. It was George Moore, the famed Irish novelist, who said, "After all there is but one race—the human race."

Today's St. Patrick's Day parades represented many faiths and national origins. It was even fitting that Charlotte should have as its honored guest to night, the former Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mr. Robert Briscoe, a devout Jew of the Orthodox faith. It is Harry Grogg's contention, of course, that the Irish represent one of the ten lost tribes of Israel—and there were indeed Jews in Ireland as early as the 13th century and more than half a century ago there was a Jewish Lord Mayor of Belfast.

The nice thing about Grady Cole's idea of a St. Patrick's Day with everybody marching together is that it is basically an act of joy. There are no dark preachments about "tolerance"—that dreadful word—or sermon sermons of any description. There are only high spirits and good clean fun and natural comradeship.

Call it brotherhood if you must but do not suppose that any race or creed infirmly adheres to the doctrine "Am I my brother's keeper?" Caine's challenge, is answered affirmatively in all the great religions.

In fact, in this one idea the whole world has been marching spiritually together for a very long time.

CHRISTIANITY: "The Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another and toward all men"—1 Thessalonians 3:12.

ISLAM: "Help one another in righteousness and piety"—Koran 5:3.

JANUS: "To do better to yourself, my child, in all thy works; and be discreet in all thy behavior. And what thou thyself hatest, do to no man"—Tobit 4:14-15.

TOHISM: "To those who are good to me I am good; and to those who are not good to me, I am also good. And thus all ye be good"—Tao Teh Kien 49-50.

HINDUISM: "He exelleth who regards impartially lovers, friends and foes, strangers, neutrals, foreigners and relatives"—Blissed-out Gita 9:29.

SINTEO: (Saith the Lord) "We will surely visit the dwellings without invitation, if loving-kindness is there always. We make loving-kindness OTR representative"—Grades of the Code of Gesse.

STUINIS: "Revered all men as equal, since God's light is contained in the hearts of each"—Hymns of Guru Nanak, Ron-Sorath.

BROUINIS: "Is there a deed, Rahala, thou hast wish to do?—I shall do it for thee. Is this deed conducive to my own harm or to others' harm, or to that of both? Then is this a bad deed, entailing suffering. Such a deed must thou surely not do"—Majhima Nikaya 1:415.

JANUS: "A man should wander about treating all creatures as he himself would be treated"—Sutra-Kritanga Sutra 1:11-33.

Mr. Cole is right, you see. This is a family affair.

Johnny Will Read If Parents Use The 'Precious Secret'

By JOHN MANNING
In The Detroit Times

ALMOST EVERY TIME you pick up a magazine or newspaper nowadays, you encounter some educator deploring the growing indifference of our people to literature.

We share the concern of school-masters. We agree with them that a nation that stops reading is in danger of becoming a nation that stops thinking.

But we wonder if our scholars

are employing the proper weapons with which to fight the problem.

It is our observation, casual to be sure, that they are on the wrong track when they try to re-educate general interest in reading as a patriotic or not downright moral obligation.

We fear they'll never get to first base that way. People simply are not going in for literature on the basis of intellectual duty.

Why doesn't somebody try to

Why doesn't somebody try to

Why doesn't somebody try to

Of course, the best way to learn the fun of reading, is to learn young. We would recommend picking out a mother who has learned the precious secret from her mother.

If you are fortunate enough to have been that you are home free.

REMEMBERED MAGIC

We were that fortunate. We remember the magic of stories read to us by our mother before we were old enough to spell cat.

We remember learning to read under her tutelage.

We remember clearly the first two books we ever read on our own from cover to cover. They were "Treasure Island" and "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," and she gave them both to us.

THE PROVOCATION

She also, when we had acquired the bookworm habit, subtly nudged us into "Oliver Twist" and "David Copperfield."

She introduced "Alice in Wonderland" to our sister and us jointly. There never was any hint of "required" reading, merely provocative suggestion.

Much later we read "Treasure Island" aloud to a couple of other boys and "The Little Colonel" to

another girl and "Alice in Wonderland" to the three of them.

BREATHLESS WORLD

You might think a man, getting home tired at the end of the day, might object to a couple of boys and a girl chanting "Read us a story" before bedtime. The first time it happened we did protest inwardly.

But to our mild surprise, despite our being read, our fatigue melted away. The world of the workaday world into that more breathless world of printed words and pictures.

Long John Silver would come alive as he had in the remote period of our childhood.

The White Rabbit would carry

thinking this endless repetition would come to be a pain in the neck. That's where they're wrong.

That's what we meant some paragraphs above when we said that, once you get interested in books, you continue to read as long as you live.

You read "Kin" or "Tom Sawyer" or "Treasure Island" as a child. You read them again, may be to a child of the following generation.

By the time a third generation is in being, you are amazed at opening them to find them as arresting as though they were new to discovered strangers.

ALEXANDER WEPT

We are told that Alexander wept from boredom because there were no new worlds to conquer. We are told that men whose goal is wealth, become worshipping slaves to it once they acquire it.

We are told that in most human endeavors the excitement is in the quest rather than the achievement.

Book-lovers are slaves also but it is a benign slavery. You can forget your tribulations temporarily by opening a book, new or old. It is good.

BEST OF ALL

You can board without being miserly. You can take a book in your hand, knowing with your practical side that you probably never will read it, but solidly convinced with your other side, that you will start it next Thursday. There is always next Thursday.

But best of all is the period which you like to call middle age, even if your colleagues label it as approaching decay, the mellow period when you assure yourself you are done with "Treasure Island" and "Through the Looking Glass" for good and all.

Then is when a couple of little girls who have utterly no business cluttering up what is left of your life, barge in on you.

They have an economy size "Alice in Wonderland" with them. They demand in the imperious manner of all girls, big or little, "Read us a story."

They tuck themselves against you, one on either side, and dump



It's All a Matter Of Being Ignorant

along the Passageway just as he had the first day we met him.

The scowl of Bill Sykes must be as forbidding as ever, and the good-natured arrangement of Steerforth just as compelling.

NO PAIN

The girl to whom we helped introduce Alice and "The Little Colonel," subsequently introduced her to a couple of other girls.

Those newer girls introduced them in turn to us. That was only last Christmas time. We made elaborate pretense that "Alice in Wonderland" was brand new to us. Nonreaders might be justified in

'Shaddup!—You're Just The Guy That's Paying For This Car'



\$35,000,000,000 U.S. ROAD PROGRAM

HILL BLOCK

People's Platform

Napoleonic Pose Is Right For Ike

By Myrtle Beck, S. C.
N RE your photo of Ike in a Napoleonic pose. Why should not like strike the

pose, for the greatest general of all time led the woman said, at the point of the bayonet and butt of the rifle, had just won the battle of Little Rock.

Oh, Mr. Captain is the greatest man ever you did see, he read

himself, he scouted them, he put them all to flight, save one brave life who drove to show fight.

Even Mr. Truman admits he is a good general when some one tells him what to do.

Long live the emperor.

—WILSON T. KING

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

IN their last session with ex-Commissioner Richard Mack the Harris committee was about as gentle as the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee which confirmed him in the first place. They virtually kissed him on both cheeks, did not bother to cross-examine him on various interesting points, including how he happened to have Thurman Whitehead as an associate. Mr. Barber, planted right inside his office.

Double Check

Whitehead not only paid Commissioner Mack various sums of money but sent Barber up to Washington to serve as Mack's assistant. This Whitehead had double check in Mack.

worked—paid for by Uncle Sam.

The Harris committee didn't bother to go into any of this.

Ike Worries

Getting the country out of an economic recession can be pretty nerve-racking, President Eisenhower told congressional Republican leaders the other day, particularly when the White House is beset with as many curatives as are currently

"As far as I am concerned, the primary aim is providing jobs," the President declared. "Not just spending a lot of money, but spending it in a way that will get as many unemployed back to work as useful occupations as soon as possible, preferably within the next three months."

"Well, nothing puts people back to work like building houses," Mr. President, suggested Sen. Homer Capehart of Indiana. "We can do this as fast as we want to. If we now takes an average of four men to build a house in a year, why not build it in six months with eight men? If we now takes an average of five years to build a million new houses this year, it will mean a million new housing units, more furniture making, plumbing and other related activities, in addition to the work provided for carpenters, bricklayers and electricians."

Loans Ducked

Capehart maintained that one reason for the lag in housing was the refusal of bankers and building and loan groups to carry mortgages on veterans' (GI) homes at 4 1/2 per cent interest. If the GI interest rate was closer to the FHA loan rate of 3 1/2 per cent, it would greatly stimulate home-building, Capehart contended. "There were only 4,000 GI home starts in January. There should have been at least 25,000."

The President said he agreed, but that Capehart might have difficulty getting the interest hike through the Democratic-controlled Congress. He added that he was having some difficulty himself trying to expedite the super-highway program, which has been delayed by preferences over the purchase of right-of-way through various cities.

Real estate trades needed for the highway right-of-way are purchased by state governments and the latter are not greatly concerned in keeping down the cost. The pointed out, as long as the federal government loans 90 per cent of the bill,

Look Again—It's A Three-In-One World

BOTH pundits and politicians have been making far too much use of "bipolar world" to describe today global woe.

It is a dangerous oversimplification of a complex reality. The world is not divided simply between American and Communist areas of influence. There is third world. It is made up of the "uncommitted" people of this tired old planet who have so far refused to throw in with either of the bipolar powers. These peoples reside largely in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

The importance of an especially strategic portion of this third world was emphasized by Henry Cabot Lodge, chief U. S. representative to the United Nations, the other day. In so doing, he also illustrated the desperate necessity of America's foreign aid program.

Commenting on his recent visit to Afghanistan, India, Iran and Pakistan, Mr. Lodge said it is "very much in the in-

terest of the United States" to continue to provide economic assistance for Asian countries.

"It is no exaggeration," he declared, "to say that the people of India and Asia generally are watching to see whether the authoritarian system of Communist China does more for the average man while denying him his civil rights than does the democratic system of India, which aims to improve his material well-being while preserving his civil rights."

But until it can get on its feet, democratic India needs economic and technical assistance from democratic America. It is in America's best interests to provide it.

If America can help provide both higher living standards and basic freedoms can be achieved without the rigors of the collectivists and the barbarities of the police state then a significant victory will have been won by free men everywhere.

Life In America: The Edgy Crusaders

THE administration practice of having gumshoes shadow reporters to detect their sources for delicate news stories continues unabated.

"It has become standard practice when the administration is particularly annoyed at seeing one of its secrets in print, to force underlings to sign affidavits swearing they did not leak the story."

"In some cases the telephones are tapped both within and without the government and bureaucratic hawkhaws are assigned to report on reporters."

movements. One correspondent here, who has also covered Moscow, reports that he is getting the full treatment.

"Moscow taught him to spot a policeman in all his shapes but it was never as bad as covering Washington, he contends. The other day, he insists, his wife was shadowed throughout her afternoon shopping, including her tour of the neighborhood supermarket."—THE NEW YORK TIMES, Washington Bureau, March 10, 1958.

Jerome Beatty Jr. In The Saturday Review

CONFEDERATE FLAG: IS IT OR IS IT AIN'T?

IT'S high time someone wrote a book about the books that have been written about the Civil War. Failing that, the least we can do is to put out a book about the flags displayed on the packets of the books about the Confederacy. Seems they are all wrong.

You know those little flags that you see on radiator caps and at football games down South? That's the Confederate Battle Flag, sometimes called "The Southern Cross," near the "Stars and Bars." It's strange. But the national banners of the Confederacy had dimensions in a ratio of three to two, like the flags of any country. The "Stars and Bars," in fact, looked so much like the U. S. flag that by 1863 the Confederate States had abandoned it for another.

Now, as for those book jackets, they are always getting the square battleflag and the oblong national flags mixed up. I'm not expert on this, but Richard B. Harwell, a true southerner and Civil War scholar who has edited or written dozens of books on the South, has given me the guide lines.

When I reviewed First Blood for the Chicago Tribune, I was confused in me. "I was annoyed that such a careful text should have provided for it a jacket with wrong flags—a U. S. flag with thirteen stars instead of thirty-four, and a C. S. flag that was unknown during the period the book is written about. Fortunately, I do not believe in mentioning such trivia (particularly extra-atrial trivia) in a review, because the Tulsa artist who illustrated my review used the same wrong Confederate States flag in his il-

lustration. This had happened to me before. On my own book, THE CONFEDERATE READER, the flag is oblong, not square as it should be. That it is oblong seems to me unfortunately apparent on the jacket of Clifford Dowdey's NEW DEATH or NATION, which is too fine a book to be messed up in any detail.

"On several recent Confederate books the shape of the flag is indeterminate. On some others its features are used merely as a design. On Walter Lord's THE PRELUDE TO DIXIE and on the new JEN STUART, THE LAST CAVALIER, the flag is wrong. Even on the jacket of the current edition of Thomas Nelson Page's TWO LITTLE CONFEDERATES it is wrong. Only on Frank Vandivort's MIGHTY STONEWALL, David's GRAY FOX, and Stanley Horne's AS THEY SAW FOREST, among those I've seen, is it right. Actually, you know, in the oblong shape the same flag did become the jack of the Confederate Navy, and in the fact of Don Tracy's ON THE MUNICIPALITY THE flag is shown flying on a ship. But as an ensign, not as a jack I wish jacket designers would bone up. They are missing the Confederate flag as badly as it is being used by reactionary politicians and football fans."

To show how unnerfed Mr. Harwell—born and brought up in Georgia—is by all this, he is editing a sequel to his latest book, to be called THE UNION READER, and the publishers say they couldn't find a northerner for the job. To the ramparts, men, and don't stop 'til you see the shape of their flags!