



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1958

The Administration Must Go To Work

NOW that the President has made a "complete recovery" from his stroke, a clinical session with his political doctors would seem to be in order.

It will not take much probing to discover that, politically speaking, Mr. Eisenhower is in a bad way. Democrats are responding naturally to the opportunity for criticism that was denied them so long by the sheer radiance of the Eisenhower aura. But the more telling symptom of disenchantment with Ike is the noisy desertion of his team by GOP congressmen.

One of these, a midwesterner of all things, opined publicly that the nation needs a new president. Meantime, the chairman of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee let it be known that handholds on the Eisenhower coat of arms are not so highly prized as before. The voice of the turtle is to be accompanied this spring by the sound of the political flip-flop.

All of this criticism seems to be a sense. Democrats were bound to find some openings in the presidential armor after 5½ years. Republicans were bound to take an "every man for himself" attitude once the President had entered his "lame duck" term and thereby lost his ability to command his party's allegiance. Moreover, much of the criticism is deserved.

NOT infrequently of late the administration's political nerves seem to have been suffering from an acute attack of shingles. Both the President and his major spokesmen, Press Secretary Hagerty, have been wispish with reporters seeking comment on matters of legitimate public interest. A reading of press conference transcripts indicates that the President has not been doing his homework on some major matters. With the administration seems to be marked by an irritable defensiveness and, in many cases, the defense lacks depth.

But if the criticism was predictable

and much of it is due, the intensity of it is entirely another matter. The near addition reflected in the 1956 election returns now seems to have turned into something verging on anger at the man in the White House.

In this tendency some danger to the nation is synonymous with the sharp downturn in Eisenhower prestige. There is no substitute for the presidency in the conduct of national affairs. Dwight Eisenhower, if his health holds up, is going to occupy the presidency for two-and-a-half more years, a period in which the current content with the Soviet policy will become more severe and more demanding of the nation's perseverance and willingness to sacrifice.

IT WILL BE a period in which domestic problems will be, to the Kremlin's delight, turning the nation's interests inward and away from the Cold War struggle. Already the administration has found it necessary to stage a national rally in order to drum up support for the mutual security program. The foreign trade program, another essential of free world strength, also is beset by strong opposition in Congress.

Without an alert and vigorous presidency, Americans are going to face some teeth-chattering moments in the coming months. The prestige of the presidency must not be ripped to pieces by a habit of criticism.

But citizen restraint will not be sufficient to shore up that prestige. The President must show a new interest in national affairs, and exhibit the vigor his doctors say is now restored to him. And it will help considerably if one of the President's top aides will stop acting like spoiled prima donnas when ever an embarrassing question is asked.

THE spell is over. If the administration wants an honored place in history, it had better start working for it right now.

People's Good Southern Republicans Get Short Rations

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

FOR THREE generations there has not been appointed from a southern state a member of the national Cabinet who was a representative Republican by a Republican president. Or, an ambassador to a first-class country. Eisenhower appointed a woman to his Cabinet from Texas. She was a Democrat, and left the service before her term was out. Concentration of national control and power by the North and backing for the South during Republican national administrations has been the unchangeable rule for 80 years. The result: Men of first class ability and prestige withdrew from active participation in Republican politics in southern states. There was no commensurate reward. No political party can stand such a condition, therefore, the Republican Party in the South fell under the control of men of lesser breed. No man with the finer attributes of an American citizen will accept inferiority put upon him.

There were no primaries and southern Republicanism was ruled by place hunters, opportunists, group, job hunting cliques, and it operated in back rooms, hotel rooms, and fixed conventions, in a search for the local patronage which was and has been during the long years all they could hope for. The honest patriotic Republicans of the South had no leadership commensurate with their principles. Without recognition by national administrations or the national party the "solid South" and one-partyism was a consistent situation. The Democrats could appoint able southerners to high positions in the government, including the national Cabinet. State governments in the South fell in virtue and prestige. The result: a condition in the government of

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However in the case of some of the tougher ones, and repeaters, they actually are sentenced to prison terms—well, that is until the next batch of new ones of the predicament and release them



Is He Above Party Politics, Too?

this country is that one section of states fails to function on national politics.

—HONY EAVES

Replace The Prisons With Parole Boards

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

THE LATE P. T. Barnum is credited with saying: "Folks are never satisfied unless they are gipped. Presuming we Americans are happy, this seems to be true."

Each year we send to our state capitals and national capital our senators and congressmen to write and enact laws.

Then thousands of detectives, police, investigators, sheriffs and constables are employed to arrest those who violate the laws.

Courts operate daily with juries, judges, prosecutors, bailiffs, and others, to try these arrested.

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to re-enact their offense, or with more experience, to do a more thorough job.

Chances are 90 to a nickel that when a person commits a crime involving ten-year prison sentence, by law, that he will serve any time, and if perchance he does, it will not be over a year or so. It all seems ridiculous.

Why not eliminate our legislatures, cops, courts, juries and prisons and just let everybody report monthly to the parole board to confess and be forgiven?

A. C. BUCKLE

Police Keep Watch On 'Fifth Columnists'

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

Times wonder if what we are doing is reaching the people and if it is, does it do the job we desire it to do. Your editorial of Feb. 22, "Efficient Police Deserve Public Praise" shows very well what the situation is and what the message should be. Of course, I refer to the portion where you very succinctly describe the Klan and their activities. Your words were very chosen and accurately depict the community spirit toward these misguided fifth columnists.

For the other part, may I say thank you for our entire department. Your words were very kind and we will do our best to continue to earn our place in the community. With your support and the support of the good people of the community we will be able to do so.

—JOE D. WHITLEY
Chief, Mecklenburg County Police

Reds Recruiting Clergymen Now?

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

THE Communist conspiracy has been highly successful in using the clergyman in their front groups, says the American Mercury.

If this is true, it is the most shameful situation ever brought to the attention of the American people.

The hour has struck for active action on the part of church laymen.

—PARKS A. YANDLE

John Marshall was then appointed chief justice. Although at the time he was secretary to President John Adams he apparently functioned in both offices until Thomas Jefferson took over the presidency in 1801.

John Marshall has been "praised to the skies" as a great "constitutional lawyer" but if the records show anything, they show that he was not such a lawyer, because he had never attended a law school nor had he legal pretenses.

—DR. K. PRICE

Over Forty Club Welcomes Visitors

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I AM an old man, retired, and sit around all day reading the newspapers and magazines. Every day your good paper devotes considerable space to the activities of the ladies, those in the social evil, the professional fields such as teachers, nurses, commerce and office workers. This is as it should be.

I want to write about one particular woman whose noble work is rarely among except by those she has helped. Mrs. Ethel Sloop was among the unemployed three years ago. She sought work everywhere, and although she is most competent there were no positions open. She was willing to accept anything. No job in analyzing her personal problem, she decided there was something wrong with her. She was thousands in Charlotte faced with her same dilemma.

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GEORGE WASHINGTON
There Was Suspicion

U. S. Supreme Court Is Federalists' Fault

Hickory

Editors, The News:

Looking up records which show how the Supreme Court got into American jurisprudence over the protest of such stalwarts as Thomas Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, A. Jackson, Patrick Henry and Dr. Benjamin Franklin, you come to the dead end of majority rule. For when about everything else had shrank up, looking toward the functioning of the new American democratic-republican form of government, it was found that Federalists were in control, and elected to set up the Supreme Court.

Of course, just about every American voter supported that George Washington for the country's first President, even though some suspected he would vote with the Federalists on such important questions. And it appears that that was just what he did in this matter.

Soon after taking office he appointed Thomas Jefferson secretary of state. Alexander Hamilton, secretary of the Treasury, John Jay of New York chief justice of the Supreme Court. All of his Cabinet were Federalists except Jefferson. Jefferson remained in the Cabinet for about a year and resigned, without mentioning any special reason for resigning.

At times I even felt I was attending at the Metropolitan Opera House. This letter sent to offer my congratulations to the Charlotte Opera Association and to say that I am sure the people of your community are indeed fortunate to have at hand such a finished performance of an opera right in their own home town.

In recent years I have heard much in the North of the values placed on culture in Charlotte. With such an opera company, such an auditorium, such schools, such public libraries, churches and facilities, it is not surprising that Charlotte attracts as new residents quality people who place a high value on culture.

Your city government seems to aim high and I wish many communities in the North had as much to offer when they could take such just.

—WILLIAM E. MARCUS

Liberal People Make The World Go Round

Salisbury

Editors, The News:

MOST of us love to be classified as liberals in politics. The reason for this is very obvious because William Wilson was a man many other great men were classified as liberals.

Another reason why we love to be considered liberal is that we want people to think that we give of our time and our money to good causes.

Liberal people are the kind of people who make the world go around. They give of themselves, of their time, of their money and of their substance in order that they may satisfy their high ideals and their consciences.

—JAMES W. JEWELL

Great Men

GREAT men are not always like wax which they are imprints. They are often the mere negative and opposite of their age. They give it the lie. They become by revolt the very essence of all the age is not, and that part of the spirit which is suppressed in ten thousand breasts gets lodged, isolated, and breaks into utterance in one.

—John Jay Chapman in "Emerson." From the "Selected Writings of John Jay Chapman," edited by Jacques Barzun.

"You said that you remembered when you sold hay for \$10 a ton. These fellows are selling it right now for \$8."

German Assets

President Eisenhower has temporarily given up his plan to soak the American taxpayers to pay back Germans whose assets were seized by the United States during the war.

The men responsible for the very fine bipartisan foreign aid program, the late Senator John H. Hickenlooper, head of the Motion Picture Producers and Artists, and Erle Coker Jr., former head of the American Legion, Joe Feeney, friend of dictator Trujillo, the Dominican Republic, picked up the dinner check the other night for senators' assistants at the Army-Navy Club. Dr. 20 Senate aides attended the party. (One way to influence senators is through their assistants.)

Dr. John Hagen, hard-working director of the ill-fated Vanguard project, has pleaded with Defense Secretary McElroy that one Vanguard project, if launched, will be able to collect as much scientific information as eight to ten of the Army's Explorer satellites.

Bear Hunters Lay Down Their Switches

VIEWING with alarm has become such a wan and wearisome necessity in this our decade that it is a particular pleasure to be permitted to point with pride for a change.

The pointee, in this instance, is the subversive activities subcommittee of the Minnesota Department of the American Legion. It seems that the subcommittee announced proudly to the world the other day that it had not been peering into closets, peeking under beds or examining the undersides of carpets for a whole year. Furthermore, it had launched no investigations, made no sensational disclosures and received no headlines.

"This does not mean that we are different to the perils of subversive activity," said the group's report, "but it does mean that we have confidence in our organized police system and feel that further participation by us would be similar to hunting bear with a switch. Your committee refuses to be a part of an unsupported attack on individuals or organizations. We feel that such practices are unfair, undemocratic, and in effect subversive in themselves because they prevent innocent until guilt has been proved under due process of law."

Well spoken.

In fact, the group's attitude offers a stunning object lesson to all of the would-be witch hunters in and out of the Legion. Far too many careless vigilant groups have complicated and obstructed the work of legitimate law enforcement agencies during the past decade.

From The Chicago Daily Tribune

IMPROVING THE BREED

ATHLETIC records have been shattered all over the sporting pages recently. News from Australia reported at least nine new world's swimming records. Two United States records were broken during the same week in Connecticut, and two others in California. In addition, two American runners beat the four-minute mile on grass for the first time in record.

Such a flurry of records is not as unusual as it may seem, however, for each crop of athletes seems to be able to do things faster or better than the last. A look at the world's records in 30 of the usually listed swimming events shows that only seven have stood as long as two years.

The art of swimming has come a long way since 1844, when a London sports writer watched some American Indians demonstrate the crawl stroke and described them as "thrashing the water violently with their arms, like the sails of a windmill, and beating downward with their feet." In 1873 it took the world's champion swimmer 46 seconds to swim 100 yards. In 1908, a took 33 seconds, and now the record is less than 49.

In track events each year likewise brings better showings. In 50 years the running broad jump record was length-

ened two feet, the high jump seven inches, the pole vault three feet, and 17 seconds have been trimmed from the mile run.

Perhaps all this should not be so surprising, considering how much taller and healthier young people are nowadays than ever before. But even so, it is pleasant to realize that in all likelihood our boys have outrun Pheidippides, outswum Leander, and outfought Achilles. Even the old Neanderthal man, whom we think of as the symbol of brute strength, probably couldn't hurl his javelin anywhere near the present record of 291½ feet, established in 1956 by a Norwegian.

In brain power, too, we have no doubt surpassed the Neanderthal man, although sometimes it may not be quite so apparent.

Recently, the husband entered the house at the close of the day and slumped into a chair. "What on earth is the matter, dear?" asked his wife. "Well, you know those aptitude tests they're giving at the office. I took one today and it's sure a good thing I own the company." —LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT

The wife isn't boss in every home. Quite a few have children, you know. —BARTON COUNTY (GA.) HERALD

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

FOUR able senators managed to block a loophole in the tax laws last week that meant other taxpayers would pay about a quarter of a billion dollars extra.

The four senators are Clint Anderson of New Mexico, Bob Kerr of Oklahoma, Albert Gore of Tennessee, all Democrats; and John Williams of Delaware, Republican.

The loophole they moved to plug affected the big life insurance companies which have been eating money by the millions but in some years have paid absolutely no taxes.

Big Loophole

Sen. Anderson, who runs an insurance company of his own in Albuquerque, N. Mex., was the first to spot the loophole. It came to the Senate in the form of a badly worded bill, rushed through the House of Representatives by Rep. Wilbur Mills, Arkansas Democrat. Laws are considered no evils in the House that are not evils in the Senate.

One vote was cast against this giveaway, though it would cost the taxpayers exactly \$224 million.

"I would like to know why the insur-

Senators Pounce On Tax Bill Loophole

ance companies need this?" asked Sen. Gore in a closed-door session of the Senate Finance Committee. After Anderson had spotted the House tax bonanza, "Whom does it help? And how badly do they need it?"

Not A Dime

Anderson, whose company would have profited from the passage of the concession to insurance companies, explained that ever since 1942, the Treasury had spotted the House tax bonanza. "Insurance companies should be taxed, with the result that in some years, such as 1947-49, they paid not a single dime. Meanwhile, the average taxpayer was paying through the nose."

More recently the Treasury has been arguing that insurance companies should be taxed the same as other corporations—on all their income. It opposes the current system under which insurance companies have not paid a cent on their enormous profits from writing insurance policies, have only paid on investment income.

The quickie bill which Congressmen

Cheap Hay

Able Sen. Watkins of Utah, Republican, was speaking in Salt Lake City before a big farm group sponsored by the Farmers Union. The speaker was a Mormon bishop and did an excellent job organizing the strawberry growers of Utah into a cooperative. He was something about farming. And he scolded this particular farm meeting for complaining about prices.

"I can remember," he said, "when we sold hay for \$10 a ton."

A murmur of resentment rumbled through the crowd.

Afterward, Sen. Watkins asked the chairman "What did I say, that caused that groan from the crowd?"

"You said that you remembered when you sold hay for \$10 a ton. These fellows are selling it right now for \$8."