



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Give The Superhighway Top Priority

CHARLOTTE'S highway to a more abundant tomorrow is assured. Fortunately, it will be paved with something more substantial than political fancy.

It was never doubted for a moment that the proposed North Carolina-Ohio superhighway would be a bonanza of sorts. There were some uneasy moments, however, when it seemed that special interests would inject the road into a political ploy. It was seriously proposed that the new route be twisted and bent to benefit any number of communities far to the east, northeast and north.

The State Highway Commission, exhibiting welcome firmness, stamped approval on a route for the superhighway that at least has some geographical validity. It would run from Charlotte in the south to Elkin in the north without wild detours into any influential politician's cotton patch. On the surface, it appears to be an engineering judgment rather than a political judgment and that is wholly commendable.

At the end of the line will be Canton,

Ohio, the gateway to the richly industrialized Great Lakes region. In fact, it will provide a reasonably straight, direct passage to the entire Midwest.

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the new route or the importance of the economic intercourse it will permit. In trade and in tourism, it will indeed be a bonanza. Charlotte will enjoy a whopping share of the returns, but of course, the entire state will benefit if the road is coaxed through every crossroads or not.

The important thing now is for the project to be given a high priority on the new interstate highway network.

State Highway Director W. F. Babcock said Monday that construction "could be several years away." The need, however, is immediate. The details of the Charlotte-to-Canton link are being rapidly filled in. An earlier start than "several years" from now might also have some value in reversing the downward spiral in the nation's economy. The jobless of 1958 could certainly use the work.

Why wait?

Please Do Not Tear Down The Capitol

Founded, 1791; burned by a British army, 1814; restored by Congress, 1817; vandalized by Congress, 1958.

THE foregoing is suggested by the SAN FRANCISCO NEWS as suitable for inscription on a plaque to be placed on the new national Capitol.

New Capitol, you ask, and what's wrong with the Capitol as it is? And what in the world does Congress mean, spending \$10 million to make the Capitol look unlike its picture in the history books your kids are studying, and unlike the picture in your own mind's eye?

Well, it's not to be a new Capitol exactly. The plan is to tear down the historic East Front and erect a little farther out a new front so that in between the new front and the present walls congressmen can have themselves a cafeteria and some additional office space. But hasn't the Senate just built itself a new office building?

Yes.
And isn't the House in the process of building itself a new office building?
Yes.
And isn't a new cafeteria being built

in one of the present House Office Buildings?

Yes.
Then why deface an architectural image fixed affectionately in the minds of millions of Americans, or face-lift a historic landmark sought out by all visitors to Washington?

We dunno. This project is in the hands of a joint congressional commission composed of four members, and the commission pretty much keeps its own counsel. There have been no public hearings on the plan, although a considerable number of congressmen and citizens would like to make their incensed feelings of opposition a matter of public record. Meantime, the bulldozers are revving up.

Probably they're recouping the money by chopping that amount off that "wasteful" foreign aid bill. But they can never bring back the simple beauty of the Capitol as it is.

This particular blunder will be inde-
lible.

There Is No Joy In Foggy Bottom

AS IF foreign aid backers did not have a homedown misery to burn they added some more the other day with all the deftness and finesse of a water buffalo in the Steuben Glass Showroom. In fact, at the very moment that ponies for support for the program is needed from every neighborhood and subdivision in America, the boys in Washington have gone and insulted the whole ever-loving baseball bloc which includes virtually every mortal who ever flung momentaneously to the tune of TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME.

This horrid feat was accomplished last week at the big bipartisan foreign aid pow-wow in Washington. The sponsors had assembled the program's champions—those who will have the chore of winning support in the hinterlands. When introductions came to be asked, then the name of Stan Musial was read off. He rose to accept the adulation of the fans, and . . . well, let's let the New York Times take over.

"There was silence, suggesting that people charged with the job of getting through to the grass roots could not decide whether he was an assistant secretary from the State Department or a

Unitarian preacher. Mr. Musial sat down without applause."

Of course, all of our readers know that Stan (The Man) Musial is an athlete employed by the St. Louis Cardinals and is one of the big league baseball's greatest heroes. In fact, his glitter is so great that even the Dodger fan razes him with respect rather than disdain. He was the National League's batting champion in 1957 (as he was in 1952, 1951, 1950, 1948, 1946 and 1945). He was winner of the loop's "Most Valuable Player" award in 1948 and 1943.

We might also mention to the State Department that 8,817,481 fans crowded into National League ballparks last year—1,183,573 in St. Louis alone. Another 9,106,219 attended American League games. That's a sizable bloc when you consider that every ticket purchased represents a dozen or so stay-at-home rooters.

All of which indicates the foreign aiders are like leaguers when it comes to winning friends and influencing baseball fans.

And obviously, the administration will have to take steps to get Stan The Man better known in Washington—fast. It might start by making him an FCC commissioner.

From The Richmond Times-Dispatch

SWEET MUSIC AND WEDDED BLISS

THE Sweetest Music This Side of Heaven is saluted with peans of praise in the Appendix of the February 13 CONGRESSMAN, Beacon.

The Hon. Victor L. Anfuso of New York does the praising in two-thirds of a page of type, which begins:

"Mr. Speaker, in this satellite era when our nerves are rattled and fear grips our hearts by talks of weapons of destruction, permit me to speak of a family whose musical talents help to steady us and make life worth living."

The tribute is to Guy and Carmen Lombardo who, with their respective wives, Lillibell and Florence, have enjoyed over 30 years of happy matrimony.

That, says Rep. Anfuso, is remarkable, because there is "a tragic amount of what Leo C. Rosten once termed 'lbidinal hoopla among people in the entertainment business.' In short, long marriages are the exception among show folk, according to the New York lawmaker."

We learn further that Lillibell wielded neither of the two violins which have been broken over Guy's head, and that

the Roosevelt Grill in New York serves a "Lombardo style cocktail."

"Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues in Congress," says Mr. Anfuso, "I should like to take this occasion to congratulate Carmen and Florence and Guy and Lillibell Lombardo, who are in their 32nd year of marriage. It is deeply gratifying to call attention to the man and woman in our country who place a high value on happy, loyal marriages, for I sometimes feel that happy marriages and normal lives receive less publicity than they deserve."

Well, we're happy to contribute to the cause by calling this matter to the attention of our readers who don't see the CONGRESSMAN, Beacon.

But Rep. Anfuso, are you sure about those two violins?

Teacher: "If I gave you four chickens and Miss Smith gave you one chicken, how many chickens would you have?"

Johnny: "Seven chickens."

Teacher: "No, no, you'd have five." Johnny: "Teacher, I've got two chickens already." — FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-Press.

McClellan's Cup Runneth Over With Hatred Of Reuther

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
CHAIRMAN John McClellan of the Senate rackets committee is going around these days with that "waxed-on-a-nickel" look that Alice Longworth once attributed to Calvin Coolidge.

After a smashing start with exposure of corruption in the Teamsters Union, McClellan has been trapped into making an investigation of the long-drawn-out Kohler strike in Wisconsin. Already the hearings have become as hot as butter, as prolonged and as shot with politics as that famous situation.

PET HATE

What has happened is that the four Republicans on the evenly divided committee have decided to pull their pet hate among

Democratic labor leaders, Walter Reuther of the United Automobile Workers Union, into the aura of corruption created by the Teamsters story. Teamster President Dave Beck who with his son, Dave Jr., has now become a laughing stock, is a Republican, and the Teamsters, far more than most unions, leaned to the GOP. The committee Republicans—Sens Irving M. Ives, Barry M. Goldwater, Karl E. Mundt and T. Curtis seem to me to be in it for their turn. Since Reuther runs his union well and is notoriously uninterested in getting rich, the Kohler strike offered the best avenue of approach.

EXTRA DOLLOP

That extra dollop of bitterness in McClellan's cup is no doubt caused by the fact that, in trying to keep the hearings on the rails, he is put in the position of appearing to help Reuther. Like most conservatives, he really dislikes him and is deeply suspicious of his flow of economic and social ideas.

These ideas are perhaps largely responsible for Reuther's unquestioned place as the No. 1 whipping boy of the labor movement. He probably suffers from the legacy of early violence in his union and generally in the CIO, which he formerly headed. But there is the personal element also — "The Redhead" has a curious power to infuriate his opposites.

FINDING OF GUILT

Many men in business and politics will discuss rationally such New Deal Democrats as Al Haynes of the Machinists, President George Meany of the AFL-CIO, David Dubinsky of the Garment Workers and George Harrison of the Railroad Workers. But mention Reuther and they foam at the mouth.

McClellan may sympathize with them. But he knows too, that a trial examiner of the National Labor Relations Board found the



SEN. JOHN MCCLELLAN
A Trapped Feeling

'Look At Yourself . . .'

A Kluxer Writes

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I JUST received a membership blank from the Ku Klux Klan, sent by a Klansman from Greenville, S. C. It is a most amazing document.

"I, the undersigned, a native born, true and loyal citizen of the United States of America, being a white male Gentile person of temperate habits, sound in mind and believer of the tenets of the Christian religion, the maintenance of White Supremacy and the principles of a pure Americanism; do most respectfully apply for membership in the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan through . . ."

Just alongside the "Application for Citizenship in the Invisible Empire," in big type, there is a scrawled notation in the Klansman's handwriting, surprising me that he could write at all. It says: "YOU ARE REJECTED BY THE KLAN."

LINED PAPER

The accompanying screed is naturally written on lined copy paper, as I find constant with all people who sign themselves "True Americans."

He uses the word "nigger" rather frequently, and he advises me to look at the qualifications for membership in his social circle.

He would not call an inciter to riot and mob vengeance a "True American." I would call him a hoodlum, sheet or no sheet to his identity. I would call him a lily-headed boob so low on the totem that he has to seek out and somebody he regards as inferior to kick in order to confirm his own inferiority.

SOME CLAIM

If all the clay-eating white trash that day-after-day a Klansman were gathered under one big sheet and painedly put away, the social structure of the South would be considerably improved. Certainly then there would be some claim for white equality.

My correspondent's e-mail notes with "I am a Klansman now, and I will die a Klansman."

So we need an out of punch line here, or shall we merely hope for the best?

Who Are The True Americans?

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

RUSSIA'S sudden counter-switch to a foreign minister's conference came just as two counter-switches were being made secretly by U.S. officials. The move is as important as the sudden reversal by Moscow.

Counter-switch No. 1 was an opinion by Allen Dulles, able head of the State Department. Russia sincerely does want a truce in the cold war. Hilarious Dulles, brother of the secretary of state and a powerful optimist, talks with the White House. Has not agreed with Harold Stassen that Russia really wanted disarmament.

Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson in Moscow has agreed with Stassen and so have some of the under officials in the State Department. Now the potent recommendation of Allen Dulles joins them

that Russia would like to ease tensions for as much as ten years. Dulles is not so cheerful about what may happen after ten years.

Secret Orders

Counter-switch No. 2—Last week the State Department called secret instructions to Ambassador Thompson in Moscow to sound out the Russians on their conditions for a summit conference. Thompson was told to use his own discretion. He is to make it absolutely clear Eisenhower would never agree to a summit conference unless the Kremlin agreed to some kind of preparatory talks at a lower level.

This was a switch for the Eisenhower administration, which has been mandated a foreign ministers conference.

Kohler Company guilty of unfair labor practices last October after a lengthy and painstaking investigation. The board itself has not acted.

HOT SPOT

The trouble another regulatory agency — the Federal Communications Commission — is having in trying to explain why it overruled a trial examiner is now on the front pages. Even if it were not, the NLRB, by firmly established practice, is compelled to treat with respect the findings of its examiners, especially in connection with the credibility of witnesses.

The present hearings are, of course, heating up further, but the spot on which the Eisenhower-appointed NLRB now stands with respect to the Kohler situation.

KENNEDY'S NOTIONS

It is widely believed that the young committee counsel, Robert

Kennedy, entertains notions that he might be able to resolve the Kohler-UAW impasse. The hard-bitten McClellan seems instead to feel that nobody is going to win very much in this one, including the senators on the committee whose unbridled struggles with each other over procedure have adversely affected the climate in which they are operating. The recession hasn't done the committee any good, either; labor probes and legislation flourish best in a period during full employment.

It is widely believed that the young committee counsel, Robert

'Can't Be Spending Money Foolishly, You Know'



People's Platform

'Mass Ignorance' Threatens America

Editors, The News:

I WAS particularly interested in reading The News' interview with Dr. Garinger, the superintendent of Charlotte schools, when the question was asked: "Are Charlotte Schools Ready For The Space Age?", and other questions pertaining to that important subject.

This brings to mind an even more important question, namely: Are the schools of America ready for the space age, or rather, and more importantly, are the schools of America training our boys so they can build the weapons to fight in the space age?

BAD REFLECTION

It reflects rather badly on the most of us, who are true Americans—which holds true simply to the fact that we were born in America, have fought our battles and paid their taxes, obeyed their laws and have no record of violence on their citizens; no matter what the creed or color.

It would not call an inciter to riot and mob vengeance a "True American." I would call him a hoodlum, sheet or no sheet to his identity. I would call him a lily-headed boob so low on the totem that he has to seek out and somebody he regards as inferior to kick in order to confirm his own inferiority.

Dr. Reuter has simply described the basic causes of this awful danger, but fortunately has described also what we can do to overcome this danger and really become the strong nation that we had thought ourselves to be. The "disease" is deep seated, however, and the remedy, while fundamental, is simple, yet is hard to apply, because it goes against the "nature" of the American youth. He will have to be retrained to be a citizen of the world, a man who has never known before.

This magazine also carries an article by Dr. James R. Killian Jr., president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and recently appointed as special adviser to the White House on missiles. While Dr. Killian points out some improvements that should be made in the American school system, he does not seem to be aware of the danger that threatens us. The M.I.T. is one of our most reputable technical schools and the school where the Navy sends selected students of the Naval Academy to study naval architecture, and Dr. Killian himself has a national reputation as a scientist. Yet it would appear that he sits so high in his "ivory tower" that he does not see the mass ignorance of American youth through the wall of selected elite of American boys which surrounds him.

Perhaps I am deeply impressed with the seriousness of this problem because of my experience in Pennsylvania as commissioner of the State Police, to which I was appointed by Gov. Earle after I had retired from active duty in the Navy in 1947.

The state legislature had authorized and directed the amalgamation of the State Police and the Highway Patrol into one force and provided for an increase of about 500 men in the new force. It became my duty to obtain the new men. When it was publicized that an increase was authorized, there were applications for employment from approximately 5,000 men. When I announced that the new men should be graduates from a recognized high school and be between the ages of 21 and 21, as well as physically satisfactory, the number dropped to 130. Then a competitive examination became necessary. I prepared the questions very carefully with due regard to the area had been in the school some three or four years and might have forgotten a lot of what he had studied in school. So the questions were not much above the level of the eighth grade.

It occurs to me that a test examination might be made for the children of North Carolina. If some public spirited person or organization were to offer prizes for such an examination for the youth of the state of ages between 16 and 22, the state could find out where we stand in the solution of the problem of training the children for readiness for the Space Age.

Maybe the results of such an examination would be a favorable surprise but I fear not. We might be better than Georgia, however, free to the papers that Sen. Talmadge found that only five boys out of thirty who took the examination in the summer of 1957 were in the top 10 percent of the state.

—P. W. FOOTE
Brigadier General
U. S. Navy (Ret.)

Does Russia Want Ten-Year Truce?

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Hardly had Thompson delivered this message that the Soviet foreign minister came back with his switcheroo to a foreign ministers conference.

Chief counsel to be gained from all this maneuvering is that a summit conference will definitely be held this summer. It may be restricted, but it will be held.

'Bidget' General

Inside fact about the recall of Gen. John B. "Bidget" Acheson from the post of the Air Force for spending too much money on frills, was that the general was trying to head off a divorce.

Married to one of the most beautiful and more wealthy women of Washington, Patricia Donaldson Acheson, the general has been separated when he was transferred

to the Philippines. Mrs. Acheson remained in Washington and for a time it seemed doubtful that she would join him.

Finally he persuaded her to effect a reconciliation and come to Manila. In Manila, Air Force headquarters were not exactly as in the ceremonial well-appointed Virginia home along the banks of the Potomac, hence the orders for expensive furnishings, clothes, extra extras, which aroused the curiosity of other Air Force wives at Clark field.

Gen. Acheson is considered one of the most brilliant young officers in the Air Force. He was picked up as a man likely to end up as chief of the Air Force. It is a tragedy is that because of his attempt to keep a beautiful wife happy in tropical Manila, he's likely to end up with the name John "Bidget" Acheson, apt John Bester Acheson.