



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1958

### The Leaky Roof Everybody Forgot

WHY is it so fashionable in bureaucracy circles to wait the gathering of storm clouds before leaky roofs are remembered?

North Carolina's unemployment compensation system is a case in point. It is obviously out of date. Weekly benefits (the maximum \$32) are too low to offer any real insurance against privation. The maximum number of weeks for which they can be paid (26) is too short.

When times were good few if any office holders gave these inadequacies any thought. Now that an economic tempest is looming threateningly on the horizon the would-be roof patchers are full of advice.

It is too late. Oh, yes, The State Employment Security Commission will undertake a study of the adequacy of the benefit payments provided by the present formula and subsequently present its findings and recommendations to the governor. But this will take time. The General Assembly does not meet again in regular session until 1959. What happens in the meantime?

As for the numerous schemes before Congress to extend unemployment compensation for those whose benefits under present provisions have run out, the Employment Security Commission would say, "No thanks." The ESC simply believes that the state should administer its own unemployment insurance program.

That's certainly the way it's always been in the past. In the Social Security Act of 1935 great pains were taken to

set up the unemployment compensation system with a maximum of state administration and a minimum of federal interference. It is a worthy philosophy. The state, however, cannot afford to slam the door on federal aid which would respect the traditional leading distribution and a test of eligibility entirely to the states. It has to leave itself some escape hatch if conditions worsen.

But thoughtful revision of the entire state unemployment compensation program in accordance with modern conditions and reasonable standards of decency would have been far more prudent and wise. Instead, we are faced with the sudden necessity to tinker in an emergency situation.

It may well be that the bottom has been reached and that North Carolina will not have to suffer the pangs of mass joblessness. That is certainly our hope. But the determined optimism of Gov. Hodges cannot disguise the fact that nine North Carolina cities or areas have already reported serious unemployment problems in industries such as textiles, plywood, railroads and construction. According to a recent U. S. Department of Labor report, areas in which 6 per cent or more of the labor force was out of work included Asheville, Durham, Fayetteville, Kinston, Mount Airy, Rocky Mount, Rutherford-Forest City, Shelby-Kings Mountain and Waynesville.

Whatever the future holds, the unemployment compensation system must be modernized. North Carolina, like most of its sister states across the nation, has neglected this chore too long.

### There Is No Market For 'Clean' Bombs

WITH all due respect to the successes of Madison Avenue, it is doubtful that the U. S. ever will be able to create popular demand for the "clean bomb."

A nuclear weapon, even one whose radioactive fallout is sharply limited, is by popular definition a "dirty" weapon. This is so because it can kill hundreds of thousands of people by blast effects alone. The widespread revulsion against nuclear weapons is not based solely on the fact that tests of these weapons are contaminating the atmosphere.

Yet advertisement of the antipathetic nature of the weapons is not seen in the Pacific is the only card the U. S. can play in response to Soviet "renunciation" of nuclear tests. The Soviet will not agree to a permanent test ban enforced by mutual inspection. Having just completed a series of tests, it has no desire to make additional tests at this time. When it does the desire Moscow simply will announce that tests are being resumed because the U. S. did not follow its lead in stopping them.

The sum of this rigid logic is that the U. S. has suffered a tremendous propaganda defeat, and not for lack of warning. The administration simply chose to take the defeat.

Perhaps there was nothing else that could be done immediately.

But while the administration worries over Moscow's coup, it might also wonder if the Atomic Energy Commission is not unintentionally cooperating in the Soviet campaign to spite the U. S. as a bomb-happy nation of warmongers. We refer to recent AEC statements which seem to minimize the dangers while glorifying the opportunities of the atom. The tone of these statements seems to be that nuclear tests are not only necessary and that as good or better than an absolute ban on tests would be an agreement among the nuclear powers to limit the amount of radioactive material each would be allowed to place into the atmosphere.

Aside from the obvious fact that such an agreement is unlikely, this assumes that scientists already are competent

to decide what constitutes a safe limit of contamination. There is little agreement on this point among American scientists and apparently even less abroad. And even if the scientists were agreed, it is doubtful that the world's masses would be willing to run the risk of their being wrong.

That a ban on nuclear tests should appear as Soviet acceptance of a foolproof inspection system has been a sound and defensible U. S. position. But the AEC's cheery talk about the relative safety of the tests robs that position of much of its substance, and almost all of its propaganda value.

It is all very fine for the AEC to say that nuclear tests so far have added less radiation to a man's body than he would receive from wearing a luminous-dial wrist watch, but some men prefer not to wear luminous-dial wrist watches. It is all right for the AEC's Dr. Willard F. Libby to say that the number of deaths due to nuclear bomb tests is slight compared with the 40,000 resulting annually from auto accidents. But the masses do not choose to ride in automobiles.

The U. S. cannot safely end nuclear tests without certainty that the Soviet will do likewise.

But neither can it afford giving the appearance of not caring whether the tests are ended.

### Turn About

A WASHINGTON word merchant named William H. Stringer, who sells his wares to Boston's CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, has just made an astounding discovery.

"It requires only a few days of travel and discussion in the Deep South," he reports, "to persuade one that the racial issue isn't going to be settled overnight."

We are prepared to assert with equal perspicacity that it requires only a few days of travel and discussion in New York City to come to the same conclusion about the North.

From The Baltimore Sun

### TERPSICHORE IN JEANS

WITHOUT getting into the esthetics of current fashions or into the economics of it either, it might be timely to remind the indignation meeting on Capitol Hill that the "suggestive" dances of which witnesses have complained aren't exactly new. Remotely, through rock and roll and jitterbug may be to the elder generations, they have a lot of antecedents.

Think for example, of the waltz. Its peasant originals were the targets of reformers for centuries, particular exception being taken to one, the foxtrot, the landier, in which the boy threw the girl over his shoulder. When the waltz reached polite ballrooms, it was roundly condemned, and was even thought shocking by Byron, hardly a moralist. The Volts was even not so jitterbug, for its chief figure required the man to seize his partner around the torso and toss her in the air.

And what about the stately sarabande, now associated chiefly with the name of Johann Sebastian Bach? Before it was refined by great composers, it was so blatantly indecent that it was attacked by Cervantes and even suppressed by the government of Philip II. The origin-

al tango, that rather passe pillar of the modern ballroom, was described by travelers in terms which left no doubt of its character. This doesn't mean that the gyrations of today's dance fiends are proper, or even pretty, but there is considerable precedent for wild dancing—and equally wild condemnation of it.

Perhaps first things should be considered first, but an interesting speculation is how much it would cost Uncle Sam to support Russia after defeating that country in a war—MATTHEW (MISS) JOURNAL-GAZETTE.

Arabs today are much louder than those in the poem who folded their tents and silently stole away. — JACKSON (MISS) STATE TIMES

Pupils are so tough in some schools these days that the teacher has to raise her hand when she wants to leave the room—GREENVILLE PIEDMONT.

Now that Russia is going in heavily for foreign aid, maybe some of the smaller countries will get mad at her, too. — FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

## Here's Why Russia's Ready To Halt Nuclear Tests

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSO

AS THESE words are written, the American policy makers are nervously waiting for the announcement of a Kremlin decision to suspend all further Soviet tests of nuclear weapons for a considerable trial period, while the emotion-charged question is being negotiated by the leading powers. (Editors' Note: The suspense has ended. Soviet officials have announced that the USSR is halting all nuclear weapon tests, warning that it will be free to resume them if the West does not follow suit. See editorial, "There Is No Market For 'Clean' Bombs.")

The Kremlin has already undeniably and its own attachment to the "cause of peace" by denouncing the oncoming American program of nuclear weapons tests at the United Nations. The effect of these gracious gestures on our allies and the world will not be lessened, either, by the fact that the Soviets have obviously just completed all the tests of nuclear weapons they have any present need to make.

#### REMARKABLE SERIES

The Soviet test series, in itself a remarkable phenomenon, began eight months ago. Since last August their tests have been made

in a series of test flights, their first successful atomic shot in 1949. The tests gave no indication of any serious Soviet competition with the American effort to get a clean nuclear bomb. The high altitude explosion of a fusion device must be interpreted as an important step in the development of anti-aircraft rocket with a nuclear warhead. And various signs understood by the scientists indicate that a good many of the other weapons tested have been physically very compact, and therefore suitable for delivery by medium and long range ballistic missiles.

#### REPERCUSSIONS

Such is the Soviet test story, which adds just the right note of grim irony to the predicament of the American policy makers. Judging by the increasing passion of the debate about nuclear weapons in both Britain and West Germany, the American policy makers' predicament is going to be very unpleasant indeed, if the Kremlin comes through with its announcement of a voluntary suspension of further nuclear tests as a "contribution to peace."

The phoniness will hardly be noted, in either Germany or Britain, or indeed anywhere else. The Kremlin initiative will be taken at face value. The British government of Prime Minister Macmillan will be under mounting pressure to match the Kremlin's gesture with a similar gesture of its own. In his present political situation at home, Macmillan may even be driven to take independent action if the United States hanks back.

Meanwhile, if the American government insists on continuing its nuclear tests, the U. S. will be denounced for bloody-mindedness and intransigence. And it will not be much better if we say we are also ready to end nuclear tests, after making adequate provisions for inspection, as the President vaguely hinted we might eventually say at his last press conference. For in this latter case, we shall just appear to "me-too" the Soviet initiative, and the credit for ending tests will go to the Soviets.

#### AMPLE WARNING

Just to increase the irony a little further, there is the additional fact that the American government has had ample warning of the Kremlin's intentions. Weeks have passed since its intelligence analysts first warned the State Department and the Atomic Energy Commission that they must be ready for a Kremlin announcement of voluntary test suspension.

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might be agreed upon at a summit meeting. But fighting the whole trend with great bitterness and acuteness was the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Adm. Lewis Strauss, with his staff and allied scientists. The committee

meetings that were held on all levels after the intelligence warning were given with argument and discord. Secretary of State Dulles, who alone might have made a decision, was away until very recently on the conference circuit. So the final policy decision was the one that has become increasingly usual.

It was the decision to do nothing, to remain impassive, to wait dumbly for the other side's blow, because agreeing to do nothing was easier than agreeing to do something.

### 'Silly Tortoise'—Just Going 'Round In Circles'



### Nostalgia In B-Flat

## Sports Scribes Have It Made

By ROBERT C. RUARK

THE ONLY time I get nostalgic for a mispent youth is this portion of the year, when I know that all the nonsense has been going on down South—and West, now—and oh my Lord, Elsie, I would love to be a sports writer again.

Too many of the old gods are gone, and I suppose age has blunted the whisker-riding stay-along-at-night capacities of the survivors, but 20 years back that Florida season was something.

"Note: If this sounds familiar, I have certainly written it before, but I just saw a picture of Early Wynn, the Cleveland Indians' star pitcher, and I came down with the heavy nostalgia. We broke Mr. Wynn, a kind of Cherokee, into major league baseball when he was wider than any Comanche that ever scalped a settler."

#### WIFE WAS GRAND

No body was out to make a reputation that year, a touch before

we traveled about the ghost towns to watch the morning glories bloom. All the morning glories were going to win 20 or 400, and most of them from Class D straight to the leaky roofs and bus circuits.

HOPE BLOOMED

But hope bloomed, and occasionally there was a Dutch Leonard, an old man up from anonymity, who lasted a long time. Or a kid like Sid Hudson, who went from Class D straight to win 19 his first major season with Washington, or the scatter-million Mr. Wynn, who has been an outstanding pitcher for a million years.

I am so old that I can remember when the Kansas City Cardinals, Fred and Ritzito, were on display as comers, and Fridy was supposed to be the class of the combination. And (private joke) what ever happened to Ken Chase and Joe Krakauskas, the two widest left-handers that ever got loose from the zoo?

This would be the milder maulings of an oldster, but it would be very nice to be a sports writer again, and under the same conditions.

away from being a copyboy on the Washington Daily News, and we had some unfortunate experiences with baseball writers.

One of them covered the entire spring training season wearing a beret, and he covered it from Jack's bar in the Angelbitt Hotel in Orlando.

But there was a gentle camaraderie amongst the sporting types at that time—and it got even more comradely when I came around for the second swing in the American League, and a few people recognized me despite the mustache—that I have never seen topped before, since, or after.

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### People's Platform

## Linguistic Isolationism

Editors, The News:

WARM THANKS are due you for your editorial, "Teach American Diplomats to Talk." For years some of us have been waging war against the linguistic isolationism which still exists among certain of our representatives in Washington. Unfortunately their attitude reflects the outdated notions of some of the less progressive of our citizens. But to have "statesmen" in Congress who cannot realize the importance of supporting adequate language training for foreign service officers is intolerable. It is clear that too many of them have their eyes turned to the back of the county home rather than out into the world.

It is not surprising that President Eisenhower grows exasperated at the congressmen who persist in parsing the budget of the Foreign Service Institute. He has to have the linguistic deficiencies of our officers when he took over the command of NATO. One of his first orders that was to have them begin the study of French.

Let's hope that someone will take our isolationist representatives by the hand and lead them

to the world.

A fog man started to rise, then broke in two masses and became a cat being chased by a dog. Another fog form looked like a Christmas tree full of presents, but all at once it changed to a horse and a lady rider. Some other large fog masses looked like frosty glass messes that were being used into something else.

How wonderful of God to make so many wonders out of water, the greatest gift of God to man.

—JAMES W. JEWELL

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THE public doesn't know it, but Postmaster General Summerfield has an interesting way of treating certain senators regarding the delivery of mail. A secret order has just been revealed regarding the delivery of the Baltimore Sun to Sen. Glenn Beall, Maryland Republican.

Likewise a lot of other people in these days when Mr. Summerfield is running down their mail delivery. Sen. Beall is squawking. But, unlike other people, he got results. Sen. Beall likes to have his Baltimore-SUMMERFIELD Sun delivered so he can read it early.

And where it didn't arrive regularly and promptly, the Post Office Department issued an order officially titled, "Delay of Baltimore Sun to Sen. Glenn Beall of Maryland."

The secret Post Office order specifies that the specially labeled Baltimore Sun is to be put in the official pouch at 3:05 a.m. and is to be delivered at 5:15 a.m.

### Fog Images Reflect The Wonder Of God

Saturday

This morning (March 28) there were all kinds of fog images moving around. These thick accumulations of fog changed shapes quite often like a pretty lady changes her mind.

A fog man started to rise, then broke in two masses and became a cat being chased by a dog. Another fog form looked like a Christmas tree full of presents, but all at once it changed to a horse and a lady rider. Some other large fog masses looked like frosty glass messes that were being used into something else.

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### Secret Text

A "daily watch" is even to be posted to a copy of the senator's morning newspaper.

If you don't believe the lengths to which Mr. Summerfield will go to please a senator, here is the secret text of the order:

"A serious complaint has been received from the office of Sen. Beall of Maryland relative to the many delayed deliveries of his copies of his State Edition of the Baltimore Sun.

"Daily Watch"

"The Baltimore Post Office has arranged to place this single-strapped copy in the Official Pouch due at 3:05 a.m. DST. A daily watch until further notice will be maintained for the paper and the watch must be continued each day until the

paper is found. If it is in time for the 5:15 a.m. dispatch, it must be tied to a package of Pter mail. If received after that time it will be turned over to the Special Delivery Section for immediate delivery."

Rare Privilege

Good reading, Senator! We wish we could get even our first class mail with equal regularity.

Note: Sen. Beall has been enjoying this privilege for almost four years. He began Aug. 7, 1955 and was recently renewed Jan. 7, 1958.

Expensive TV Loans

FCC commissioners have tried to brush off the "loans" of color TV sets from the Radio Corporation of America, but a close scrutiny of secret congressional reports indicates that these sets ran into quite a bit of money. The average citizen would surely appreciate a similar loan for his parlor.

The records show that on Jan. 3, 1957, a set worth \$5,662.93 was purchased for \$5,949 for seven 21-inch color TV re-

ceivers "part of total price of \$9,844.90." These went to the seven Federal Communications Commissioners.

Free Maintenance

Approximately two months later, Feb. 27, 1957, RCA Service Company sent through invoice "No. 23/82028 to Radio through invoice "No. 23/82028 to Radio

preventive maintenance service. For Jan. 1, 1957 to Dec. 31, 1957 — total amount \$8,683.90.

In other words, the cost and service of the color TV sets for the FCC commissioners ran to \$18,000 right off the bat.

Replacements

Later, on April 11, 1957, RCA sent through "Requisition No. OS-204 ordering 10 models at total amount of \$5,662.93" to "replace sets at the following locations: Bartley, Maczonnaghey, Dierker, Hyde, Mack, Mack. Though RCA mislabeled the sets, they were not the same as the ones referred to in the commissioners' report.

On the same date another order was put through replacing RCA color TV sets for the commissioners.