



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The South Is Not THAT Misunderstood

IN recounting the story of a white boy who risked his life to rescue an aged Negro couple from a burning house in Memphis, the CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS said "here's a story in race relations that won't be understood, or won't want to understand, up North."

Well, why in the world won't they understand it "up North," or for that matter, in Bombay, London, Istanbul or Cairo? The boy saved the lives of two helpless people. Colored citizens raised \$200 to reward him. No one can be impervious to the goodness and human warmth of this story unless his mind has been atrophied by the vitriol of political messiahs or the self-righteous rantings of racial propagandists. More and more, we're inclined to the view that the vitriol works more violently on those who spill it, than on the masses that are subjected to it.

Certainly race is a very large and far-reaching issue in American life. But it has not yet become quite the divisive and rancorous issue that it is made to appear. Although there are some propagandists in the North and South who would have it so, northerners do not picture southerners as members of a vast family of Snopeses feeding on the dirt and wild roots of bigotry. They will understand the story of the boy and the burning house in New York, in Milwaukee and in Detroit.

More often in high office than in southern folkways has the reputation of the South been made to suffer. To be sure, there always is a Klansman somewhere conceiving atrocities and occasionally committing one. But punishment by southern juries has become the rule rather than the exception in such cases. The Klan no longer can be regarded as a significant southern folk movement.

The grist for the northern propaganda mills comes primarily from such incidents as the firing of a veteran white school teacher for permitting a white student to ride home on a Negro school bus.

bus, the violence of a mob encouraged by the actions of a governor, the denunciation of "niggers" from campaign stumps, and the efforts of a legislature to restrict basic freedoms.

It can be argued that office holders and politicians merely reflect the views of their constituents. But they do not always reflect them accurately. Wisconsin sent Joe McCarthy to the Senate but the inflamed and reckless fanaticism he peddled could not be found in the folkways of Wisconsin. Nor was the late Sen. Theodore Bilbo accurately reflecting the morality of Mississippi when he addressed a woman of Italian descent as "My Dear Dago."

Human beings, North or South, white or colored, partake of the same strengths and weaknesses. That northerners have become convinced they are more righteous or more inclined to humaneness than southerners is too much for us to believe.

Just this week the segregationist RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH was quoting from the integrationist New York Post to demonstrate the similarity of human reactions to racial differences. In a story on Harlem, Post writer Stan Optowski remarked:

"It is strange to find intolerance in a community that has suffered so much from blind bias. Yet intolerance is there, just a mile beneath the surface. In some instances old prejudices are fading, only to be replaced by new prejudices. . . . The Negro leaders want integration with everybody. But alas, the leaders are not always followed. Some Negroes don't want integration. They have their prejudices against whites, too."

In due time, as the preachments of segregationists recede in the press and political offices, Americans who are more aware of their likeness than of their differences will compromise and settle the race issue. The brave boy in Memphis already has helped to do the job.

Upward Into A City's Wild Blue Yonder

ON the land and in the air, the Queen City is progressing quite nicely, thank you.

First came federal approval of an arrow-straight superhighway to Canton, Ohio. Now, the Civil Aeronautics Board has awarded Eastern Air Lines its long-sought nonstop flight between Charlotte and Chicago. All that remains to add symmetry to the scene is perhaps a submarine service between Morehead City and Le Havre, but, no matter, this will do as an appetizer.

The CAB's action is as welcome as the arrival of spring. The nonstop air route to the heart of the Great Lakes region is, of course, recognition of the great growth and importance of the Charlotte area. But this improvement in air service will help catapult the Queen City into even greater economic progress.

Historically, every city's progress has been geared to transportation. Civilization has depended upon it. From the

days when an animal was the chief long-haul common carrier to the present, the stability and growth of an area's industry and commerce have been linked to the adequacy of its transportation facilities.

We suspect that the airport is the foundation on which Charlotte's economic prospects will be built. Every little extra schedule, every little improvement in service, every little reduction in real estate and bottlenecks will bolster those prospects.

The new nonstop service—to begin within 60 to 90 days—is not a little contribution to progress but a big and promising one. It will be little and unpromising only if the community's builders and boosters are satisfied with it and neglect to do battle for other improvements in air service just as necessary to an expanding city's expanding requirements.

The Voices Of Spring: A Nocturne

WE sat on the porch, the two of us, and listened to the noises from inside the house. You could hear mother washing the dishes—sound carried easily in the early evening—and sister talking in her high pitched voice and baby crying when father jumped a toy playfully from his reach. Then you could hear father's quick soothing words as he tried to stop the crying and you could hear the hurt in his voice when he said, "Baby, don't cry. Don't cry. Big Boy, Daddy's just playing. Here, Baby, here." And you could hear mother's scolding voice and his answer that the child had to learn and that he had done pretty well with four others and they turned out all right.

We sat on the steps just like last year and waited for the rest and you could hear them coming before you saw them. You could hear them—a series of rappers squeaking on the newly hung screen doors, and slamming shut and voices crying, "Do you have to slam the door?"

Then they were there, four or five of them, sprawled on the curb or the steps

or on the ungrowing, damp grass and burped big suppers and laughed. And all of us who climbed to our feet for a "walk to the corner" and a voice would call out not to be "gone long now" and on every porch someone was sitting in the dim twilight and cigarettes glowed and chairs rocked and unseen faces talked lowly and the noises blended together like a chorus.

On the corner we sat on the curb again and talked and played. The big driver and counted cars and talked baseball and played with matches and talked nasty words and laughed. Later—once upon a time, it was suddenly black and only men walked the streets and voices cried out into the darkness, voices seeking boys with simple names and saving come home and they hesitated and got up and started walking back, each stopping off at different stems and cigarette walks and saying, "I'll see ya."

It wasn't very different, a voice inside you said, and it wasn't, except that spring was born again. And so were you.

John Steinbeck In The Saturday Review

'A MONKEY DRESSED IN SILK'

ONE of the most charming games in Spain and in many Spanish-speaking countries is the conversation or contest by "dichos."

The "dicho," roughly translated, is a "saying," but in Spanish it is much more than that. It is the reduction of a situation, an idea, a question or a philosophy to one short pithy sentence.

The "dicho" is comment, usually satiric, and always true. For hundreds of years the Spanish have been the unrivaled masters of the "dicho." Many of our most cherished "sayings," which we think of as our own, are really translations of older Spanish "dichos."

Here is a sampling from my collection—a small sampling. A good "dicho" man in Spain or Mexico will know many hundreds more.

A thistle is a salad in a burro's mouth.

A little pot get hot quick. The smoke of a man's own house is better than the fire of another's. He who licks his own dish can give little to his servants.

A bean which free is better than a feast in prison. Little dogs start the rabbit, but big dogs catch it.

If you wish good advice consult an old man. A monkey dressed in silk is still a monkey.

Better a burro that carries me than a horse that throws me.

When all men call you a burro, it is time to brag.

Be not a baker if your head is butter. Bananas are gold in the morning, silver at noon, lead at night.

He who has love in his heart has spurs in his sides.

How To Prevent An Economic Pearl Harbor

People's Platform

Washington

Editors, The News: The record will show that we of Freedom & Union have long insisted that depression was a more imminent danger than war and that we could no more prevent the former than the latter by purely national measures.

Surely it is time that we awakened to the fact that for the first time in history we face a great power which aims to win by fostering economic depression rather than by risking military aggression. Moscow is even more aware than we that Atlantic disunion makes for depression, and depression makes for worse disunion.

Heavy doses of inflation can normally be counted on to post-pone depression. But these are abnormal times. There are at least four neglected factors present that may cause it to fall. They may be labeled: a) inter-Atlantic chain reactions, b) deliberate Kremlin boat-rocking, c) contrivances, and d) fallacious figuring. I have only enough space here to touch on the first.

There is a time lag in these international reactions. Wall St. crashed in the fall of 1929, but the worst breaks in Europe began in Austria in May, 1931, when many thought the U. S. had turned the corner—and spread rapidly to Germany and Britain. The depression deepened much more sharply thereafter in the U. S.

The true cause why purely U. S. remedies failed then was that the economic trouble was not confined to the U. S.—nor is it now. It affects all the Atlantic democracies, but they still lack adequate machinery for common action against it. Result: it will be worsened by national remedies that are bound to conflict.

The American public has been assured for years that its economy is so strong that of that of Britain, France, Germany, etc., so relatively negligible, that the U. S. can handle any economic trouble by purely national legislation.

This assumption is as widespread now as was the assumption that the U. S. could keep out of a world war by national legislation, such as the Neutrality Act, Cash-and-Carry, etc. World War II killed this fallacy, and U. S. policy is now based on the belief that we can keep out of war only by NATO machinery permitting action by all Atlantic democracies.

lantia if there is a breakthrough in the community's smallest nation. But in the economic field similar fallacious thinking remains dominant to this day. Unless unshored in good time—and there is little time left—it will produce, I venture to say, as great a catastrophe economically as it is politically in the form of World War II. Whereas a military threat in the West tends to unite the Atlantic democracies, economic depression tends to divide them more than ever. We therefore cannot expect to improvise the means of common Atlantic action after we have suffered an economic Pearl Harbor.

We need to begin now to work through the proposed conference at the citizen level (the true summit in democracies)—the economic, political and military Atlantic Union which alone can turn the mounting tide of danger. How I cannot ask more space here, but I would be glad to give my answer to those who wish it.

—CLARENCE STREET
Editor, Freedom & Union

Columnist's Cuteness

Tortures Eye And Ear

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I WAS very much heartened to read two recent articles in the paper drawing attention to the prevalence of bad grammar, and fully agreed that television and radio announcers with insufficiently high standards were helping to make the situation still worse.

Unfortunately, I went on to read Mr. Julian Scheer's column and came to the conclusion that television and radio were not the only, nor even the worst, offenders. Miss Vanderbilts' "gonna," which she referred with such justifiable regret, appeared in company with "wanna" and the even-more-to-be-deplored "musta." Why? Are they supposed to have some special quality (other than incorrectness) that is lacking in the correctly spelled versions?

The printed word is still more powerful and lingers longer in the mind, than the spoken. It would seem even more important that newspapers be well-written than that announcers be well-spoken.

The article entitled "Let's Start Teaching Our Children Grammar" and the one called

"Teens' Best Textbook Is the Paper" are both true and timely, but hardly consistent with the practice of the article in question. Must Mr. Scheer hurt both sight and sensibility with these monstrosities?

—PHYLLIS INGRAM

Editors' Note: Our Mr. Scheer replies with a twinkle in eye and tongue in cheek: "Somma u wanna be cute at times and we kinda take liberties with the English language. I'm sorta sorry, too." Perhaps fans of Finley Peter Dunne's "Mr. Dooley" will understand what he's talking about.

How To Distinguish Between The Parties

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I SHOULD be remembered by the American people as they go to the polls in the coming congressional election that the Republican Party stemmed from the philosophy of Alexander Hamilton while the Democratic Party stemmed from the philosophy of Thomas Jefferson.

The basic difference between

Economic Pressures In U. S. Threaten Free World's Security

the two men is shown in this exchange: Mr. Hamilton: "The people, sir, are turbulent, changing. They seldom judge or deliberate aright."

Mr. Jefferson: "The years, Mr. Hamilton, have not enriched your judgment in this matter. I have unlimited faith in the people, in their common sense. I believe that human nature is indefinitely perfectible."

This is also the basic political difference between the two parties.

—ROBERT CHATTERTON

Lions And Tigers Make It A Circus

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I WAS somewhat disappointed after spending all of Saturday afternoon at the Coliseum watching some acts which were advertised as "Fish-eye" Sullivan's TV show, especially after paying exorbitant prices for this type of entertainment when you can see it free on television. No circus is a circus without lions, tigers, camels, giraffes, etc.

Sunday, when I picked up the New York Times, I was even

more disgusted when I read, "Without fanfare, scores of animals, including giraffes, lions, tigers and leopards, arrived here by train Friday from Sarasota, Fla. The animals were taken to their basement quarters at the Garden."

Evidently Charlotte and the Charlotte Coliseum do not rate a full performance from the Ringling Brothers Circus. Where should the blame be placed? On Mr. North, or Mr. Buck?

If the circus is to ever show here again, I think the people of this area should be guaranteed a circus, and not a mediocre TV performance.

—RALPH N. JONES

Give Schools Money To Do A Good Job

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I THINK the people who are doing all the complaining about public education would just give public education the money it needs to do the job there would be nothing to complain about.

—MRS. J. Z. BROWN

Here Comes Trouble

Latin Ire Aroused

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON: "YOU have taken us so long, but now that time is quickly running out."

These are the words of a distinguished Latin-American diplomat, a friend and defender of the United States. It is what some Latins have been saying for many years. But in the shadow of a devastating economic crisis in the oldest friends of the colossus of the North are asking embarrassing questions.

Last week President Eisenhower called for a further 15 per cent reduction on the voluntary import quota on foreign oil. This means a drop in the revenues of Venezuela where a struggle is on to restore democratic government following the overthrow of a corrupt dictatorship. It underscores the politics of oil, one of the deep sources of discontent.

REPERCUSSIONS

Shortly the United States Tariff Commission will decide whether tariffs should be raised on lead and zinc. The commission will in all probability recommend an increase, and this will have more explosive repercussions than the new oil quota.

The mineral countries, Chile, Peru, Bolivia and Mexico, have been suffering from the drop in commodity prices. Putting up the tariff fence to keep out their minerals would produce a shock wave of anger throughout Latin America. Yet with miners out of work in the United States, this is what the tariff commission is likely to do. The White House are such that President Eisenhower will feel he must go along.

"Thousands and thousands of families in Mexico, Peru and

Bolivia are dependent on the normal production and exportation of lead and zinc," Bolivian Ambassador Victor Andrade said in a recent speech.

"Now we are faced with the threat that a tariff may make it possible that some of those mines be able to continue operating. I cannot but sincerely be alarmed not only by the damaging impact that such a situation will bring to the economy but also by the strange feeling of distrust that may grow in large communities of our Americans, a feeling that will undoubtedly be utilized by the enemies of freedom and democracy."

In countries where coffee makes up more than 60 per cent of the dollar exports—Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala—the swift decline in coffee prices is bringing trouble. There is virtually no market for coffee in the United States and governments are trying to hold back big surpluses.

The effect of the American recession along with a perhaps inevitable decline in the world boom—is multiplied many times over south of the border. Old grievances and complaints are being revived.

"Why do you give all your aid to countries in Asia and Europe and ignore us?"—have a new urgency.

GOOD WILL

Vice President Richard M. Nixon is going on a good will tour to Latin America. Good will is nice. But as Lorelei Lee put it in "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," "A hired infidelity lasts longer than a kiss on the hand." A program of action both in North and South America, looking to remedies for these economic troubles, will have to go along with the good will.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WHEN Aled Davies, lobbyist for the meat packers, stood at the bar in the National Press Club and boasted about his close friendship with Ezra Taft Benson, he didn't do himself much good. But he did do some good for the American public.

Bill McGiffin of the Chicago Daily News promptly wrote a story about Davies' boast even though Davies made big noises about having McGiffin bounced from the Press Club.

Friend Of Meat Packers

The farmers who look to Benson for support hadn't entirely realized before that Ezra is more the friend of the meat packer and big processor than he is of the dirt farmer. His close friend Davies, for instance, Bill introduced by the senator from Wyoming to transfer anti-trust jurisdiction over the meat packers to the

Federal Trade Commission. O'Mahoney knows the housewife will get little protection from Benson's Agriculture Department, so he wants the Federal Trade Commission to act instead. Davies is opposing the transfer.

Steers Are Clubbed

Davies is also the lobbyist working to stop the Humane Slaughter Bill, already passed by the House of Representatives, then to Congressman Martha Griffiths of Michigan. This bill would require hogs and steers to be given a quick dose of gas before they are hammered on the head in the packing houses. In some cases dazed steers, cowering on the head but not killed, go careening around the slaughterhouse before they are finally butchered.

Lobbyist Davies has been working with the Republican members of the Senate Agriculture Committee to hold extensive hearings on this bill even though hear-

ings were held two years ago. So far Sen. Allen Ellender of Louisiana, chairman, has hung back on taking action.

Benson Is Hesitant

Meanwhile, Secretary Benson is reported a bit hesitant about his earlier plan to appoint his friend Davies as a delegate to the British Food Fair Aug. 20-Sept. 11 in London. Last year Davies went as a representative to the American Meat Institute, but this year Benson was planning to make him an official delegate of the Agriculture Department. The White House are such that President Eisenhower will feel he must go along.

Caribbean Carousel

Some Congressmen want to know whether dictator Trujillo of the Dominican Republic is using American money to finance a home for deformed dictators. Trujillo is now host to Peron

of Argentina, Jimenez of Venezuela, and Kerebat of Haiti. . . . The Dominican dictator is reported most interested in the least known of the trio, Brig. Gen. Anthonio Kerebat, who was kicked out of neighboring Haiti recently by President Francois Duvalier. Trujillo is reported amenable to financing a Kerebat-led revolt against the democratic Haitian government. . . . President Duvalier is concerned over the bad publicity Haiti's hired infidelity has received in this country. The list includes John Roosevelt, Republican son of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Charlie Willis, former Eisenhower aide, who married the daughter of tier king Harry Firstmore, Doug Whitlock, who helped arrange President Eisenhower's inaugural celebration for the Republican National Committee; Wesley Roberts, ex-Republican National Chairman who was booted out after an exposure of his lobbying activities in Kansas.

