



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Cut - Rate Leadership? No Thanks

MECKLENBURG County is a \$10-million-a-year business with 288,000 individual stockholders. Yet it pays its top executive an annual salary of \$9,000, less than the more successful plumbers make.

Private enterprise wouldn't hear of it, of course. It learned several centuries ago that men in positions of great responsibility must be compensated for their knowledge and ability.

The enterprise directed by the chairman of Mecklenburg's Board of County Commissioners is not private. It is big business, nevertheless, and it requires both scrupulousness and skill for successful operation.

The state of politics being what it is, the suggestion that the job be even worse paid than it is at present may come as no particular shock. But we respectfully submit that the proposal's low shock value does not make it any the worthier.

In surveying the future and in considering the possibility that good men will not always be willing to occupy posts of Mecklenburg's most responsible posts for peanuts, citizens ought to be thinking about raising the salary rather than cutting it.

The job of chairman of the Board of

County Commissioners, as it is presently set up, should always attract the best administrator Mecklenburg can find. One does not have to consider deeply the problem of effective administration to become convinced that major advances in good government can ultimately arise only from its conduct by exceedingly able and intelligent leaders. Such men are not always to be had for peanuts.

In other areas, low pay for top jobs in industry and county governments has actually served as an invitation to corruption—a horror Mecklenburg has been thankfully free of in recent times. The good Lord has just been good to us.

The greatest problem government faces is the problem of getting and keeping good men. Government needs the best, not the second best, the castoffs, the know-nothings, the crooks. We must make the posts so attractive, so dignified, so free of frustrations that they will attract the best.

Mainly, we have got to dispose of the bland assumption that the best jobs in government can always be had like so many jugs, by turning on a tap.

To insure that Mecklenburg will always have good leadership, the county's 288,000 stockholders will have to pay what good leadership is worth.

Truth Wins When It Is In The Race

THE Soviet is making such obvious gains in its current "peace" offensive that the administration no longer attempts to put a good face on U. S. defaults in the field of propaganda and information.

The President termed the Kremlin's nuclear test "ban" a gimmick not to be taken seriously, much in the same manner as he had reacted to the first Russian Sputnik. As with the Sputnik, the administration had sufficient warning and time to act, but decided to do nothing. The result, as even Secretary Dulles concedes, is that this latest "gimmick" is making an impact on the Kremlin.

Highly profitable to the Kremlin has been lagged about admitting the obvious. Some weeks ago he said the Soviet probably was selling bad goods better than the U. S. was selling good policies. He followed this up by likening outer space research to the despotic exhibitionism that led to the building of the pyramids, and suggesting that the U. S. retire from the race to the moon and let the Soviet have the propaganda spoils.

The truth is, of course, that the satellites have their "gimmicky" aspects and that the Soviet nuclear test ban is a pure and simple fraud. And it is an article of American faith that truth will win out in the end. But the verb "win" implies a contest, and it cannot be said that the administration, which used to talk so much about waging psychological warfare against the Soviet, is engaged in the contest to any meaningful degree.

The administration considered and decided against beating the Soviet to the punch by announcing a U. S. ban on further tests. It pointed to the limited radioactive wastes, the "clean" bomb, the devices it will test this month, and also underscored the fact that the Soviet had just completed a series of tests before announcing its ban.

But while attempting to enhance the good aspects of the "clean" bomb, the U. S. told the world nothing about the terrific dirtiness of the weapons involved in the Soviet test. Writes News columnist Marquis Childs:

"So effective is the system of detection works set up by the Western nations under American leadership that every detail of the . . . tests conducted by the Russians is known. We know exactly where the tests were conducted. We know the yield of radioactive fallout they sent into the atmosphere. We know the chemical makeup of the weapons tested and the exact number. But all this information is labeled secret . . ."

A report on the way the Soviet poisoned the atmosphere just before assuming the guise of humanitarianism could have had a sobering effect on the growing popular demand—even in the free nations—that the West unilaterally and without safeguards stop nuclear testing.

The President said he could have been mistaken in deciding to do nothing about the Soviet propaganda coup.

There doesn't seem much doubt about that.

Charlotte Salutes A Victorious Warrior

BY what chemistry fear and helplessness can be converted into energy and resourcefulness, no one can really say. But Charlotte's Frank Phillips seemed to have the formula during his 18 years as chairman of the Mecklenburg County Chamber of Commerce and National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

He stepped down last night amid much sadness and many tributes. We share the sadness and we would only say that the tributes were perhaps a bit inadequate for so fine a leader in so great a cause. But, more important, we hope he leaves his magic formula behind for others to use against whatever menace the health and happiness of the community in the future.

Truly, Mr. Phillips was one of North Carolina's sturdiest warriors in the battle against paralytic polio. He knew, first-hand, the darkest days of all—the epidemics of 1944 and 1948; the inter-

mittant flare-ups before and since, the years in which there were so many to help and so little money. There were happier years, too, such as 1955 when the Salk vaccine offered the first burst of hope to a waiting world.

He labored long and well and imaginatively and his labors benefited countless numbers of people, both little and large. Personal satisfaction was his only reward.

It was a job well done. He richly deserves the community's salute.

Life In America

A FLORIDA inventor has developed a toy knife that spurs a red liquid, according to the New York Post.

"This user will derive additional pleasure from the realistic effect of bleeding," says the manufacturer.

From The Manchester Guardian

THE HISTORY OF TOOTHACHE

JADED television might envy the cave man his carefree evenings—the family squabbling round the fire, grunting while they watch father tearing off mammoth steak with his own teeth. It all sounds very bracing and healthy. A recent article in the BRITISH DENTAL JOURNAL, however, throws quite a different light on the picture. It is a survey of the incidence of dental caries in geological and prehistoric times, and the first thing that strikes one after reading it is that father, if he had any teeth at all, could never have got through that steak without howls of pain.

The earliest human caries on record (and surely the most painful) belong to the skull of Rhodesian Man. Fifteen teeth were found, ten of them carious, and many showing signs of root abscesses. By Neolithic times things were a little better; perhaps there were primitive dentists then, with drills of twisted string and bone, and a hefty club in the corner of the cave in case anyone asked

for an anesthetic. A recent report that early Red Indian teeth have been found with perfectly preserved cement fillings seems to bear this theory out, and in some prehistoric Greek skulls some of the teeth have obviously been extracted. The ancient Greeks, in fact, appear to have been in a worse state than anyone else at the time, far worse than the savage ancients. Britons? Twenty-two skulls found at Colfurn, Kent, show no signs of decay at all. One feels it must have been the climate or something to do with the climate.

Business prophet says recession is going "to sift the men from the boys" among young executives, and probably among business prospects, too.—RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER.

"The earth is mostly hollow," says a pseudo-geologist. He is undoubtedly mistaken. We just went outside and thumped it, and it sounded quite solid.—JACKSON (Miss.) STATE TIMES.

THE DECLINE OF AMERICAN INFLUENCE

'We Sound Like Old Codgers Talking About The Past'

By WALTER LIPPMAN

NEW YORK

TRAVELING about in Europe as I have been doing, it has become obvious that there is a great decline in American influence. The immediate cause of it is, no doubt, the feebleness of the President's role in world affairs, and its accompaniment, perhaps its inevitable accompaniment—the negativism of Secretary Dulles. But what I learned in Scandinavia, in Poland, in Germany, in Britain and France, persuaded me that the compelling cause of the decline of our influence is that the American view of the main European issues is becoming out of date, is being bypassed by events, and that when we talk about Europe, and Germany, and the captive states and Russia, we sound rather like old codgers talking about the past.

MEMORY OF WAR

I became most aware of this as I began to realize how very different is the official American view of Germany from what one finds virtually everywhere in Europe. We have been taking it for granted that the hope of the future in Europe turns on the reunification and revival of Germany. The truth is, as I found it, that the World War is not forgotten, indeed that the memory of it is reviving, and that to understand the European situation as a whole it is necessary to take account of this growing fear of German domination. The spectacle of West Germany's economic recovery plus the growing knowledge that there is also a remarkable recovery in East Germany have revived the remem-



The Same Old Story?

brance of the war and played a very big part in affairs.

I had not realized this before I went abroad this time. Always until then I had believed that Germany, even if reunited, was too small to be a world power again. What I had failed to realize is that all things are relative, and that relative to the rest of Europe—excluding the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R.—a reunited Germany would now be the foremost power. In London as in Warsaw and in the neutralist countries as well, there is a deep anxiety that this powerful reunited Germany would become the ally of either the U.S.A. or the U.S.S.R., or that it would hold the balance of power between them.

FEAR OF GERMANY

The practical effect of this is that it is hard to find anyone who does not want to put off as long as possible the reunion of the two Germanies. This works out in a curious way. Those who are affiliated with the West cling publicly and officially to the

Dulles-Adenauer formula of free elections to unify Germany. This is not because they believe in the formula but because they know that Germany cannot be unified under that formula. Those who are affiliated with the East support the Russians in German affairs, counting on the Russians to protect them against a reunited Germany. There is no doubt at all, it seems to me, that Poland, for example, longs for the withdrawal of the Red Army and yet, out of fear of Germany, hopes that until there is some other kind of settlement of the German question, the Russians will stay in East Germany.

ANTIQUATED POLICY

It is in West Germany that the official American-German policy seems particularly antiquated. Whatever their neighbors may fear from them, the great mass of West Germans are not dreaming of domination by a united Germany. They are working for a united Germany. Some are worrying because they

fear a revival of German nationalism, many more because a united Germany would probably be predominantly Socialist, others because it would be extremely difficult to integrate the collective economy of Eastern Germany and the capitalist economy of Western Germany.

NEGOTIATIONS

For reasons like these, the Adenauer-Dulles formula has a fading role among the Germans. Few expect the formula to work, and few really want to see it. What we are going to see, it seems to me, is an unfortunately only the Russians have had the wit to suggest—negotiations between the two German governments. As a matter of fact, the Russians are already negotiating the currency and about trade, all of it nominally at a technical rather than at a political level. These negotiations will almost certainly broaden greatly into some which might one day take the form of a dual state.

The West Germans will not

break with the Western powers and the East Germans will not break with the Soviet Union. They will seek to obtain the practical advantages of reunion without the serious political and psychological disadvantages.

This process in the two Germanies will, I am convinced, promote and will be accompanied by a shunting off of the military forces in Germany and in Central Europe. There is every reason to believe that the future of Central Europe lies with the principle of disengagement. But the application of the principle will be gradual, and the full application of it may not come for a great many more years than anyone can calculate about.

THREE YEARS

These developments will, I believe, have a very acquired great momentum in about three years. I say three years because at the end of that time Adenauer is not likely to be in power, and the post-war governments in Britain, France and the United States. Put another way, the post-war governments will have been replaced and with them the post-war policies which are now rapidly becoming antiquated.

The decline of American influence in Europe will, I believe, continue as long as our fundamental conception of the future in the two Germanies and in the two camps of the illusions and stereotypes which the Eisenhower administration inherited from the Truman administration. For they belong to an era when the balance of power and the technology of the arms race were what they are quite different.

The 'Beat' Generation Needs A Good Kick In The Pants

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I WAS reading some pieces the other day on what is known as the "Beat Generation"—the boy-and-girl disenchanted as posed to the actual young hoodlums.

These are the typical types who consider themselves lost—maybe that should go in quotes—"Lost"—unless they are playing hobo, reciting poetry to groups, writing bad books that seldom see

a publisher's light, writing worse plays, smoking marijuana, listening to jazz that must be "cool," seldom shaving, rarely washing, always including in fraudulent intellectuality and what another generation used to call "free love."

Mostly the old Greenwich Village-Soho-Left Bank type is undeterred by talent, which is maybe what makes them so, or beat. Occasionally a writer of talent, or a musician of note, might climb out

of the clutter, but largely what they create is garbage. Their unpublished symphonies, their thoughts on "life," their refusal to "conform to society," their impossible paintings, all seem more predicated on lack of talent than real rebellion. They wallow in the sordid as subject matter, which is all right if you draw with Hogarthian skill or write as well as James Joyce. But these people seem to want NOT to achieve anything that is acceptable to the world of clean necks and hot water.

When they explain their frenetic search for "kicks," whether it's drag-racing or chicken-dance or hooters or marijuana or just plain vagrancy, nothing comes out. A man will be an occasional dishwasher for fun when he could possibly work for his kicks. The current High Priest of the Beat Cult, one Jack Kerouac, wrote a book called "On the Road" which was not much more than a candid admission that he had been on the bum for six years.

POET MADMEN

He is quoted as saying that "he was hopping freight, hitch-hiking, working as railroad brakeman, deckhand, and scullion on merchant ships and government work, and he's still either beat, delinquent, or downright hoodlum—for kicks."

It's a good word—"kick." And where the whole sniveling lot needs a kick is right in the pants.

'As I Was Saying, We're Not Going To Lose Our Shirt'



they are defeated by, or for what reason, anymore than I ever understood lost generations and existentialism and the kind of cut of Colin Wilson's and John Osborne's in London. All I gather is that they're mad at something, like to wear high-necked sweaters, avoid haircuts, and talk tofly.

Mostly the old Greenwich Village-Soho-Left Bank type is undeterred by talent, which is maybe what makes them so, or beat. Occasionally a writer of talent, or a musician of note, might climb out of the clutter, but largely what they create is garbage.

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People's Platform

Voters Asked Back To Democratic Fold

Editors, The News: Charlotte
TO the voters of the Tenth District, and particularly the Democratic voters of Mecklenburg County: What have you in your credit for switching your vote three times in succession? It is the condition of the Charlotte and Mecklenburg County today. Six thousand on the walking list.

Is that honorable? Do you claim any honor for marking your ballot on the wrong side? If you think you exercised one ounce of good judgment I would not want you on the judges' benches today. You will have another chance to redeem yourself on May 31 in

the Democratic Primary. Go to the polls once again and vote the good Democratic way so you can say to your friends that you have returned from the wild and woolly. Be yours! Let's put the majority in power again.

We Democrats believe you feel badly about the way you've been misled. You have missed your head and heart have missed your feet, and many are feeling bad in their seats. So, let's get it right, never too late to do yourself some good, as well as your fellow men and women. . . . —S. C. VAUGHN

Quote, Unquote

"I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as what direction we are moving. — Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
U.S. experts on public opinion admit privately that Moscow scored the No. 1 propaganda victory of the year with the announcement of a unilateral ban of H-bomb tests. It almost equals the No. 1 victory of last year—launching the Sputnik.

The Moscow announcement, coming on top of the steady drumbeat of Bulgarian notes urging a summit conference and the banning of missile bases in Europe, more than ever has pictured Russia as a warmonger, pictured Russia as the disciple of peace.

Inside Story

The real inside story of how badly the United States muffed the ball on banning H-bomb tests is known only to a few people. As early as Sept. 11, 1956, President Eisenhower and the National Security Council had decided to propose more or less what Moscow proposed this

week—a ban on H-bomb tests. What actually happened at the Sept. 11, 1956 meeting was that Secretary of State Dulles urged a moratorium on the nuclear tests, pointing out that it would win friends for us abroad, would give the diplomatic initiative, would help convince the world that we are more peace-loving than Moscow.

Stassen Agreed

Harold Stassen immediately agreed with Dulles, Secretary of Defense Wilson and Adm. Lewis Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, did not. They warned that Russia might violate any agreement, would test small atomic weapons. They admitted we could detect all large explosions.

In the final voting, Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey concurred with Dulles, and the President finally did so. As is customary in National Security Council meetings, the decision was made

unanimous. Though final details were to be worked out later, the tentative plan was to ask Russia to join in suspending H-bomb tests for one year as a "peace experiment." This was to be coupled with a "moral agreement" to outlaw the international ballistic missile in the same manner poison gas has been outlawed.

Ike Reverses Ike

Approximately one week later, Ike's political advisers warned that Adlai Stevenson had made speeches as early as April, 1956, proposing the end of H-bomb tests, and that he had made an other full-dress proposal in early September. The advisers urged that it would be a political mistake to play into Stevenson's hands by going ahead with the Security Council's decision of Sept. 11.

Eisenhower then reversed himself. On Sept. 19 he came out with a vigorous

statement attacking Stevenson's H-bomb proposal as "a theatrical gesture." In speech after speech following this, Eisenhower attacked the Stevenson proposal as political grandstanding. He made it clear he didn't consider Stevenson qualified to discuss atomic energy.

Angry Lecture

On Oct. 28, the President stormed into the National Security Council meeting and angrily lectured them about leaks. He said he had been told that the Sept. 11 decision regarding H-bomb tests had become known to people outside the council, and as a result he was ordering a full investigation.

On Oct. 29, this column queried the White House whether the Security Council had made a decision and then reversed itself. The reply was "no comment." A day or two later, four Democratic senators made the same inquiry and got a categorical denial.