



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON President and Publisher
BRODIE S. GRUFFITT General Manager
ROBERT H. LAMPE Advertising Director
MICHAEL PRINCE Editor
FRANK MORGAN Associate Editor
R. L. YOUNG JR. Managing Editor

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1958

Charlotte Needs That Detention Home

CHARLOTTE and Mecklenburg County can contribute handsomely to the community's social health this week simply by resolving to go ahead with construction of a desperately needed juvenile detention home.

The stage is finally set for action after years of nagging dissension and political pugnacity. The go-ahead sign must be given by the City Council and County Commissioners if both bodies are to fulfill long overdue obligations.

Low bids totaling \$36,915 were received last week, thus completing another tortuous lap in a seemingly endless effort to get the project off the drawing boards. Earlier plans called for the expenditure of \$140,000. The City Council dutifully voted its share a year ago. County Commissioners rejected the plans as "too costly," however, canceling out all of the work that had been

accomplished since 1956 by a joint committee.

It has taken a year to redesign the project to the commissioners' tastes, keeping it under a \$100,000 ceiling. The new design is not all that it should be but it is a start. Mecklenburg has lagged behind the times too long in failing to provide this civic necessity, a temporary shelter for youths in trouble. It is essential that the home be built and built now. The need is great and it is immediate.

County Commissioners will have the contracts before them when they hold their regular meeting tomorrow. City Councilmen are scheduled to consider them on Wednesday.

It is important to the entire community that they be given prompt and favorable attention.

City's Economic Optimism Is Intact

THE enormous success of Charlotte's 1958 Chamber of Commerce membership drive still had the soothsayers of sorrow wagging their heads incredulously today. What it represented was a triumphant affirmation of the community's economic confidence.

There had actually been some Gloom-Gus talk about the possibility of membership shrinkage as a result of a larger psychological shrinkage of the Queen City's characteristic optimism. Instead, new memberships poured into Chamber offices at a snail-cracking clip, showing the organization's total membership to well over 3,000.

A great deal of the credit belongs to old members who served so well on the recruiting teams. But their unusual success—far above anyone's expectations—indicated that the morale in Charlotte's business and professional community is higher than the pessimists cared to concede.

Handy & The Blues: A Partnership

THE sentimentalists who buried the blues with W. C. Handy last week underestimated both the music and the master.

Handy didn't invent the blues. He just took the simple 12-bar patterns that others created on the plantations, chain gangs, levee camps and railroads and urbanized them. Actually, his touch, so commercially professional that they recall that Handy's famous MEMPHIS BLUES began life as a campaign jingle for Boss Ed Crump in a mayoralty race:

Mr. Crump don't 'low no easy riders here,
Crumpy don't 'low no easy riders here,
We don't care what Mr. Crump don't 'low,
We gonna bar' house anyhow,
Mr. Crump can go catch hisself some air.

Handy's handiness with traditional folk material was truly masterful. He was not beyond borrowing people melodies. His LOVELESS LOVE is a good example. Its similarity to CARELESS LOVE, one of the oldest folk songs extant, is anything but coincidental. Handy merely took the ancient 12-bar lament, also known as KELLY'S LOVE, a pregnancy song, and blended it with his own 12-bar verse to produce a new (1921) popular song.

This is not to argue that Handy was not truly creative within the framework of an ancient and honorable form. He was. There is clear proof of that in what Louis Armstrong likes to call the "good old good ones." ST. LOUIS BLUES, YELLOW DOG BLUES, CHANTRE-

LES BAS, ATLANTA BLUES and the wonderful BEALE STREET BLUES.

But he was expressing, in new terms, folk music. Abbe Niles points out in her foreword to A TREASURY OF THE BLUES that Handy's object in writing his music was "to speak in the language of the folk singers—meaning not only their words but turns of thought, but the musical language."

The blues—partly because of Handy's efforts and partly in spite of them—left a large mark on that broad field loosely defined as "popular" music. The blues formed the very lifeblood of American jazz. Even the determinedly avant-garde practitioners drew inspiration from them. A considerable part of the music of Charlie Parker, high priest of the modernists, was blues-based. The blues today are recognizable elements of the compositions and performances of Jimmy Giuffre, John Lewis, George Russell and Thelonious Monk. They are still interpreted with appropriate gusto by Louis Armstrong, Lester Young, Henry Allen, Jack Teagarden, Roy Eldridge, Sidney Bechet and many others of a more rustic bent. They have even been utilized, less authoritatively, in some of the classical compositions of George Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland and Gunther Schuller. They have at least excited the curiosity of Maurice Ravel, Claude Debussy and Igor Stravinsky. And, to the utter dismay of the jazz purists, the blues form the structural basis for much rock 'n' roll.

Handy, the blues innovator and curator, is gone and we share the nation's grief. But the blues live on. They have simply become a part of the musical culture of America.

From The Greenville Piedmont

TRAVELING WITH THE CINDERS

WITH the passing of the railroad's steam engine, a picturesque era in travel comes to an end. Future generations will be as unfamiliar with the old-time railroad engine as the present generation is with sailing ships and exhort travel.

Train travel around the turn of the century was a vast improvement on the stage coach of the early 19th century, but it was far from the pleasant experience of present-day riding the rails.

When we packed our valises and telephones to go to college, we stowed them under the buggy seat for the drive to the depot. Arriving at our little station, we were soon in the midst of a crowd. Folks from the country were bringing their girls to start them off to college, a sprinkling of boys were assembled with their trunks and bags and everybody seemed to leave for college the same day.

We piled on board and the small cars with plush-covered seats were grand. We didn't mind the stifling atmosphere of the soiled seat covers. There was no such thing as keeping neat and clean when traveling by train then. No matter how diligently the porter might wield

his broom and feather duster, he never could get rid of cinders and grime.

In some of the old-fashioned coaches there were little coal stoves for heating, and sand boxes for the chugging cinders.

With much clanking and grinding, switching back and forth and musical bell ringing, we were off, to the accompaniment of loud whistling for clearing the tracks. The windows remained raised much of the way except in freezing weather and soon the air was full of cinders. Cinders on the face and in the mouth were bad enough, but when a cinder landed in the eye, here was discomfort for a long period.

The musical voice of the colored brakeman or the porter as he came through the coach to call out the stations is something sadly missing in this era of the loudspeaker with mechanical calls.

A speaker was talking to a bunch of teenagers about the old days of the West and got around to the Kid.

"He killed 21 men before he was 21 years old," the speaker said.

"What make of car did he drive?" a young girl asked—FORT MYERS (F.L.A.) News-Press.

Administration-Sponsored Tax Slash Is A Mere Mirage

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON
AMERICA'S durable wise man, Bernard M. Baruch, has boldly spoken the words in public that are having very great influence on the Eisenhower administration in private. Even now, he has said, inflation is a greater danger than depression, and it will continue to be the greater danger until prices come down.

The really Draconian Baruch prescriptions—an actual increase of taxes to cover the prospective rise in federal spending, for instance—have no visible support in the Eisenhower economic high command. But the basic Baruch order of priorities has very strong support indeed.

WAIT-AND-SEE MOOD

For this very reason, the happy vision of a big, administration-sponsored federal tax cut is expected to prove a mere mirage, at least for the month of April. The word now is that the White House will cling to its wait-and-see policy until May produces a new crop of statistics on the American economy's springtime



Anderson, Burns And Baruch: A Game Of Wait-And-See

performance. If the May figures are at all encouraging, the tax cut stimulant will probably be withheld again. This negative forecast is surprising because a big tax cut seemed so certain only a few weeks ago. It also tends to be hedged with one big "if."

On the one hand, the administration's proponents of a prompt

tax cut are just as convinced as ever that the economy needs a prompt pickup. They have mobilized important allies, such as the President's former chief economic advisor, Dr. Arthur Burns, who was in Washington during the weeks to press his views upon Secretary of the Treasury Anderson. The tax-cutters have been and will be good soldiers. They will

accept the President's April decision, as they accepted his March decision, without grumbling. But when the decision has to be made, Secretary of Labor Mitchell, Vice President Nixon and the other tax-cutters will speak their pieces at the council table, with such additional authority as Dr. Burns and others like him may mean while have given them.

GRASS ROOTS TALK

On the other hand, there is one source from which the tax-cutters can perhaps derive very great authority indeed. The senators and representatives have been at home during the Easter recess to conduct their customary examination of the grass roots. The powerful and able chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Wilbur Mills, has already made one test among the Arkansas homefolks, and he reports no great demand for tax-cutting.

But many other senators and representatives may return from the grass roots with the report that their constituents are in a fever about bad times, and want a tax-cut right now. In that case, Speaker Rayburn and Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson may have to inform Secretary of the Treasury Anderson that they must take action on their own, despite their agreement with him to wait for the administration. Or, indeed, the President may decide to bow to

the sentiment in Congress. Right there, is the big tax-cut "if."

As of now, however, if you consider the situation inside the administration itself, the tax-cutters place little chance of persuading the wait-and-see factions of the need for action in April.

The figures on the economy's performance in March are certainly not encouraging. The final statistics will show a rise in employment, coupled with a rise of 10,000 to 20,000 in the number of those having jobs. Normally, March should show a seasonal increase in the employment total of about 200,000; and the very slight increase in the March total is really far less significant than the failure, by a wide margin, to achieve the month's normal seasonal job rise.

All the same, the White House staff is eagerly pointing out that the President only said he was considering the issue of "job opportunities" in March. Literally, therefore, events are said to have confirmed the President's prediction at the famous press conference which gave the impression that emergency action to stimulate the economy would be taken if the March showing proved to be poor.

This word-picking and hair-splitting in turn conceal a perfectly serious viewpoint, of which the President himself and Secretary of the Treasury Anderson appear to be the chief advocates. At the council table in brief, this is the view, based on the Baruch priorities, that prices have got to be moved downwards unless the business depression is to be transformed into a serious inflation, taking off from the present high price level and spurred by a heavily unbalanced budget.

BETTING CHANCES

In recent weeks, moreover, both the White House and the Treasury have been additionally spurred by the higher estimates of the rate of cash expenditures in the next fiscal year that are coming in from the departments, and especially from Defense. So the betting, which used to be for an April tax cut, has now changed sharply.

'By The Way, Don't Expect 100 Per Cent Cooperation'



Midwestern Democrats Like Adlai But Kennedy's Rising

By DORIS FLEESON

CHICAGO
MIDWEST Democrats are rejecting the suggestion that the trend to their party makes it possible for Adlai Stevenson to run again and win, but they like, too, their frequent glimpse this spring of Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

With one surprising exception, organization politicians, including those of his home state of Illinois, show less enthusiasm for Stevenson than people generally. The exception is Wisconsin, and it is surprising because Stevenson did not enter the Wisconsin primary against Estes Kefauver in 1956.

But important Democrats of that state, interviewed by the Milwaukee Journal, gave Stevenson more votes as their favorite for the 1960 nomination than anyone else. This favor is perhaps somewhat dimmed by the comment from one of them that Wisconsin is the all-time champion of losers at the national conventions of both parties.

The Journal survey also showed that Wisconsin Democrats now think Kennedy has the best chance for the nomination. This follows the Republican pattern in the same survey, GOP leaders naming Sen. William F. Knowland as their choice but saying they expected Vice President Richard M. Nixon to prevail.

CROWD-PLEASER

Kennedy is seeing far more people and doing far more favors for the state organizations of the Midwest than any other Democratic hopeful. He attracts good crowds, and there is very conspicuously a great deal of public interest in what he is like and what he says.

Timidity about the issue of his religion appears more frequently among Catholics than Protestants. Some Catholics say frankly they don't want to go through "the Al Smith thing" again. Protestants generally say they think it will not greatly influence the decision.

Despite the hospitality of the Midwest and its applause, Kennedy has handicaps to overcome in the area. He cast a major vote on farm policy which is unpopular there, his religion still is shown by his recent vote

with his party to freeze farm price supports.

Midwest Democrats tend to take liberal positions and will join with the Mountain and Pacific Coast States to make their weight felt in the next national convention. Very important voices among them have not forgiven Kennedy for failing to take a position on the controversial issue of McCarthyism. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke for these people when in a magazine article recently she ruled out Kennedy as the nominee on this score.

TOKEN LOYALTY

The same group insists that it finds no strong evidence that the Kennedy record of more token loyalty to the liberal social and economic policies of the last two Democratic presidents. Unpopularity is occasionally expressed about the amount of money he is spending.



SEN. JOHN KENNEDY Doubt In The Rank

Exploring The Darkness

Moons, Men And Memories

By ERIC SEVAREID

CBS Radio News Analyst

WASHINGTON
THIS is the first warm and balmy night of the year in these parts. The first frogs are singing; altogether this is hardly the night for whispering sweet sentiments about the reciprocal trade act, the extension thereof. But since we are confined by tradition to the contemplation of public themes and issues, let us contemplate the moon. The lovely and luminous moon has become a public issue. For quite a few thousand years it was a private issue; it figured in purely bilateral negotiations between lovers, in the incantations of jungle witch-doctors and Indian corn planters.

Poets from attic windows issued the statements about the moon, and they made better reading than the mimeographed handouts now being issued by assistant secretaries of defense. HOW TIMES CHANGE The moon was always measured in terms of hope and reassurance and the heart pangs of unrequited love. In his chimp suit and space helmet, however, he is now measured in terms of miles. We find it very easy to wait for the first photographs of the other side of the moon; for we have not yet seen the other side of Lake Louise or the Blue Ridge peak that shows through the cabin window. We find ourselves quite undisturbed about the front page talk of "controlling the earth from the moon," because we do not believe it. If neither men nor gadgets nor both combined can control the earth from the earth, we fail to see how they will do so from the moon.

CLEAN HANDS It is exciting talk, indeed, the talk of man's advance toward space. But one little step in man's advance toward man—that we, we're getting off now. Cheer, if you wish, the first general or Ph.D. who splatters something on the kindly face of the moon. We shall grieve for him, for ourselves, for the young lovers and poets and dreamers to come, for the ancient moon will never be the same again. Therefore, we suspect, the heart of man will never be the same.

We find it very easy to wait for the first photographs of the other side of the moon; for we have not yet seen the other side of Lake Louise or the Blue Ridge peak that shows through the cabin window. We find ourselves quite undisturbed about the front page talk of "controlling the earth from the moon," because we do not believe it. If neither men nor gadgets nor both

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THE reason why President Eisenhower didn't move in advance of the Russian propaganda juggernaut to counter the Gromyko announcement of ending H-bomb tests was quite simple but very depressing.

Damaging Admission

He and John Foster Dulles considered an announcement that Russia had just staged the biggest H-bomb tests in history. But to do this would have required a damaging admission that Russia was far ahead of us.

In his chimp suit and space helmet, however, he is now measured in terms of miles. We find it very easy to wait for the first photographs of the other side of the moon; for we have not yet seen the other side of Lake Louise or the Blue Ridge peak that shows through the cabin window.

However, U. S. defense posts stationed around the rim of the Iron Curtain have picked up the following ex-

remely accurate but depressing facts:

1—Russia tested three hydrogen warheads for use on intermediate and intercontinental ballistic missiles.

2—Russia tested five atomic warheads in the air.

3—One of these was exploded at an altitude of 60 miles—10 times higher than the United States has ever exploded an atomic bomb.

The Real Thing

Main fact about these Russian tests is that they used live warheads on long-range missiles. For if one went out of control at Cape Canaveral, it might blow up the cities of Orlando, Miami, Rio de Janeiro et al. The Russians apparently have their long-range missiles so perfected that they were not afraid to test live warheads.

Last May they tested an intercontinental

ballistic missile from the Arctic to the Sea of Okhotsk, about 3,200 miles, with considerable accuracy. But it had a dummy warhead. Last month live warheads were used.

Unfortunately our warheads for long-range missiles won't be tested until this month in the Pacific, so Eisenhower and Dulles, after long debate, decided they couldn't come out and tell the American people that we were this far behind Russia.

Farming Under Benson

The Agriculture Department has now admitted it burned 2,500 curries of a reefer in a full-time job in town. Meanwhile, Sen. James Murray of Montana has been studying another of Benson's reports on "Keeping Them On The Farm," which was burned. In this will still have your wife's pay to buy some groceries and clothing.

of Floyd Berry of Choctaw County, Oklahoma, who operates a 280-acre farm. "Get your wife a full-time job in town. If you are lucky, the husband's in-town wages will pay the losses resulting from farming under Benson and you will still have your wife's pay to buy some groceries and clothing."

Formula For Farming

"This is the formula for successful farming under Benson," commented Sen. Murray. "Get your wife a full-time job in town. If you are lucky, the husband's in-town wages will pay the losses resulting from farming under Benson and you will still have your wife's pay to buy some groceries and clothing."