



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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MONDAY, MAY 26, 1958

Charlotte Is Prepared For The Future

AFTER less than nine months of limited racial desegregation in Charlotte's schools, a pattern of progress in social adjustment is already apparent.

More and more, the public is moving toward a realistic acceptance of the facts of constitutional life. With many it is neither a happy nor a willing acceptance. Charlotteans are, after all, involved in something that is entirely new and strange. Old emotional landmarks have been torn down. But, for the most part, Charlotteans are adjusting to new ones with unusual grace and dignity.

When the City School Board approved its 1958-59 pupil assignment rules last week, there was no discernible discontent in the community. Yet these were essentially the same procedures which the board adopted last year. Limited desegregation followed in September at four city schools.

Last week there was only silence. Why?

It may well be that a valuable lesson has been learned. It is that the City School Board acted last year to preserve the public schools of this community when it admitted qualified Negro students to several previously all-white schools. North Carolina's Pupil Assignment Law permits the local school board to retain local control over admissions. It removes the risk of massive, court-decreed integration which today threatens Virginia. It allows a community such as Charlotte to act in honesty and good

Some Republicans Say Ike's Exit Would 'Help' Party

By ROWLAND EVANS JR.

Editors' Note: While Joseph Alsop is touring the trouble-spots of Europe, Africa and Asia, he has commissioned Rowland Evans Jr. to keep an eye on the Washington base for him. This is the first of his periodic reports on the national scene.

from a hotly partisan Democrat like Paul Butler, the Democratic national chairman, who has been regularly hining at a dark plot of resignation. The President has on occasion publicly repudiated the idea.

But one may presume that something more than Mr. Butler is involved when the President takes pains to denounce the rumor mongers in intimate conversation with his Republican associates, as he is now doing. In the opinion of some influential Republicans, what has happened is that the President is just now becoming fully aware of the extent of the resignation talk among members of his own party. What is now disturbing him, in short, appears to be not the well-publicized Butler forecasts but the quiet, speculative conversations that never get printed and that are based on a political situation wholly unique in American history.

IS IT NONSENSE?

It goes without saying, of course, that to many Republicans it is nonsense and worse to discuss the possibility of the President resigning for any reason other than physical necessity. The President's retirement, they hold, would be an affront to millions of Americans who voted for him.

To others, however, the Republican prospect for keeping the White House away from the Democrats in 1960 would be brighter if Nixon were installed before the election and made the race as a powerful, incumbent President. These Republicans, who include practical politicians in both the conservative and "modern" wings

of the party, tick off the following points to make their case.

THE BARRICADE

The first point, of course, is the 22nd amendment, limiting a President to two full terms. From the moment he was elected in 1956, this constitutional barricade removed all mystery about President Eisenhower's intentions in 1960. He could not be a candidate under any circumstances. Such an early, forced decision tended at once to corrode the President's power over his own party and to start an immediate search for the successor.

The third term, by itself, however, would be quite meaningless in the talk about resignation. It was not for a far more important second point. This is that Nixon happens to be not only the vice president, and hence first in line of succession, but also the apparent choice of the major factions of his party for the 1960 nomination. The third-term man, in other words, is significant only in relation to Nixon's unique position. If he were an old vice president, for example, or if he were entirely unacceptable to a powerful faction in the party, there would be little talk about the President's resignation. Nixon, however, is not only acceptable, he has a commanding lead over all potential rivals, a lead that Harold Stassen's defeat in the Pennsylvania primary has made more secure.

THREE ILLNESSES

One other point completes the case of Republicans who would like to see Nixon campaign for the presidency from the White House and not from the vice president's small office in the



Is He A Handicap Now?

Senate. The President's three major illnesses, they hold, have imposed limits on his activities and prevented him from harnessing the full energies and resources of the Republican Party in a period of crisis abroad and economic disorder at home. Unless Mr. Eisenhower deals more realistically with the problems that are pressing in on his administration, these Republicans conclude, the

Democrats will be unbeatable in 1960. In this essence is the case being made by some members of the Republican Party who are concerned about the party's future. Fed by political realities, this kind of talk is surely going to continue but judging from Mr. Eisenhower's indignant reaction, it may do no more than stiffen the President's resolve to complete his second term.

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Eisenhower is angry and resentful at speculation that he may abdicate to Vice President Nixon before the 1960 election and he is going to unusual lengths to stamp it out.

On one recent occasion, the President amazed some of his Republican associates by his bitter reproach of politicians who he apparently suspects of encouraging the resignation gossip. He was indignant in the testimony of those who heard him and gave every appearance of introducing the subject with deliberate intent. He named no names.

The President asserted in the strongest terms that under no conditions would he resign, unless compelled by an absolute requirement of health.

NO SURPRISE

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Is Bad Booze To Blame For Wickedness And Woe?

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain
THE annual WCTU nonsense about banning interstate booze advertisements seems to be over again, and the blue-noes have departed, more or less secure in the knowledge that their noble works will either come more in the Senate's Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. For the past nine Congresses similar bills have succumbed to common sense.

I have no idea what whisky and cigarette contributions in taxes to the common slash fund, but it is probably more than is provided by the dairy interests. I have bought enough booze in my line to own a controlling interest in a distillery, but I own no stock. This aspect doesn't fret me, because I

and most of my friends will continue to drink if we have to boil up our own cough syrup in the cellar. We did it before, and I haven't forgotten the recipe for bathtub gin.

ENTER DR. PEALE

What I do object to is the fatuous but slyly conceived remarks as rendered by the chief spokesman for banning liquor ads. We did it before, and I have forgotten the recipe for bathtub gin.

I doubt this, since the little innocents are so busy playing with switch-blades and sawed-offs that they barely have time for such

an innocuous thing as a beer at a ball game. But, more seriously, I offer the remark of the late James Walker that he never knew a girl to be seduced by a booze.

If you take liquor out of this world, you would reduce human problems by 75 per cent. — may be 85 per cent. — says Dr. Peale, whose knowledge encompasses the sum of humanity twice a month in a picture magazine. I would not be so crass as to suggest that he has forgotten the Good Book's injunction about a little wine for the stomach's sake, or the part that wine plays in most religions, save the Arabic.

But I would like to remark that Hitler was a total abstainer and he was largely felled by a ram-bunctious old gentleman named Winston Churchill, who is naked

without a cigar and who has been giving that champagne-brandy-whisky combo a stout thrashing for several decades.

GRANT'S FONDNESS

A fine aura of sour mirth pervaded the air when General Ulysses S. Grant put the Union back together at Appomattox, and I certainly do not suggest that U.S.'s bottle-fondness caused the South to secede. Herbert Hoover and Bernard Baruch, two of our most outstanding citizens, have achieved honorable old age while still taking a snifter against the cold without burning down the economic house.

I resent the imposition of other people's petulant will on the public in a democracy. This annual onslaught on liquor advertising is nothing more or less than a sneaky wedge in the passionate dredge to dry up the country again — the constant onslaught by the fanatic dry to put us back in the bloody campaign that was Prohibition.

PROHIBITION DAYS

Maybe they don't choose to recall all the nastiness of the Prohibition days — how many got shot, how many blind, how dropped dead, the corruption of law and order. But they ought to have sufficient intelligence to realize that a drinker will drink something, anything, if he has to

make it out of old shoes and tannic acid. And that you can't legislate him into sobriety.

They also ought to realize that, in a state of recession, the gradual straining of the beer, wine and whiskey interests would seriously affect the economy, from cafe to bar to restaurant to hotel to home to factory to magazine.

DRINKING PEOPLE

Without exception, the men of goodwill I know — has a few alcohols who knew they couldn't handle it and had sense enough to quit — are drinking people. This embraces Presidents, priests, and chairmen of the boards. They don't get stopped and lose week ends.

In defense of the distillers and brewers, they literally scream for moderation in their ads. In defense of a home in which mama has an evening skin with papa, the kids seem less interested in a booze by a good hand than was my Prohibition tender-gone group, despite being glued to a TV set and conversant with the four-color magazines.

And, finally, the world has been so messed up by wild-eyed ascetics that I flatly challenge the statement of Dr. Peale that 75 to 85 per cent of the humankind problems disappear if you knock off the grog. The way things are now with the world, you get to stay a little loaded or you couldn't stand it.

Latin America: Look Who Was Talking

THE U.S. State Department had more than ample warning of seething unrest in South America. It hardly had to wait for the vice president of the United States to be subjected to shameful indignities in Peru and Venezuela.

On Jan. 23, 1953, a distinguished authority on international affairs sounded this warning to the American people: "Sometimes we're inclined to take South America for granted. But the reality is that there are strong Communist movements in South America and Fascist influences in some countries which are working away, largely underground so far, and they're trying to destroy the traditional friendship between the people of the American republics."

"The past administration has been so preoccupied with some of these problems of Europe and Asia and Africa that I referred to, that I fear it may have somewhat neglected South America and taken it for granted that we could forget about South America for a time and

then go back again and find everything the same as it was before. But actually any such policy of neglect would lead to growing danger."

That distinguished authority on international affairs is the man who is himself responsible for another five years of neglect of our South American obligations. His name: John Foster Dulles, U.S. secretary of state.

No Editorializing!

THE typographical bug of the week occurred in the NEW YORK JOURNAL-AMERICAN's account of a sermon on sex by Charlotte's Billy Graham:

"He listed five ways to commit immorality. Through thought, eye, tongue, through off-color stories, dressing to excite others, and by literature and pictures designed to stimulate the imagination. (A-I-I pwnimminet!)"

Just give us the news, please.

'Now, If I Were A Businessman ...'

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER's advice to American business on how to end the recession was embarrassingly plaintive in tone and content.

Mr. Eisenhower indicated that if he were a businessman he would know what to do. He would bring costs under control, hold the line against unearned wage increases, modernize his plant, improve his product, hold inventories at something more than minimum levels and get in a strong competitive position for the inevitable prosperity just ahead.

This is all very well. But Mr. Eisenhower isn't a businessman. He is President. And it is the man who occupies the presidency today who holds the answer to the nation's unhappy economic plight.

The answer is not wishful oratory. It is a program of governmental action.

The time has passed when economic growth and stability can be furthered without government action.

Taxation is the tool best suited to fashion an upturn.

If taxes are reduced enough to have a substantial impact on the economy as a whole, many of the steps Mr. Eisenhower recommends would be feasible.

Yet, for months, the administration has been unable to decide whether to use this vital tool. Meanwhile, the recession has deepened and broadened. The logic of the situation calls for an immediate decision. Logic also indicates that a quick and substantial tax cut would offset the economic stimulus that is needed so desperately to trigger an upturn.

Life In America

A WIFE in Columbus, Ohio, recently asked the newspapers to withhold news of her divorce suit because she had a date to lecture a church group on "Family Life."

—JACKSONVILLE TIMES-UNION

RECESSION REMEDY: Just think how much new business might be made by granting statehood to Alaska and Hawaii and adding two stars to every American flag.—RALEIGH NEWS AND OBSERVER.

They say that the secret of contentment comes in knowing how to enjoy what we have and in losing all desire for things beyond our reach. Trouble is, nobody has said just how far we can reach.—LEXINGTON LEADER.

The paratrooper was home on furlough. "How many jumps have you made?" a friend asked.

"None," said the boy. "But I've been pushed out 17 times."—MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR.

From The Washington Post & Times-Herald

SHORT STORY

OUR legal-minded friends are working themselves up into quite a dither over the news that two cars can park as cheaply as one—that is, if they are half-pint foreign cars. Motorcycle patrolmen, ever sticklers for the law, are perplexed by the problem of ticketing the offender when they come upon two little buccies nesting in a single meter space.

Which driver came first and duly plunked the nickel in the meter? And even if the free rider is detected, will the ticket hold up in court? Or should the nickel rent hold for the entire parking space irrespective of the number of occupants? The other day a Volkswagen owner who squeezed his auto behind a Renault appeared before Judge George D. Neilson. The judge found the driver guilty—but suspended sentence, observing: "This might be one solution to Washington's parking problem."

Ah, the conundrums of justice! Indeed, the judge's precedent might help solve the parking problem, but it leaves the moral question still open. The vigilant guardians of morality will find it intolerable that any should escape paying his share — especially when good old (and huge) American autos are penalized a full nickel for parking. We do not pretend to Solomon's wisdom, but we humbly offer this simple solution. Why not begin minting 2½-cent coins,

and split the grown-up size meter spaces into two junior meter spaces, each with a meter ticking at half time? Thus could justice, Americanism and the needs of parking all be served.

The office grouch thinks it's a shame a man can only cast his ballot in one state, as there are so many politicians across the land he would enjoy voting against.—JACKSONVILLE TIMES-UNION

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia
GETTING behind the Iron Curtain is now relatively easy. In fact, it's so easy that this name which Winston Churchill first applied to the boundary between the Soviet bloc and the West is now about as outmoded as the line of forts we once stationed along the Mexican border.

Eight years ago I skirted the Iron Curtain from Turkey in the south to Germany in the north. There were barbed wire entanglements between Turkey and Bulgaria, then, troops and artillery along the Albanian border. The curtain was rigid and leakproof. But today all you do is get on an airplane in Zurich and fly

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' note: Drew Pearson today continues his reports from Europe and is now taking his readers behind the Iron Curtain.

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to Prague. We flew in a Czech plane, made in Russia, quite comfortable; a buxom Czech hostess who spoke English served an ample lunch with enough butter to make Ezra Taft Benson's eyes pop. If airlines and hotels in the U.S. were equally generous, Benson's butter problem would vanish.

No Visas

We arrived in Prague at 10 p.m.—without visas. The Czechoslovak Embassy in Washington had said we didn't need any for transit passage and they were right. However, traveling en transit meant we would have to spend the night at the "International Hotel" near the airport and we wanted to go downtown to see Prague. Without a visa this proved to be absolutely impossible. However the Czech passport officials seemed

anxious to please, and after a little telephoning we got permission to stay at the Hotel Alkorn in the heart of Prague.

Timely Intervention

The Hotel Alkorn was crowded. We could hardly get in. A French wool salesman, Henri Picavet, who knew the hotel porter, finally intervened and coaxed us to give us a room. Looking out the window next morning at the windows on the other side of the patio we could understand why the hotel was crowded. The windows were full of that No. 1 badge of a traveling American—drippy shirts.

Tourists Everywhere

American tourists were everywhere. They seemed quiet, modest, spent their

money unostentatiously—a disappointing letdown from their general reputation. American tourists could be the secret weapon, they thought. They are easy to deal with and pay promptly.

He sold wool to government-owned textile plants and reported that the wool had been good. The textile mills were going full blast.

What a switch from the old days when it was hard even to get mail into Prague from the West!

People's Platform

Politicians Should Keep Their Promises

For Helpful Stories, A Note Of Thanks

Editors, The News: Charlotte

YOU ARE to be commended for your editorial of May 21, entitled "The Wage Bills Never Become Law." I certainly concur with you in all of your statements including the last paragraph.

I feel that the time has come when the voters should demand that the candidates accepting nomination should accept the party platform and should not receive party support unless they distinctly promise to do so. Where the platform is composed of the individual promises to the voters, they certainly should expect to carry out their promises or be removed from the political scene at the next primary election.

Again thanks for the editorial in behalf of 80,000 North Carolina workers, who are unprotected by any sort of minimum wage legislation.

—CAREY E. HAIGLER
Director
Region 5, AFL-CIO

Editors, The News: Charlotte

THE purpose of this letter is to let you know that those of us who are associated with the Methodist Home are grateful to you and to your associates for the interesting and helpful articles that have appeared in The Charlotte News during the past few weeks regarding our Home. We feel that our Home is doing a work that is worthy of attention and that your paper has, in a most worthwhile and interesting way, presented our cause to your readers. Thus, we thank you.

We feel that we would call in this letter if we did not call your attention to the young man, Mr. John Bechert, who prepared the articles. ... In working with our people and gathering material for his articles, he was at all times most understanding and kind. Our resident members shall always remember him in the highest esteem.

—C. W. KIRBY
Supt. and Minister
Methodist Home

Iron Curtain's More Fiction Than Fact