



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1958

### Plan A Unified School System NOW

The important thing is that each taxpayer throughout the county would be paying for the schools at the same rate, and the children of each taxpayer in the area, regardless of where these children happen to be living, would be in a position to enjoy the benefits of the best educational opportunities offered any child in the area.

INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT, 1949

THE time to prepare Mecklenburg County's two giant school systems for consolidation has clearly arrived. Apathy, timidity and false fears are crumbling at last beneath the pressure of enlightened public opinion.

Perhaps even the invisible barriers of tradition are losing their mystic charm. The first compelling public demand for action has come, significantly, from the county.

But support for a single unified public school system in Mecklenburg has likewise been growing in the city. There is, clearly, no need for further dawdling on the official level.

The advantages of consolidation are apparent. The facts are at hand. So is the challenge.

IT IS to the County School Board's great credit that it has taken the first positive step to open negotiations on the question. It is ready to talk turkey with the City School Board immediately.

The sudden move was made yesterday after a delegation of 50 parent-teacher association members presented resolutions in favor of consolidation from 30 of the county's 32 PTA groups. Most of the resolutions had passed unanimously at heavily attended meetings in all corners of the county.

This surge of sentiment in favor of a single school system would have been considered impossible in the county six months ago. That, emerged at all is a tribute to the straight talk of Oliver Rife and others who have sold consolidation calmly and dispassionately on its merits. County PTA groups, unusually serious-minded and public spirited, listened first with interest and then with enthusiasm.

Naturally, the perimeter figured much in the discussions. This choice, well-populated residential area was annexed by the city in 1960. As Mrs. Charles Ramsey, president of the county PTA council, said yesterday, loss of the perimeter as a source of supplemental tax support would "seriously jeopardize" the future educational opportunities of the county.

But regardless of what happens to the perimeter, consolidation offers the best possible apparatus for promoting better public education for all of Mecklenburg's children.

THE advantages of consolidation—for both city and county residents—were first outlined in 1949 in an Institute of Government survey. They were documented in more elaborate detail early this year by a Chamber of Commerce committee working under attorney Richard Thigpen. Seldom has a single solution to a given problem appeared to be so satisfying to a variety of interests.

But the will to convert potential advantages into real benefits, widely enjoyed, must come from the public at large.

Residents of the county have made their wishes known rather emphatically to their representatives on the County School Board.

City residents, while less insistent, have never indicated that they were any less interested in a better and more efficient public education system for all our children.

THE County School Board has broken the ice. Its invitation to negotiate should be accepted promptly by city school officials.

Then, carefully and with prudent regard for the problems of each system, a reasonable formula for consolidation should be pieced together. Appropriate enabling legislation ought to be drawn up for submission to the 1959 General Assembly.

A major achievement is within Mecklenburg's grasp. It must not be bobbled.

### Mr. Nixon Hanks For Hometown Talk

ALMOST every traveler is subject to sudden pangs of loneliness and they fear that something he should know about is happening back home.

Vice President Nixon doubtless feels this strongly as he continues his tour among our Latin American neighbors, shaking the innumerable hands, hearing the strange languages, trying to find good will for the "colossus of the North." Back home in Washington they are talking his language—politics—and about his possible ascension sans election to the presidency. This is the kind of gossip a politician has to miss. This is wine, food and dreams.

But Mr. Nixon can be consoled by the fact that the speculation will still be going on when he returns to Washington. The idea that sometime between now and '60 Mr. Eisenhower will voluntarily yield up his seat to Nixon won't die easily among the Democrats. Every White House denial will be searched minutely for escape clauses; every Nixon visit to the White House will cause new speculation. While there are no facts to credit the theory, the edgy Democrats can make a case for their fear.

His reasoning might go like this: Mr. Eisenhower's future health is uncertain. Besides that, he has never demonstrated any particular lust for the office or the exercise of his powers. Mr. Nixon, on the other hand, almost hankers for the presidency and it would be so much easier for him to be elected if he could run as the incumbent. What could be better strategy for the '60 campaign than for Messrs. Eisenhower and Nixon to try out that presidential disability agreement they reached a few weeks ago?

As speculation, it's interesting. But a sadder guess might be that Mr. Nixon is more fearful that this won't happen than the Democrats are that it will. He cannot have forgotten the White House rebuke to his call for a tax cut or the President's unfavorable response to suggestions that he be given one or another executive posts in the administration. Then there was the President's statement the other day that GOP presidential timber is not limited to one man.

Our own view is that barring disabling illness the President will have no part of the scheme that so troubles the Democrats' imagination. For if he has often appeared to lack zest for his office and weary of his responsibilities, he has been careful never to demean it.

### There'll Always Be A Plainclothesman

A BIG US publishing firm, Prentice-Hall, has clad its executive brass in uniform may blue blazers with embroidered pocket patches.

The intent was to boost esprit de corps among the brass but readers of BUSINESS WEEK, which reported this latest triumph of uniformity, seem to think it is an insult to individualism.

"An abortive attempt at cross-fertilization with a gray flannel suit," one reader wrote. "Do the pretty blazers have pockets big enough to carry, for

ready reference, a copy of William H. Whyte's book, 'THE ORGANIZATION MAN'?" another asked.

But John E. Ullman, a New York engineer, made the most sweeping indictment, seeing the blazers as the beginning of a business ceremonial modeled on that of the Knights of the Garter, say, with keys to the executive washroom replacing swords." But, he added, "there would be plain clothes executives, too, charged with sneaking up on lazy employees."

It's likely, the last part anyway.

From The New Orleans States

### THE MARSHAL

THOSE who groan that the Hollywood and television interpretations of the old West are gross distortions of the original now have a federal court ruling to support their complaint.

The owners of the Wyatt Earp television show in New York complained that a manufacturer was marketing "official" Wyatt Earp playthings for children, although he had not obtained a license to do so from the owners of the show.

The manufacturers replied, in effect, that Earp was a nonfictional historical character whose name no one could monopolize for trade purposes.

You're dead wrong, Partner, said the court: "It is perhaps not too much to say . . . that the name of Wyatt Earp has been battered into the public consciousness by the television program to an extent far beyond any fame or notoriety ever previously attached to the marshal's name."

In other words, any resemblance to persons living or dead . . .

This Chinese proverb is perhaps as good a sermon as you will hear today: "If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."—LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER.

Doc Anklam says when you have a cold Doc Edwards fills you so full of drugs that if you sneeze you'll probably cure two or three people. — HUGO POINT ENTERPRISE.

## People's Platform Give Mecklenburg Students A Taste Of Politics

Charlotte  
Editors, The News: YOUR editorial of last Friday noting that the Democratic precinct meetings would be held for the most part in schools caused me to wonder if it would not be interesting to the students of our high schools to the function of the party system as a democratic form of government.

I discussed the matter with the

SEN. GEORGE SMATHERS  
The Real Article

board of governors of the Mecklenburg Democratic Club and they requested that I extend a cordial invitation to the student body of the senior high schools in Charlotte, and Mecklenburg County to attend the Democratic rally which is to take place at the Park Center building at 8 p.m. on Friday of this week.

Our high school students have been studying civics and political science in the abstract. Maybe it would be helpful if they had a close up view of a political organization in action.

It is our hope that many of the high school students and their

faculty advisors will attend the rally and hear the address of the Hon. George A. Smathers, United States senator from Florida. Whatage that this will be an interesting experience to the students and that it will serve to acquaint them with the function of the party system as a democratic form of government.

—PAUL R. ERVIN  
Chairman, Mecklenburg Democratic Club.

### High In The Sky, A 'Keep Out' Sign

Charlotte  
Editors, The News: THE story of the creation of the earth and man, first chapter of Genesis—in fact the first chapter of the Bible—is of particular interest today, as is the story of the life of Jesus. His suffering and resurrection and that of the Tower of Babel.

Having created the earth and furnished it comfortably, we are now being told that man in his own image, and gave him dominion over the earth and all that dwell thereon. He provided lights in the firmament of the heavens, especially two great lights, the greater to rule over the day, and the lesser over the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and for years—certainly not targets to shoot at.

As He made the presentation of the earth to man, we see no mention of fringe benefits in the contract whereby God gave us permission to occupy, or to desecrate outer space. Thorough and foreseeing workman that He was, it seems if He had intended man to fly He would have provided him with wings like birds, or bats.

We know little about outer space today, yet enough to be certain it is not fit for human life, due to extremes in temperatures, pressures, cosmic rays and comet tails.

The resurrection and ascension into heaven of Jesus gives a promise that in a life after death shall occupy and enjoy the beautiful heavens. It is indeed doubtful though, that in this life we shall ever conquer space, and with millions of square miles of undeveloped land on every continent we don't need to.

Even after half a century of research and development our finest planes are frequently torn apart by the pressure of the air. Their occupants scattered over the landscape, men looking like barbecued pork, women and children smeared over the stones like jam.

If wasting their resources and energy while building the Tower of Babel—a pittance compared to the cost of launching of a satellite—incur the wrath of God, the idea of space travel

must have him sore. And aren't the proposals and promises of today's national leaders just as confused and meaningless to each other as they discuss proposals for a summit conference, as were the conversations between the masons and hodge-poles as they tried to build the tower?

Though admonished to respect the earth and subside it, man has not done this. As our populations become more skilled and educated, it seems they act more like the lower forms of life, abandoning the spacious, clean countryside to congregate in our crowded cities like flies around a cesspool, driving blindly at the bright lights, like the lowly moth flying into the flame of the street lamp, even considering flying to the moon.

Had as much research, resources and energy been spent in developing the world's vast wastelands, as has been wasted in space research and experiments, we could have irrigated the Mojave Desert and aridified the entire South while the Russians converted Siberia into a garden spot. Homes could have been provided for all the world's displaced people, and

jobs made available for all unemployed—even in the lull of a Republican administration.

—A. C. BUCKLE

### Capitalism Will Dig Its Own Grave

Clinton, S. C.

Editors, The News: WHY ALL the blue and cry about jackleg Communists overthrowing the government? Listen. "Communism" cannot come to that country until conditions necessary for it have been established." (Marx) In the U. S., conditions are now being established. Communists don't make the conditions. Capitalism itself brings on the conditions.

"Communism is born in the gutter." That's right. Capitalism is creating that gutter. A sick man will try any remedy; the best of health, carries within itself the germ of dissolution. Capitalism is decaying from within. All the Science in the world can't add anything to it.

—TELLER SUTLE

### 'Possum At Tea

## Washington Wildlife

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON  
LONG, LONG ago when the "United States" still stood at the head of the world, the region now known as Washington received an interesting suggestion from a British field marshal's wife who was well-known for her strong free-wheeling tendencies.

In those days, it was thought to be blackly pessimistic to question the good intentions of the late Joe Stalin. Really, it made very gloomy reading, said the lady. She was asked to suggest a more cheerful subject for public comment. As she had taken up life among the leafy branches be-

once invaded the living-room to make a hot-cache in the sofa, and the defeatable half-wild cats, the birds, are the chief tenants of this wild-life refuge among the urban asphalt.

NO QUAIL

There are no quail (although the Swedish Embassy always used to have at least one covey, until a cunning swallower of their feeding grounds). But the cardinals seem to be preparing to nest again. With luck, the mockingbird that has been inspected the place rather carefully will finally decide that the advantages outweigh the drawbacks. And above all, there are the mourning doves.

Their appearance is charming, for they look like gamebirds, as they are, yet like gamblers with a special fragrant elegance. Their name is charming, too, for what could be nicer than "Zanzibar Macraura"? Their soft calling, like a musical fall of water, is of long and haunting sound, and reminiscent of dear things lost. But all this charm, which might otherwise be cloving, is splendidly seasoned with sheer spunk.

### FINAL SUCCESS

The doves started nesting in early March. They stuck to it grimly, the male on the nest all day and the female all night through the bitter winds and icy rains and deep snows of this terrible spring. They must have lost at least two clutches of eggs, for the eggs failed to show two weeks to hatch. But they succeeded in their task. Just the other day, the first pierced egg-shell was proudly pricked from the nest.

Then, day after day, there was the wonderful sight of the doves endlessly hurrying out to find food and hurrying back to disgorge their crops into the always waiting beaks. And finally, at this moment, the two young are hopping about on the terrace bricks, learning to take up in themselves.

Maybe this writing about birds is really too self-indulgent. But circle the free world's greatest preoccupation, the cold war, and you will see every vital position either decaying fast or in deadly danger already. Go to the West's other citadel in Europe, and you will discover the great alliance crumbling into imbecility. Come back to Washington, and you will find the nation in a state of economic depression, playing a response to the sharp strategic feeling of the Sputnik that has further defense cuts that were planned before the Sputnik's warning.

Truth, one wishes one could always write about birds, until this country re-discovers its old knack of leadership.

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

WASHINGTON  
THE little state of Israel, now celebrating her tenth birthday, has accomplished miracles but faces grave problems ahead. These problems are not her alone. They are the problems of the rest of the world, from three points of view. From a materialistic point of view, the problem of Arabian oil is vital to the West. Upon it depends the industry of Europe and the United States. From the point of view of peace, the Near East is the boiling pot most likely to erupt in war. It has erupted twice in the past.

### An Obligation

From the humanitarian point of view, we of the Christian world—even the

## Israel's Problems Shared By World

Muslim world—have a moral obligation for the murder of 6,000,000 Jews in Germany. Our minimum obligation is to ensure the Jews peace in the ancient lands of their forefathers.

Most people have forgotten that it was during Hitler that anti-Jewish hatred was planted in the Arab world. Looking through the file of any old column, you find that on Aug. 25, 1946 I published the secret testimony of Walter Schellenberg, Chief of making of the SS in the age, in which he told U. S. examiners how he had been ordered by Himmler in 1942 to pay the grand mafia of Jerusalem to stir up anti-Jewish prejudice. A flat \$250,000 was paid by Hitler, \$150,000 by Mussolini. Schellenberg further testified: "The mission carried along one

half hundredweight in gold coins, twenty thousand in English pounds, and ten thousands in U. S. dollars."

### Terror Campaign

The public has also forgotten that Hitler's campaign of terror against the Jews started in the Arab world. The Jews of the Christian world looked on, and little concerned. We did nothing until other religions and other lands imprinted in his hate. As a result, for at least a year after the war started, certain American diplomats tried to keep secret the gruesome reports which came into the State Department of Nazi concentration camps, the persecution, the starvation, the eventual transition of gas chambers and soap factories.

These are memories which we of the Christian world have forgotten. Jews can never forget. They constitute a reason why the rest of the world, including the Moslems, (also descended from the prophet Abraham), have a deep, unpaid obligation to the Jewish people.

The most complete way to make that obligation is to bring peace to the Near East. The Jews have already made great sacrifices to establish a homeland. What they need now is peace. Furthermore, we of the Christian world have an obligation to bring peace to that part of the world where He whose religious precepts we profess to follow first taught love in the earth, good will to men. We haven't followed it anywhere else in the world. We can begin at least where He taught.



### Rockefeller Surprise

## Welfare State Gets Boost

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON  
THE conservative manner in which President Eisenhower handles the government economy, including the recession, has been highlighted from an unexpected source. It is the Rockefeller report which, as its name suggests, is the work of important men identified with large vested interests and strongly oriented toward the Republican Party.

Naturally the anti-recession measures suggested in their bulky document get the headlines, especially as their tax cut proposal seemed to cut across the President's program. The business and financial community has since had time to give the report more intensive study and is voicing some arresting conclusions.

### DOUBLING WAGES

One is that, far from attacking the welfare state, the report takes the nation's debt and money situation as a fact that the nation is dedicated to economic growth and full employment and that to this end real forces exist to make it so in 30 years, with a possible rate of growth of five per cent a year.

By contrast, the President has retreated to the recession as a minor emergency where we are meeting internally. He dwells upon each bit of evidence that the

climb back to the old plateau may have begun and has offered no growth plans.

### FEDERAL REGULATION

Detailed forms of desirable government regulation of the economy are set forth also in the Rockefeller report, including use of the taxing power and monetary and fiscal policy. The federal government is urged to take the lead in transportation policy, land and water use on a national scale, urban problems and various other social needs.

The Rockefeller planners do not, of course, represent all of business and their philosophy is perhaps overweight with the ideas

of Eastern internationalists. But they are a sufficiently inclusive group to prove that a revolution in the thinking of important business interests has taken place since President Roosevelt took office.

### IRONY OF HISTORY

That they are interests which intend to be counted in American politics can hardly be denied. They supported in large part the Eisenhower candidacy, and it is an irony of history that at this point the Midwest smaller business backers of the late Senator Taft — as former Treasury Secretary Humphrey seems to have the grateful audience now with Eisenhower on economic matters.

What the report does in a broad sense is to prove that as proved that this nation is in a race for expansion with the Soviet Union. In its details it sets up a time table and direction signals for that race.

### TELLING SUPPORT

Politically its significance is that it demonstrates that the Democrats cannot count on a monopoly of liberal and progressive ideas in national campaigns no matter how many Republicans coalesce with Southern Democrats in Congress. It shows that a Republican presidential candidate who strikes out as the champion of economic growth and expansion can count on very telling support.