



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Mecklenburg's Voice: Loud And Clear

"YOUR people, sir, is a blind beast," said Alexander Hamilton.

Although a founding father, he belonged to a stern school. And, unfortunately, he has latter-day disciples.

But the outcome of Saturday's primary was a rousing rebuke to the notion that unreliable anthropoids are in charge.

For the most part, Mecklenburg voters exercised wisdom and maturity at the polls.

There were exceptions, of course. But, thankfully, those were few and far between.

No one individual, and certainly no one newspaper, can boast any omniscience in political matters—either before or after the ballots are counted. To say that all virtue resides in a single assortment of candidates is ridiculous in the extreme. But, in general, it must be conceded that a great many voters reside in a great many leaders in Saturday's voting.

J. Spencer Bell's commanding lead in the hotly contested State Senate race was particularly gratifying to those who believe, as we do, that he is superbly equipped to represent Mecklenburg effectively in Raleigh. The large vote he received was a significant public acknowledgment of his superior qualifications.

Also, the sizable vote received by two newcomers to the House race—Irwin Belk and John P. Kennedy Jr.—was a welcome indication of fresh vitality in Democratic Party ranks. Both are promising young men. Both ran well ahead of incumbents Frank Sneed and Ernest Hicks, who also won places on the November ballot.

The nomination of David Clark of Lincoln in the Tenth District congressional primary assures that Republican Rep. Charles Raper Jones will have a strong, effective challenger in the general election. Mr. Clark is young and able and has an outstanding record in the North Carolina General Assembly. If he is elected, he will be a strong asset to the Democratic Party.

Although runoff will be required in the County Board of Education races in both the Democratic and Republican parties, the County Commissioners' races were rather cut and dried affairs from the chairmanship on down. It was experience that counted most among the Democrats. There were no surprises.

The vote was distressingly light, as is usual in off-year primaries. But as those who bothered to vote gave a reasonably good accounting of themselves. Sorry, Mr. Hamilton. No blindness. No beastliness. No innate depravity. Just people on a purposeful mission.

The Secrecy Bug Gets Fatter & Fatter

Not that I care, but if we are to spend money, let us spend it as we see fit. Why make an exception of ourselves? I am not ashamed of anything I ever spent while on committee. Maybe I should be, but it is all in the record.

THERE'S a good bit in the RECORD (CONGRESSIONAL), that is besides Michigan Rep. Hoffman's willingness to respect the people's right to know. There are numerous unsettling glimpses of intellectual acrobatics performed by many of his fellow congressmen in order to obscure that right in respect to travel spending and more vital issues.

Ohio's Rep. Hayes, for example, fought a move to make public congressional spending optional with a verbal convoluted composed of equal parts of envy and timidity:

"I have traveled abroad. Not too long ago, about a year and a half ago I traveled on the Overland Express. And on that trip, in addition to the members of my committee there were no less than 10 or a dozen members of executive (administration) departments traveling in first-class staterooms, one to a stateroom. I have no objection to that. They were traveling on counterpart funds. They were living pretty well, I must say. I observed them and they were doing all right. There is nothing in this amendment which would compel those people to expose what they are spending. . . . You want to expose members of Congress so that you can get this broken down on individual members, and that somebody can go out into their district and make a big fuss and say, 'Here is a fellow who drew half a million francs' when a half million francs is worth a thousand dollars and really does not mean very much, after all. But the average person would say that half a million francs was a lot of money. . . ."

In short, Rep. Hayes doesn't want his constituents to know how much of their money he has spent traveling abroad because he's afraid it might be used against him, and because he's afraid administration bureaucrats will get in the trough

if he backs off himself. Congress, needless to say, controls both its own and administration's purse strings. And election to the House, needless to say, was never intended to carry with it a permanent lease on a seat.

The failure of the Congress to report its travel expenditures is not shaking the foundations of the Republic, of course. But the attitude that accounts for this failure on a relatively unimportant issue does figure in the mania for secrecy that operates both in Congress and the administration. Oh yes, it's all for security. Or, of course, too often the object of national security. Too often the object of secrecy is merely the security of office holders against possible opposition in the next election.

Rep. Hoffman puts it in plainer terms. Explaining that he had found it impossible to obtain a breakdown on congressional use of counterpart funds, he said:

"My file shows that on several occasions I have written the chairman of the House Committee on Administration asking for a breakdown on the use of counterpart funds. Every time I have been denied that information. . . . Then I was told that the information was with the Defense Department as to much of the expenditures. So I went to the Defense Department and they told me it was with the chairman of the House Committee on Administration. I went back to the chairman of the House Administration Committee, and he said, 'No, Defense has it.' At that time the general counsel of the Department of Defense was on the stand before the Moss Subcommittee, and I asked him and he said, 'No, we do not have it.' I said, 'The chairman of the House Administration Committee says you have. Who has it?' He said, 'It's in Boston, but, who has the data?' I could not find it; even to this date, it has not been available. I have yet to see one report which tells about the expenditure of counterpart funds by a member of this House, past or present."

Who indeed does have the button? You know, of course, who is holding the bag.

Maybe It's An Occupational Disease

THE fractured phrasing of some of President Eisenhower's press conference pronouncements has been something to behold, all right. It is also said to be the cause of much knee-slapping and sniggering among certain hostile elements of our society—English teachers and Iron Curtain diplomats, obviously.

The English teachers had better stand by, but we would appreciate it if the Iron Curtain diplomats would wipe those silly grins off their faces straightaway. We have just come upon a translated transcript of one of Khrushchev's broadcast speeches as it was monitored in

England. It reads in part: "We have taken many steps . . . or . . . which are directed in this direction. But, as yet we should not deceive ourselves because all the time, you know, they are twisting and turning instead of . . . we have sent the decision, the well-known decision, to prohibit nuclear war. It is not, they say, controlled. Well, you know, when one does not want agreement, he will immediately, you know, advance such conditions as are impossible. That is because they do not want it. They do not want it! The issue is clear. . . ."

FOR UNDERSTANDING

THE one who follows the writing profession or who engages to a considerable extent in public speaking must find himself severely handicapped without a good knowledge of the Bible. The reason is simple. Make a quotation or reference to Jesus, Paul, Moses or Solomon and even the most unlearned listener or the most narrowly informed reader knows what you are talking about.

On the other hand quote or refer to great figures in secular history and your readers or listeners will lose interest because they don't know these charac-

ters. You mention Demosthenes, Cato, Pericles, Pompey, or Machiavelli and they won't know whether they are members of the Yankee baseball club or some of those birds that Mr. Truman is always calling liars or lambasting. Stay away from mere temporal things, stick to the Gospels and the Old Testament and everybody will have at least a glimmering of what you're getting at.

You may be able to fool your friends about your age, but don't try it on an onion sandwich at bedtime.—GREENVILLE (S.C.) PRESS-MAIL

Uncle Sam Wants A Long Look At Labor's Ledgers

WASHINGTON (AP)—The principle is now settled, particularly since the testimony of the other day of President George Meany, that labor unions are like all other powerful interests—subject to public inspection and public regulation. It is a very good thing that the principle is not in dispute. For if it were, if organized labor were making the claim so often made by other interests, that it is private and immune, there would be serious trouble ahead.

For no special interest can ex-

ercise the kind of power which the union possesses and then deny that there is a public interest in the way it conducts its affairs. Mr. Meany has had the wisdom and the public spirit to recognize that if labor unions are not regulated by those who mean well by them, they will be wide open to the assault of those who wish to destroy them.



GEORGE MEANY
A Principle Established

ERSONAL ABUSES

The question of regulating the unions has, of course, been brought to a head by the sensational exposures before Sen. McClellan's select committee. While these exposures dealt only with



SEN. MCCLELLAN
A Need Dramatized

People's Platform

Is Too Much Space Given To Columns?

Editors, The News: I WANT to protest that certain other columns crowd out the letters from the people. It makes no difference how an individual feels or whether his skin is black or white. If he or she has something to say, it should be said.

A free press where people discuss problems or even prejudices freely and above board will always lead the atmosphere.

I was brought up to say nothing, even about wrong-doing, unless I had to do so. But life has taught me that keeping anything secret and not bringing it out into the full light of day always meant trouble in the long run.

—JAMES W. JEWELL

Chief's Resignation Should Be Declined

Editors, The News: THE day that City Manager Vancay left Police Chief Littlejohn resign will be a black day in the annals of Charlotte history.

There has been one of the ablest and best police chiefs to occupy that post. I have known him for 25 years and in all that time I have known him to go out of his way for the people who pay him his salary.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

MOST important point raised in the long-awaited Morris Ernst report on the strange disappearance of Prof. Jose Galindez is how and where the professor was able to collect a million dollars. That is a lot of money for a college professor to pull in from Spanish language and the big question is whether he was actually getting it from Spaniards or whether it didn't come from secret espionage agents.

Life Was Wrong

Ernst, after six months of investigation for the Dominican government, has come up with some important, but inconclusive, evidence claiming that it was impossible for Gerald Murphy, the freelance pilot, to have flown Galindez's body from Long Island to the Dominican Republic at the time specified by Life

magazine. Life made the chief charge that Dr. Trujillo got away with his crime at Columbia University.

Still A Mystery

Ernst concludes that the Columbia professor is still missing and still nobody knows what has happened to him. However, a record of the huge amounts of money Galindez received are on file in the Justice Department and present an even more important unsolved mystery.

They indicate that the United States has been used for either an espionage or a revolutionary conspiracy.

The professor's disappearance started receiving money, allegedly from Spanish Basques, in 1950. He filed with the Justice Department receipts for \$54,611 in February 1950; \$24,048 in March; then continued to file receipts of \$4,000 to \$8,000 per

month until the latter part of 1950, when he was receiving around \$10,000 a month. This is a lot of money to roll into the lap of a college professor who sent out no literature to ask for money, mailed few letters, made almost no speeches to large groups of people.

The money continued to roll in in amounts ranging between \$4,000 to \$24,000 a month for the next six years.

The Plot Thickens

The money was supposed to come from Spanish Basques in Venezuela, Mexico, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Cuba, France, Belgium and Italy. However, there are ex-changes in most of these countries, so it's impossible to send money to other countries.

Also suspicious is the fact that the

whether in fact the federal government can make a democracy compulsory in private associations, and whether, if it were to try to do so, it would not be chiding off more than it can chew.

A BIG BITE

The other type of regulation, now under consideration, is aimed at regulating labor unions by compelling them to adopt more democratic procedures. The theory is that if there were more democracy inside the unions, they would be better governed. That may be. But it is a question

whether in fact the federal government can make a democracy compulsory in private associations, and whether, if it were to try to do so, it would not be chiding off more than it can chew.

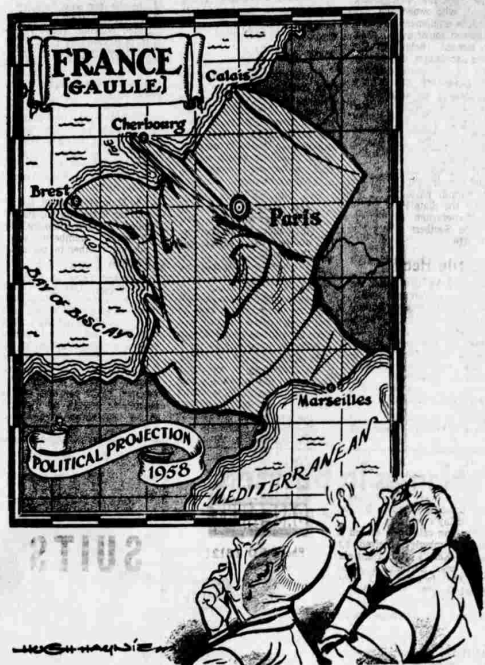
DIFFICULT JOB

There are in this country some 200 national unions and some 60,000 local unions, and it is not probable that the federal government can really superintend their charters and regulate their inter-

nal elections. There is not much value in attempting to do what almost certainly cannot be done. It is likely to lead only to disruption of the law.

My own view is that the compulsory disclosure of the financial affairs of the unions is a possible though not an easy kind of law to enforce. Insofar as it is efficiently enforced, it may help to do many of the things which are supposed to be accomplished by compulsory democracy.

'Briefly, That's The Situation Facing Us'



It's Kinda Funny

Nixon Nixed By Farmers

By ROWLAND EVANS JR.

Editors' Note: While Joseph Alsop reports from France, Rowland Evans Jr. covers the home base for him.

NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP, Iowa (AP)—Several noteworthy discoveries in a recent political poll—taking expedition was the surprisingly up reaction to Vice President Nixon's good-will tour to South America.

No fewer than seven among 30 serious-faced corn-and-hog farmers, who were asked in the course of several questions if they wished to express an opinion about Mr. Nixon, promptly attacked his visit to Latin America. As one of the seven put it, "He shouldn't stick his nose into where he has no business being."

An even sharper critic was a prosperous hog farmer who voted Democratic in 1952 and 1956. Tapping the stump of his left forearm on his chair for emphasis, he said, "They shouldn't let him down there in Venezuela. The opinion set off a noisy remonstrance from his wife and daughters, but the farmer refused to soften his words."

REPUBLICAN CRITICS

Although the Democrats were distinctly more hostile, three of the seven critics were Republicans.

The surprising thing was that only two others of the 30 farmers mentioned the South American tour at all and even these two were obviously unimpressed by it. One said prophetically that the good-will tour had been "pretty rough" on Mr. Nixon. The other simply said that "maybe it would have been better if we hadn't sent him down."

There was one other significant finding in the Newtown Township poll. It disclosed that as of now the spectacular hog prices and the promise of a good corn crop for fattening up the new spring pigs have not perceptibly lulled



"He Shouldn't Go Sticking His Nose In..."

good harmonies for registering political pressures.

The 30 farmers who were studied in the random but representative poll collected just last week, voted for Stevenson, 14 for Ike in 1956. Two of the 14 Eisenhower voters have now definitely switched to the Democrats and plan to vote Democratic in 1960, regardless of who the candidates turn out to be. Another four say they are more or less happy about the Eisenhower administration but not to the point of firm decision. That leaves only eight of the original 14 Eisenhower voters who still feel that way without reservation.

One must make allowance for

the perfectly normal decline in popularity that almost always overtakes the administration party in mid-term. However, the two switches and the four other 1956 voters who are now undecided may be taken as bad news for the Republicans, since they are in the class of the constant Republican murmurs heard in Washington as a result of the rise in farm prices.

The Democrats in this fat and verdant country with its bulging corn bins and high optimism are given a good chance of keeping Gov. Loveless in office and of sending a Democrat to the House to replace the retiring Republican, Rep. L. E. Compton.

INTRIGUING ANSWERS

As for Vice President Nixon, five of the 30 farmers had a generally favorable opinion of him, including five from among the generally unfavorable opinion, and nine were on the fence. The question asked was: "Do you have any feeling at all about Vice President Nixon?" One of the 30 farmers said without qualification that Nixon would make a good President. The answers of some of the others were particularly intriguing for their failure to pinpoint specific grievances against the vice president.

Typical was this comment of a 1952 Eisenhower voter who switched to Stevenson in 1956: "I don't like him but I don't know why. He looks too much. . . . I don't know what. It's kinda funny, but I just don't like him."

NIXON'S CHALLENGE

How to come to grips with this sort of formless opinion is Nixon's chief challenge today as the emerging leader of his party. It should be said, however, that in view of some on-the-scene political observers the anti-Nixon sentiment among these Mid-West farmers is less than it was a few years ago.

Secret Bank Accounts

Galindez had two secret banking accounts in Switzerland and he transferred money to these accounts, possibly for paying agents in Europe. Just who was paying him? And who did he pay in Europe? This is the real mystery in the Galindez murder, a mystery probably more important than the question of who tipped him off into nowhere. If this is solved, the question of who kidnapped him will also be unraveled.