



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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It's Simple: Consolidate Or Degenerate

WHY should Charlotte merge its public school system with the county?

It remains for Oliver Rowe, who campaigned so persuasively for school consolidation in rural Mecklenburg, to give the city a cold-turkey answer yesterday. It can be summarized in three words: Consolidate or degenerate.

Degeneration, said Mr. Rowe, has already set in. Old residential areas inside the city limits are changing over to business and the people are moving to the perimeter and beyond. The increase in white enrollment is already leveling off. Recent district lines are frozen and the county has the rich, p-r-v-er (which it certainly intends to do unless consolidation comes) the big city system will deteriorate alarmingly.

It is a choice between progress and decay.

Mr. Rowe pulled no punches. His frankness was brutal. He laid it on the line.

It is the kind of talk that Charlotte has needed.

The peril is plain. Mr. Rowe has not exaggerated it. The logic of his case is there for all to examine critically and in detail.

The interdependence of the entire metropolitan area requires consolidation of the public school systems of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County—not in 1965 or 1975 or in the year 2000 but as soon as possible. It is the only way a uniformly good and uniformly healthy system of public education can be maintained for all of our children.

Above all, as Mr. Rowe emphasized, the city should have no fear of consolidating with the county. Said he:

"No longer are you faced with the problem of joining with a system poor in quality, which might drag your standards down; but rather you have the opportunity of joining hands with people who have brought their standards of performance to a high level. . . . You would be joining as an equal partner with a strong, well-organized school system which next year will have more white pupils than you have. . . . The only answer to this dilemma (the county's need to hold the perimeter and the city's need to expand its boundary), the only solution that will give the perimeter for both the city and the county, is consolidation of the two systems."

It's as simple as that.

A Poor Parody Of Tar Heel Justice

IT IS A simple matter for guards to bootleg drugs to inmates of Central Prison in Raleigh.

Huge profits are possible, too, and the risks are comparatively slight.

But what if a guard is caught red-handed? What if his little smuggling racket is totally exposed? What if he admits fleecing his suckers with jacked-up prices?

What happens then? If the case of Harvey Speight is any example, the law merely whips affably and that is that.

Speight, a Central Prison guard, admitted selling dexamyl, a stimulant for the central nervous system, to inmates. According to FBI Agent W. W. W. he obtained a prescription for 200 tablets from an out-of-town physician and also secured a supply of prescription blanks which he used in duplicating the order. Melvin said the guard admitted buying dexamyl in lots of 200 for \$10 and selling them for \$25.

It was a lucrative racket. The payment demanded by a society: A few dollars in court costs. A token sentence of 30 days was suspended.

The offense was serious. It merited the court's serious concern. As might be expected, a justice of the peace court was involved. The magistrate's light record on the matter offers little or no deterrent to crooked guards who ply similar trades behind prison walls.

State Prison Director William F. Bailley, who promptly dismissed Speight, is properly outraged. "We'll never get this stuff stored if the courts don't get aware of the problem and do something about it," said he.

He's right. Guards who will bootleg dexamyl will bootleg items a good deal more dangerous. It's happened before. It has happened again unless justice is appropriately stern.

To put it as delicately as possible, the outcome of this case was a poor parody of justice.

Artist

THERE is still no big live show biz. J. Fred Muggs, chimpanzee, has just signed with Mercury Artists Corp.

Take Off Your Coat, Mr. McIntyre!

THE community's determination to keep William E. McIntyre at the head of its planning program is a mark of metropolitan maturity and strength.

Had there been no real belief in the necessity and the certain benefits of orderly growth through planning, McIntyre's scheduled departure for a better-paying post in Cleveland would have been accepted without question. It would have been a graceful way of weakening the planning program, the certain penalties of which would not have been readily apparent. The much-graphic view of the staggering cost and inconvenience of unplanned growth always comes through hindsight, as do the vain wishes that the penalties had been avoided.

In accepting and acting on the fact that there is keen competition among cities for an insufficient number of qualified planning experts, City Council and the City-County Planning Commission demonstrated good judgment and alert leadership. They have retained the services of a man who by training and per-

sonality is excellently suited to the community's needs. More importantly, the direction of the planning program is sustained at the very critical moment when long and painstaking research carried on by McIntyre's staff must be translated into action.

An example of this is the perimeter road plan developed by the planners to assure that perimeter development will contain a built-in system of safe and convenient thoroughfares. The entirely sound idea is to reserve rights of way for thoroughfares before homes and businesses are built where the roads should be situated.

The implementation of this and other planning projects by city and county governments needs the sure knowledge and the compelling sincerity of the man who developed them.

Bill McIntyre and sound planning, we hope, are here to stay. Thanks to his bosses, it looks as if that's the way it will be.

Caroline Coleman In The Greenville Piedmont

SASSAFRAS TEA

"WE are drinking sassafras tea at our house and finding it delicious," said a Greenville woman recently. The aroma of America's oldest beverage now flows out from many a kitchen and bundles of sassafras roots are lending a pleasing fragrance around any market where they are sold. The roots, leaves, and the blossoms of the sassafras are sweet with that indescribable flavor which characterizes it. And the tea, the beverage is a taste treat that our ancestors enjoyed, but which we have forgotten in this age of imported drinks.

Sassafras tea which Grandmas carefully brewed and served as a "spring tonic for thinning the blood" was preferred by the youngsters as an alternative to sulphur and molasses. In every home, we remember, there was the bundle of sassafras roots drying in the kitchen and when you entered any home around supper time, the aroma of sassafras tea greeted you at the front door.

Sassafras came into favor when the tea on tea became a matter of controversy between the Colonies and the Mother Country. Southerners could just brew the delicious tea from sassafras roots and let imported teas alone.

After the war the old familiar roots went into the discard save as the makings of spring tonic. When the blood was supposed to need "clearing of humors" after a winter diet lacking in green vegetables, sassafras tea was a pleasant way of thinning the blood.

Housewives are brewing sassafras tea for new taste thrills and their families drink it because they like it. By the time the "blood begins to thin," the season is over.

A survey shows that the United States ranks last among major nations in the study of foreign language. For that matter, judging by the way they speak, write, and spell it, English is a foreign language to many Americans.—ASHVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES.

De Gaulle Believes He Can Arrange Peace In Algeria

By WALTER LIPPMAN

WASHINGTON
GENERAL De Gaulle has come into power because he alone offers any hope of being able to make peace in Algeria and in North Africa. He has stated the fate of his government on his ability to do this, and everything else—the reform of the French constitution included—depends upon his success in Algeria.

That his supreme objective must be peace in North Africa is attested by the fact that he has asked for special powers only for a limited period of six months. If his objectives were to make war in order to suppress the rebellion by military force, six months would surely not be enough time. The limited terms on which he has asked for special powers and the moderate character of the Cabinet he has appointed can be seen as meaning—that he believes he can arrange an acceptable settlement without much more fighting and in the next few months.

CRUCIAL QUESTION

The crucial question, on which his success depends, is whether he can count upon the whole loyalty of the Army in Algeria and in France. If he can count upon it, the civilian extremists will not be able to veto the political concessions which any conceivable negotiated settlement will demand to make.

On the other hand, if he cannot count upon the Army in Algeria, the Army in France will be in a position to veto the political concessions which any conceivable negotiated settlement will demand to make. If he cannot count upon the Army in France, the Army in Algeria will be in a position to veto the political concessions which any conceivable negotiated settlement will demand to make.

Thus far, the indications are favorable. There is reason to think that in the insurrection in Algeria the Army was not acting on behalf of the civilian extremists but for reasons of its own. The first of these reasons

MAURICE COUVE DE MURVILLE
A Very Extraordinary Man

was that by taking command of the rioting mobs, the Army maintained law and order during the dangerous interval when there was no responsible government in Paris. The other reason, one may venture to think, is that the Army's grievance against the parliamentary government in Paris was that it was too weak to make war and too weak to make peace. It is highly probable that while the civilian extremists are really interested in white predominance over the Moslem masses, the Army's primary interest is to see concluded with honor to itself an indecisive and inglorious war.

REASON FOR FAITH

This would account for the Army's faith in Gen. De Gaulle. For he is nothing but a soldier, as he has said, there is nothing in his record, to support the notion that he would espouse the purposes of the civilian extremists, of the so-called Algerian lobby, who have stifled all the preceding governments. There is, on the other hand, his whole record as one of the great historic figures of our epoch to guarantee that he will protect the honor of the French Army.

I have known many a Frenchman who has looked to De Gaulle as the only man who could extricate France from the horrible predicaments of an indecisive war. The feeling of these Frenchmen that De Gaulle can do what no other Frenchman can do is not unlike the popular feeling in this country in 1952, that only Gen. Eisenhower with his great personal prestige had power to bring to an end the stalemated Korean war.

WISER THAN CRITICS

Gen. De Gaulle has been much criticized for not offering a blueprint for a settlement in Algeria. He has been wiser than his critics. He has avoided what might have been a fatal mistake. In order to make peace in Algeria, a modus vivendi must be found in which the extremist factions can acquiesce. This will become possible only if, on the one hand, the extremist leaders of the Algerian rebels know that they do not have the support of the Tunisian and Moroccan governments.

To create this situation, in which peace would become possible, there must be a government in France which cannot be abolished and overthrown. This government must have, as Gen. De Gaulle does, an impeccable record in defending the honor of France and a record of magnanimity in dealing with the dependent peoples of the French empire. The government must be free, because its authority is not in doubt, to shake off the extremists and the fanatics and to propose compromises which no weak government would dare to sponsor.

The administration here has acted with perfect propriety and with wisdom during the French crisis. The American government has every reason to wish Gen. De Gaulle well and to hope for



De Gaulle's Future Lies Over The Ocean

his success. If he can bring peace to Algeria, he will not only avert a disaster which might involve the whole of North Africa. He will also open up for France, which is full of young energy, the road to a much happier future. Our vital interest in France is not to be measured in terms of the NATO air fields, depots, communications centers, and divisions. Our interest, the interest of Europe, the interest of peace, requires a strong and prosperous France. With such a France there can be no irreconcilable issues, and our legitimate interests will be safe.

In this connection the appointment as foreign minister of the former French ambassador to Washington, Mr. Maurice Couve de Murville, is most gratifying and reassuring. He is a very extraordinary man, as cool, as objective, and as penetrating a judge of international affairs, as any Western diplomat now in active service. Though still a young man as such things go, he has already had a distinguished career, and he should have, one has the right to believe, a brilliant and invigorating part to play in the diplomacy of the Western coalition.

Margaret's Old Enough To Pick Her Permanent Beau

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain
I AM heavily in favor of young love, and I know that spring courts strange emotional influences, but I am about as bored with Princess Margaret's off-again-on-again road show with Peter Townsend, as I am with French politics. Maybe we could clean up the whole business if

she adopted Gen. De Gaulle and mended bad man in France. Little Margaret Rose is a big girl now, no stranger to night clubs and nightingales. Captain Townsend is as old as me, which ain't young. Before Margaret hits the old maid barrier, somebody ought to straighten out Cupid because, frankly, I think that after a sum of years

Margaret's will-marry-won't-marry is about as interesting a piece of news as Tommy Marville's latest love match. Townsend hung around Clarence House like a lovesick schoolboy recently, and one of his last impromptu drop-ins lasted six hours and was duly commemorated by the London Daily Express' front page. The Palace issued a formal denial that the

little girl would marry the old boy, which sounded mighty like a hopeful yodel in a wind tunnel. Whether or not Princess Margaret takes a husband is not really an earth-shattering event. She is not really a menace to the British Empire, as her chances of succeeding to the throne are only slightly less slim than mine and yours. Presumably she dresses herself. Certainly she smokes cigarettes and goes to the horse parks and hits the London high spots. Maybe she's old enough to choose a permanent beau.

as he has just invited Archbishop Makarios, the Cypriot exile, to London to the horror of, and without bothering to consult, the government. In British eyes, this is comparable to inviting the late Dedan Kimathi to come to the city at the height of the Mau-Mau unpleasantness. Ruling out the objectors, one



SILLY ARGUMENT

The fact that Townsend is divorced is a silly argument against marriage. Her Uncle David Townsend quit a throne to marry a divorced woman, so there is nothing new about this in the family files. I believe a former Queen of England named Elizabeth, both caused the head of many an old chum to roll—and certainly Henry the Eighth had a neat way of expressing his boredom with his wives. British royalty has not always been squeamish in its approach to the facts of life.

From all the wasted newspaper over the past half dozen years, one would assume that Margaret's marriage had some importance to the world, an entirely erroneous supposition. She is a rather pretty, short, slight, blue-eyed young woman who has been known to be publicly rude in a most unroyal fashion. She has not been trained to behave as wise sister Elizabeth. The Queen's two kids are ahead of her for succession, in any case.

LACKS THE TOUCH

The whole Princess Margaret history of romance lacks a certain Juliet touch. She is showing 30 and has had enough beaux to qualify in the claiming races. Townsend lacks a certain Romeo quality, too. I doubt very much if this seasoned flier and world traveler would lose much of his love for Margaret, but he's showed up on the doorstep with a dogged persistence, thus wasting the dramatic effect of his goody-by-cruel-world tour in a Land Rover.

I think we can discount the Archbishop of Canterbury's possible objection to a love match,



MEG AND PETER
The Story Is Stale

by one, we come down to the Queen Mother, big sister, and Philip, the brother-in-law. That would seem to put Margaret's choice of mate on a purely family prejudice basis, and everybody knows that love laughs at locksmiths, big sisters, parents and brothers-in-law. Maybe she will be engaged by the time this hits print, certainly how, because the love-lorn Townsend and his persistent presence at the back door is certainly beginning to state on the public imagination.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Strauss' Clean Bomb Turns Out Dirty

WASHINGTON

ADMIRAL Lewis Strauss, the Atomic Energy chairman, is trying to hide one of the reddest faces in Washington. The Defense Department has just rejected one of his "clean" H-bombs because it is too dirty for tactical military use.

This just about knocks out Strauss' long and persistent argument that the United States was producing a "clean" bomb which would be effective against combat troops but not injure innocent civilians.

The admiral, whose advice President Eisenhower accepts as law on atomic matters, is hiding behind official secrecy, and probably won't admit the above facts. However, here is the inside story of what happened.

Test Results

Strauss had planned to show this particular bomb to foreign observers this summer as a "clean" bomb. It was supposed to be used for precision bombing to knock out specific, pinpoint military

targets behind enemy lines. But tests showed that it would spread too much radioactivity.

The admiral, who spent most of his life as an investment banker, but as a scientist, had failed to take into account the fact that when an H-bomb explodes it sets off new radioactivity in the atmosphere. He was figuring only the actual radioactive particles set off by the trigger mechanism of the bomb, not the "induced" radioactivity which follows explosion. This can contaminate the atmosphere just as dangerously as the actual particles from the trigger bomb.

No Clean-Up

Thus the admiral has not cleaned up the bomb, only reduced one kind of radioactivity without curing another. Note—For some time, Sen. Clinton Anderson (D-MN) has said that the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission is all wet regarding clean bombs. Time after time, Sen. Anderson with Sen. Gore of Tennessee and Congressman Holtfield of California and Price of

Illinois have blasted Strauss for confusing the public.

Lodge Warns Dulles

Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, our able but harassed envoy to the United Nations, has been sending urgent messages to John Foster Dulles suggesting that Admiral Strauss drop his "clean" bomb idea. Lodge warns that the Soviet Union's technological information which will blow Admiral Strauss' clean bomb ideas out of the water.

Lodge has rushed to Dulles a copy of a technical paper prepared by Soviet Scientist O. I. Lepinsky, showing that a hydrogen explosion threatens mankind as much as radiation does as an ordinary atomic explosion. This would support the argument that an H-bomb hasn't been made "clean."

Lodge warned that Lepinsky's paper is packed with complex formulas and technical arguments. Many of them can be refuted, but Lodge fears this won't diminish the propaganda effect.

Answers Sought

From these figures, Lepinsky concludes that "as regards the amount of radiation damage it causes to mankind, a pure hydrogen bomb cannot be regarded as less dangerous than an ordinary bomb."

Ambassador Lodge urgently requested technical information to answer Lepinsky's statements which he expects to be brought up at a meeting of the U. N. Radiation Committee on June 9.