



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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What Is Tar Heel's Secret Weapon?

BOASTING loudly of Tar Heel progress, Gov. Luther Hodges found himself in deep difficulty last Wednesday when he paused in mid-speech to consider why North Carolina is so all-fired wonderful. He finally answered as how it was because of an "extra something" that cannot be found in the brochures.

"Our secret weapon," he said, "is one that no other state can hope to duplicate. It is the individualism of the individual North Carolinian—more than four million individuals who know the true meaning and value of genuine hospitality and mutually beneficial cooperation. . . . It is a tangible, yet unique, quality—easy to detect yet difficult to describe."

A hard truth lurked beneath the haze of the governor's rhetoric. Cynics may deny it and our aristocratic neighbors to the north and south may be inclined to scoff, but the secret of North Carolina's success is the individual Tar Heel. What's more he is recognizably different from other citizens and, as the French say, *Vive la difference!*

Not that Tar Heels can be poured into a mold. Goodness. We are militant individualists. But this very individualism has delivered us from both the follies and the illusions of some of our southern neighbors.

Unlike South Carolina and Virginia, North Carolina had no dominant aristocracy, no big plantation system and, significantly, no "airs." "There was more of isolation and homogeneity, less of caste and culture in North Carolina," said the late William T. Polk once wrote. "So Tar Heels adopted the somewhat invidious motto *Esse Quam Videri*, and took perhaps excessive pride in referring to their state as 'a vale of humility between two mountains of conceit.' We were proud of not being proud." We are militant individualists. But this very individualism has delivered us from both the follies and the illusions of some of our southern neighbors.

Being rather plain and individualistic, Tar Heels could also be excessively ornery on occasion. We have never taken much guff from our leaders and, as a matter of fact, seem to enjoy unseating them fairly regularly. Political machines have come and gone but none have remained long enough to become excessively corrupt or to spawn demagogues who could be tolerated for longer than a term or two, if at all.

North Carolina's democratic individualism also produced a progressive strain in outlook and politics unmatched in other southern states. This involved a social consciousness of sorts and led to better race relations, a deep respect for education, an almost mystical devotion to the University at Chapel Hill and a determination to work for a better way of life for just about everybody. Yet, as Bill Polk observed, we sometimes have fits of laziness and indifference which set our reformers wild.

As always, it is our individualism that renders us absolutely intolerant to some and at the same time saves us from ideology and predictable mediocrity. Jonathan Daniels, an old hand at defining Tar Heels, got to the heart of the matter in 1939 when he wrote:

"North Carolina, which has never been very long on history, nevertheless remembers that when it followed the aristocracies into the War Between the States it provided certainly more private and probably fewer generals than any other southern state. It still is a state of private ready to show scant respect to any who rise pretentiously among them. It even laughs sometimes at its own millionaires and is sometimes glad to get rid of the public officials it has elected. The North Carolina is, as he always has been, an egalitarian individualist."

A state peopled largely by egalitarian individualists—committed in their own ornery ways to a common vision of progress—is well nigh unbeatable. There's your secret, Mr. Hodges.

Who's Riding The Democratic Tide?

WHEN the Republican has passed for campaign funds these days, there's absolutely no danger of loss through overflow. The hat comes back half-empty, party fundraisers mourn, because of embarrassment over Adams' disenchantment with Ike, defeatism about the fall elections, and a new recession-born caution in dispensing coin for any cause.

The Democrats find the pickings easier for a change, largely because of strong odds that the tide in congressional races is running their way. There's little dispute about this, not even by Republican national chairman Meade Alcorn. In some GOP quarters, of course, it is hopefully asserted that new crises by election day will have caused voters to forget their various peevishness against the party. This view belongs solely to the "anything-can-happen" category of political thought.

But even as competing party pitch-men prepare for the immediate fight, they keep one eye on the White House on Pennsylvania Ave. and wonder who's living there after 1960. In this regard Republicans see the future with much more certainty than Democrats. If the next President is a Republican, his name almost surely will be Richard Nixon. While the Democrats have difficulty counting their hopefuls, spotting a probable winner is a greater trial than getting Bernard Goldfine to talk business. It can hardly be done.

No Democratic hopeful is free of a major disqualification. Kennedy is young. Harriman is old. Johnson is southern. Stevenson has been beaten twice. Williams is bound to Walter Reuther. And all of them, excepting Stevenson, lack the national prestige that figures in the political adage that it is better to be notorious than unknown.

But time, as in all things, will tell a great deal. The Democrats may even be fortunate in having no favorite, since

front-runners often fall over unforeseen events and shifts in the public mood. Undoubtedly an asset to Republican morale at the moment, the assurance of Nixon's candidacy is not an unmitigated blessing. If he carries the party standard in 1960, he must also carry the party record, including the vicunas, and that record of his own congressional races that still gives him trouble.

As always, the parties are primarily interested in a man who can win. His identity is secondary. The voters' problem will not be that simple. There is ample evidence to suggest that they want in 1960 a man who will lead the country after he has won an election. Mr. Eisenhower's admission that he needs Sherman Adams in order to run the government doubtless has strengthened the desire. Perhaps the man they will want is one who would agree with Woodrow Wilson that "the President is at liberty both in law and conscience, to be as big a man as he can. His capacity will set the limit. . . . The Constitution bids him speak, and times of stress and change must move more and more through him the attitude of originator of policies."

Wilson's standards for a President are a great deal to ask of any man, but they are the least that can be asked of an effective President in a period of "stress and change" that has no visible end.

They Found It

"CONSTRUCTION has started on Charlotte's \$750,000 health center on Memorial Hospital grounds south of Brunswick Ave."—From THE CHARLOTTE NEWS, July 10, 1958.

This serves as ironclad verification that City Council finally found a site. Voters approved the bond issue on May 3, 1955.



Polls Predict The Worst

Bad News For Republicans

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON CONFIDENTIAL sources sponsored by California Republicans produced an even worse result than the melancholy California primary. In the governorship race, particularly, the polls showed Sen. William Knowland being beaten by State Attorney General Pat Brown by the terrible margin of 61 to 39.

Knowland has yet to take the stump in earnest, but even the Apostle Paul said William Jennings Bryan, working in tandem, would be hard to overcome. A hostile margin of 21 percentage points. Apparently the Republican Senate candidate, former Gov. Goodwin Knight, is doing somewhat better than Knowland. But even so, the California figures are a sinking admission to the officer, confidential poll results.

A poll taken in Massachusetts actually showed Sen. John Kennedy getting 50 per cent of the total vote.

Here's the whole collection of figures together in tabular form. They make the following rather lurid picture:

SCORE CARD
New York (governor): Democrat, 50 per cent; Republican, 49 per cent.
Connecticut (governor): Democrat, 67 per cent; Republican, 33 per cent.
California (governor): Democrat, 61 per cent; Republican, 39 per cent.
Massachusetts (senator): Democrat, 50 per cent; Republican, 50 per cent.
California (senator): Democrat, 51 per cent; Republican, 49 per cent.

Whether the polls were sponsored by Republicans, as in California, or by Democrats, as in New York and New York, or by Democrats, as in Massachusetts, the results are strikingly consistent. It is hard to believe that the election will produce such a crushing Democratic majority. But unless the pollsters have some unanimously mad, the whole familiar political landscape can be forever altered this year.



CONNECTICUT'S RIBICOFF First The Legislatures...

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON Sherman Adams was receiving gifts totaling over \$5,000 from one of his "dearest friends," Bernard Goldfine, another case of gift-giving was dealt with more harshly in the Army.

Col. George Kibler, an engineering procurement officer, had reported that Arthur Vennert of East Westland, N.J., handed him an envelope containing \$10,000.

Firm Suspended
Col. Kibler, who is attached to the Pentagon, reported the "gratuity" in May, 1957, and the following July the Gratitude Board provisionally suspended Vennert's firm from defense work. It was not until March 13, 1958, however, that the board formally determined that the \$10,000 was a gratuity for the purpose of influencing a defense contract. In accordance with this, the board officially

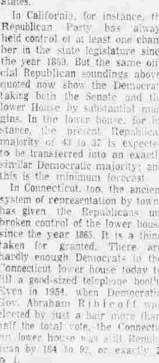


SEN. JOHN KENNEDY Top Banana

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ASSET IN DANGER

In particular, the rock bottom Republican asset will be endangered and perhaps destroyed by the kind of Democratic sweep the polls foretell. This asset is simple: the permanent Republican control of at least one house of Congress. This has been immemorially insured by gerrymandering, or by a rotten borough system, or by both, depending on the states.



CALIFORNIA'S ROOSEVELT ... Then The Gorymader

In recent years, however, the rock-bottom Republican majorities in state legislatures, like the Congress, have been increasingly diluted by the spread of suburban. A town-hoop analysis of the 1954 election showed that an average increase of 6 per cent in the Democratic vote would have put no less than 47 additional towns into the Democratic column. In theory, the Democrats might have taken the state legislature in 1954. If Ribicoff had got 57 per cent of the vote instead of just over 50 per cent. This time, therefore, the Connecticut lower House will certainly be up for grabs if Ribicoff gets anything like his predicted 61 per cent of the total vote.

GERRYMANDER

Very few people understand the enormous advantage the Republicans have always derived from these permanent strongholds in state governments. Like the Congress, the state legislatures are always Republican. With these strongholds always Republican, state constitutions favorable to the conservative interests have been unobtainable. With these strongholds always Republican, the party often had to get the rest of the state government in a good year. Then the state congressional districts could be delightfully gerrymandered, and the Democrats could never counter a gerrymander because they could never gain control of the lower House.

"We did it last time," one malcontented California Republican told this reporter. "Gerrymandering Elbridge Gerry himself. But now, by God, the Democrats will show us what gerrymandering really is."

In California, for instance, the Republican Party has always held control of at least one chamber in the state legislature since the year 1883. But the same old Republican soundings above counted now show the Democrats taking both the Senate and the lower House by a landslide. In California, the lower House, for instance, the present Republican majority of 43 to 47 is expected to be transferred into an exactly similar Democratic majority; and this is the minimum forecast.

In Connecticut, the ancient system of representation by towns has given the Republicans unbroken control of the lower house since the year 1883. It is a thing taken for granted. There are hardly enough Democrats in the Connecticut lower house today to fill a good-sized telephone booth. Even in 1954, when Democratic Gov. Abraham Ribicoff was elected by just a hair more than half the total vote, the Connecticut lower house was still Republican by 184 to 92, or exactly 2 to 1.

Pathetic Letter
Vennert then wrote a pathetic letter to Assistant Secretary Frank Higgins appealing for relief. He explained that he came to this country from Italy in 1920, had worked as a carpenter by day and gone to night school until he worked his way up to become a construction superintendent and finally joined his own company. He had been active in church and civic affairs, had a fine family, he said he had genuinely wanted to help the nation with the education of his son.

Higgins Impressed
Vennert went on to explain that almost his entire business with the gov-

Gussie's Legacy

This Is Tennis?

By ROBERT C. RUARK

IHAVE given up burlesque and girly shows in Paris, says Gussie Moran since Gorgeous Gussie Moran introduced lace pants as a new offensive weapon. I suppose you should call it the "doggy play" into tennis — so when Wimbledon's on, I just have a few British papers sent and save myself an admission stab. I do not know what the score is, precisely, at the doings in the center court. Far as I know it's all finished. All I know is that Miss Karol Fageros, one of our girls, had to march in a kind of lame pants with a kind of slipcover, but managed to sneak the public a peek.

Certainly I know that America's Miss Gloria Butler was wearing a Teddy Tintling blouse-backed shroud with a doggie basket — I promise you, true, it said so in William Hickey's column in the London Daily Express, a paper widely known for its stern accuracy in toting the news to the peasants.

LOST HER BLOOMERS

Miss Shirley Bloomer lost her apparel of the same name — I say it was a slip, a little front-page portrait of a girl losing her drawers is a bloomer is a bloomer — and is now wearing a ballet skirt in what the caption calls "blushing pink" to commemorate the day she dropped her bloomer apparel during the Wimbledon Cup exercises. Safety pins have ever been a dangerous ally.

As an expert on what tennis girls wear underneath their short skirts, I can heartily agree with the news that the two Mexican females, Yola Ramirez and Maria Reyes, were polka-dotted pants, because the picture in Lord Beaverbrook's cultural contribution tells me this something more graphically than Fageros, one of the camouflaged gold lame brutes, is now also wearing an affair called the Golden Ballroom, which makes her look like an unsuccessful paratrooper. With it she carries a few frills, which appears to have inhibited her forehead.

OUT OF HAND

This tennis seems to have gotten out of hand. I do not know Helen Wills' sun visor and the shock that rocked the world of tennis boys, male and female, when the gentlemen deserted their flannels for shorts and the girls took up shorts in place of their long pleated skirts. But now I am expecting him any minute, with sequins blinking from the bare spots to discourage the opposition's service.

I can see a day when the center court at Forest Hills of Wimbledon will be a complete stupor.

GYPSY'S DOUBLES

The next thing to completely confuse me will be one-can stockings, spoked wheels, and possibly a Gypsy Rose Lee in the judge's box.

This British designer, Teddy Tintling, may not have contributed much to the advancement of tennis as a sport, but I am reliably informed that attendance at the Ladies Berge dropped off considerably in Paris as the tourists flocked to Wimbledon to attend the Gypsy Rose Lee Memorial doubles.

What I want to know is: Who's leading the store?

—S. M. HEDGE

Editors' Note: We'll ask him when he comes in.

A 'Mysterious Trip' Of Nixon Questioned

Charlotte

Editors' Note: The News:

I now appear, from newspaper articles, that on his famous South American trip Vice President Nixon and his wife had 12 United States Secret Service men in attendance. It appears that from his interview in Washington upon the occasion of presentation of medals to eight of these men in commendation of their conduct while with Mr. Nixon and his wife in South America that Mr. Nixon believed the Secret Service men saved his life and that of his wife.

In regard to this mysterious trip, two things are suggested for explanation or solution. Never at any time has any other United States citizen, whether an official of our government, businessman or tourist, been harbored or even suffered discomforts in any South American country.

Similar Case
The situation had some similarities with that of Bernard Goldfine and his wife to Adams. Like Goldfine, Vennert was an immigrant. He too claimed friendship with an official of government. Sherman Adams, however, had not reported the much more expensive gifts from his friend while Col. Kibler had. Adams had also reported Goldfine's company on at least three occasions. Col. Kibler had done the opposite.

Another Room Bugged
Jack Latta, the ex-Navy spokesman whose new job it is to glamorize Bernard Goldfine, has an interesting record. In an interview published in Life and in the New York Herald Tribune, he showed that those who live in glass hotel rooms should not throw Jews.

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