



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1958

Harsh Treatment Of Chief Littlejohn Masks Good Start On Court Clean-Up

CITY Council's abrupt dismissal of Police Chief Frank N. Littlejohn was a scurry trick on a man who has served the city long and well.

When Council met yesterday it possessed Littlejohn's stated intention to resign Sept. 1. It possessed also the power to execute that intention, regardless of any possibility of crowfishing by the chief.

No threat to the public welfare was posed, nor any sort of catastrophe made

chief. They all come and go and I don't take orders from any of them. My obligation is to the public I serve the 150,000 people who pay my salary. All this, of course, was gratifying and without a perturbation to the issue at hand—but it was not without provocation.

He could not have been unaware of the risk of retaliation; nor do we discount the possibility the chief may relish the role of minor martyrdom for him.

But the essential fact remains that while leaving voluntarily, a capable public servant was booted out at the end of his career. The action was unnecessary, and it is a severe reflection on the judgment of the Council majority.

UNFORTUNATELY Council's appointment of an acting chief of police must be viewed primarily as part of the effort to humiliate Littlejohn—who had championed Asst. Chief John Hord for the job. As far as we know, Capt. E. C. Solves, who was appointed, is a capable officer with the potential of doing a good job. He certainly has our best wishes and if they're any use to him, he will have our services. But entirely aside from the respective merits of Hord and Solves, there is general acceptance of the idea of promoting to vacancies those next in line. Unless Council is concealing good reasons to the contrary, Hord deserved a trial run in the job, both in fairness to him and in respect to the morale of the police department.

And in this connection, we think Council should disavow the current impression that Charlotte's next police chief necessarily will be an outsider. It may be that circumstances within the department dictate importation of a chief. But before this decision is made, there ought to be thorough consideration of local talent as well as an inclination to use that talent if it is promising. It would be thoroughly bad for police morale to rule out in advance the possibility of a promotion to chief within the department.

IN ANOTHER major action yesterday, Council properly concluded long contention over the status of the Recorder's Court clerkship by appointing a civilian to the job. An assistant to the County Clerk of Court, the appointee, L. Carl Cook, can be expected to have the necessary training and experience to perform efficiently an office that has been marked in the past by inefficiency and gross mismanagement.

The acting clerk, Police Sgt. Charles Adams, has performed diligently and faithfully but the practice of assigning police officers to the post was undesirable for several reasons. For one thing, the authority and responsibility of the judge for the operation of the court ought to be kept crystal clear. For another, the separate processes of arrest and trial need to be kept separate in the public's mind. And thirdly, there are serious constitutional questions involved in the dual allegiance of a police officer acting as clerk of a court.

All of these points have been made by the bar association in its proposal for reform of Recorder's Court practices and procedures. Council's action on the clerk is a very welcome first step toward getting on with what remains a large and pressing task.

It is regrettable that the significance of this wholly constructive step should have been played by the Council majority's dramatic display of pique and resentment at Chief Littlejohn.

AS FOR the chief, we wish for him many years of mellowness and comfort in what we choose to call his retirement. We'll skip the custom of expressing hope that his advice and counsel will be available to the city on police matters in the future. Even in retirement he won't be coy about offering opinions.

And that will be all right.

Forcible Promises And Feeble Deeds Mark U.S. Policy

By WALTER LIPPMANN

LAST WEEK, speaking as a man who is deeply concerned, Sen. Fulbright brought into the open the dismay and anxiety about our foreign policy which are so widespread in this country today. There is, to be sure, no massive popular discontent such as there was, for example, when the Korean war had degenerated into a bloody stalemate. But among the leading minds and spirits of the country there exists a sense of foreboding that much of the post-war structure of our policy is undermined and that we are in grave danger of losing control over our affairs.

It might not take more than one more spectacular entanglement in the Middle East, the present one in Lebanon and Jordan, to provoke so serious a public reaction that it might be impossible to correct our errors and agree upon a coherent and rational policy. We must, therefore, take a close look at the disorientation of our policy in the hope that it will throw light on the problem.

TWO SCHOOLS

Among the disoriented critics of the Eisenhower-Dulles conduct of foreign policy, there are two principal schools of thought. One holds that we could and should be powerful enough to contain, and some would say to reverse, the revolutionary movements which have their centers in Moscow, Peking, and Cairo. The complaint of these critics against the administration is that it has starved our military establishment, and that it lacks the

courage and resolution to interfere forcibly when, as for example in Iraq, a former ally of the West is submerged by the revolutionary tide.

The other school holds that our foreign policy in the post-war era, though often constructive as in the Marshall Plan and NATO, has been in many ways vitiated by a very unsound estimate of the power available to the United States and of the forces at work in the contemporary world. Those of us who take this view believe that, while the United States must keep even in the race of armaments, it can never be powerful enough to contain or to push back, by military force the enormous revolutionary movement of the post-war era. We believe, moreover, that the attempt to contain the revolutions by



SEN. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT
An Apprehension Revealed

military force has led us to make a series of commitments which cannot be fulfilled without inordinate and incalculable risk.

STRATEGIC ABSURDITY

Our commitments about the offshore islands, Quemoy and Matsu, on the China coast, so we have been told, deliberately uncertain. But that does not improve it very much. An American defense of these islands is a strategic absurdity, and it does not enhance our prestige in the world to say that we may, though we may not, go to war about these islands. Another such commitment was the promise to Resisted Part countries, we are in the sorry position of not knowing what Mr. Dulles has promised to do in a part of the world which is strategically at the end of our reach.

NEEK ACCOMMODATIONS

There are, in brief, those who think that our troubles can be cured if we arm more heavily, become more ready, and there are those who think that the United States has become so weakened, that it has promised to do more things than it

can do, and that the way out of our difficulties is to reduce our military commitments in the Far East and in the Middle East and to seek accommodations with the revolutionary movements.

This is, like deciding to diet or to live not on credit but on income, a painful thing to do. It is our equivalent in fact of what Britain and France have been going through in accommodating themselves to the fact that they are no longer the great powers in the world that they were in the nineteenth century. We are no longer so great a power in the world as we seemed to be in 1945 when Russia had been devastated by the war and China was in the throes of a civil war, the Middle East had not yet risen in revolt, and the Far East was intact, wealthy, and invincible.

The period of American supremacy was, as we can now see, a passing phase in human affairs, and our failure to learn to live with this great fact of life, the passing of the American era, is almost certainly the root of our miscalculations in foreign policy.

DULLES' PROSQUES

It is the reason why Mr. Dulles has gone around the world promising everything that would accept the promise an American military guarantee. In this, Mr. Dulles has shown himself to be not a prudent and calculating diplomat but a gambler who is more lavish than any other secretary of state has ever dreamed of being. He has promised to give up the blood, the treasure, and the honor of this country. The President has endorsed all these promises, notes, the man who, when they threaten to be called in, shrinks from the consequences and pulls back the country and Mr. Dulles from the brink.

It all adds up to the kind of policy which Theodore Roosevelt used to denounce as "forwarded" and "reckless" in its promises and it is feeble in its deeds. That will not for long satisfy a nation which respects itself and means to be respected abroad.

'This Splendid Achievement, Made Possible By A Man Whose Name I Forget—'



Discredit Head-Shaking

Mr. Nixon's Quiet Thunders

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
THE loudest thunders of silence in the capital today are coming from one of its most fluent politicians—Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

Nobody can leap faster into situations productive to helpful headlines. The fact that he is presently self-effacing indicates the real measure of the operational difficulties confronting him.

Obviously this is no time to allow the slightest shadow of difference with the President to arise. Even Democrats who are sure they could do a much better job see that and are showing extreme caution. Nixon is, of course, much more deeply and delicately involved. About all he permits himself is discreet head-shaking and assurances that he does, indeed, realize the gravity of the position.

TRAVEL QUESTIONS

That is his long-range problem. Immediately to be decided are troublesome questions of travel, itinerary and domestic.

Did ever from last fall to this September is the European tour a determined to take, with stopovers in areas behind the Iron Curtain viewed with deep emotion and anxiety by substantial American living there, in the eastern and western areas. The State Department has never before had such a Nixon trip necessary.

Now another complicating factor is reported from Capitol Hill. Senators are told that Ambassador Abihai Mensikov has urged the vice president to include Moscow in his itinerary.

To a politician as self-confident as Mr. Nixon, the temptation of such an invitation would be great. But that fear of good feeling toward the Russians during which "Smiling Mike" was a social lion and repeatedly paid his respects to the vice president, has been dissipated by the Middle East crisis.

The increasing hesitancy has attached to all foreign affairs in the United States, a model of doubt, too, about the wisdom of any purely ceremonial trips abroad by the United States vice president.

Richard M. Nixon

Shyness Is Preferred

At home, Nixon has a campaign literature and technique to work out, for he inevitably the administration burden-bearer in that position to be an acrimonious and Republican effort to regain control of Congress, or at least deny to Democrats a real working majority in the House and Senate.

HATCHET MEN DESIRED

This is not the kind of battle to which the President's talents are best suited, even if he were not aging and beset with situations of great danger abroad. It is a fact also that many Republican candidates doubt that the Eisenhower campaign is any good for the rough ride they anticipate when they must discuss the paradox of recession and inflation plus United States Marines on foreign soil.

Their best defense will be an admission that the Democrats (Congress) what they really need is hatchet men. They know Nixon's abilities of this nature from old times, but they are disappointed they get him at less than the top of his form.

The vice president must consider that the role is not adapted to his changing circumstances and clamorous ambition. Yet the basis of his hopes is the party organization which is in so much trouble in so many places. It reflects a real test of that maturity of judgment now claimed for him by his supporters.

It has become the hope of the masses of the world in which we live, for action, countless millions would sink into hopeless abjection. Rightly practiced and believed in, it can be the vehicle of a great new Christian era that will sweep over every wall of resistance and every iron curtain of defeat, for the Democratic Party is a brand to the tireless and a mighty force if used rightly.

What other party would the kindly effort relegate to us? It is only recently that many people have come to see the Republican Party as superior to the Democratic Party. Only the faithful man of Democracy can build on a solid foundation.

I have often realized to see some good old time revival among the Republicans, and see them come to the side of the party that has killed off the Tories in Revolutionary times, that ousted the Federalists of Hamilton and his government-owned banks, that opposed the tariffs that made pauper of the people of the South, and that read great humanitarian reforms into our Constitution. Come on over, you wavering friends, let us need the Democratic Party and it needs you.

The Republicans in North Carolina may be all right for many years, but the North Carolina House of Representatives is not a museum.

—MERCE J. BLANKENSHIP

It is our duty to strike out separate and have expressions of their own in highest literature. I think so still, and more decidedly so now. But these conditions are now strongly tempered by some additional points. I see that this world of the West, as part of all, faces inseparably with the East, and with all, as time does—the ever new, yet old, old human race—the same subject continued—as the needs of our grandfathers had it for chapter-heads. If we are not to hang about the past, we must complete the inaugurations of the old civilizations, and change their small scale, what on earth was not—From "The Party and the People" by W. Whitman, edited by Louis Untermeyer.

People's Platform

Republicans Okay As Museum Pieces

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

INTERESTED recently concerning the utter futility of sending a Republican to the North Carolina House of Representatives, I also noted the various editorials on behalf of a two-party system, whatever that is.

As for the party of the common people that was founded by Thomas Jefferson, nurtured by Andrew Jackson, vainly defended by Jefferson Davis, revitalized by Grover Cleveland, made immortal by Woodrow Wilson and given new meaning by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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Candidate Clark Needs Seasoning

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

THE general election is only a few weeks away and we are looking forward to another great victory for Rep. Jonas in the Tenth District and promised to be the congressman for all the people like him, kept this promise.

We look back from 1945 to 1957. What did we have in Washington to represent us? Well, we have had a lot of things. In 1952, Jonas went before the voters in the Tenth District and promised to be the congressman for all the people like him, kept this promise.

New laws take another look at 1954. Mr. Sedberry went down in defeat. So did Mr. Sedberry. In 1952, Jonas went before the voters in the Tenth District and promised to be the congressman for all the people like him, kept this promise.

Well, Mr. Clark, we don't think you will. We don't think you are qualified for national politics at this time. You need a few more years' training under Mr. Jonas before we are ready to send you to Washington.

—L. L. CHILDRESS

Literary Path

YEARS ago I thought Americans ought to strike out separate and have expressions of their own in highest literature. I think so still, and more decidedly so now. But these conditions are now strongly tempered by some additional points. I see that this world of the West, as part of all, faces inseparably with the East, and with all, as time does—the ever new, yet old, old human race—the same subject continued—as the needs of our grandfathers had it for chapter-heads. If we are not to hang about the past, we must complete the inaugurations of the old civilizations, and change their small scale, what on earth was not—From "The Party and the People" by W. Whitman, edited by Louis Untermeyer.

From The Hartford Courant

NEW ENGLAND VICTORY AT BRUSSELS

ALMOST as lively as the protest against the American art exhibit at the Brussels Fair is the storm of protest from New England against the stuff they were fobbing off on unsuspecting foreigners as clam chowder. The New England Council was the first to protest and soon Senator Saltonstall got into the act by cabling to Howard S. Callahan, U.S. Commissioner General. "They are cheating over there in Brussels. This is a sin against New England tradition and good eating."

This protest against Manhattan soup, filled with tomatoes and other unmentionable stuff, is one of a long series of letters against these continued outrages. Usually the protests fall on deaf ears and fall stomachs. But the Council has this time won a full and unqualified victory. After a six-week slush while the chiefs were looking through their books, no doubt, the following cable was sent home from Brussels: "New England clam chowder is

now being served in American Pavilion. We have just tasted it and pronounce it authentic."

A victorious battle, perhaps, but the whole war is not won. It will still be necessary to man the battlements continuously, and at every opportunity to strike down this upstart that masquerades under the name of clam chowder. Let this newest victory make us not smug, but ever more vigilant in a noble cause.

P.S. Too bad the stuff with the tomatoes in it is so pleasing to the taste.

Two things make woman slow
In going any place
She must make up her mind.
And then her face — LEXINGTON LEADER

The more spoiled a youth becomes,
The fresher he gets — ELLA WALKER (GA.) SUN

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

NEW YORK

FOR three years the Cairo Radio has poured out an almost never-ending stream of vitriol against the United States. Even when John Foster Dulles was offering Nasser the Avaran Dam, Nasser's radio was blasting the United States in 23 different Arab and African dialects. 24 hours a day, it has accused the United States of trying to poison the Egyptian people by importing sick chickens and swine. A 40 program aimed to aid Egyptian poultry farmers.

These frenzied radio blasts urging Arabs to kill King Hussein and President Gamal Abdel Nasser, a model of aggression which has incited rioting behind the Arab Desert curtain. It contains deep, passionate, bitter hate. Here are typical radio broadcasts when ill-

trate the depth of the hate, the difficulty of the problem facing the UN Assembly.

Voice of the Arabs to the Arab world. July 30. Arab brother, let us consider American imperialism, a model of all other imperialism. Today American imperialism is the one which will lead the world to disaster. It is a model of all other imperialism. It is a model of all other imperialism. It is a model of all other imperialism.

voke general apprehension instead of summit talks which offer the last chance to save the world.