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THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1959

Charlotte's City Council Sees The Light

THE City Council demonstrated a proper regard for the public's best interests yesterday in prohibiting the organization of Charlotte's policemen. Previously, the law enforcement agency had been declared off limits for Jimmy Hoffa's Teamsters. But the door had unexpectedly been left ajar for any other labor organization with a yen for the men in blue. The goodness or badness of particular unions was not the issue. The issue was whether it was desirable to have policemen subjected to the traditional dogma and disciplines of the American labor movement at all. Trade unionism has obviously won its spurs in U. S. life. There is no doubt about that. But there are grave doubts that the labor movement's influence should be permitted to invade such a sensitive field as law enforcement. Our view has always been that the risks are too great and that a line should be drawn. Until yesterday, the Council had been unwilling or unable to come to grips with this basic issue. It had help, however, from a thoroughly aroused public. During the week just past, Charlotteans expressed their concern loudly and clearly. The weight of evidence was on the side of discretion. Consequently, the city will play it safe. Many a Charlottean will wonder now what all of the shouting and soul-searching was all about. Even Walter Reuther, one of the American labor movement's chief lawgivers, told a Durham audience Tuesday that he was opposed to the organization by unions of "people like policemen." Less than 24 hours later, the City Council had registered its agreement. It was about time.

They Took It Out On Old Joe Martin

HOUSE Republicanism will be noisier during the 86th Congress but no more creative. The drafting given old Joseph W. Martin in the race for the minority leadership had nothing to do with liberal-conservative values. Charles A. Halleck of Indiana, the surprise winner, is as much a prisoner of the right as his predecessor. But he is also viceroy (58, as compared to Martin's 74 summers) tougher, more vocal. Where Martin can afford to be quietly philosophical about the virtues of the status quo, Halleck is fidgety and militant. The new GOP leader will at least keep the pot boiling furiously with salty partisanship. Still, the sudden decision to depose Joe Martin is indicative of Republican frustration. He was the party's link with the grand old days and, to many, the very symbol of congressional Republicanism. He has certainly done his share of fighting against fearful odds. It was Martin, during the early New Deal, who time and time again plunged into the breach only to be beaten back by vast Democratic majorities under the spell of Franklin D. Roosevelt. When FDR's Agricultural Adjustment Act was introduced, it was Martin who shouted, "We are on our way to Moscow!" When the bill establishing the Tennessee Valley Authority was introduced he cried that it was "patterned closely after one of the Soviet dreams," adding after a glance into a cloudy crystal ball: "I think I can accurately predict no one in this generation will see materialize the industrial-empire dream of the Tennessee Valley." Later, Mr. Roosevelt himself used Martin's name as a part of a derisive campaign war cry. FDR even had a Madison Square Garden audience chanting the phrase with him: "Martin, Barton and Fish."

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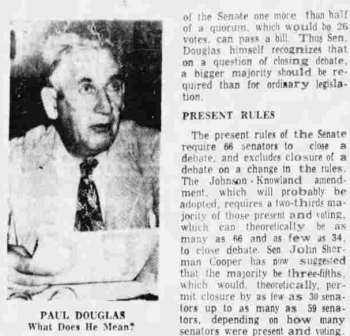
For Republican Liberals, That Was All

REPUBLICAN liberals were strangely inarticulate yesterday after the GOP's old guard put down a well-advertised "rebellion" in the ranks. Sen. Everett M. Dirksen, a conservative, was named the party's floor leader in the Senate. "I got whipped," said one disappointed insurgent. "Is that all?" asked a newsman. "That's all," said the solon. It reminded us of the yarn Brooks

NOTE ON A 'REAL METROPOLIS'

THE Urbane CHARLOTTE NEWS hears that the good, gray GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS has tarried too long in the corn patch. And why does our sensitive contemporary, whose editorial tower must be crowded with antennae, radar and sonar equipment, have such fear? Simply because the other day we leaped that the Piedmont "has no real metropolises." Asks the pricked Nrx: "Just what do you suppose they take us for—a field of winter wheat?" Well, could be. Maybe its "real metropolises" does not extend out to the new north-south bypass. But distinctly we saw some winter grain growing along it recently, and back last Fall there was an old-fashioned horse-drawn mower raking in the hay crop along the new bypass. But, then, there's what we see by the papers. And that "elephant jungle" must still be around. Or has Charlotte spurred ahead during the interval since Vicky captured the headlines to convert that how-many-miles-square tangled area into a municipally owned and operated zoo? Sure, as The Nrx's submits, "things have happened since the Battle of Guilford Courthouse." For instance, the Charlotte Navy Yard has been abandoned. But some things must go on unchanged, as for instance, the flowing fragrance of Sugar Creek. We have no objection whatever to

What Does Senator Douglas Mean By 'Majority Rule'?



PAUL DOUGLAS What Does He Mean?

THE Senate one more that 26 of a quorum, which would be half votes, can pass a bill. This Sen. Douglas himself recognizes that on a question of closing debate, a bigger majority should be required than for ordinary legislation. Thus when Sen. Douglas wants to close a debate and to pass a bill, he calls it majority rule which is "the basic principle of our government." But suppose the 50 senators represent the 25 smallest states, do they represent a majority of the people of the United States? Taking the figures for the census of 1950, the 25 smallest states which have 20 senators represent about 29,000,000 people, or less than one-fifth of the population in 1950. Against these 25 states there were three states—New York, California, and Pennsylvania, which had 7,000,000 more people than them than all the 25 combined. THE MORAL The moral of all this is that in the Senate, "majority rule" is not something which all good men must favor and only reactionaries or worse can oppose. The question of what kind of majority shall prevail is not one of simple arithmetic or of absolute principle but of political wisdom. For those of us who prefer the Johnson to the Douglas amendment of Rule XXII, there are two outstanding considerations: one, which refers to the civil

rights of Negroes; it is that which the federal government to proceed if not with the consent, then at least with the assent, of a large body of southern opinion. We think that legislation which does not have at least the assent of the liberal South will prove to be unenforceable. PANIC ALWAYS POSSIBLE The other consideration which moves us is that we do not wish to curtail the civil liberties of all our people, not only under the 14th and 15th Amendments, but under the whole Bill of Rights, to simple and narrow majorities. We live in a time of danger when panic is always possible and panics can easily produce a stampede away from liberty. The Johnson amendment to the rules, which requires at the most 16 votes to pass a controversial measure, is a reasonable rule. Legislation could be blocked by an unending filibuster only if all the senators of 17 states participated in it. This would not, as some have suggested who side with Sen. Douglas, give the South an absolute veto on legislation to promote the civil rights of Negroes. In the deep South there are only seven states in which there has been no desegregation of primary or secondary level and they have 14 Senators. In ten other states of the South and the borderland there is some desegregation. All of these states would have to combine with the deep South to impose a "veto."



LYNDON JOHNSON What Can He Save?

Now legislation which is opposed by all the states of a whole section of the country, including the states which are beginning to comply with the new principle of desegregation, is very doubtful legislation indeed. It promises more trouble than anything else. Presumably the Johnson amendment will be adopted, as Sen. Douglas himself forecast in his appearance on "Meet the Press" on Sunday evening. When it is adopted, it will not stop his long, persistent, and invaluable labors on behalf of civil rights.

People's African Democracy Is Costly But Worth The Pain

McCull, S. C. Editor, The News: PAULK's promises to fear that the return of traditional traditions democracy will make no progress in Independent Africa. Those who oppose African freedom have expressed the same fear giving tribalism as their reason for doing so. It would be for them to remember that every other nation has traveled the same road. England, for example, has bloodied the pages of its history with internal strife. France with its revolution. And last but by no means least our own great country. Here were 13 colonies who bickered and bashed heads, quarreled and cut throats, quibbled and kicked back-sides until they became 48 (forgive me, Alaska) glorious states. Yes, Africa there may be tribal differences. There may be confusion. There may be strife, even bloodshed. But in the end, just as with us and all other nations, will justify the means. Long live African freedom. —TOMMY MCNEIL

are lacking in that we do not properly teach our children properly learn the simple rudiments of the "three R's." The colleges are sending high school graduates home because they do not have the necessary foundation which lower schools are increasingly failing to give them. In fine, it now appears that public education is on the down grade and that it must be put in line or else private schools will be the only remaining hope for a good foundation. Elementary and high schools should operate on the broad assumption that they are not only the means and approach to a college education and so must prepare the children, but they must increasingly remind themselves that they are also the means and the end to preparing a child for citizenship, for not all are college material and not all can afford an expensive education. If we fail the children then we have failed the state and North Carolina is woefully near the bottom of the heap in literacy. I hope to see a 15-month school course in this state, with ample periods for work and recreation in between. It would be the salvation of those counties that can no longer build school houses. It is well and good to work for materialistic things, such as good roads, a higher wage level to sustain a growing economy, civil rights which tend to make voters and other political pawns of those

whose only guidance is a statistic, and those who strive for the growth of comfortable towns and villages into crime-infested cities. My friends of North Carolina, we must make steady progress with measured step. We must be patient in using what we already have to greatest advantage and above all, we must learn to endure. We North Carolinians and we southerners could use more patience and endurance. Robert Louis Stevenson said that Jesus said many centuries ago, that patient, enduring and wise living was centered around each day. A man can live sacrificially on a daily basis 80 more than he can with our state. Wild dreamers and wild schemers will get us nowhere. The Old North State can make marked progress during 1959 if we each daily strive together to make good citizens of ourselves and if we look to the basic and fundamental requirements that are demanded of us. —MERCER J. BLANKENSHIP

A Few Resolutions For The New Year

Editors, The News: PATRICK Henry meeting with the two Adairms from Boston, and many other notables, including Washington and Franklin, is credited with making his great antiseptical assertion at the Philadelphia Convention: "I am an American." He leaped over the wide gap of being just a Virginian into a vast arena covered by 13 colonies. In the formation of basic policies of the Continental Congress, he took a bold and courageous step and is credited by historians with being first to shout this patriotic phrase. He was to retreat from his position somewhat later on when he became governor of the sovereign state of Virginia, and the President of the United States was passing through Virginia. He then stated that the sovereignty of Virginia was in effect a greater office than that of President of the Colonies, and the President could come calling on him at Richmond. And so it has ever been, we are Americans in periods of national emergency and States flourish in times of peace, and perhaps this is wise and good. Just now I feel like being a citizen of the Old North State in this time. There is more to be done in North Carolina and there are problems to be solved. I feel that most basic of all of our problems is one of education. I wish Avcock could speak again about education. We are lacking in trade schools where those who don't want or need a classical education can be sent to learn honorable work with their hands. We

'Don't Go Getting Any Ideas, Son'



Why Are Alabamans Annoyed At Voodoo?

Editors, The News: IN AN ITEM in The News the other day set me wondering the way of it. Seems a Negro school teacher in Alabama is persona non grata with the authorities because she teaches clear, thinking, good religion, discipline and cooperation, plus reading, writing and arithmetic. The Ku Klux Klan uses fire and costumes, but in a slightly different manner, of course. Alabamans, everybody knows, are the salt of the earth, and some Alabamians belong to the Klan. Vix, why should the school folk (Alabamians, too) be annoyed at the teacher's actions? Could it be because the classes are segregated? —DANIEL DELAFIELD

Quote, Unquote

"I can explain all the poems that ever were invented and a good many that haven't been invented just yet." —Lewis Carroll. "A horse is a fellow who opens his mouth and puts his feet into it." —Henry Ford. "Epigram: A wisecrack that pleated Carnegie Hall." —Oscar Levant. "Money is like a sixth sense—and you can't make use of the fifth without it." —Somerset Maugham.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round 1959: Big Year For A Russian Space Man

WASHINGTON YOU can look for some spectacular Soviet achievements in outer space this year. The most spectacular space event on the Russian calendar will be the launching of a man into orbit and bringing him back alive. The second spectacular event which the Russians have up their scientific sleeve is to fly an atomic plane around the world several times without refueling. I wish Avcock could speak again about education. We are lacking in trade schools where those who don't want or need a classical education can be sent to learn honorable work with their hands. We

Funds To Catch Up

In Huntsville, Ala. last month, rocket experts told me that the United States would soon have a rocket-launcher of power equal to the Russians. They haven't had it so far because the budget was cut. Appropriations were lacking. Almost two years have passed since the administration first knew the Russians had this powerful rocket-launcher. My 1957 get only recently has the White House authorized funds to catch up.

Confusion Over Mikoyan

Friendly foreign diplomats are flabbergasted at the debonair manner in which John Foster Dulles and the White House kissed off the USA visit of Russia's No. 2 man, Deputy Premier Mikoyan. Secretary Dulles said it would be "awkward" for him to see Mikoyan, that he would "try" to see him, but he knew nothing of a "date" being arranged in advance. Dulles has now paused long enough to see Mikoyan in Washington before his arrival from Jamaica and his flight to Canada. Reason the diplomatic corps are flab-

Briefing Snafu

Note: What members of the diplomatic corps didn't know that the State Department has been in a dither trying to decide what to do about Mikoyan. They didn't want to brief him because he was a Communist. They were waiting for Dulles to brief him. Difficulty is that Eisenhower leaves all foreign policy to Mr. Dulles, and Mr. Dulles is almost never in Wash-