



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Two-Party Politics For Mecklenburg?

The "steady growth" of the Republican Party in Mecklenburg County since 1955 offers little hope for a genuine two-party system here in the near future.

The astonishing thing about the increase in the number of Republican registrations over the past four years is not that it is so large but so small.

In that period — undoubtedly the brightest in the party's local history — registrations increased from 10,588 to 12,806. That is a gain of only 2,208.

During the same period, Democratic registrations decreased 1,393 — from 74,971 to 73,578.

Yet this was the golden age of Eisenhower and Jonas, whose irresistible appeal was expected to spark a Republican renaissance. What happened?

The fact is that the appeal of both gentlemen is predominantly personal. They won in spite of their party rather than because of it. Having won, they maintained their own popularity reasonably well but they have done considerably

less than might have been expected to strengthen the party itself.

Rep. Jonas, in particular, has simply let the Republican Party take care of itself as best it could. This was, after all, the safest course to follow. He owes so much to Democrats. They gave him his big Mecklenburg majorities.

The local Republican organization has been active, but never as effective as it ought to be with Eisenhower and Jonas as its chief drawing cards. It has been distressingly short on talent and issues where local officers are concerned. Nor is there any strong personality waiting in the wings anywhere in the Tenth District should Rep. Jonas decide not to seek re-election in 1960.

The Republicans cannot depend on casual ticket-splitters for party strength. Only when a sizable number of Mecklenburgers is willing to make its loyalty a matter of public record and work openly and earnestly for the party's program and its candidates will a system of two-party politics be established here. It is still a distant goal.

North Carolina's Rep. Cooley Fights Hard For Barter

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

The seemingly innocent barter program under which mounting surpluses of farm products are supposed to be exchanged for strategic materials from foreign nations has become a matter of hot controversy between Congress and the Department of Agriculture.

The program, which has been warmly endorsed by Rep. Cooley of North Carolina, chairman

Cooley, having despaired of persuasion, is now trying to get Congress to put into law a mandate requiring the Agriculture Department to step up the use of barter to get rid of excess wheat, cotton and other crops.

The main official objection to the barter program is that it interferes with cash sales. The House committee has brought from the department a single instance in which this has been the case. The two cases cited by department officials, on investigation, have not been accepted by the committee.

DOLLARS DRAIN AWAY

It is Cooley's position that when surplus sales of farm produce are made for dollars, it drains away foreign-owned dollars that would be spent here anyway for something else. He also concludes that when sales are made for the so-called "soft" currencies of other nations, this merely results in building up a surplus of unneeded currencies, but often means a loss when the currencies decline in value.

SPIRITED DEFENCE

In a spirited defense of the barter program before the committee, Rep. Anfozo, Democrat of New York, who despite his Brooklyn origin is something of an expert in agricultural economics, pointed out that storage of surplus farm products is costing \$2 million a day currently. If the whole surplus could be replaced by stored strategic materials, chiefly metals, storage costs would drop by half a billion a year or more.

Failure to use the barter program is permitting the Rus-



The Farm Bounty: Storing Surplus Costs \$2 Million Daily



Cooley: Put It In Law

of the House Agriculture Committee, was abandoned by Secretary of Agriculture Benson year before last. Last year Congress specifically included it in a law extending the power of the Agriculture Department to dispose of surpluses. In a conference report on the bill it was insisted that the barter program be taken up again in earnest. To the contrary, critics of the department say, it has been minimized to a nubbin of usefulness.

sians to sell wheat to such of our allies as the Netherlands and Japan. Where our wheat exports have declined, Russian exports have increased, he says.

GRAIN STORAGE

The storage of surplus grain is getting to be such a big busi-

ness, Anfozo declared, that one concern Dutch is receiving \$13 million a year rent for its storage bins, is one of the most active campaigners against an effective barter program. It would deprive it of some of its tenant business.

Possibly because of the enthusiasm of Chairman Cooley,

the barter program has always been well received in the House. While it is treated with more reserve by the Senate, it is likely that this year, Congress having been twice thwarted by the administration in its desire for an active program, will write its mandate into law in unmistakable words.

In Steel, The Theatre Is Tiresome

To those who regard the steel strike with eyes undimmed by tears of partiality, the theatricals are beginning to be tiresome.

The public should not let itself be grooved with 100-proof Old Wisdom about "free collective bargaining" in this huge and focal industry — which is crucial in the stability of the national economy, crucial in defense, and basic to most of the country's manufacturing.

Neither the right to strike nor the right of collective bargaining is the key issue. The key issue is whether the giant Steelworkers' Union, the steel companies, and the White House are to be allowed by public opinion to play an old and familiar game.

How old and familiar it may be proved by a reflection on what happened in 1956, during the last steel strike. When a five-week walkout in that year began to imperil the campaign plans of the Republican Party, and its "peace and prosperity" slogan, President Eisenhower, who had assumed the same "hand-

off" position he assumes today, took action. The then secretary of the Treasury, George Humphrey, persuaded the companies to quit rocking the boat. They thereupon gave the biggest wage concession in history—62½ cents an hour over three years—and proceeded to raise steel prices \$21 a ton.

The point is, as A. H. Raskin pointed out in the New York Times, "the national economy is usually obliged to yell 'uncle' before either the steel companies or the union 'uncle' in this case means 'Uncle Sam' in the form of the President of the United States."

Sooner or later, President Eisenhower will have to climb down from his high horse and admit that wage settlements and steel prices are not made in Heaven. They are served by mortals with interests to be served. While interests are being battered around, certainly, the public's interest in economic stability and vital defense materials should put in an appearance as soon as Washington finds it convenient.

Megacorpse? Traxle? Bottoming Out?

"Speech is civilization itself," wrote Thomas Mann. "The word, even the most contradictory word, preserves contact—it is silence that isolates."

Perhaps.

But, frankly, we prefer a little silence to some of the words and phrases that entered the language in 1958. We've just been presented a list of them by the people who publish the World Book Encyclopedia and, man, they bug us the most.

Take "megacorpse" for instance. It's a word introduced by science to mean a million dead people — such as could result from nuclear warfare. Since it is well known that words are coined to fill definite needs, "megacorpse" is probably the most fearful ten-letter word in the language. We're for banning its use right now.

But there are others.

An example of making a silk purse out of a sow's ear is "informational site." That's the area at the side of the road where a billboard extols "Mother Fletcher's Instant Matzah Balls." We'd prefer Mother Nature's Instant Scenery, thank you. In our book, an "informational site" is a site for sore eyes.

We regret also to report that the ridiculous phrase, "bottoming out," finally made it. It means reaching the lowest point in a recession and we have the economists to thank for the expression. They ought to stick to their "supply" and "demand" curves and leave comedy to the comedians.

But absurdity was the rule rather than the exception.

From The Greensboro Daily News

A MEMO TO CHARLOTTE FROM THE STICKS

The erudite, sophisticated, urbane Charlotte News had better stick to its civilized writing and not tackle strictly rural or bucolic topics.

The News sounds the clarion call of "Back to Chittin'!" In its outcry against modern gourmet and their swing to such items as "fried grasshopper hors d'oeuvres, pickled octopus and chocolate-covered ants." The News brings upon itself the question of where it ever heard much less tasted, any such stuff. If such oddities are possum anywhere in North Carolina it must be amongst the country club set and the nouveau riche who have infiltrated the Descendants of the Signers.

But let's move on to The News' advocacy of "such sensible delicacies as chittlin's, ragout of possum, catfish stew, pickled pig's feet and cracklin' bread."

Chittlin's we refuse to recognize as a delicacy; it's a dish for stout-hearted men with strong stomachs. And noticeably missing from what should be an accurate, indigenous list are black-eyed peas and hog jowl, turnip salad, cornfield beans and fatback and, perish the omission, collard greens.

But these prefatory observations

aside, what really got us was that ragout of possum. If ever a possum has been ragouted in North Carolina, that is indeed something. The word sent us packing off to the dictionary. It was there all right, straight from France, pronounced "rawgoot" and defined as "a dish made of pieces of meat stewed with vegetables and highly seasoned."

We interrogated several possum authorities, and to a person they said they'd never heard of stewed possum; in fact the very mention of the words had almost the same effect as seasickness. Possum was invariably baked, encircled by sweet potatoes. Possum and taters are as inseparable as ham and eggs or peaches and cream. Ragout of possum hung, phoney and a passel of tant-so's.

Git along, city boy, and let us country boys and our vittles alone.

If you really want to be reminded of your age, just take another glance at the list of graduates who mailed you an invitation — Fitzgerald (Ga.) Herald.

"I suppose these new salons are all right, pal. But I miss the old spittoon."

"Right, Jack," said the other "but then you always did." —Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.

People's Platform

Gaffney, S. C.

Sen. Hubert Humphrey's premature hop into the Democratic presidential scramble is the beginning of what promises to be one of the dumbest political bullhorns since Teddy Roosevelt deserted the Republican Party. Already, just about every Democratic senator and governor in the country has

Democrats Should Nominate A Woman In '60

been mentioned as a possibility for either the presidential or vice presidential nomination. With so many aspirants, 1960 should set a record for hot air, mud slinging, and political dead ducks.

Before the next hopeful leaps out of his cell with a yell, I'd like to suggest that the Democrats look

around for a female nominee. Sure, 'tis almost treason for a man to say such a thing, but there are reasons. Several of them.

For one thing, we men have been in the saddle ever since Hector was a Cro-Magnon. So far, the only thing we've done is to get the country — and the world — into one mess after another. Since a woman is expert

at cleaning up behind a man, it stands to reason that a woman President could do quite a bit of political cleaning-up in Washington. Allah knows, the country needs it!

For another thing, what mere man can out-talk a woman? The Republican opposition — Richard Nixon, I'll wager — wouldn't have a chance in the campaign. And Mr. K. could talk his head off and still come out second best. Believe me, we need a President who can talk — you ever hear Eisenhower at one of his press conferences? Lawdy be!

Ike, the poor fellow, has been having trouble with Congress lately — but if he were a woman, Congress wouldn't dare. 'Tis well known that a woman has an uncanny talent for getting what she wants, and a woman President would have Congress wrapped around her finger in no time flat.

Whether we men like it or not, a woman can do anything a man can do — and in many cases she can do it better. 'Tis about time we gave her a chance at running the whole works. She couldn't do any worse than we men are doing. No ma'am.

— CHARLES L. MORRIS

Leave Dr. Frank Where He Is Now

Charlotte

Editors, T.E. News:

Am overwhelmed by your editorial of July 21, "Dr. Frank Deserves A Quiet Welcome." How ditty and immaculately you carefully probed and singled out the vitally important method by which Dr. Frank P. Graham should be "invited" back to North Carolina! Dr. Frank is a delicate little man, and indeed we should employ delicate tactics in bringing him back to the indecous state of North Carolina.

Be that as it may, I must dissent on your inclination to bring Dr. Frank back. Mainly because his invaluable mediating services (and let's not elaborate on his failure to settle the India-Pakistan dispute over Kashmir) will be too sorely needed by the United Nations. Any day now, tens of thousands of savage blacks will rise up against their civilized white rulers on the African Continent, and there will be much brotherhood and mediocrity to be done. And who can do it better than our own brother-lovin' Dr. Frank?

—J. R. CHERRY JR.



Humphrey: Premature Hop

ed Nations. Any day now, tens of thousands of savage blacks will rise up against their civilized white rulers on the African Continent, and there will be much brotherhood and mediocrity to be done. And who can do it better than our own brother-lovin' Dr. Frank?

In his inimitable, sweet and lovable conversational tone, Dr. Frank must tell those "black exploding" English, Dutch, French and Belgians that the only real, lasting, and noble solution to the African problem is integration — all of which will be in line with his thoughts to his fellow North Carolinians on school integration. And how in the world can Dr. Frank effectively do this if we bring him back to North Carolina?

I say let Dr. Frank be where he's at! Any good liberal should know that Dr. Frank is a citizen of the Brave New World — and that world needs him. May he never be made to feel that he is expected to return to so reactionary a place as one of the original states of this federal union where only about a dozen blacks have had their "inferiority complexes erased" by virtue of sitting in white classrooms.

Tsk, tsk, shame on the thoughtless News for giving birth to the thought (much less editorializing about) bringing Dr. Frank back to North Carolina.



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

Congressman Mel Price of Illinois and the House Subcommittee investigating the use of GIs as servants have been careful to steer clear of antagonizing the White House. But one of the best examples of how enlisted men are used as valets and waiters is right in the White House.

Permanent Workers

A total of 23 are permanently assigned to Eisenhower, plus 49 more as White House chauffeurs, despite the fact that the President's personal salary has been increased by Congress to \$100,000, and despite the fact that his expense allowance for operating the White House has been upped by Congress to \$30,000 plus another \$40,000 for travel.

Valet

Ike's personal valet, who presses his pants and shines his shoes, is M/Sgt. John Mooney, on the Army payroll. The Navy also provides 12 mess stew-

GI Servants Surround The President

ards who wait on table at the White House. None are assigned regularly to the Gettysburg farm, but he usually brings along a couple to wait on him during his weekend visits.

Motor Launch Servants

The Navy keeps another five mess stewards on fulltime duty at Camp David, Md., the President's mountain retreat. Three more are assigned as servants on his two motor launches, the Susie Q and Barbara Ann.

'Defense' Budgeting

On air trips, Ike is served by two Air Force stewards, who are stationed aboard his plane, the Columbine. Another 49 Army GIs serve in the White House motor pool as chauffeurs and dispatchers.

These figures, of course, don't include the President's three military aides, their 11 secretaries and orderlies, two military doctors on fulltime duty in the White House, the Columbine

crew and mechanics, the motor launch crews, a large secret Army communications crew, and several military guards — all of whom are charged against the defense budget rather than the President's own budget for running the White House.

Twice Truman's Bill

The total White House budget for last year, exclusive of these armed services costs, was \$5,013,750, more than double what it was in President Truman's last year in office.

Nix On Youth Corps

Word has been passed down from the White House, quietly but firmly, to put the nag on Sen. Hubert Humphrey's plan to revive the Civilian Conservation Corps, now renamed the Youth Conservation Corps. The Minnesota solon had worked up considerable support for the idea of getting youngsters off the streets of big cities, as during the New Deal days, for work in

protecting forests, rural roads, building dams, and other conservation projects.

COP Switch

At first, various Republicans seemed to favor the idea—including Sen. John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, a member of the Labor and Public Welfare Subcommittee, which passed on the project. The plan also met with editorial approval around the country, plus the support of some Republican governors, such as William G. Stratton of Illinois.

The Word

Then, suddenly, word came down that the White House was opposed. Overnight, Republican senatorial opinion shifted. Sen. Cooper found that it would not meet the need of the depressed areas. Sen. Dirksen of Illinois raised vigorous objections, despite the approval of the GOP governor of his state.