THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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North Carolina's 70-year-old Governor's Mansion in Raleigh

How To 'Ride The Tide' To Stagnation

What kind of a man should follow Luther Hartwell Hodges into North Carolina's governor's mansion in 1961?

The News' Lynn Nisbet posed the question casually at a recent conference of Tar Heel newspaper executives and collected some astonishing answers.

"Many of the editors and a lot of other people have expressed the opinion that this is a good time to coast along for a while," he reported.

Correspondent Nisbet elaborated:

> By implication and innuendo, rather than by positive expression, the idea was developed that maybe North Carolina does not need a really strong governor with a vigorous new program for the next few years. It might be just as well to "ride the tide" and capitalize of the impetus given to state development during the Hodges administration.

The observation stirred immediate debate. "We cannot go along with that," snapped the good, gray Greensboro Daily News.

"The Hodges program needs to be pushed as vigorously as ever. It will take bold, imaginative and aggressive leadership to do that. North Carolina cannot be content to ride with the tide and whoever succeeds Luther Hodges will, we trust, realize that standing still is equivalent to stagnation."

Considering how passionately most Tar Heels believe in North Carolina's social, economic and political progress, it is amazing to hear talk of stand-pattism and "coasting along." This is the politics of nostalgia and there is no place for it in the second half of the 20th century — not in this state, anyway.

* * *

That North Carolina has come to the threshold of a new day is, we believe, the unmistakable evidence of the history of the past decade. But whether the state will pass through the gate remains to be determined.

It is not merely a question of carrying on the program of Luther Hodges. The Hodges administration has been hard-working and imaginative. But it has merely scratched the surface of North Carolina's needs.

Of course, progress has been made. But the distance we have traveled stands as an insistent reminder of the distance yet to be traveled.

It is patently absurd to refer to the Hodges administration as "revolutionary." Too often it has been hurled back by the defenders of the status quo. It has failed utterly to come to grips with many of the fundamental issues of education, for instance. It has failed to champion court reform and constitutional revision with the vigor so necessary to success. It has demonstrated little interest in, or understanding of, the problem of legislative representative. It has postponed the expansion of essential public facilities and has made use of the non-recurring tax withholding windfall even to get by the current biennium year without new taxes.

* * *

North Carolina's aim ought to be high, not low. The best way we know for the state to invite stagnation is to seek out a presentable clod as its next governor — a man who can safely be expected to have fewer ideas and less vigor than Luther Hodges, a man who really believes it is a "good time to coast along for a while."

To believe that North Carolina has achieved some sort of changeless Nirvana today is preposterous. As conditions change, states must change with them. The means by which this adjustment is made is ideas — which means especially new ideas.

North Carolina has the resources — spiritual as well as material — to make a successful transition into the new era. But it will take conscious acts of enlightened will on the part of North Carolina's leaders to accomplish what we know cannot be sustained by happy accidents or "riding the tide." In other words, it will take the wisdom to act at the right time and in the right way. It will take the fortitude to place the general welfare always first. It will take faith in the state's people, confidence in its destiny.

This is not a task for lightweights, stand-patters, tide-riders or coasters. It is a job for men of great conviction, great courage and a great deal of creative energy. These are the only valid title papers of leadership in North Carolina today.

Foreign Aid Must Stay In Perspective

It has been a difficult year for the foreign aid idea. The most recent accusations brought by a Scripps-Howard reporter that waste and inefficiency have marred the use of U. S. aid in Viet Nam won't help matters a bit. And the alleged "dumb-headedness" in Viet Nam follows hard behind similar allegations concerning foreign aid in South Korea.

Beginning with the boom-selling novel, "The Ugly American," the lore of waste, indifference, abuse, and downright stupidity in the dispensing of American aid has mounted all year. Along with President Eisenhower's constant imprecations against "spending," the charges probably have had a lot to do with the cuts made in the foreign aid bill in Congress this year.

Certainly, the enemies of the foreign aid principle can find no better ammunition to break public confidence in the program than constant recitation of "abuses." Let it be recalled how powerfully symbolic of corruption in all levels of government a few scattered Deep Freezes or vicuna coats can become.

It is the job of Congress, on behalf of the taxpayers who support foreign aid in the name of an ideal and not to line the pockets of financial adventurers, to ferret out any and all abuses. But friends of foreign aid must be on guard lest enemies of the principle itself try to parlay scattered charges of abuse and "dumb-headedness" into public distrust of the entire foreign aid program. Inherently, it is no more liable to taint or abuse than any of the bureaucratic programs and practices upon which democratic governments are thrown in times of national peril. But involving as it does a delicate attempt to help diverse peoples with hundreds of different national customs, political sensitivities and traditions, foreign aid is liable to error.

The need was never greater for perspective. The time to begin fearing for the inherent moral character of foreign aid programs will come when its enemies show that it is not desperately needed to ward against political upheavals upon which Red imperialism depends; or when those enemies prove that scattered instances of bad management (as distinguished from honest error) have wrecked the program's effectiveness.

Henry Belk In The Greensboro Daily News

THE POETRY OF COUNTY ROAD NAMES

As much as anything else man needs poetry in his life. He needs it in his attitudes, in his contacts, in his daily chores. For poetry, and we are not referring to verse and rhyme, adds color and pleasure to existence. It is that indefinable something with which man places a halo about everyday and mundane things.

Now all poetry is going out of our country roads. In the interest of speeding the traveler, in the interest of helping the highway commission locate roads quickly, all county roads will be numbered.

Every county has been given its own numeral system for its littlest roads.

No one can quarrel with the logic of the system. It makes the county roads as easy to find for the stranger as the through highways.

But those quaint and lovely names which sprang from the folklore and the folkways, which described the road itself, or a person or history connected with it, all this is being lost. We will be sentimental enough to shed a tear at this passing.

If Josephus Daniels were around he would complain insistently, no doubt. For his beloved Rhamkatte Road will be no more. This surely is progress but something folksy and sweet has gone out of our scene.

A new alarm bed shoves its occupant into a sitting position when it's time to get up. Anybody who could be waked up by a little thing like that doesn't deserve sleep in the first place.—Asheville Citizen-Times.

If Southern Congressmen Balk, Labor Bill Will Fail

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

The harshest political battle in recent history is taking place on the labor bill, which is shortly to reach the House floor.

Speaker Sam Rayburn is leading the fight for the compromise measure hammered out by the House Education and Labor Committee. Against him is arrayed the full power of the White House, with Republican leader Charles Halleck as its spokesman, in a smooth coalition with southern conservatives marshalled by Rep. Howard Smith of Virginia.

Later, it should be possible to determine whether the quid pro quo for the southerners is a civil rights bill consisting mainly of conversation. But the coalition has never appeared more self - confident.

In a sense, the battle is joined between Rayburn and Smith, for it is upon the votes of a handful of southerners that the House outcome will depend.

Yet that group will not constitute the balance of power on the question of whether there is or is not going to be a labor bill. That unhappy distinction will almost surely fall to a few senators should the coalition prevail and send its own version to a conference with the Senate.

This is because the Senate overwhelmingly approved a bill milder than the House compromise and very different in spirit from the coalition product. But the House conferees will be headed by Rep. Graham Braden of North Carolina, chairman of the House Labor Committee, a conservative, whose choice historically has been all or nothing in labor matters.

There is not the slightest doubt on the part of those who tenaciously worked out a House compromise between the Senate bill and the coalition's proposals that Barden would refuse to yield on any point. He has so refused on similar occasions.

AGAINST BARDEN

But the Senate conferees are expected to include Senators John Kennedy, Wayne Morse and Patrick McNamara, none of them ultimatum - prone. Except for Teamsters boss James Hoffa — another all-or-nothing operator — labor generally supports these senators. By conviction and self-interest they would inevitably stand firm against Barden.

The inevitable result would be that no labor bill could be enacted at this session for the President's signature.

An effort has been made to put the whole story before President Eisenhower in the hope of persuading him that a bill tougher than the Senate's is possible but that the version backed by Halleck is not. It was felt by the participants that the effort was largely wasted and that the President simply did not grasp the legislative possibilities.

FRIGHT VOTE

Labor has taken fright as the close House vote nears and is spurring its friends into ultimatums of their own. Should this fright pull votes away from the House compromise, the result could only be to make labor the scapegoat for the whole operation.

It is difficult perhaps for the general public to grasp the throat - cutting potential of the Senate - House conferences to reconcile differences in legislation. Most such conferences really do achieve an acceptable compromise between the two.

But there is an occasional exception, and the prospect of a conference deadlock on labor may soon prove the rule.

'Hey—The Sands Are Running Out'



People's Platform

How U. S. Can Make Millions Of Enemies

Muskogee, Okla.

Editors, The News:

The Communists learned from Hitler that it is easy to conquer a country that is divided into minority groups, with each group believing that the other groups are taking unfair advantage of it. Hitler's success at this was so phenomenal that it needs no comment.

Prior to World War II, we had no problem with minority groups, but right after the war the Communists boasted that they would divide us into minority groups. They have been surprisingly successful. The latest gimmick for dividing us further is the intended centennial celebration of the Civil War. Of all of the outrageous vicious, vindictive, malicious and unchristian plans; this one tops the list. We have spent billions in rehabilitating Germany, Italy, Japan and other former enemies; but after 100 years we are still punishing the South. No wonder the plans are being laid secretly. Was Koslov here to give secret encouragement, to the celebration?

Most people in the South lost members of their families in the war and their immediate ancestors lost most of their worldly goods through the machinations of the thousands of thievish carpetbaggers foisted on them by a vengeful conqueror. Now they are to be forced to witness, no they will not join, a part of our country celebrate their disaster and humiliation by gloating over them and ridiculing them Russian style.

If we are going in for that kind of celebrations, the list should be more complete. We should celebrate the burning of the capitol and the White House by the British; the sinking of the Maine and the Titantic; the bombing of Honolulu and the surrender of Bataan. In that way we could make lots of people miserable. We should not, of course, be selfish in our ghoulishness. We should do what we can to make our friends, if we have any left, and neighbors as miserable as possible by celebrating some of their disasters. We should insist that Germany celebrate its defeat in 1918 and the fall of Berlin in the last war and surely France would appreciate having us celebrate the fall of Paris in the last war. No list of celebrations would be complete without one at Oslo. There the traitorous acts of Quisling could be paraded before the Norwegians. Of course, we should celebrate the bombing of London and the dropping of the A-Bombs on Japan.

Just think of the millions of enemies we could make and the suffering we could cause by merely celebrating the misfortunes of our friends and thus showing them our true characters. By comparison, we might even make the atheistic and brutal Communists appear to be meek and humane Christians.

—ERNEST C. ARNOLD

America Should Oppose Tyrants

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

Your editorial of July 23 is but one among a half dozen News editorials which readers have been offered on the Geneva Conference. That editorial, like its forerunners, advocates virtually nothing which is in the best interests of American or Western civilization. I wonder why you continue to waste words.

The fundamental issues in any conference with Communists seem clear. Either we believe that our diplomats are armed with far more right and justice than Communists, or we don't. Either we believe in an unenslaved life for mankind, or we don't. Either we prefer death to the loss of our liberties and domination by international gangsters, or we don't.

Pray give us firm, unequivocal opinions on what your country's position against tyrants should be, Mr. Editor—or cease the hollow semantics.

It is sad but, nevertheless almost always true, that it's the conservative who must plead with liberal editors to reach for the torch of liberty, rather than the hysterical fear of nuclear warfare. It is this fear which is undoubtedly the major source of the intellectual stagnation and retrogression of liberals on this subject.

Are we as free men inclined to pay the terrible penalty of losing our freedoms before it is realized how precious they are?

—J. R. CHERRY JR.

Humbugging

Never has a century been more full of humbug than this one, even in the domain of science. For years the giddy-pated scientists have been promising us every morning a new miracle, a new element, a new metal, solemnly engaging themselves to warm us with copper pipes stuck into water, to kill or cure us with trifles, to make us all live a hundred years, and so on. And all this grandiose humbugging leads . . . to decorations, to salaries, to the respect of serious people. Meanwhile the cost of living rises, trebles, decuples; there is a shortage of raw foodstuffs, or they deteriorate; even death in warfare makes no progress . . . and the cheapest goods are still the worst goods in the world.—**"The Goncourt Journals," 1857.**

Delaplane's Postcard

It's Off To R ussia We Go

By STAN DELAPLANE

NEW YORK

We are trying to go to France. Likewise Russia.

France welcomes us with open arms. Russia is a different proposition.

Russia is looking over my passport and visa application — I imagine it is being looked over anyway. They have it and can look it over any time they want. They can read it in bed for all I care.

It is being looked over by the Ambassador — "Smiling Mike."

If they decide I am not a deep-freeze salesman in the cold war, they will let me come.



It has become very chic to go to Russia. And if there is one thing I want to be, it is up to date.

Iowa farmers go to Russia. Power plant executives look over the power plants on the Dnieper. Schoolboys go over and sing songs or swing those Russian cats with jazz.

Louis Armstrong goes to Russia. Richard Nixon goes to Russia. Even Russians go to Russia.

You would think they would be happy to have a plain tourist go to Russia. A nice, French-trained, high-tipping tourist. A tourist so beaten down by touring that he cringes when the doorman holds out his hand for the tip.

A tourist who has learned to fawn on desk clerks and concierges for a room on the light well at double prices.

The Last of the Big-Time Spenders.

The application for a Russian visa is a simple thing. You can pick them up from American Express. Age, marital status — things like that.

They also wanted my weight. Heaven knows why. But I hope they are not figuring if I will fit in the nose cone of something they are shooting 'way up yonder. I guess not. I guess it is just a routine question.

Maybe they want my weight to see how much I eat. Whether I will deplete the caviar supply.

Let me tell you something about that. I am a buff for caviar. I like it on toast. But will eat it with a spoon, given half a chance. I am sharpening a tooth for that Russian caviar.

I read in the guide book that you do NOT tip in Russia. But I will give the waiter a piece of advice on the stock market.

That is what we big-time spenders do at The Club. Instead of giving the faithful hat-check man a buck, we give him a tip on the market.

"A. T. and T. looks very good," we say. (It always looks good so you cannot go wrong on that. If you do not think A. T. and T. is doing good, take another look at your phone bill.)

The Russians have had my application for a week, now. No startling announcements about it have come from Washington.

They haven't said "da" and they haven't said "nyet."

That is Russian for "yes" and "no" and should show them I am trying hard. I am anxious to be a good tourist.

I wish they had asked me for references. I would refer them to the concierge at the George V in Paris. The doorman, too. The one who taught me how to tip Paris taxi drivers.

He said I did not have to tip a fortune, "Half the price of a new Cadillac is sufficient, monsieur," he said.

We held up our end very well in Italy, too. We gave the price of a stained glass window to the waiter at Hosteria dell'Orso and he was charmingly grateful.

After one delicious dinner at Horcher's in Madrid, I put the son of the waiter through college.

What I mean, we are GOOD tourists. Even if you don't tip in Russia, you can tell easily from my passport stamps that I have a wall-to-wall heart.

So what are we waiting for? I am as near as your A. T. and T. telephone. A nice, typical tourist. Cowed, cringing and loaded.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Butler Is Sorry He Caused A Fight

WASHINGTON

The meeting which Democratic chairman Butler had with House Speaker Sam Rayburn and Sen. Lyndon Johnson made headlines, but another important meeting didn't. This was with former President Harry Truman at Independence, Mo.

Truman's Advice

The beleaguered Democratic chairman went to see Truman on his own volition to get advice and straighten himself out with the party generally. Truman, friendly but blunt, gave him this advice:

"The job of the national chairman is to keep the party together—not stir up trouble. When the party platform is adopted at each convention it's the job of the national chairman to carry it out. It's up to the chairman to see that there's harmony in the party."

Contrite Butler

Butler told the nation's No. 1 Democrat that he was sorry he had caused lack of harmony.

"When he left here," Mr. Truman said, "he was in complete agreement."

"There was a report that you had written Butler a stiff letter," I told the former President.

"No, he came here on his own initiative and I was glad to see him." Then he added with a chuckle. "You know I'm trying to stay away from writing letters."

Polish Vote

The State Department isn't talking about it, but its officials have been worried about Vice President Nixon's trip through Poland. In fact, they were firmly opposed to his making the trip at all.

On The Spot

Reason: He's likely to put the Polish government on the spot and undo some of the progress made in cementing American-Polish relations. The Poles are naturally friendly toward the United States and State Department officials were fearful that Nixon might get a warmer welcome than Premier Khrushchev. This, it was feared, might cause bad repercussions. It was even feared the Polish government might stir up some deliberate anti-Nixon demonstrations so the Polish people would not appear too friendly.

Nixon Overrules

Nixon, however, overruled the State Department. He had made his plans for the Warsaw visit even before he left the U.S., though they were announced later. He had even been in touch with Poland's Catholic leader, Cardinal Wyszynski. What the vice president has in mind was a chance to influence the huge bloc of Polish-American votes in Detroit, Chicago, Buffalo and Milwaukee.

Ike's Candidate

Newsmen who met with the President at an off-the-record dinner recently are very close-mouthed about it, but report that Ike was asked whom he favored as the Democratic nominee for President. He is reported to have replied:

"Spessard Holland, John Stennis, or Frank Lausche."

Those present were incredulous, thought Eisenhower was joking. Sen. Holland of Florida is a conservative Democrat who frequently votes with the Republicans. Sen. Stenniz of Mississippi is a loyal, able Democrat, but couldn't carry a state north of the Mason-Dixon line. Sen. Lausche of Ohio not only votes frequently with the Republicans, but couldn't make up his mind at first to side with the Democrats in the organization of the Senate.

Dead Serious

However, the President apparently was dead serious about these men as Democratic candidates for President.

"What about your fellow Texan, Lyndon Johnson?" he was asked.

There was another significant pause. "I think Sam Rayburn would be fine," Eisenhower replied. Ike's silence meant that the unofficial alliance between Eisenhower and Johnson, which has long irked many Democratic senators, is off.