

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

180th Anniversary Year  
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## Juvenile Delinquency

In the middle years of this decade as the war drew to a close the phrase "juvenile delinquency" came to the fore. "Victory girls" and "root-suckers" the kids were called. They were girls who pretended to be older than they were to gain entrance into dives and to make themselves attractive to soldiers; they were boys who, too young to participate in the legal forms of violence then being practiced by armies, thought nothing of assaulting passers-by in dark streets.

The adult world was shocked. Reams of articles headed by the new phrase began to appear in newspapers and magazines. Before long there was such a glaring spotlight being turned on youth.

Although much was accomplished through public concern over juvenile delinquency, the campaign has not completed its job. Unfortunately juvenile delinquency is much about the same today.

In Charlotte last week there were reports of an organized racing club of teen-age boys, many of them too young to own drivers' licenses. Their procedure was to gather at night on a country road and hold automobile races, speeding abreast without regard for their own lives or those of anyone else. In this manner Charlotte was made aware that it was not as it should be in its youth.

Inquiries at the Social Service Work Division of the Juvenile Court of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County produced statistics showing that juvenile delinquency has not been conquered in this city. It is at least holding its own.

The statistics showed an increase in cases before the juvenile court, although this may be due to increased efficiency on the part of enforcement authorities.

Truancy—one of the milder forms of delinquency—was the major violation brought to the attention of the Court. In the first six months of this year 141 children under 16

stayed before the juvenile court judge for unauthorized absence from school. There were cases of breaking and entering, of larceny, of running children, of assault. In fifteen of 381 cases the accused were hustled off to training schools, others were placed in detention homes, some in orphanages. There has been more of this in 1948 than in 1947; juvenile delinquency has not been licked.

The public must once again consider its children; drives begun in the first days of enthusiasm some years ago must be renewed in one way or another.

One such program designed to combat juvenile delinquency is "Youth Month," a project of the Motion Picture Exhibitors of the United States. The program, backed by North Carolina's motion picture exhibitors, was launched at the suggestion of Tom Clark, attorney general of the United States, who declared in a letter to the "Theater Owners of America" that his department and the nation faced "an alarming amount of juvenile delinquency."

"Youth Month" will not attack directly the causes of juvenile delinquency, but it will serve in one way, focusing a great deal of publicity on the nation's forgotten youth.

It is our duty as parents and members of society to open our eyes to juvenile problems. Churches must expand their youth programs; schools must instruct youth and turn them from criminal acts, vandalism and mischievous behavior; the city must use its municipal recreation program more attractively; social service agencies must redouble their efforts; law enforcement officers must serve, also, as crime prevention officers and show sympathetic understanding to those who fall to abide by the law; law enforcement officers must find and bring before the court adults who sell alcoholic beverages to children.

This is the responsibility of the community.

## You're Welcome, Williamsburg

Our Virginia friends who borrowed North Carolina's Pulitzer Prize playright for "The Common Glory" are dispensing propaganda these days that would make Lillington's plain Paul Green a Virginia Cavalier at heart.

Such is the news that comes sitting down from the Lake Maloka area this week as both Mr. Green's impressive symphonic dramas ("The Lost Colony" at Roanoke Island and "The Common Glory" at Williamsburg) approach the end of the playing season.

Our information appears in the elaborate souvenir program the Williamsburg folks issued this season to accompany their production. Mr. Green, says his biographical sketch, is a native of North Carolina by way of some self-reliant Virginia ancestors.

All right, all right.

So house-hated Paul Green of Harnett County, N. C. is a native Tar Heel whose ancestors came from Virginia, whose ancestors came from Great Britain, whose ancestors came from the American Colonies.

This insidious Cavalier effort to claim the only Pulitzer Prize playright running loose in the area is understandable, and good Tar Heels will smile gently in toleration.

North Carolinians are able to do this with excellent grace on hearing from Man-

to that "The Lost Colony" nears the last days of its eighth season in sound financial shape. The wretched plot offensive took its toll of Summer visitors, but business began to pick up late last month. The year-end report after Labor Day will give the management proper inspiration to continue its unique adventure in the field of drama.

For the benefit of late season Manteo visitors, let it be known that the Tar Heel symphony orchestra is as lusty and thrilling as it ever was. The cast still has a passel of Roanoke Island folks who keep the production near the people. New generations of Midgets, Daniels and Meekins have come to the stage, and in many cases, their brothers, sisters and assorted kinfolk played in the earlier seasons.

"The Lost Colony" is a healthy Roanoke Island institution—from the Virginia Dare dolls on sale at the roadside shops to the warming laughter that greets Old Tom and his Indian love, Agona, at every performance.

North Carolinians do much for their state when they become enthusiastic supporters of this pioneering experiment in the theater. Many Tar Heels like to see the show season after season, and Paul Green has a long record of success in the same regard lending him to Virginia for the—imitation.

## Mockingbird Melody For The Yankees

Listen to the mockingbird  
Listen to the mockingbird  
Still singing where the weeping willows

Far, far into the north, into the land of ice and snow and the five-day week, into the land of the boreal pole has wandered our beloved mockingbird. Away from the shaded willows and the weeping willows, once it was wont to regale the night at moonrise with serenade, no longer to whisper over maid in crinoline and lads in snow-white cotton as they declare their undying love to the soft.

The mockingbird, alas! fluttering its delicate blue-grey wings, has flown to Yankee-land.

Into New England, into even southern Canada the mockingbird has flown to tell fall on callous Yankee ears its sweetly Southern message. Sady, we read of this

a document from the Smithsonian Institution, sadly—and yet with understanding.

For it is with generosity befitting its Southern origin that the South's songbird has gone to do what it may—with presence and song—to bring some echo, some faint rackets in liquor and women. A good deal of money could be rolling in to the racket operators in such towns. A man might get to be comfortably well-off if he stuck at Illinois, to Iowa (where it has been reported).

We have given before: Southern fried chicken, greens, many another Southern dish, and is not the current fashion in Illinois to wear long enough, worked hard, a belle's traditional dress? We must give now.

So go mockingbird. Go. You have our blessing.

## From The Raleigh News & Observer

### Tree Or Forest

JUDGE ZEB V. NETTLES in Buncombe County Superior Court may be stirring up something to embarrass more people than those who live in Asheville and its head— and would like courteous verification—that there is an overland of Buncombe rackets who is worth a million dollars. It certainly could be and such overland money is not hard to come by. A million dollars isn't so much money nowadays in rackets. There have been reports in cities like Durham and Charlotte, before that, of the Southern and even Raleigh, it is possible to buy a ticket in the numbers racket. There are said to be thousands of little people, white and Negro, who play them day after day. In some

places this racket is tied up with the baseball and football pool. It is said to be possible that in some places, may not only be a racket, but also a racket, with rackets in liquor and women. A good deal of money could be rolling in to the racket operators in such towns. A man might get to be comfortably well-off if he stuck at Illinois, to Iowa (where it has been reported).

So far, however, the whole matter seems to be only one Superior Court judge's suspicion of the operation of the Southern and even Raleigh, it is possible to buy a ticket in the numbers racket. There are said to be thousands of little people, white and Negro, who play them day after day. In some

## Speaking Of Bumper Crops



### A View On Civil Rights

## Negro Publisher Speaks Out

(NOTE.—The following article is an abstract of an editorial by Davis Lee, publisher of the "Trenton Negro News," published at Trenton, N. J., about race relations in the South. A previous article on this subject by Publisher Lee appeared in "The News last week—Editors, The News.")

NO ISSUE in the memory of the present generation has precipitated more bitterness and become more explosive, or has definitely destroyed the unity of a nation more than the current civil rights controversy.

The issue, spawned in the cradle of political expediency and ambition, and designed to control Negro and Jewish votes, has not only split and weakened the two major national political parties, but it has set race against race, and not only created hatred and bitterness, but made enemies out of Negro and white friends. Recently I wrote an editorial on the South and the civil rights program, and I gave my honest opinion to my readers. Not one Negro leader disagreed with my views until it came to the issue of the Negro in the South. He is a Negro leader, disagreed with my views until it came to the issue of the Negro in the South. He is a Negro leader, disagreed with my views until it came to the issue of the Negro in the South.

However, I will continue to advise my people as I see it. I want to see Negroes enjoy every right, every privilege and every opportunity enjoyed by any other race or nationality in this nation.

I am opposed to the civil rights program because it regards it as an infringement on the rights of the white man. I love my race, but I know plenty of members of my race who would not mind being treated as a second class citizen in a restaurant or on a bus.

I have tremendous faith in the future achievement of my race, but the American Negro, and especially those in the South, will never reach the top in education, agriculture, politics or in the industrial and economic fields without the aid and co-operation of the Southern white man. Certainly, we cannot afford to destroy this good will and unity.

The Negro has come a long way since emancipation. He has made a long way, but he has a long way yet to go to take his rightful place as a citizen, an asset to his community and state, and a worthy member of the American people. I assume his citizenship responsibility by helping to maintain the institutions of his community just like other citizens.

Negroes have made great strides in the field of education, but they are still far from equal. We have scratched the surface. There is entirely too much litigation, too much ignorance, superstition, and too much prejudice in our race.

The Southern whites are well aware of this: in fact they understand the Negro's needs better than many Negroes themselves, and certainly better than some Northern whites who haven't had contact or experience.

The Negro not only needs to be taught to read and write, but he needs to be taught to think.

of the fact that God made him black, and color is no barrier to success in South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi or any other Southern State.

I have placed considerable emphasis upon education in this editorial because it holds the key to the solution of this entire race issue. If all our people were properly trained, Negro and white Northern legislators would not stir the bitterness and create the friction by false propaganda that has been created recently.

The Southern Negro has an economic edge on his Northern counterpart because conditions down there forced the Negro to do business with his own people. The Negro in the South has more opportunities than the Southern Negro.

The South is fully capable of solving its own race problems. The unfortunate thing about this whole situation is that thousands of Negroes live in squalor, in shacks in the rural South, and thousands of poor whites live just as bad.

But it is fair to condemn a state or a whole section of our nation because of the ignorance and lack of initiative on the part of a few backward whites and Negroes.

Here on my desk are a series of articles by Ray Sprigle on "The Negro in the South for 90 days."

This series has been a series of articles by Ray Sprigle on "The Negro in the South for 90 days."

In this issue we are running an account of several Negroes being sold to whites in Michigan. They were sold for \$1000 each. Right here in New Jersey we carried a story in our last issue about the Klan.

N. J., and sentenced to the electric chair in Trenton, one white man. It was definitely established during the trial that the Negro was the one who killed the white man.

Holland's share of the Greek National Security Commission is \$400,000. The Dutch are spending over \$100,000 on the Greek National Security Commission.

Notwithstanding all this, the Greek National Security Commission is a purely advisory body. The Commission is primarily advisory.

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## Joseph & Stewart Also Most For The Money

WASHINGTON  
ONE Government row to be thankful for is the big boat that seems to be in the making about defense research and development. According to naval intelligence, the Project Fleet includes 250 of these craft, against which the Navy's protection has yet to be devised.

This question has already been discussed in the "Research & Development Board" report. The Board has recommended that the Navy's research and development establishment for the Hoover Commission.

For these reasons, none but the very planners favor the carrier. The proposed carrier and its huge flotilla of escorts, representing in all a total investment that may run into \$1 billion, must operate on a fairly close to the enemy's shores.

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## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round U. S. Cold To Senora Peron's Wishes

(Ed. Note.—While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, the Washington Merry-Go-Round is being written by his old partner, Robert S. Allen.)

MARIA EVA DUARTE DE PERON, beautiful blonde Argentine dictator, is very eager to visit the U. S.

Last year, the glamorous Senora toured Franco Spain, France, Italy and collected an assortment of decorative costly gifts and a few bows. The last year she spent in the iron-curtain Argentina.

Evita, as she is familiarly known in her country, thinks a U. S. junket would enhance her political ambitions. She wants to suggest her husband's much-vaunted "voluntary" contributions from a wide variety of sources, ranging from the school children of Cordoba Province to the United States.

The latest was the presentation of handsome and completely furnished houses to each of Argentina's three Olympic gold-medal winners. Evita announced these costly gifts with a great flourish of publicity. At home and abroad

it was effusively proclaimed that she personally was bestowing these gifts.

Hand-Biter  
THE Greek Government doesn't like the salaries of the U. S. Consulate in Athens.

Notwithstanding all this, the Greek National Security Commission is a purely advisory body. The Commission is primarily advisory.

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raw materials to the U. S. outside the high-priced Dutch credits. The Dutch are resting this by armed force.

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