

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



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UNIFORM TRUCK LOAD LIMITS NEEDED

EARLY this month the Virginia State Highway Department set out to check the weight of interstate truck cargoes traveling Old Dominion roads. This is what the inspection turned up:

Almost 3,400 vehicles were checked in a period of eight days. There were 464 violators of Virginia's load limit laws. Of these 464 violators, 212, or 45.6 per cent carried North Carolina license tags.

Of greatest interest, however, was the biggest violator of all. The heaviest gross load was weighed in at 113,000 pounds—35,000-pound *limit* fixed by Virginia law.

This is an old story. Because of the rapid growth of the trucking industry, because of the extra revenue to be gained from big loads, and because of the lack of uniformity in the regulations of the various states, legal load limits are being exceeded everywhere.

The trucking industry is here to stay. We might as well get used to it. The big lumbering vehicles may be hazardous along some of our roads, especially where they crawl up long hills, but they have made possible a diversification of industry and agriculture in the South which would never have been feasible with existing rail lines.

Yet trucks are hard on the roads. No

amount of argument from the truckers can convince us otherwise. The current *Reader's Digest* cites excellent proof. A ten-mile stretch of U. S. 66, between St. Louis and Chicago, is pounded day and night by heavy trucks and trailers. Its two outer lanes have been smashed to pieces, whereas the inner lanes traversed by passenger cars, are still in good shape.

Some of our main highways are going to need rebuilding to take care of the heavy truck loads. The *Digest* article notes that 35,500 of Interstate U. S. truck highways—the 37,800-mile total—need immediate improvement at a cost of \$1 billion.

But it will not be enough to rebuild the roads. What is needed is an agreement among the 48 states on uniform load limits for each type of truck and tractor-trailer. Massachusetts, for instance, limits gross weight to 25 tons. Rhode Island, next door, allows 40 tons. If all the States would adopt uniform regulations governing the load limits, then the task of setting up identical laws for each type of vehicle, the enforcement of the laws would be simplified. Then we could proceed in an orderly way to rebuild our main roads to take care of this new and vital industry.

more was the "architect of our Far Eastern Policy" and the "No. 1 Soviet agent in the United States" had stuck in their minds. They had not seen, or bothered to read, the careful point by point denials of everything McCarthy had said.

Think of it. If trained, analytical journalists in McCarthy's own state are so thoroughly confused by the Senator's irresponsible hit-and-run attacks, then the vast majority elsewhere in the nation must be convinced by now that the State Department really is a bed of Communism.

Heller taught us that a lie can be effective if it is told often enough and loudly enough. But Hitler did it with a controlled press and a controlled radio.

What distresses us is that McCarthy has been able to do it with a free press and a free radio in a democratic society which must rely upon its political maturity if it is to continue to exist.

doesn't work out. Gen. Lawton said "we do have other anti-aircraft weapons of importance..."

The A-bomb is still dangerous, of course. "Loki" might prove incapable, for instance, of storing rocket-delivered bombs. It certainly would do no good against bombs "painted" by enemy agents.

But the new weapon does curtail to some extent the awesome potentialities of an atomic war.

We must remember, however, that while we have our "Loki," the Russians doubtless have similar defensive weapons. They have been concerned with A-bomb defense much longer than we have.

Perhaps "Loki" may serve not so much to loose the forces of hell but to contain them.

hammers the Hun twice and jolted the Japs—that same stock cannot even stand up against the cold eye and outstretched palm without sheepishly fumbling for a coin!

Tipping may be necessary in some cases. Hotels sometimes pay bell-hops only a token wage, making it necessary for them to know the tip out of patients. The same is often true of waitresses and porters and hotel maids.

But even when an employer, like the C&O, pays the worker enough without tips and plainly says "no-tipping"—we still tip.

Courageous aren't we.

covertly in Washington University's—and St. Louis—measurable loss.

But if Dean Graham is to leave us, we wish he had departed just a little earlier. He ought to be in North Carolina this week. He ought to be there campaigning for his distinguished kinsman, Senator Frank Porter Graham, who on Saturday faces two primary opponents including "Bumfunk" Bill Riddick, another who with Dean Graham all the best in North Carolina and we hope North Carolina does the country the great good turn of keeping Frank Graham in Washington.

After the service the lady was shaking hands with the clergymen who had preached the sermon. "Wonderful sermon," she exclaimed. "Everything you say applies to somebody or other, I know."—Catholic Fireside.

Man feels very inflationary when he sees and quite deflationary when he buys.—*Elmshaven (Ky.) News*.

People's Platform

Tar Heels Don't Want Graham

DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Editors, The News:
NO "TIPPING" campaign of publications is necessary in the case of Dr. Frank Porter Graham. Anyone who has kept abreast of his activities and affiliations in the past few years could have predicted what reaction would follow from publishing that in an effort to keep him in North Carolina. It is the same sort that Henry Wallace and "The Daily Worker" just are not very popular among the plain people of North Carolina.

Even H. Graham should win, it very obviously would not mean that the people of this state have been converted to Trumanism. It would not mean that his supporters would be able to play down his past sufficiently to lead the people to believe that he is not as much of a Welfare State as the Communists. That is the sort of case we have.

Ask the people you know who favor Socialism, or lean in that direction, who they are supporting.

Mr. Graham, because they know his record, are not very popular among the plain people of North Carolina. Let's hope the people's memory is not THAT short.

—MALLOY OWEN III

Smells Much Like Fascism'

Editors, The News:

POLITICAL ignorance permits the strong to victimize the weak; the strong force their advantage upon the weak; and the weak submit to it.

The strong have the gall to tell the weak they ought to vote again. The weak have the gall to believe that they are the ones who are right. It stinks. It smells much like Fascism, and not at all like democracy and Americanism.

—B. H. FEDISON.

Willis Smith Endorsed

Editors, The News:

THE Willis Smith vs. Frank Graham feud is that no one is attracting not only North Carolina, but the whole nation's attention. It is the most mind-boggling campaign ever held by this State. However, freedom of speech and our American way of secret ballot, will allow the voters of Carolina to go to the polls and elect the man that has the qualities to represent Americans in the way they should be. That man is Willis Smith and he is the right man. The reader may clearly witness on the face of the record that he is the right man.

It is plain to see that the Honorable Governor, with his key political factions and his political and personal aspirants, combined with the capitulative and pressure groups from the State, is determined to keep the voters of North Carolina from electing the voters of this State. Why? It is plain to see that most Governors always look forward to succeeding themselves, to the U. S. Senate. And with the present opposition, he would be forced to do so.

Dr. T. D. Kemp, in a recent column, asked just why Dr. Graham ever allowed himself to be dragged into politics. He should not have done so. Great men are born to serve their country, not to be dragged into politics.

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—A. M. JONES.

You'll Have To Ask Him

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Editors, The News:

ELLIS R. SMITH of Lenoir, depicting Senator Graham as "an organization," writes that he wants to "knock" him off the faintest trace of the hammer and circle.

What kind of cycle does he have in mind?

The motorcycles? The bicyclists? Or the tricycles?

Or he could have meant siele?

—A. M. JONES.

diction for the present Senator. Does one believe Deas Pearson gets all of his compensation from the newspaper alone? Does one believe that?

We do. We do not believe that. We do not believe that Bradley does not make the statement that, "Frank Graham was a Communist. However it was interesting to note that in some interviews he had made before this, he had called himself a Communist." Bradley said, "Dr. Graham is no more of a Communist than I am." Quoting further, the Communist label is "just a sort of curse word."

"In the Carolinas, it is humanitarian. That goes for the United States so far as I know."

Well, if the American people take the word Communist seriously, then they are supporting the Communists.

Why are the Communists so popular? Is it because they are not very popular among the plain people of North Carolina? Look at the record, then decide for you vote. If he is the best man, or if you like his record, which I haven't mentioned, then vote for him.

—NATHAN M. SHARP.

The Deaf Are Not Lonely

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

I AM writing this letter in answer to Dr. R. W. Johnson of the Charlotte Eye, Ear & Throat Clinic, who made a speech to the Charlotte Quota Club, printed in The News May 18, that the deaf people of the world are lonely. He tried to make it clear that the deaf are not the loneliest persons in the world. In fact they are the happiest persons in the world.

The deaf have a few hardships, but on the average the deaf live as normal a life as any hearing person. They are engaged in all kinds of occupations from A to Z. They attend school with the able-bodied, who do not hear. They do not have social activities which all the deaf attend while Dr. Armstrong says they do not. There are two deaf schools in the country, one in North Carolina and one in New Mexico.

There is a combined attendance of about 30 to 40 each week. There is a Club of the Deaf which meets weekly. There is also a National Organization of the Deaf, which there are more than a hundred members in N. C.

The deaf do not want and do not need any sympathy. They are not the least intelligent group in the world. Great men are blind and the blind need sympathy. The only thing the deaf miss is sound. They can't use the phone or understand the words. But the deaf can understand the story in the movies without hearing any words.

There are also two national magazines published by the deaf and many monthly papers published in the different parts of the U. S. Again, I repeat that the deaf are the happiest, not the loneliest persons in the world.

—ROSS A. JOHNSON JR.

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Editors, The News:

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—A. M. JONES.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it.

Communications should be less than 300 words type-written if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libre and obscene will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed.—Editors, The News.

The Quality Of Greatness

SHELBY

Editors, The News:

A YANKEE alumnus of The News, and A WOOD brother of its current editor, have written a column on the present situation in the Senate race and the resultant developments upon the Senatorial race and the resultant representations.

Not for many years has the Senate represented, as it ought to represent, the best of the nation's intellect. With the present election, our present Senators are mediocrities—political hacks or has-beens. One of the worst is Senator Smith, who, despite his record, is a high-level card-dealer.

Now whatever the grounds upon which Governor Kerr Scott may be criticized, and I am assured they are many, it must be admitted that Senator Smith is not the equal of his predecessor.

Smith, however, has done what he could to arrest the progressive deterioration of the moral condition of the Senate. At the time of his appointment to the Senate, he was universally admitted to rank among the best of the new crop of senators.

He is not, however, the man to whom the public looks for leadership.

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in grappling with the grave problems the young nation faced.

Of late, however, the tradition that Senators are by definition mediocrities has been upheld.

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Half-Measures In Half-War Could Be Fatal To Country

BY MARCUS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

A QUAINTE AMERICAN custom of exhaustion is good and useful, to take public responsibility. The more he takes on, the heavier are the burdens he bears.

Few men have emerged with such stature as Gen. Omar N. Bradley. He has a commanding presence and breadth of vision through all his varied posts following Gen. Eisenhower's brief tour of duty as Chief of Staff. From complainings, he has another plodding record.

Some military men have taken this cynically or resentfully and some have made a mockery of it as part of his profound conviction of the American way of life. The American spirit which reflects his own belief that present defense planning is too slow and not good enough.

One handbag, Bradley has faced since becoming chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. From that moment after another plodding record followed another plodding record.

In addition, Bradley has felt a responsibility to inform the American public on the meaning of the Defense Dept., which he believes the present situation will result in a decline in American strength in the Atlantic nations.

He was the first to suggest that the Defense Dept. should be expanded in order to carry out the specifications that he gave in his speech.

He has just returned from a visit to the West Coast, where he met with military conferences throughout the Pacific Northwest. He has been invited to speak at military conferences throughout the Pacific Northwest. He has been invited to speak at military conferences throughout the Pacific Northwest.

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