THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1950

IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU VOTE TODAY

AT 6:30 P. M. the ballot boxes will be closed in North Carolina and the decision in a very important Senatorial primary will have been made—to be revealed by a subsequent count.

We don't know what time you're reading this little piece, but if you haven't yet voted and there's still time to get to the polls, won't you lay the paper aside and look after that little duty right now?

You North Carolinians turned out in record numbers for the first primary May 27. It was the biggest primary in history. The experts have all been saying that today's vote will be smaller—perhaps as low as 400,000. But is there any reason why it should be so much smaller?

Let's consider the matter for a moment. Today North Carolina is deciding which of two good men it will send to the United States Senate, there to make decisions affecting local, state, national, and international affairs. Each voter is going to be affected in one way or another by the decisions made by the victorious candidate in the next four years. Hence, each voter has just as much reason to state his preference at the ballot box as he did on May 27—more so, in fact, since the choice today is a clear one between two men instead of four.

So, once again, may we urge you to vote today if you haven't already done so? It's vitally important to you, your state, and your nation that you do so.

TYDINGS WANTS TO DICKER

SO DISTRACTING are the antics of the McCarthys that we sometimes forget that many of our Senators have their heads screwed on right.

Listen to Tydings of Maryland, for instance, as he recommends renewed efforts for across-the-table talks with the Russians to establish world peace — the achievement of which, he correctly points out, will solve most of our other problems.

We shall never get peace, Tydings says, "by name-calling and throwing epithets back and forth across the ocean . . .

"You have to contact the other fellow with whom you've got to make the peace. You've got to sit down with him, even if you don't agree, and talk. If you don't agree the first time, sit down again and talk, because you can't afford to go on and let this thing foment."

Stalin's conditions for ending the cold war, reported in recent dispatches from Paris to have been given to Trygve Lie, are of course impossible of acceptance. He wants the West, in effect, to underwrite the Communist regime in China. And the concessions he reputedly offers in Europe are, to say the least, modest.

Yet horse traders have been known to put fantastic prices on nags ready for the boneyard just to get the dickering started.

We are reminded of a story we saw somewhere recently about a man who telephoned a neighbor to ask about a lawnmower that was for sale. A youthful son of the house answered, and quoted a price.

"But surely," said the caller, "your father would come down some for me."

"No," said the boy, "he said he knew you'd want to haggle, so he set a rock-bottom price—only twice what it's worth."

In diplomacy as in horse trading, the asking price doesn't matter. And initial disagreement is the rule, rather than the exception. Consummate realist that he is, Stalin surely expects to be haggled down. But he also, no doubt expects to haggle us up some. Which—in diplomacy as in horse trading, again—is customary.

As Tydings says, the main thing is to get the talking started. It is only the weak who need fear the council table. The West is strong, and getting stronger. . .

If you haven't voted today, do so before 6:30 P. M.

LIE IS NO COMMUNIST TOOL

IN PASSING, we wish to give the back of our hand to Senators Bridges of New Hampshire and Knowland of California for calling Trygve Lie the tool of the Communists, "if not their ally," because he proposes to seat a Chinese Communist, instead of a Nationalist, on the United Nations Security Council.

Russia demands this, of course, and the United States opposes it. So in favoring the Russian view, Lie sides against the American. But there is utterly no reason to suppose that his motive is other than anxiety to save the United Nations from breakdown. Certainly the record shows that he has stood with the United States on equally vital issues.

Moreover, while we are in agreement with Acheson's rejection of Lie's proposal, we can see that there are arguments on the other side. For one thing, it flies in the face of recent State Department policy, which has been to recognize the government that is in effective control of the territory in question. So far as the Chinese mainland is concerned, that is true of the Communists, whether we like it or not.

If you haven't voted today, do so before 6:30 P. M.

A LINK WITH THE WEST

A DIRECT aerial link between the booming Piedmont and the bustling West Coast is far from a reality, but the prospects look good at the moment.

This week a Civil Aeronautics Board examiner recommended that Captain Eddie Rickenbacker's efficient Eastern Air Lines be granted an extension of its southwestern route from San Antonio, Texas, the present terminus, to El Paso, Tucson, Phoenix, San Diego, Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco.

There's many a slip, of course, between an examiner's recommendation and a final CAB decision. But the evidence supporting Eastern's long-sought route is so overwhelming that a favorable CAB ruling is probable.

Piedmont residents can fly to the West Coast today, but some inconvenience and some delay is involved in changing planes once or twice. A direct flight on an Eastern plane will be more satisfactory in every respect. Furthermore, the new link will materially improve mail, air express and air freight service.

Captain Rickenbacker said here the other day that Eastern is spending $40 million for new equipment, mainly Super Constellations that can carry 92 passengers through the skies at 330 miles per hour, and the new Martin 404 liners for shorter hauls. Having operated in the black at a time when other lines were losing money, Eastern is moving ahead with supreme confidence in the future of aviation.

The immediate benefits from a direct flight to the West Coast will not be considerable. But in an age of ever-faster air travel, it will be increasingly important that the Piedmont and the West Coast be tied together as closely as possible.

If you haven't voted today, do so before 6:30 P. M.

From The Winston-Salem Journal

CHARLOTTE MAINTAINS ITS POSITION

THE general disappointment of North Carolina towns and cities over census figures which do not quite measure up to optimistic "guesstimates" of the community boosters is shared in some degree by Charlotte.

Census officials have announced preliminary figures which show that Charlotte has a 1950 population of 133,212. Some of the more optimistic city boosters there had forecast an official figure of 150,000 for that city, just as many Winston-Salem folk had expected a 1950 census total of 100,000 or more for the Twin City.

But Charlotte isn't feeling too blue. After all, the Mecklenburg city showed an increase of 32,312 for a gain of 32 per cent during the decade. And by widening the gap between its official population and that of Winston-Salem, the next largest city in the Carolinas, to more than 48,000, Charlotte has made itself appear all the more conspicuous on the map as "the largest city" between Richmond and Atlanta.

Charlotte's growth, while not as phenomenal as that of some cities of the West Coast or some of the great industrial areas of the North and Middle West, has in recent decades been little short of remarkable. Since 1920 that city has tripled its population. Between 1920 and 1930 its population increased 78 per cent, and even during the "depression decade" of 1930-40 it picked up about 18,000 new residents.

Its location, of course, has helped a great deal. But Charlotte is largely the product of self-boosting. Its Chamber of Commerce, its press, its civic and business leaders and many of its average citizens have been through the years consistent all-out advertisers and boosters for Charlotte. And the people of the city have co-operated in promoting and working for the civic assets which make a city grow.

In congratulating Charlotte on its continued growth and progress, it is pertinent to suggest, perhaps, that other cities and towns in this area could study with profit the saga of that city's progress, one of the most interesting features of which has been the alertness of its civic leaders in absorbing and developing outlying suburban areas and fitting them into the corporate structure of the city from time to time.

Columnist Bob Buzzi's pieces on the trials and joys of life in New York contains the arresting observation that people up here "walk around hating each other with their eyes." Down here in Dixie, we use the jocular ocular approach.

'Don't Be Interrupting Us Lifesavers, Lady'

News From The Capital

Doughton's Stubbornness Paid Off

By TOM SCHLESINGER
Charlotte News Special Writer

WASHINGTON

THE HEEL tobaccomen probably owe quite a bit to the small jewelry manufacturers of Rhode Island for the reversal of the House Ways & Means Committee's stand on the graduated tax for economy-brand cigarettes.

They also owe everything to Rep. Bob Doughton who isn't called "Muley" for nothing. He was willing to wreck the whole tax bill if he didn't get his way in changing the twice-voted 13-12 approval of a smaller tax for the cheaper smokes.

Doughton made no bones about his reasoning. "Lower priced cigarettes would mean lower prices for tobacco farmers," the crusty 87-year-old chairman said.

When it became apparent that no bill was in the offing, deals began to brew. Doughton, who started absorbing political acumen in the days of President Taft, worked on his committee members to find a weak spot. He was stymied for weeks until he let word slip to the jewelry lobby here that no bill would make the Ways & Means approved unless an jewelry excises would not mature.

The rumored story goes that Representative Aime J. Forand (D-R.I.) was the gentleman who reversed his vote, although the actual balloting was in secret. Forand comes from a district that has many small jewelry manufacturers.

Just to put the shoe on the proper foot in this case, the Associated Tobacco Manufacturers, representing the economy brands, issued the following statement:

"We have suffered only a temporary defeat, solely because the committee chairman had such a deep personal interest in the outcome that he brought extraordinary pressure to bear upon a sufficient number of committee members to win a majority by one vote.

"Almost every member of the . . . committee would have voted for the ad valorem tax on cigarettes on the basis of merit if the deep personal interest of the chairman had not clouded the issue.

". . . The tobacco monopoly has again scored a temporary victory at the expense of the consumer."

THE Special House Committee on Lobbying is interested in who paid for much of the out-of-state, anti-Graham propaganda flooding the state during the recent primary and through today's run-off.

They think that Dr. Edward A. Rumley's Committee on Constitutional Government is behind much of it.

Chairman Frank Buchanan (D-Penna.) feels that the Rumley is the perfect example of the new type lobby. It doesn't engage in buttonholing Congressmen. It just swamps them with "educational literature". But its principal modus operandi is to propagandize people back home and get them to bring pressure on their Congressmen.

The CCG aims mainly at business and professional people. To use a term employed recently by the magazine, "The Reporter", the appeal of much of the material is to the "educated ignorant".

Rumley's group has taken over John T. Flynn's "The Road Ahead". Most people who haven't read anything serious since college days might be soured to death by it, not recognizing its slant. Besides the Flynn book, which had much to say about Graham's alleged affinity for Communist causes, North Carolinians have received copies of such CCG publications as "Socialism—American Variety" and "The Fair Deal and the Eighth Commandment." Representative Ralph W. Gwynn (R-N.Y.) has sent CCG material to N. C. under his frank. Total sales of these publications has passed the million mark. The committee wants to know who bought these books in large quantities for redistribution.

The greatest source of strength of this organization is its subtle and innocuous-appearing approach. John F. Day wrote recently in the Louisville Courier-Journal. It is educational, it says, seeking only to preserve free enterprise and to protect the American way of life. It also distributes such standard references as Norton's "The Constitution of the United States." Who can object to that? It is anti-Communist. Most Americans are. It makes varied appeals in its publications to people who are not reactionary, or even very conservative.

But most of its publications, says Day, are merely come-ons accepted by millions of people who haven't the faintest idea who is behind the Committee for Constitutional Government, or what its real aims are.

What is their definition of free enterprise and the American way of life? The Lobby Committee has evidence that their idea of free enterprise is wholly unrestricted by Government—where the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. It has evidence that the American way of life to them means merely rule by Strong Men; that they believe the little people aren't capable of governing themselves.

Wright Patman, of Texas, is certainly no wide-eyed radical. He said on the House floor recently: "Fascism is a real threat in this country. I consider the Committee on Constitutional Government the spearhead of fascism in this country . . ."

* * *

SENATOR HOEY didn't want the job, but his subcommittee was assigned the study of the homosexuals and other moral perverts in the Government.

His appointment was a great disappointment to the Scripps-Howard press and the McCormick papers. They had hoped the committee would prove to embarrassing the Administration with lurid stories and headlines. All this will be impossible with closed hearings.

Then, too, it will be hard to call the Hoey report a whitewash after his record with last year's five-percenter investigation which struck as far as White House aide Harry Vaughan.

The Senator admits he knows very little about homosexuals or their reason for being. He believes, however, they are dangerous in places of responsibility because of their susceptibility to blackmail.

Senator McCarthy will step off the committee for this particular investigation which he helped inspire. However, Senator Margaret Chase Smith (R-Me.), the only woman member of the Senate, has elected to stay with the group.

The Senator released his statement of aims, applauded by all except opposition groups: "It is neither the intention nor the desire of the subcommittee to transgress individual rights, to subject any individual to ridicule, or to allow this investigation to become a public spectacle."

Bookies, Big Or Little, Can Be Booked If Law Wants 'Em

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

MR. FRANK ERICKSON'S sly admission of guilt on 60 counts of illegality in connection with the bookmaking business raises a shy question on my own part, which is this:

If Mr. Erickson has been a known gambler for all those 30 years and more, why has not somebody thought to throw him the high hard one before? It seems dreadfully simple. You ask a man what his business is and he tells you and if it is illegal you charge him and if you can prove him non-legit or he admits it you heave him in the can and justice has triumphed once again.

VETERAN BOOKIE

Mr. Erickson long has operated a vast bookie business without ever going to jail, and I suppose it is just oversight on the part of the watchdogs of our public morals. He was considered to be above the law, in the mysterious fashion of most of our uppercase hoodlums with the sharp aboveshines. And here he yields to the dipnet as timidly as a petty crook with the loot on his person.

They have told me all along that Mr. Francis Costello, the suave gentleman who supposedly directs major iniquity in the nation also is above the law—that apart from one boyhood rap he has conducted himself faultlessly and the law can't touch him. Mr. Costello's untouchability has become a popular myth, and maybe that's all it is — just a myth.

Maybe if some determined people who are not too self-conscious about Mr. Costello's political connections will ask him a few rude questions under oath, with some serious intent of punishing him if he is as naughty as suspected, we might kick off a whole new concept of crime and punishment. If this be true, Mr. Erickson, the clay pigeon in the current gambling probe, deserves some sort of award for unconscious valor.

The history of snagging big criminals in recent years has proved almost charmingly simple if not too many scruples are involved. Mr. Alphonse Capone, a known murderer who once beat a chum to death with a ball bat, for laughs, went over the hill when some genius nailed him on an income tax rap. This was considered horribly uncricket by the mobs, and a downright insult to Al's status as a high shot.

But the precedent set turned gangdom upside down. Gentlemen who had previously been careless about reporting every jot and tittle of income to Uncle Samuel suddenly hired fleets of lawyers and taxmen, richening American employment, and some even turned square. Those who did not fattened the U. S. Treasury's coffers with sums they had long forgotten, and again Justice gave herself a pat on the back.

Mr. Charlie (Lucky) Luciano was another myth, supposedly above the soiled paws of the law, until young Thomas Dewey introduced a covey of vouches with names like Flo, who positively charged that Mr. Luciano was the mastermind of a prostitution ring, a rather sordid method of turning a buck.

UH-LUCKY LUCIANO

Mr. Luciano screamed in anguish, since he reportedly took a low view of people who preyed on women, and he was actively engaged in the more dignified business of dope and counterfeit at the time. Mr. Luciano yelled, and continues to yell, that he was framed. This Mr. Dewey so dignifiedly pooh-poohed, and Charlie went off to Dannemora, where he allegedly figured out ways to win the war. Frame or no frame, Luciano went to jail, where he belonged, and was bounced from his adopted land when he finally ran mysteriously aground.

I do not have much faith in the possibility that Mr. Erickson's belated apprehension will reform the sport of betting on horses, since some lieutenant will take over in his absence and continue to provide action for the eager chumps. But Frankie's fall illustrates a pretty legal sermon: Nobody's too big for the net if the netter is anxious enough to catch him.

People's Platform

Far-Reaching Decision

DAVIDSON

Editors, The News:

THE MOST important and far-reaching political decision in recent decades for the voters of North Carolina is to be made at Democratic Primary polls today. All good patriotic citizens who have in mind and at heart the future welfare of our State, our Southland and our Nation, should go to the polls and vote for Willis Smith for United States senator. For a person who thinks intelligently there can be no other choice than Willis Smith. Mr. Smith is a man who thinks intelligently and acts accordingly. He is conservative, clear and without equivocation his views and his stand on the several bills now pending before Congress, bills that so vitally affect our State and Nation.

Dr. Graham is a man of Christian character. So is Willis Smith. Both are Christian gentlemen. Dr. Graham is an "intellectual" man, but a man who for years has not been thinking intelligently along certain social and political lines. His record for a number of years past has clearly shown him to be travelling along the road of Socialism toward Communism. Recall the outcry that went up against Dr. Graham some years ago by church people, by schools and friends of the State University, who wanted to have him removed from its presidency. Witness his record as a United Nations delegate, when along with Senators Pepper and Kefauver, consistently voted against what Senator Hoey and other southern Senators considered best for the South and the Nation.

This Soviet-inspired trend towards Socialism and Communism has reached the danger point. The socialistic leanings of Dr. Graham make him a far more dangerous man than if he were an out-and-out Communist. As a Communist, sane people would avoid him, but, as a Socialist, the unwary and the gullible readily and blindly follow his dangerous theories. He is a dangerous man who aligns himself, whether ignorantly or knowingly, with some eighteen organizations that have been declared by good authorities to be subversive. These alignments cannot be satisfactorily explained. In the most casual person some of those eighteen, at least, were quite obviously Communistic and subversive. Yes, Dr. Graham is a man of sincerity. And I believe he joined those organizations sincerely believing in them, which fact makes him all the more dangerous.

Dr. Graham is not making many speeches. He would have to be constantly on the defensive, hedging and retracting. His previous statements, and his entire record are all too well known to the people. And he knows now that the things he has said and done are proving embarrassing and highly disastrous to his immediate goal of trying to stay in the United States Senate.

Unfortunately, on account of Dr. Graham's very affable, personality and his Christian character, there are many unwary, unthinking people, and more especially good women with a high degree of emotional sentimentalism, who voted for Dr. Graham in the first primary, some of whom will probably do so again. These people allow their emotions to stifle their thinking and blind them to the serious consequences of continuing in the Senate for four more years a man of the socialistic-communistic views and tendencies of Dr. Graham.

All intelligent-thinking, patriotic citizens of North Carolina want, for the good of our State, to represent our State at Washington who never has made any such subversive alignments as those so readily charged by Dr. Graham, and who now, in his desperate efforts to hold his Gestapo-appointed seat in the senate, would like the voters to forget. We want a man who can distinguish and clearly differentiate between the good and the evil forces, a man who stands for the principles of Jeffersonian democracy, and to fight against these subversive trends in our State and Nation. He is forthright and outspoken in his beliefs and statements. He is a staunch Jeffersonian Democrat and a strong supporter of States' Rights and our American form of government. He is the man who can do most, along with Senator Hoey and other Southern Democrats, to check Socialism-Communism and to preserve our freedom and American way of life.

F. L. Blythe

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Wood Accused Of Contract Favoritism

WASHINGTON

IN fairness to Congressman John S. Wood of Georgia, here is the gist of his reply after I reported that his office had exacted a $1,000 fee from a crippled boy hit by an Army truck after a bill was passed by Congress giving him relief for his injuries.

"Pearson is an archliar, a scandalmonger, a character assassin, a rogue, villain and slanderer," the Congressman told his colleagues on the floor of the House of Representatives.

"Pearson's stock in trade consists of a wicked heart, a lying tongue and a poisonous pen.

"To him there is nothing in the heavens that is sacred. He befouls and means to befoul everything he touches. He occupies the unique and unenviable position today of standing alone as the chief pollutant of all slanderers and scandalmongers in all American history."

Fee Was Satisfactory

CONGRESSMAN WOOD also admitted that his assistant, G. Carl Tolbert, did accept a fee of $1,000 from Ralph Stanfield, the boy who was hit by the truck. But in justification, the Congressman obtained an affidavit from the boy's father stating that he was "satisfied".

The elder Stanfield gave this affidavit only after his employer, Jack Spencer of the Spencer Music Company, to whom Stanfield rents his job, personally drove him to the Congressman's office. But regardless of any pressure, the fact that Stanfield, a resident of a small Georgia town, was satisfied with the $1,000 fee makes no difference. The fact that Carl Tolbert, paid $7,600 a year by the Government to serve as Wood's assistant, accepted the fee makes a difference.

Congressman Wood knows what the law was and he knew that it is a criminal offense for his office to accept such a fee. He also knew that a member of Congress is paid by the Government to work for all the people and he cannot accept any other compensation for his services.

Who Is The Rogue?

NOW let's examine Wood's record further and see who is really the villain.

A Congressman is supposed to award mail routes on merit, not because of any favor, whether direct or indirect. Yet I have an affidavit signed by Welden C. Bennett of Canton, Ga., which states that he took an examination for rural mail carrier in June of 1949, and two weeks later went to see R. B. Rowland, Wood's secretary, to find out how Chairman Wood, regarding his standing on the eligibility list.

"I offered C. B. (Butch) Mobley fifteen hundred dollars for the said route," continues the affidavit. "Mr. Holcombe then stated that the offer was not high enough. He stated, however, that if it could be arranged at that price, I could contact him later. I made the offer with the understanding that Mr. Rowland was the go-between for John S. Wood."

Holcombe is the Congressional secretary who originally approached Stanfield's attorney about a fee in connection with the compensation bill for Ralph Stanfield.

Two other affidavits are signed by Ralph Clark Jr. of Flowery Branch, Ga., and Rural W. Puckett of Buford, Ga., stating that in September, 1949, Congressman Wood told them quite frankly that he was awarding the mail route at Flowery Branch to Homer Reeves, because of the large fee, he, Wood, had received in connection with a lawsuit brought by Reeves' father in breaking the will of the late Dr. George Bryce.

Reeves' blood sloth on the feet of eligibles. Yet Congressman Wood did not even bother to mention the top of the list that, because of a large legal fee paid him in a recent suit involving another applicant, they would be passed over. The Congressman at least was frank.

Wood's Sobriety

WHILE on the floor of Congress, a Congressman is also supposed to remain sober and clear-headed. What he does at home is his business. But what he does in Congress is the business of his colleagues and the people, for matters of state affect millions of people.

For some time, however, Congressman Wood has had a alcohol handicap. One affidavit shows that when he was Solicitor General of the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit, the local sheriff "arrested the said John S. Wood while the said John S. Wood was drunk and locked him in a room in the Washburn Hotel in Canning, Ga., and held him there 24 hours instead of confining him to jail; and that the opening of the Superior Court of Forsyth County, Georgia, was delayed from Monday morning until Tuesday morning while the said John S. Wood sobered up and got in condition to perform his duties as solicitor general."

If the Congressman had changed his earlier habits would not be known. However, he has had many good glaring instances of passing out on his own bill took place in May 1949 after Congressman Wood introduced what was known as "The Wood Bill", a substitute for the Taft-Hartley law. Wood's measure would have required 75 different acres of labor unions and millions of workmen.

But when the time came for the final debate on the Wood bill, the author was nowhere to be found. It appear that ex-Speaker Joe Martin and Congressman Charles Halleck of Indiana, two Republicans, substituted for him in arguing for his bill.

Finally, the final vote came, Wood managed to appear on the House floor to vote, though he could hardly make it, and immediately thereafter retired to a couch in the Democratic cloakroom.

The Congressman's so-called personal "entertaining" would not have been mentioned by me, had he not asked for it. But the voting public has a right to know about them. It also has a right to know that Wood, a public servant on the payroll of the Un-American Activities Committee, who actually worked in the Wood home. Finally, it has a right to know about his failure to investigate Hollywood Communists, and his appointment of Dr. Dunham, created a job for Frank Marion Goldsby-Mayer.

Wood, who has made a practice of using his Un-American Activities Committee, is supposed to be a pillar of good Americanism and an example to the nation. The committee has passed out more than $1,000,000 of public funds.