

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

J. THOMAS L. ROBINSON  
C. H. DOWD  
B. S. GRIFITH  
C. A. MCKNIGHT

Publisher  
General Manager  
Executive Editor  
Editor

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## SIGN OF POLITICAL MATURITY

GERALD W. JOHNSON'S recent book, "The Incredible Trail," traces in detail the growing political maturity of the American people and makes the point that we have progressed further and faster than any people in history.

But in his most enthusiastic moments, Johnson didn't intimate that within months after his book was published, the American people would take up a major foreign policy as the chief item of street-corner and dinner-table conversation.

There are many reasons why the Greater Debate has reached down into every neighborhood and every home. For one thing, it has been dramatized by a spectacular personality—General Douglas MacArthur. For another, the unprecedented press, radio and television coverage of the pageantry in

Honolulu, San Francisco, Washington and New York have made everyone feel as if he were a part of the celebration.

But more important—and more significant—is the obvious depth of our understanding of and concern over the world struggle between freedom and international Communism. Letters to this newspaper prove that the people are not only well informed about the issue at stake, but that they have very definite ideas on the subject.

Although we are somewhat dismayed that there should be such a sharp cleavage over national policy at so critical a time, it is a wholesome sign of growing political maturity in this nation. And in political maturity lies the best hope of preserving unimpaired our democratic structure.

## POLITICS AND STARVATION

RESPONDING to Secretary Acheson's plea on Monday, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday approved sending \$65 million worth of grain to India—half an outright grant and half a loan—and voted to authorize another \$65 million for later use if Congress gives its approval.

Undoubtedly the Senate will approve, especially after General Douglas MacArthur's espousal of U. S. support for Far Eastern peoples in their battle for better food, better clothing, better shelter, and a better standard of living.

But the hitch may develop in the House Rules Committee—just as it developed for another aid-to-India bill passed weeks ago by the Senate. Why that bill has been tied up in the House Rules Committee is more than can be fathomed, or would be if this brand of politics hadn't been in evidence before.

Looking at the matter, there are two im-

portant things that stand out:

1. India needs grain if thousands of its people are not to starve.
2. We have the surplus grain, enough to feed India and more.

Why don't we send it? Because, as the belly of India rumbles with hunger, the minds of a select group of Congressmen are whirling with fight for something for the grain.

It's not a selfish matter, of course. The United States themselves would actually get nothing out of the transaction. They want only that India should accept the grain as a loan or accept it as a gift with strings attached—strings that would make a puppet of India.

The Washington Post has called the sending of surplus grain to India a "race with death." The Rules Committee doesn't seem to be aware that there's a contest.

## THE WILL TO DESTROY

THAT cute little low-head who impulsively slams the table to the floor (and too often gets a laugh) may well grow up to be the teen-aged hellion who throws rocks through windows.

The child's attitude toward property—destructive—respecting to the child in his youth by his parents, as pointed out in the excellent article by C. Howard Smith appearing elsewhere on this page.

In the article, which appears in the April edition of *Better Homes & Gardens*, Mr. Smith cites a number of preventive measures the parents might take. (Regrettably, there are not much chances of curing a youngster of his identification with a rampant bulldozer once he's in his teens.)

The author concerned himself principally with the physical manifestations of the

child's desire to break things up. He might well have pointed out that destructive tendencies are only a part of a larger attitude: the child's lack of consideration of others.

He might also have pointed out that he might break the neighbors' windows; he might destroy their comfort by injudicious use of automobiles (commonly referred to as hot-rodding and usually accompanied by screaming and destructive chain sawing); he might destroy the sound of metal-on-metal.

That's just one example of how a youngster can be inconsiderate. Any resident of this planet for more than 21 years can think of hundreds more. The will to break things up is not simply an evil in itself; it is a symptom and a manifestation of something greater.

And we bide the poor parent who doesn't try to do something about it.

## AUSTERITY NOTE

OCCASIONALLY you run across a little item in the news proving that the good old virtues of thriftiness and self-denial are not completely out of fashion. Such an item was the Associated Press brief from London about tablecloths in the House of Commons dining room.

It seems that some of the tablecloths bear the imprint: "Milwaukee University Club." What does that happen? one member of Commons asked.

He got his answer from the Commons

dining room committee. The tablecloths were originally made for export from Britain, but the purchasers rejected them because there were slight flaws of workmanship. The stock of the Associated Press brief from London about tablecloths in the House of Commons dining room.

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## NO SUBSIDING

EVIDENTLY the fight of the trucking interests to break down present road limits on the state's roads, with particular emphasis on the secondary, is anything but subsiding.

Naturally the latest and what may be the final attack is being made in the name of the farm interests, either directly or indirectly. First the pulpwood and lumber industry complained about the inability to use the secondary roads to get in and haul out logs and sawmill products. The pulpwood interests, let it be distinctly remembered, went so far as to say they would prefer that the roads be left unpaved so that they could use them. How much-bound residents along these roads might be apparently bothered they are not in the least.

The new protest is coming from an Eastern Carolina manufacturer of fruit and nut crates and says his business has been hit hard by the fact that the trucks have to get over secondary roads to deliver their containers to the growers and that the load has placed by the highway commission will put him out of business. His delivery trucks are loaded with crates weighing 40,000 pounds gross weight, or well over the limit which the commission is desirous of enforcing.

These protesting interests and those for whom they speak have the purpose of our secondary roads to get in and haul out logs and sawmill products. The pulpwood interests, let it be distinctly remembered, went so far as to say they would prefer that the roads be left unpaved so that they could use them. How much-bound residents along these roads might be apparently bothered they are not in the least.

There isn't too much to park and see it. Ellerbe (Ga.) Sun.

handsome; but the saving would accrue to the roads and the people of North Carolina for whom they were built and who are paying for them. Incidentally it is pertinent to note, as pointed out in Arthur Johnson's special story in the *Greensboro Record* the other day, that the bigger the trucks get the less they are paying toward the construction and maintenance of the road which they beat up as they shift from gasoline to Diesel oil.

Certainly it is time for the General Assembly to decide and stick to it that North Carolina roads are built for the people and not for the trucks. The trucks are a particular problem at disproportionate cost and loss to others.

Parents of small boys who are overly enthusiastic about television will not overlook the help contained in the announcement that Ted Williams won't look at television during the baseball season. It is a sucker for pitchers the day after watching it for an hour or so—*Joplin (Mo.) Globe*.

Mississippi Game & Fish Commission has limited jug fishermen to ten jugs to each boat on Sardis Lake. That's getting things done pretty fast, but if the boys stick to hundred pound, ten ought to be enough unless some guy makes a hog of himself.—*Exposure (Miss.) Webster Progress*.

There isn't too much to park and see it. Ellerbe (Ga.) Sun.

It's the height of embarrassment, when you are looking at a television set, and they show a close-up of a man looking you straight in the eye and saying "Are you up to date on your payments for this machine?"—*Kingpost (Tenn.) Times*.

## Arriving Democrats Brought Together By MacArthur Tiff

WASHINGTON  
By TOM SCHLESINGER  
Charlotte News Special Writer  
THE MacArthur affair has probably done more to solidify the Democratic Congressional ranks than any incident of recent years.

It is the consensus expressed by members of the North Carolina delegation here the week following the dramatic removal of the Far Eastern commander.

"The ouster has revived the party from its own slumber," one Representative said. Another remarked that it "communicated a quality of excitement" which even made the annual Jefferson-Jackson dinner into a passable political affair.

An even more cheerful third declared that MacArthur's return will "at best tend to divide the GOP as the Democrats will be united as one."

Specifically, Senator Clyde R. Hoey complimented MacArthur for his "question of determining foreign policy is a civilian responsibility under the Constitution, experience and custom of the republic since its earliest days."

Hoey said that the military determine our policies. Under these conditions, the military will be well within its rights.

Senator Willis Smith, while regretting the manner in which the ouster took place, agreed that civil authority "must be supreme." He said that the Senate isn't sure of MacArthur's motives. However, as a dramatic and forceful sacrifice to help the situation here in the Far East, Smith himself would favor bombing the Chinese mainland "if it would bring the Chinese to the table."

A minority report was sounded by the speaker of the House, Charles W. McNair, who called the President "a tool of the joint chiefs of staff." But Charles E. Deane, McNair's chief of staff, said that McNair's reaction on the House side, the Representative released notes from a 1949 conference he and other

## What Parents Can Do About the "Reckless Crew"

(The following is a condensation of an article by C. Howard Smith that appears in the April issue of *Better Homes & Gardens*. It is condensed and presented here with the permission of the author.)

"Some kids are raising the dickens in the balcony washroom," the projection room operator in a neighborhood theater, "I've heard of it. The kids are put down on the balcony and returned with two bewildered brothers, aged eleven and eight."

He set at his desk calculating the damage and writing a report on it.

"Well, boys," he asked, "what do you think your parents are going to say when they find out what you've just done?"

The boys were scared; they weren't sure what MacArthur had said. They were sure that Mom and Dad had put in a little work teaching the boys the difference between use and abuse, and that the boys had been spared the embarrassment—and the cost.

PROPERTY care, like charity, starts at home. Children must be taught to take care of the things at home, curtains, rugs, furniture, etc., even when they're quite small. Later they must learn right ideas about managing their toys, clothing, pencils and books.

To be successful in teaching your child property respect, you must make up your mind that he's bound to be responsible for a certain amount of damage; it's inevitable.

Of course, parents with the lavatory is more an indication of an adventurous spirit that all kids feel than a sign of abnormality. It's the boy's desire to learn things apart and see what makes them tick that gets youngsters into trouble.

And remember, they're capable of taking things apart. Often they are more curious in body than in mind. That will result in faulty judgment in many cases, and without guidance, they frequently will do what they want to do. You must channel their energies.

Of course, part of a child's difficulty in keeping things in one piece may result from his having no idea of their value when they are whole. Consider, for instance, a boy who likes to whittle with a knife from the kitchen. If he breaks the knife and laughs it off he has two things wrong with his attitude toward property. First, he saw in whittling a means of whitening. He doesn't consider it a value and doesn't care if it breaks. Second, since he's aware of the value of his own whittling knife, he is more likely to be careless about other people's possessions.

"CHILDREN must learn early in life that possession of anything is made possible through what you, as parents, do for them. Explain that when they lose or destroy something, they must be responsible for the cost of replacing it. If they are in the first place. Make clear to them the basic facts about family income and routine expenses. Explain to them why the comforts of the home come from. Later they will understand and respect the effort that makes possible such public property as swimming pools, parks, schools and playgrounds.

Go back to the whittling. If he had been taught the proper use of the knife his destructive tendency

might have been curbed. A little training in how household articles work, and their uses, are essential. You can't take for granted that youngsters instinctively know not to carve their initials on the bathroom door handle, but no place in your living room. Or that a drum cannot be used as a stool to reach the sticks.

Be sure your child is physically and psychologically ready when you give him things to manage as his own. Remember, too, that when you give him things, he may not be a perfect beholder. This tendency to break things goes a little deeper than mere ignorance of use or value.

SOMETIMES the tendency to be destructive may come suddenly in a child's life, even after he has been carefully taught to do the best with the physical world. The Purbeck's experience with their twelve-year-old son is a good example. After they had moved into a different section of town, neighbors began to complain about tramped hedges and broken windows. Was it the neighborhood or Bobby?

Bobby himself gave the answer one evening. "You got to be like the rest of the fellows when you play with the gang," he explained to his Dad. "The gang obviously had little respect for property."

He wanted to avoid being labeled a new boy who didn't fit. The result was a temporary fling at being the hero whose unusual risks with property and affected a childish indifference to the consequences.

To remedy the situation, the Purbecks got the gang together for a hot dog roast in the basement. They moved into a different section of town, neighbors began to complain about tramped hedges and broken windows. Was it the neighborhood or Bobby?

You may need to be on the lookout for the destructive attitude toward property that will appear in children's displays of temper, selfishness, selfishness, jealousy, superiority, and so on. These are negative attitudes, which you should do your best to eliminate.

TRY substituting a few creative activities; play around with your kids to provide them with the constructive and healthy outlet for their energy. You'll have a chance then to get in a few words about the difference between constructive and destructive attitudes toward property.

Finally, a word of caution. Don't over-emphasize the value of things, to the point where your Johnny and Mary could develop a proprietary attitude toward things. Bobby's behavior is unpleasantly possessive, even miserly in a childish sort of way. So you need to prepare him in ways that will help him to handle things. In this way he can learn to hold on to their dolls and marbles forever.

When they do break something, as they surely will, keep cool. Frying off a hot rod or accusing them of being careless will only add to their confusion. Make an all-out effort to be patient and begin your child's training in responsibility as early as you see it. Then, when you've put the pieces away, you'll be able to offer them some discreet advice about the right and wrong of helping them to develop a healthy regard for the public and private property they must use in life.

## People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

### 'A Consummate Vindication'

CHARLOTTE

Editor, The News:

NEVER before had I been transported by a living person to the highest plane of human grandeur and glory, when by means of a newspaper I saw and heard General Douglas MacArthur before Congress.

I saw the same of human physical distinction and felt the force of his personality.

I heard the speech which was in no way a philippic but, in classical proportion, a consummate vindication.

—J. G. WILKES.

### Thoughtful Editorials

CHARLOTTE

Editor, The News:

I followed your Charlotte page with much interest. Although I have not always agreed with your conclusions, I have found that they have been reached with much thought.

The comments written by some of your readers on your editorial handling of the MacArthur affair cannot be overestimated. I saw one of the faults of the American people is that they only write against issues and seldom for them.

It is extremely regrettable that perhaps our most brilliant military genius since Robert E. Lee found it necessary to oppose the policies of his Commander-in-Chief. But no man is indispensable.

I cannot blame MacArthur for expressing his views, but perhaps he should have resigned his military position before entering the field of foreign policy.

When the American people learn to tackle their problems with their intelligence rather than with their emotions, then perhaps they will be able to elect a President who will lead with wisdom and prosperity. The hot-headed, emotional bias of certain members of our Congress who are against anything but a complete and permanent war of aggression to the people who elected them. Mr. Truman, sometimes hot-headed himself, may lack a number of the qualities necessary to have his own way, but out of respect for his office and the people who elected him, we should refrain from opposition.

That is why the return of the general of the army from Tokyo has turned the Congress into a hotbed of controversy. And it will take a couple of weeks for them to get their political predictions reshuffled and in place again.

### Texas Vs. Kentucky Honor

SHARP-TONGUED Sen. Tom Connally of Texas was ribbing Vice-President Alben Barkley, a Kentuckian, about his home state's claim to the honor of being the birthplace of the only man who can be elected in Kentucky.

"The only way you can get elected in Kentucky—talking those hillbills down there stories to keep them happy," said Connally.

"If you told more jokes and discarded that sour look, I'll bet you'd get all the votes in Texas," countered the Texan.

"I don't want all the votes, just a majority," replied Connally. "I couldn't stand being obligated to everybody in Texas."

### G. I. Gripes Bag

N. I. order to help servicemen with their problems of adjustment to military life, the military periodically issues a list of names of men who are being discharged from the service. Names are withheld upon request.

Company G, 15th Infantry, Third Division, Korea— "We wish to thank the military for the honor of a rest. As we understand it, we are supposed to spend this time to rest, write letters and catch up on much-needed little rest periods. We are now in a Korean village outside

of Seoul. We have been working long hours, hauling

chunks of stone, weighing up to 100 pounds, from a nearby cliff."

Answer—Frontline troops should be entitled to a rest and a vacation. A thorough investigation of the incident is warranted.

A private, Camp Stoneman, Calif.—"I was forced to travel to Camp Stoneman by train. Why shouldn't the Army let me see relatives in North Carolina by airplane ticket, so I can spend more time at home on furlough?"

Answer—The Defense Dept. has an unofficial policy of giving the railroad priority on military passenger travel. This is partly due to the fact that in wartime the airlines have been so crowded that it is difficult to get space on them.

A draftsman, Ft. Lewis, Wash.—"The Coast Guard is a haven for draft dodgers. Those who are lucky enough to get into port security units are exempt from the draft."

Answer—It is true that draft-eligible men have been able to get into Coast Guard port security units. It is also true that they are exempted from a second draft and serve two weeks active duty per year. This automatically exempts them from the draft. However, the Coast Guard claims it has sent letters to 150,000 coast-guard men in the past year, asking them to report for duty. The Coast Guard claims, did it open these units to draft-eligible men. These units are still short 75 officers and 825 men.

## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

UP UNTIL this week, most of the top stories in the Republican Party were reasonably sure that the GOP national convention battle fifteen months hence would be between two men—Taft and Eisenhower. Now they are not so sure.

The man who has upset them is the general who came back from Tokyo this week. Even despite the general's admitted political inexperience, he has a certain appeal.

It would be a mistake to say that those who would policy inside the GOP are so enthusiastic about MacArthur's candidacy that they would vote for him to control him. Secondly, patronage would be his, not theirs—and patronage is something without which no political boss can survive.

This, incidentally, is one reason the party bosses never have been enthusiastic about Eisenhower. For he likewise probably would not serve any particular group of interests.

What is that? Why Taft always has been the favorite of the chief architects of the Grand Old Party.

Nevertheless, the glamorous crowd he has drawn the appeal he has made President Truman take a back seat, has made GOP planners think twice. Some do, at least, with great regularity, and they are not Taft. Some are waiting to see how soon—if ever—MacArthur stunts his leg.

There is something else about the MacArthur boom will do to Eisenhower. If the GOP nominates a military man for President, then the Democrats are certain to elect a military man with a military man of their own adoption.

## New Face Sees New Political Horizon

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