THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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PROGRESS IN CIVIL RIGHTS

BECAUSE U. S. journalism tends to emphasize the area of controversy, President Truman's renewed insistence on compulsory Federal legislation in the field of civil rights got top play after his speech at Howard University Friday.

That, of course, was the big news. The two leading Republican Presidential candidates, Robert Taft and Dwight Eisenhower, have said they favored less forcible measures. Senator Kefauver, top man in the race for Democratic delegates, holds to the same position. And there have been many indications that both major parties will soften the language of their civil rights planks in a bid for Southern voters. In such a situation, Mr. Truman's forthright assertion of Federal authority and Federal responsibility was newsworthy.

But the headline reader missed the more significant portion of Mr. Truman's speech —a review of the solid progress toward equality of political and economic opportunity in the past few years, progress made without violence, without splitting the nation asunder.

"In political rights—Two more states have abolished the poll tax, leaving only five. The right of equal participation in primary elections has been established.

In education—Since court decisions required equal facilities in public institutions of higher learning "more than a thousand Negro graduate and professional students have been accepted by ten state universities that were closed to them before." Progress toward equalization of public school facilities has been rapid. The enrollment of Negro college students has increased eight times since 1930.

In housing—The Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional deed restrictions based on racial discrimination. Public housing is being opened to all persons in many states. Nine states and eight cities have outlawed segregation in public housing.

In personal security—Two states have enacted anti-lynching laws, four states and six cities have passed laws against wearing masks in public. Mob violence is being punished with increasing regularity.

In addition to progress in these fields, great progress toward non-discrimination in Federal employment has been made. Eleven states and twenty cities have adopted fair employment laws. Segregation in the armed forces is rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

To all of this progress, Mr. Truman gave due acknowledgment. "Voluntary action can carry us a long way, and we must encourage it," he said. And then he abruptly returned to the old familiar theme: "We still need the legislation I recommended to the Congress in 1948 . . . I shall continue, in office and out, to urge the Congress to adopt the remainder. . . . The full force and power of the Federal Government must stand behind the protection of rights guaranteed by our Federal Constitution."

In a few words, he turned a statesmanlike address into political controversy and in so doing detracted attention from the more meaningful recital of progress by education, by voluntary methods, by leadership from men of good will.

Compulsory Federal legislation in the field of civil rights is no longer a burning issue. Mr. Truman's new demand for it is little more than sound and fury. But the shelving of compulsory legislation makes it all the more imperative that the American people face up to their responsibilities to eliminate discrimination that stems from race, religion, or national origin. The surest invitation to Federal intervention will be the default of local and state responsibility.

WASTED SCHOOL FACILITIES

THE Charlotte school system now has 33 buildings. Four more will be opened in the Fall. Others are projected for the future. The current value of the whole school plant would run to $15 million—or higher.

Yet those buildings stand idle for three months each year. The facilities are not used during the Summer vacations. The heavy investment produces no return.

The incongruity of the situation is heightened by the severe shortage of classroom space. Double sessions are held at many schools. The new ones that open next Fall will be filled to capacity the first day. School officials cannot even envision the day when facilities will equal demand.

Yet, by using the buildings on a year-round basis, the facilities could be expanded by one-third without the investment of a single dollar!

That is the revolutionary—and intriguing —idea that a good many U. S. educators are now toying with. Our Mr. Young discusses it in some detail elsewhere on today's editorial page.

The kids would go to school for nine months only. But vacation periods would rotate. One fourth of the children in any one school would be on vacation in the Summer, one-fourth in the Fall, one-fourth in the Winter, one-fourth in the Spring. With such a system, for example, a school with nine classrooms could handle twelve classes.

A twelve-month school operation would entail many changes within the education system. It would also cause inconvenience to parents who would want to match their vacations with those of their children.

But double sessions and overcrowded classrooms are also inconveniences. Moreover, they are a definite handicap to the school children who, after all, have the most at stake.

The idea of a twelve-month school plan has merit. Any plan that will increase total facilities by a third without calling for additional dollars is worth thinking about, even though it would upset a tradition dating back to a period when youngsters stopped school in Summer to work on the farms.

WHATEVER ITS NAME, IT WORKS

A LITTLE electronic device for clocking speeders is called variously a radar speedometer, the "whammy", and the "evil eye". But by any other name, it would be just as useful.

In Raleigh last week, 32 victims of the magic eye came into court on speeding charges. Without exception, they pleaded guilty, paid their fines, and walked out. When the session was over, the City Court had netted $637.65 — the biggest single day's receipts from speeding charges — and 32 Raleigh motorists were wiser.

In Greensboro, where the device has been in use for some months, the results have been so good that the *Greensboro Daily News* has decided to refer to it as the "good eye". Traffic accidents involving injury have been reduced 20 to 30 per cent in the first five months of this year. The paper attributes the reduction to the slower speeds that generally prevail now.

Saturday's News revealed that Chief Stanhope Lineberry of the County Police is ready to start training personnel to use the device in Mecklenburg. On the basis of the evidence from Raleigh and Greensboro, we suggest that the Chief get his training over with as soon as possible and actually put the thing to work.

And while we're on the subject, what's holding up similar action by the City Police Department, the other branch of our non-consolidated local law enforcement system?

AN EVENT WITHOUT HISTORICAL PARALLEL

WITH the exception of a political side swipe at General Dwight Eisenhower (which, because of the tension of the times, rated headline attention) President Truman's address Saturday at the keel-laying of an atomic-powered submarine rates as one of his better efforts.

The President correctly measured the event with the yardstick of historical significance. He put it into its proper scientific perspective. And he saw in it the hope that this incredibly vast new source of power will be used for peaceful, productive purposes instead of further desolation and destruction.

In a period when great events are happening with such confusing rapidity, the deep significance of the Groton, Conn., experiment should not be overlooked.

It was 2,000 years between the first application of steam and James Watt's steam engine. There were almost 150 years between Franklin's experiments with electricity and the first incandescent lamp. Yet in the space of ten years, American scientific and industrial genius has discovered the secret of the once-mysterious power potential of the universe and adapted it to productive use. There is no parallel in history for this incredible achievement.

With President Truman, we steadfastly hope that *The Nautilus* will never see action in a war. We hope that it will go through its tests and one day wind up tied to a dock, an object of historical interest for the curious, just like the old *Constitution*.

Meanwhile, there is no peace in the world, despite the longing for peace among the free peoples. Until war is put aside as a means of settling international disputes, *The Nautilus* and her successors will strengthen the free world. But while we rejoice in her naval capabilities, we shall proceed to further adaptations of atomic energy to productive uses. Therein lies our greatest ultimate strength, and the test of our sincerity will be the speed and ingenuity of subsequent developments in the peaceful use of this awesome new source of power.

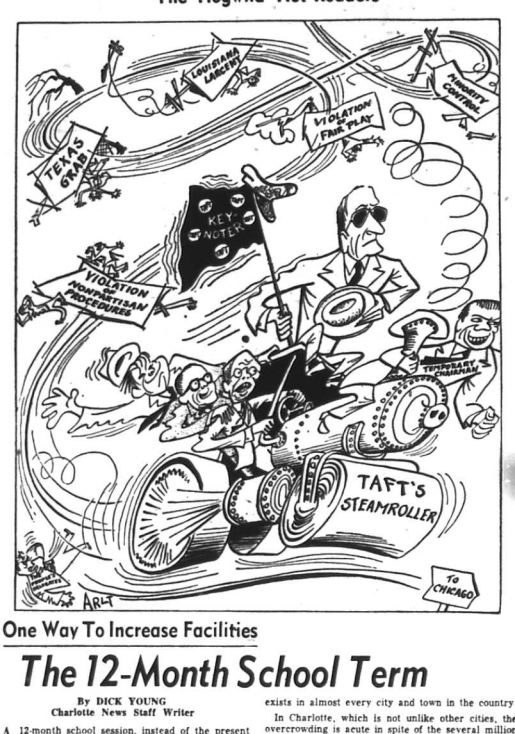
Home economic exports proclaim that we should eat less but more often. As almost everyone else knows, common-sense economics demands these days that we eat less and less often.—*Lexington (Ky.) Herald.*

We went out and bought a couple of new oversize baskets the other day when we saw a report showing that there are now 3,825 press agents employed by the various departments of the government at Washington.—*Baxter (Ark.) Bulletin.*

There is nothing as forlorn looking as a man trailing behind his shopping wife.—*Greenwood (Miss.) Commonwealth.*

The first name initials of the Dionne Five —18 years of age recently—spell MAECY. This positively cannot be said of any other quintuplets.—*Nashville (Tenn.) Banner.*

The Hogwild Hot-Rodders



One Way To Increase Facilities

The 12-Month School Term

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer

A 12-month school session, instead of the present nine-month term, may be one method of solving Charlotte's problem of critically crowded classrooms, Dr. E. H. Garinger, city school superintendent, says.

Asked about the proposal for 12 months of schooling, as favored by some educators and writers in the educational field, Dr. Garinger said, "almost anything can happen in these critical days of shortage in classroom space and the ever-increasing number of students."

Advocates of the full year school term point out that such a plan would add one-third to existing facilities by using the classrooms which now stand idle for three months in the Summer.

The plan is simple enough. Essentially, it would work like this:

Students would continue to get a three-month vacation every year. They would take this vacation on a staggered basis, however, one group during the Summer, another in the Spring, another in the Fall.

The plan could be arranged so that they would take the entire three months at one time, or at varying intervals during the year — say a month in the Summer, one in the Spring and one in the Fall.

Those details could be worked out, proponents of the plan say, after sounding out teachers and parents.

At any rate, use of the schools for 12 months would automatically increase our school facilities by one-third.

* * *

CHARLOTTE now has 33 schools with four scheduled to be opened next Fall and five more in the planning stage.

Practically every new school is filled to overflowing the day the building is opened and Dr. Garinger has been feverishly working on plans to take care of the heavy load next September.

He pointed out that double sessions are now in vogue in some Charlotte schools but this plan is only a makeshift one at best and is far from a satisfactory arrangement for either the students or parents.

Among the 'anything can happen" schemes for meeting the present emergency is still another plan for lengthening the day. An additional hour of school each day would add 20 per cent to the facilities, Dr. Garinger said.

Dr Garinger said there is a town in Pennsylvania where a 12-month school term has been tried as an emergency measure.

It would be a difficult thing, he went on to say, to establish a 12-month term because school patrons are slow to accept innovations but he thinks that by proper explanation the scheme could be "sold" to parents.

* * *

THE plan is said to be particularly attractive just now because of the critical situation that exists in almost every city and town in the country.

In Charlotte, which is not unlike other cities, the overcrowding is acute in spite of the several million dollars spent in the last five years for new school buildings.

If the existing facilities were used for 12 months instead of nine, the three months Summer use would help to relieve the overcrowding and a third more space would be available without the expenditure of additional money.

It was pointed out that the reason for the nine-month pattern has long since been removed. When the public school system was established the country was mainly rural and the help of youngsters in performing farm chores was needed in the Summer.

In urban communities there is now no such necessity and youngsters can attend school in the Summer without disruption of home routine.

Advocates of the plan also point out that it would have the additional benefit of helping to relieve the critical shortage of teachers.

If teachers were employed 12 months instead of nine, it's obvious either that (1) fewer would be needed or (2) classes could be reduced to a size more nearly in line with recommendations of educational authorities.

Although teachers are now paid 12 months of the year, their pay is for just the nine months they work. Pay increases would, of course, be in order if the teachers were expected to work the full year.

For faculty members who desire to take Summer school work for additional degrees, a plan could be arranged that would allow them "sabbatical" leave every two or three years.

Quote, Unquote

Now that income tax time is behind us it seems easy to forget about taxes for a while. But we shouldn't. As big as it is, income tax is just one tax. There are many and many and many others.

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States says, for instance, that there are some 150 taxes of all kinds hidden in a loaf of bread. A single gallon of gasoline contains 201 taxes. And the plow, that humble trademark of the farmer, is taxed 142 times from the moment it is started until it winds up on the farm. — **Rock Hill (S. C.) Herald.**

One of the latest horror gadgets created by the cosmeticians for milady is a pair of aviation-type goggles to protect the eyes while "shampooing, permanent waving or tinting."

The goggles are patterned after the World War I airman's, with the added touch of terry cloth padding. We have visions of them in use—two glistening eye-filled windows in a mountain of foam. If it weren't for the fact that the last straw had long ago heaped on the hapless male, this would be it.— **Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser.**

N. C. May Top The Southeast, But Can't Rest On Laurels

(An editorial from The Greensboro Daily News).

NORTH CAROLINA leads the Southeast in progress. We don't have to prove it. We admit it.

A news story a few days ago started off as follows:

"North Carolina has done it again! In a comparison of just about everything worth considering, the Old North State has again raced down the 1951 home stretch to achieve the rank of superiority over other South Atlantic states."

There are statistics to back up most of this; North Carolina has more people and makes more profits on industry and crops than any other Southeastern state; it leads the nation in manufacture of textiles, tobacco and furniture.

But our crowing is a far cry from what a distinguished North Carolinian, Nat Macon, said over a century ago:

"North Carolina may be a good state but she can never be a great one."

It is also quite a change from the time, a few decades ago, when we were accustomed to refer to North Carolina as "a valley of humility between two mountains of conceit."

Any Tar Heel who takes a trip through the Southeast today will be shocked to find that North Carolina's lead is being challenged and overcome by other Southeastern states in a good many important fields. The Old North State is in grave danger of becoming "a mountain of complacency between two molehills of progress."

North Carolina's present progress has been based, not on boasting, but on a frank recognition of deficiencies and a determination to overcome them. Let us keep that up.

It is true that we lead in textiles, tobacco and furniture, but on the other hand we have too many of our industrial eggs in one basket. Textiles and tobacco alone account for about three-fourths of our industrial output, and that does not leave much for other industries.

We need more different kinds of industries, especially those which use more skills, produce more finished goods and bring in more wages and higher profits. But North Carolina does not appear to be doing as good a job of getting big, new industry as her neighboring states, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee are doing.

It is true that North Carolina makes more money on her crops than any other Southern state, but she makes relatively little on livestock. Her proportion of livestock to crops, 19 per cent, is the lowest in the U. S. Furthermore North Carolina is lagging far behind all other Southern states, except South Carolina, in the Southern pasture boom.

It is true that North Carolina has more income from manufacturing and crops than the other Southeastern states, but it is also true that her per capita income — which is what counts — is far down in the list of states. It was 43rd in the union in 1948. We make a lot of money but we have a lot of people to divide it among.

It is true that North Carolina has more colleges than any other state in the region, but it has the lowest proportion of its population in college of any state in the union with the exception of South Carolina. This is an undeniable exhibition of indifference to learning; we are not too poor to get a good education; we are too lazy. This is more than shocking; it is shameful.

These are some of the things Tar Heels might consider whenever they are tempted to play the part of the hare in the great Southeastern sweepstakes. North Carolina has the resources — men, materials, climate, markets — to make whatever progress she really wants to make. But she will not make that progress by sitting back and proclaiming her superiority. She will make it, if at all, just as she has done in the past — by frankly recognizing her urgent needs and taking resourceful and resolute steps to satisfy them.

Ike Supporters Aren't Only 'Crypto' Texas Republicans

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

HAVING steam-rollered the huge pro-Eisenhower majorities in Texas and other Southern states, the campaign strategists of Sen. Robert A. Taft are preparing to legitimize this feat at Chicago. Meanwhile, a great outcry is being raised that the southern men and women who voted for General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower were not "real Republicans."

It is interesting to examine the tests for "real Republicans" proposed by Sen. Taft's national campaign manager, David Sinton Ingalls. Ingalls has defended the Texas steam-roller by producing an advertisement run in the "Dallas Times Herald" before the Republican precinct meetings that gave the Eisenhower people their Texan triumph.

This advertisement invited pro-Eisenhower Democrats to attend the Republican precinct meetings, sign the pledge of loyal Republican allegiance and vote for their man. This was, as it happens, the legal way of electing delegates to the Republican county and state conventions in Texas. No one has disputed the fact that the pro-Eisenhower majorities in the county and state conventions were chosen according to the law and the rules, although the pro-Taft state organization disfranchised them.

PROMISE CITED

The Ingalls defense of this disfranchisement of the legal majority in Texas rests on a promise included in the pro-Eisenhower advertisement in Texas. The advertisement promised people who joined the Republican Party and voted in the Republican precinct meetings that they could also vote in the state Democratic primaries in Texas.

According to Ingalls, this showed that the pro-Eisenhower converts to the Republican Party were not "real Republicans." But by these rules, the pro-Taft minorities were not "real Republicans" either. The reason for this lies in the pattern of Texas politics.

In brief, the one-party system in Texas, which the Eisenhower forces are fighting to destroy, effectively prevents anyone from voting on state issues except in the state Democratic primary. Even in the tiny, rather nasty private club which is the Old Guard Republican organization in Texas, a great many people still hanker to have some say about state affairs. Hence great numbers of the men and women Ingalls classes as "real Republicans" have made a practice of voting in the state Democratic primary for many years, without waiting for any advertised invitation to do so.

Take the case of Dallas. One of Dallas county's pro-Taft delegates to the Republican National Convention, Joe C. Thompson Jr., registered to vote in the state Democratic primary as recently as 1950. So did W. P. Luse, the Dallas member of the State Executive Committee, who helped to nullify the Eisenhower majorities, and rig the Texas state convention for Taft. So did almost a score of the other old-guard Taft adherents who were seated as the "real Republican" representatives of Dallas County in the rigged state convention, and there named Thompson and the other pro-Taft delegates to Chicago.

Affidavits show that these crypto-Democratic tendencies of the Dallas County "real Republicans" are typical of "real Republicans" throughout Texas. Fort Worth, for example, had 57 "real Republicans" seated in the Republican state convention.

Add that the Taft leader in Texas, National Committeeman Henry Zweifel, publicly invited Democrats to sign the Republican pledge and vote in the Republican precinct meetings; and made no complaint until too many people accepted his invitation and voted pro-Eisenhower.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Pace Is For Crackdown On MacArthur

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT TRUMAN has had a letter on his desk for some time regarding the hot question of General MacArthur's engaging in politics while on active duty. However, he's been gun shy about slapping MacArthur down.

The letter was drafted by Secretary of the Army Pace, who has been itching to crack down on MacArthur. He sent the letter only after the question of MacArthur's right to engage in politics had been carefully considered by the Judge Advocate General.

The latter ruled that MacArthur was clearly violating Army regulations.

1st, he is on active duty, assigned by the Army to New York.

2nd, Army regulation 600-10 forbids political activity by "members of the Army while on active duty," and specifically bans "activities at political conventions." MacArthur has now been named keynote speaker at the Republican National Convention.

3rd, the Hatch Act prohibits officers on active duty from taking part in political campaigns. The penalty is to remove the officer from active duty.

In other words, MacArthur is now violating both the Hatch Act and Army regulations. Meanwhile, Eisenhower has given up his Army rank and the $19,000 salary that goes with it—the same salary drawn by MacArthur.

However, President Truman, perhaps because he got burnt once before in cracking down on MacArthur, hasn't okayed the proposed letter of his Army Secretary.

Harry Vaughn's Medal

THE ambassador of tiny Honduras has given sharp contrast to the military aide of the President of the United States by turning down a decoration from Argentina.

Whereas Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan accepted a decoration from Dictator Peron, Ambassador Rafael Heliodoro Valle of Honduras has quietly written a letter to Foreign Minister Remerino of Argentina declining the highest of all Argentine awards.

General Vaughan was given the Order of Liberator for his alleged "constant and efficient efforts in favor of close and friendly relations." Just what he did to cement friendly relations while Peron was trying to upset them, is not known. But anyway the medal was pinned on Harry's breast during ceremonies at the Argentine Embassy despite the fact that Peron has been a bitter critic of the United States and has been organizing an anti-U. S. bloc in various parts of Latin America.

Congress was so wrathy over the award to Vaughan that it refused to okay his acceptance, and the medal is still reposing in a State Department vault waiting the time when he retires from active service.

In contrast, Ambassador Valle was awarded the highest of all Argentina decorations, "The Great Cross," higher than that given to Vaughan. Announcement of the award was made in Buenos Aires without consulting Valle or he would have saved Argentina some embarrassment. Though Honduras is a small country and can't afford to antagonize one of the most powerful nations in the Western Hemisphere, nevertheless, the Ambassador wrote the Argentine Foreign Minister that he had previously worked for the Argentine newspaper La Prensa, and therefore could not accept a decoration from a government which had suppressed that great paper.

NOTE—When Vaughan's Argentine medal came before a committee of Congress it was the subject of so much caustic questioning by Congressman Norblad of Oregon that it isn't likely to be referred to Congress again.

Ike Vs. Taft Showdown

WITH the big Chicago showdown between Taft and Eisenhower less than a month away, the political pundits have a hard time making up their minds who will win out in the neck-and-neck race.

Despite all the conflicting figures, the secret tallies show a maximum of 540 first ballots for Taft, 521 for Eisenhower. But Ike shows more reserve strength. Whether these figures will hold up against the tremendous, last-minute pressures and undercurrents, is another question.

Senator Taft's strategy is to create the psychological impression that he is a sure winner, in the hope of causing a first-ballot stampede to his bandwagon. Eisenhower's strategy is to let Taft blow up his bubble, then prick it with enough Eisenhower votes to burst it.

Taft has the advantage of controlling the convention machinery, but Ike can still throw roadblocks in the way of a Taft steamroller. For one thing, he can call up Harold Stassen's votes any time he needs them. These have been secretly pledged to Minnesota's Gov. Elmer Anderson, who speaks for Stassen. California Gov. Earl Warren's 76-vote bloc also leans toward Eisenhower. Both sides claim the majority of Pennsylvania's strategic votes.

Ike also is reported to be making small inroads on the delegates who have visited him. Ten previously uncommitted delegates, including some who were believed to be leaning toward Taft, promised after talking to Eisenhower to support him.

However, it's still anybody's race, and the steamroller operations of Taft's Old Guard managers at Chicago may win. After all, this is Taft's last chance at the Presidency.