

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. E. DOWD, General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH, Executive Editor
C. A. MCKNIGHT, Editor

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1953

LEGISLATURE OPENS ON A NOTE OF HARMONY

Editorial Correspondence
The convening of a state General Assembly is always an interesting event...

also full of rumors. The Governor-elect has asked the Sphinx where his inaugural address and his probable appointments are concerned...

It is democracy in action, the working of an executive mechanism by the people to conduct their public affairs. It is fascinating to watch it.

THIS WEEK the 1953 session of the North Carolina General Assembly got under way. This time, in addition to the usual overtones, there was change in the air...

A PART from the amiability and the 1953 session had other interesting aspects. Much is expected of the new Speaker. He is a very colorful guest—agacious, shrewd, forthright, and fearless. When his mettle is tested, he is apt to scorn tact and diplomacy...

Observers are interested also in the activities of John Umstead of Chapel Hill, brother of the new governor. An energetic, forceful, somewhat emotional but always militant legislator...

Though many of the faces are the same, other contrasts between this session and that of the Assemblymen who were here in 1949 are still in the House and the Senate. Unlike Mecklenburg County, which seldom returns a Representative or a Senator more than a few terms...

Observers are interested also in the activities of John Umstead of Chapel Hill, brother of the new governor. An energetic, forceful, somewhat emotional but always militant legislator...

THIS YEAR the guard is down. Amiability and good humor are the rule. And the contents of the Umstead inaugural address, they were confident that there would be no irreconcilable conflicts in the weeks to come.

UNTIL the Governor's program is spelled out in his inaugural address and assimilated by the members of the General Assembly, and until committee chairmen and members are selected, the shape of the Umstead Administration must remain vague.

THE STATE OF THE UNION

THE President's "State of the Union" message yesterday was, as billed, designed for the history books. It would have been more useful to the historians had it included more recognition and admission of the outgoing Administration's mistakes...

and Mr. Eisenhower reportedly plans for him a more responsible role than Vice Presidents usually fill. Nixon has been elected on the outside of President-elect Eisenhower's inner circle...

And, the President will said, "we must renew our confidence in one another, our tolerance, our sense of being neighbors, fellow citizens. We must take our stand on the Bill of Rights. The inquisition, the star chamber, have no place in a free society."

There was no rancor or bitterness in the President's message. Like our outgoing Governor Scott, whom he in many ways resembles, the President stands of the record, which includes acts of greatness and vision along with the petty and vengeful. The President leaves the Union in fairly good shape and in the hands of a promising Republican.

Perhaps unintentionally, the President made a point that makes us wonder about the future role of Vice-President-elect Nixon. Mr. Truman recalled that he, eight years ago, was "thrust so suddenly into the complexities and burdens of the Presidential chair..."

Mr. McIntyre has informed us by letter and by personal conversation that his position had been misrepresented, that he did not then and does not now favor abolishing the Park & Recreation Commission.



150 Years Of The News And Courier

'Sometimes Wrong—Seldom Neutral'

CHARLESTON, S. C.
The News and Courier of Charleston, S. C., one of the country's oldest and most outspoken daily newspapers, celebrates its 150th anniversary Jan. 10.

upon the city, full of sleeping women and children. Federal troops entered Charleston Feb. 18, 1865, three days later The Courier appeared with a notice that it had been seized by the provost marshal and turned over to two Northern newspaper correspondents.

It has taken stand on issues spanning the years from the Louisiana Purchase and the War of 1812 to the New Deal and the election of General Eisenhower. History records that the newspaper's editors sometimes were wrong but seldom were neutral.

The Courier was merged with The News on April 7, 1973. The guiding force of The News and Courier was the English-born editor, Frank D. Warrington Dawson. He had fought with valor for the Confederacy.

The man of the year, by any standards, was Napoleon. The Courier was against him as the "Colossus of Europe—both of cunning and fierceness which distinguishes him from the rest of the world."

After Reconstruction, the newspaper opposed a movement in South Carolina led by Benjamin Tillman which was a sort of 19th century equivalent of the New Deal.

Big 'Beat' In 1812
One of its outstanding "beats" involved the War of 1812. In those days the best and quickest way to get news was to board incoming vessels.

Couldn't Take Roosevelt
AS soon as Mr. Roosevelt took the country off the gold standard, The News and Courier came out against the New Deal.

During the Mexican War, The Courier and the News were in the vanguard of the war effort. The paper brought war news to Charleston 24 hours ahead of the U. S. Mail.

Just as The News and Courier had been one of the first Southern newspapers to oppose prohibition, so it became one of the first newspapers in the country to leave the Democratic ranks during the early years of Mr. Roosevelt's first term.

War Break—On Page Two
WHEN the first shots were fired at Fort Sumter on page two of the issue of April 13, 1861. Shortly thereafter, war news was moved to the top page, somewhat of an innovation at those times.

Under Mr. Waring, The News and Courier helped initiate the South Carolinians for Eisenhower movement in the 1952 elections. Bentley is managing editor and Frank E. Gilbreth associate editor.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

ONE of the most sensational aspects of the Washington investigation was not known even to the Senate Elections Committee members themselves. It was the sudden flight from the U. S. of a former friend of Mr. Bentley's wealthy divorcee Arvilla Bentley.

Key McCarthy Witness Flew the Coop

RETURNED to New York, but flew back to the Bahamas after the storm had blown over in order to pick her up and escort her back to Washington. It was \$10,000 of Mr. and Mrs. Bentley's money given to McCarthy by the Senate Elections Committee.

The Horrible Facts About H-Bombs Should Be Faced

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

IN their New Year's review of the last year, the able editors of Time magazine made a startling statement. The people of the United States, they remarked with some complacency, "turned a bored ear to nature's biggest and most explosive of a hydrogen bomb."

For example, most healthy men and women, whether civilized or savage, feel a very lively concern for their ability to reproduce their kind. It is a fearful tragedy for a man or woman to be told, "You are one of the unlucky ones who are unable to have an immeasurably worse to be told, 'You can give birth, but only to monsters.'"

Yet the explosion at Eniwetok can conceivably present a nightmare time, when the race of men would become extinct or will breed only monster-mutations. Perhaps the era when the praying mantis will rule the earth may not be very far off. If people understood that the Eniwetok explosion has taken us a small but quite measurable distance down this road, they might give way to paroxysms of needless fear, but they would certainly be unlikely to suffer from ennui.

This is another way of saying that one of the things we must understand about the hydrogen bomb is the problem of Carbon 14. Carbon 14 is a radioactive form of common carbon. It exists in tiny traces, in all organic matter.

These measurements are possible because Carbon 14 has the very long half life of 5,600 years—

Even The GOP Must Budget For Some Of These Items

By FREDERICK C. OTTMAN

BIGGEST literary event of the season, namely, the President's budget, is about to hit our desks with a small thud. This is a shame because the budget is a hard work went into this mighty document that tells how Mr. Truman would spend around \$9 billion this year, were he not about to lose his job.

They'll whack out whole sections with their celebrated meat axes. Other portions they'll tear to shreds and scatter. They promise that when they're through with the budget, the President won't even recognize it.

GOOD JACK BASE
The handsome book will run around 1,200 pages, weigh nearly six pounds, and cost \$5. The critics on Capitol Hill, mostly Republicans, will rave about it tomorrow. The author even now is cringing. He knows exactly what he is about to do to his financial belly letters.

Still and all, Mr. Truman is going through all the motions, as though he never intended to move out of the White House. He's already scheduled a special announcement to the reporters, so they understand (he hopes) what he's talking about. He has written his message to Congress explaining why not one cent should be cut from his estimates.

All this, with some notable exception, is love's labor lost. A few things in this stupendous document I'm sure even the most economical

critical Presidents, is the national hero he's crackered up to be the Republican Party. It was a "great personal popularity with the people." "Rayburn continued, 'I don't think 40 years in the military service automatically qualifies a man for the most important civil job in the country. A minority leader, it is intended to look after the welfare of the country that they do a good job.'

Support For Ike

REPUBLICANS will have a tough time finding a better slogan than "Ike for President." They are going to learn the difference between constructive and obstructive criticism. They are going to learn that they can kick a barn down, but it took a carpenter to build it." Rayburn emphasized, however, that "The Republicans are going to support the welfare of the country that they do a good job."