

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1954

Chief Littlejohn Cleared Of Charges

WHEN the grand jury returned four presentments against Chief of Police Frank Littlejohn, it was obvious that the charges were so broad and general that no bills of indictment could be drawn from them. We were tempted then to say flatly that the charges would not stand up in court, but held off for two reasons:

1. It is not the business of a newspaper to prejudge actions of a court;
2. There was the possibility that factual evidence to back up the presentments would be developed.

The hearing is now over, and Chief Littlejohn has been cleared of the four charges made against him. And we can now say that no evidence was developed or volunteered that in any way impugned the character, integrity or reputation of Chief Littlejohn.

The whole proceeding was badly handled from the start. Both the City Council and the members of the police study committee erred originally in permitting the charges by Commentator Drew Pearson to dominate what otherwise could have been a highly useful and constructive analysis of the police department's deficiencies. In the hubbub stirred up by Pearson, the police study was shoved into the background.

The Council erred a second time when it did not stop long enough to examine its own responsibility in the matter, but originally asked the grand jury to investigate before the Council had determined whether there was any basis for the charges.

And finally, either because of the weakness of the state grand jury system, which provides neither stenographic services nor constant assistance by trained counsel, or because of excessive zeal, the grand jury made the presentments without having corroborated in all instances the statements made to the jury by witnesses hostile to Chief Littlejohn.

It was an unpleasant ordeal for the Chief, but it ended in his complete vindication after a public hearing conducted in the best tradition of American justice.

A Compromise With Bricker?

IF IT IS TRUE, as the news stories say, that the Eisenhower administration is trying to compromise with Sen. Bricker on his amendment to limit the treaty-making power, then the President is making a serious mistake.

There can be no compromise which will satisfy Sen. Bricker and his backers and at the same time preserve intact the authority in foreign affairs wisely given the President by the Constitution.

Last year, Mr. Eisenhower offered to accept the Knowland compromise which would merely write into the Constitution, in more specific language, what is already there—that no treaty shall take precedence over any part of the Constitution.

Sen. Bricker bitterly rejected the Knowland version. In so doing, he disclosed his hand. He and his backers are not interested in "protecting" the Constitution against the abuse of the treaty-making power, as they blandly assert.

Add N. C. Assets: Immigrant Doctors

YOU HEAR many welcomes and congratulations from the industries moving to North Carolina. Some other Tar Heel newcomers are worth a nod too. They are the doctors who recently came to this state, many from Europe's displaced persons' camps, and now form the majority of the staff in North Carolina's three mental hospitals.

They come from the British Isles, various European countries, as well as places like India and China. Of the 44 physicians at Camp Butler, Dix Hill and Morganton, 26 are immigrants.

And, as Burke Davis tells it in THE GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS, these men are making a vital contribution to the state welfare—and becoming ardent Tar Heels in the process.

ABOUT RUNNING OVER DOGS

ANYBODY says THE NEWS & OBSERVER, who would deliberately run over a dog is not fit to be called a man.

If the N&O is talking about anybody who would swerve his automobile to hit a dog, or would slow down and sneak up on a dog, we are in accord. But if its contempt extends to a driver who would risk a dog's life as the lesser of evils, we'd have to dissent. Look what happened to a friend of ours:

He was driving at a legal speed one Sunday afternoon when suddenly he had cause to sweat. Coming down the highway on his left was an oil truck. On his right were a dozen or so people strolling from a church, which had just let out, toward a nearby filling station. From the cluster of recent worshippers dashed a dog onto the highway.

Our friend held course. If he turned to the left he would collide with the tanker. Going to the right would mean striking the people. He felt both a front and a back wheel go over the dog—and also a little sick.

Our friend pulled onto the shoulder of the road and stopped. Several of the pedestrians had reached the dog and he joined them, though he didn't know what he could do. The animal was writhing, but it was apparent that little life remained.

"Are you a-gonna," asked the biggest and meanest looking of the persons from the church, "stand there and see hit die?"

It was only a little way to the filling station. Perhaps, thought our friend, if he could carry the dog there he could give it water and cover it with a bit of cloth. He summoned all his will power and reached down. In the final act of its life, the dog bit him.

"Pore little fellow," said the spokes-

wise could have been a highly useful and constructive analysis of the police department's deficiencies. In the hubbub stirred up by Pearson, the police study was shoved into the background.

The Council erred a second time when it did not stop long enough to examine its own responsibility in the matter, but originally asked the grand jury to investigate before the Council had determined whether there was any basis for the charges.

And finally, either because of the weakness of the state grand jury system, which provides neither stenographic services nor constant assistance by trained counsel, or because of excessive zeal, the grand jury made the presentments without having corroborated in all instances the statements made to the jury by witnesses hostile to Chief Littlejohn.

It was an unpleasant ordeal for the Chief, but it ended in his complete vindication after a public hearing conducted in the best tradition of American justice.

Prof. Howard W. Odum

Our fields are fertilized and dusted. Black Angus and white faced Herefords feed on our pastures; the finest milk cows crowd our barns. There is smoke in our skies and steel pours from our furnaces. Coal, iron, zinc, lead, are brought to the surface of our land. Oil is spouting. Our looms weave millions of yards of cloth and millions of homes are filled with our furniture. We have money in the bank and more money coming every day.

THREE-EAGLE GEORGIAN
BACK IN 1924, at Bethlehem, Ga., a boy was born. His name was Howard W. Odum. He grew up to be one of the South's three eras, to devote his life to a study of the South, and become the leading chronicler of Southern economic and social development. He is Howard W. Odum, Kean professor of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of North Carolina.

This eminent Georgian holds a dozen degrees, including the honorary doctor's degree from Harvard, and is author of more than two score books and monographs, one of them being "The Southern Regions of the United States," the most exhaustive study ever made of the Southern area and its people.

At present, Dr. Odum is revisiting the monumental work, bringing its facts and diagnoses up to date. Soon it will be published under the title, "The Southern Regions of the United States."

In Dr. Odum's office at Chapel Hill, I listened to the story of the current South as the friendly scholar told of his studies. He knew the South as few men know it. The main theme of his conversation was the phenomenal change in the past 20 years.

"Until recently the Southern region, according to Dr. Odum, was a recovering South. Weakened by defeat in war, the area straggled under exploitation and was treated as a colonial segment of the nation. Southerners were shamed, as late as 1898, by President Roosevelt's characterization of the South as 'the nation's economic problem No. 1.'"

Today the South, with some reason to be proud, adds up its economic advance, tallies its agricultural development and hears New England cry for industrial aid.

The South always has excelled in natural resources: the minerals, the forests, the good land, the swift-flowing streams, the climate.

"CAPITAL LACKING
"We have been handicapped, however, by insufficient means to develop these resources. Particularly, we lacked capital."

What HS Said About 'Red Herrings'

WASHINGTON ANXIOUS to mend fences and start talking in good faith, the Republican in the face of this desire, Mr. Truman called the Republican Congress back into the annual session and literally rubbed its nose in the dirt by demanding that it finish its work and pass the nation's reconstruction bill. Instead, the U.S.-American Activities Committee started a pro-Alger Hiss, at that time serving unrepentant prison for espionage, the famous Foster Dulles as head of the Carnegie Foundation.

Fatal Question
It was against this backdrop of the Republican Congress, a controlled Congress, that Harold Stacey, of the Columbus Dispatch, a staunch pro-Tat newspaper, asked the Senate to stop its record on the Washington Post. This is what he said:

"Do you think the Capital Hill spy hearings are a good thing or a bad thing to divert attention from the anti-infinitesimal program?"

To this, the Senate replied: "No, they are simply a red herring to keep from doing what they ought to do."

Later permission was asked to quote him directly on this, and he granted permission.

At that time the Republican leadership today thinks that the red herring remark as a campaign slogan. It wasn't considered important. For at that time Alger Hiss was almost unknown as far as the general public was concerned, and Joe McCarthy hadn't realized there was a campaign issue he could develop. The U.S.-American Activities hearings were then being conducted by Dick Nixon, now vice president, and Earl Mansfield, now senator from South Dakota, and they were being conducted in the name of low speakers and television.

People's Platform

RAUK'S COLUMN
Forests! Forests!
KINGS MOUNTAIN
Editors, The News:
HAVE you discontinued the Bob Haver and John Crosby columns. (Editors' Note: No.) I have seen neither of them lately, and to my mind they are the best of their kind. The presence of Rauck on the editorial page is usually enough to prevent my forgetting the name of any of the rest of the staff I see there. While I'm on the subject, let me toss a word for your sports department. They are pretty sharp.
ED SMITH

Word For Blizzards

CHARLOTTE
Editors, The News:
BEING a little impatient with my sassy southerners who grumble every time the thermometer goes down 30 degrees and the longevity of Florida, I was especially pleased with your editorial "The Farmers Kind of a Blizzard." I'm enthusiastic about your lively and colorful paper.
ANNE BLACKWELL PAYNE

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON UNACUSTOMED as I am to defending Frank Truman, I find it difficult to join in the anti-chew now throwing dead cans at Harry every time he opens his mouth in refer to some of the editorials by old political enemies such as the Scripps-Howard newspapers calling him a liar regarding his famous "red herring" remark.

Now I have no personal axe to grind in defending Mr. Truman. During my years in the White House I probably got under his skin more than any other person. As he indicated quite vitriolically in public, and even more vigorously in private. During my many years in journalism I haven't had too many people threaten to shoot me, but Harry Truman was one of those who says he talked about it.

In all fairness let's set the record straight regarding Mr. Truman's red herring remark and some of the other things he said regarding communism.

The much controverted incident took place at a press conference on Aug. 3, 1948. The then President had been nominated for re-election in Philadelphia, just as Congress was adjourning—a Congress which rushed out of Washington anxious to mend fences and start talking in good faith. In the face of this desire, Mr. Truman called the Republican Congress back into the annual session and literally rubbed its nose in the dirt by demanding that it finish its work and pass the nation's reconstruction bill. Instead, the U.S.-American Activities Committee started a pro-Alger Hiss, at that time serving unrepentant prison for espionage, the famous Foster Dulles as head of the Carnegie Foundation.

Fatal Question
It was against this backdrop of the Republican Congress, a controlled Congress, that Harold Stacey, of the Columbus Dispatch, a staunch pro-Tat newspaper, asked the Senate to stop its record on the Washington Post. This is what he said:

"Do you think the Capital Hill spy hearings are a good thing or a bad thing to divert attention from the anti-infinitesimal program?"

To this, the Senate replied: "No, they are simply a red herring to keep from doing what they ought to do."

Later permission was asked to quote him directly on this, and he granted permission.

At that time the Republican leadership today thinks that the red herring remark as a campaign slogan. It wasn't considered important. For at that time Alger Hiss was almost unknown as far as the general public was concerned, and Joe McCarthy hadn't realized there was a campaign issue he could develop. The U.S.-American Activities hearings were then being conducted by Dick Nixon, now vice president, and Earl Mansfield, now senator from South Dakota, and they were being conducted in the name of low speakers and television.

Truman Won
Some people may even recall that Mr. Truman ran for reelection after the red herring press conference and won, making me, quote others, say "red herring" a bad word.

I had predicted he would lose. The issues at the time were economy—no price controls, no labor, no red herrings or communism.

It was not until two years later that the anti-communists took the magazine with his sensational and still unproven charge of

THE EFFORT to keep up with the daily flow of the news sometimes means it is impossible to see the forest because of the trees. For a brief time this reporter has been in one of the beautiful old islands of the Bahamas, cut off from newspapers and radio.

In the interval, the forest—that is to say, the general picture of the world situation—seems to have come a little more into focus. At any rate, this note or two following columns are an effort to achieve a broader perspective after a separation from the clamor of the day's headlines.

What is strikingly evident is that the Eisenhower administration has not yet come to grips with the most massive and formidable alteration in the world since that we have witnessed in this century. That is the ever-increasing consolidation of Communist rule in the great land mass of China, with its 400 million people. This does not mean, in the opinion of this observer, that the Communist revolution in China is of greater significance than the revolution in Russia in 1917. The two events are, of course, closely interrelated.

With all this new industry, all these new jobs, there is money to buy things—automobiles, electric refrigerators, plastic pots, nylon shirts and two-gun holsters for young Hopalong. The South, for Mrs. Perkins' sake, is wearing shoes, wearing shoes, wearing shoes, with an extra pair for Sunday.

In the 15 years, there has been a 254 percent increase in per capita income in the South.

CHEMICAL PLANTS
During the past three years, more than half the nation's new chemical plants have been located in the South.

Southern electric power has quadrupled since 1920.

The number of Southern telephone calls has jumped from less than 1,000,000 in 1920 to more than 4,000,000 in 1949.

Besides the swift industrial increase, the South today has 5,000,000 more people than in 1929. Florida has become one of the leading cattle states in the nation. Georgia is climbing toward the top of the list.

Aristocratic Montgomery, formerly despised itself as the capital of the Confederacy, now duels itself "The Cow Town."

The South is planning a more profitable use of its resources. It is laying out big programs with full pay for all its labor, white and Negro, in a new economy of abundance and equal opportunity.

The rest of the nation is startled by our progress, gawking a bit as it watches our smoke. We Southeners, too, are amazed at what we have done so many things that "couldn't be done."

If we continue to meet the crises our country faces with its innumerable possibilities, our recent advancement will be no short sport. We will assure an ever larger and better future for progress and increasingly essential to the economic and social well-being of the nation.

PROFITABLE use of its resources. It is laying out big programs with full pay for all its labor, white and Negro, in a new economy of abundance and equal opportunity.

The rest of the nation is startled by our progress, gawking a bit as it watches our smoke. We Southeners, too, are amazed at what we have done so many things that "couldn't be done."

If we continue to meet the crises our country faces with its innumerable possibilities, our recent advancement will be no short sport. We will assure an ever larger and better future for progress and increasingly essential to the economic and social well-being of the nation.

"303 card-carrying Communists" known to Dean Acheson in the State Department, that the news really got hot. And as a result, a good part of the American public today thinks that it was Joe McCarthy who put Alger Hiss in jail.

On the contrary, it was Mr. Truman's Justice Department.

What Truman Said
What Mr. Truman told me in the TV interview which resurrected the red herring debate was this: "In a press conference one morning some young man who had never been at a press conference before, during the session of the 80th Congress, asked me if the action of the U.S.-American Activities Committee was not in the name of a red herring to cover up what the Republican administration of the 80th Congress had done, and that was wrong. I said that the red herring debate) started.

"I never made any statement that there was a red herring, although the Republicans, when they are in power, always try to cover up their mistakes by attacking somebody or some institution."

Mr. Truman would have been

see what was wrong with China policy in the aftermath of World War II. Some of the experts, both in and out of government, believed all American communists represented an inevitable new day in China. America could accommodate itself to this new day in the name of peace, if not the friendship, at least the respect of the Communist leaders.

This may have been wise, influential in part at least by a pro-Communist bias. But it was nevertheless a rational viewpoint held by some Americans with an intimate knowledge of the forces involved in the cataclysm going forward in China.

"BRING THE BOYS HOME!
Essential that this was in the aftermath of World War II. Most members of Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike, were determined to "bring the boys home." Under this political pressure, with some assistance again from pro-Communist elements, the United States American forces around the world, the greatest military machine ever assembled was dismantled. Not a single soldier, thereby leaving an appalling vacuum of power in Europe and Asia.

Indignity, which error seems to have been in not making clear that there was a choice in China—a painful and uncertain choice. In 1949, the United States Congress and the American people want to send five divisions of American troops to try to insure the survival of the Republic of China—sufficient to defeat the Reds? That the answer from most of us would have been a resounding no. It is not in our interest, at least the score would have been written up for all to see.

OPENING WEDGE?
On the other hand, some state governors and groups are backing their millions for federal aid highways. With an eye on these developments, a bloc of organizations and legislators are arguing that Congress should keep the present gas tax for roads the program of federal aid to accelerate road building.

Active in this fight is the American Road Builders Association. Also supporting the program of federal aid to highways are National Farmers Union, National Bankers, the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S., and other groups.

Secretary of the Interior Mr. DeLoach, United States Marine Corps, told Republican women at a luncheon the other day that some people are going to be hurt by the new tax. He said that a peacetime economy. He cited the automobile industry as an example. "They're making too much anyway."

Washington Whirl
Senate Interior Chairman Hugh Butler wrote to friends in Nebraska, asking them to beat Louisiana Sen. Russ Long's switch in favor of Hawaiian statehood— in advance—from the sugar committee. Butler's switch was expected to be made by the Senate since Tal's death, has proved privately that he'd block the Hawaiian switch unless the Republicans take Alaska 'back to the states."

Secretary of the Interior Mr. DeLoach, United States Marine Corps, told Republican women at a luncheon the other day that some people are going to be hurt by the new tax. He said that a peacetime economy. He cited the automobile industry as an example. "They're making too much anyway."