

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Armory Should Not Be Rebuilt

THE STATEMENT issued today by Chairman C. A. Cochran of the Charlotte Auditorium-Coliseum Authority had double-barreled significance:

1—It swept away any lingering cobwebs of doubt about future policies of the multi-million-dollar community center.

2—It whacked the underpinnings from an argument that the Park & Recreation Commission should rebuild its fire-ravaged Armory-Auditorium.

Mr. Cochran assured Charlotteans that it is the authority's intention "to give all assistance possible in promoting the use of these available facilities (David Owens Auditorium and Charlotte Coliseum) for local, civic, educational and religious purposes and, to this end, we are aware of the necessity of keeping the range of charges thereof as low as possible."

What the authority means is that it plans, so far as possible, to keep rates within the pocketbook range of virtually all organizations which will need an auditorium.

Such a policy would place the new Owens Auditorium and the Coliseum within the reach of charitable or religious organizations staging events (for which no admission would be charged or collections taken) and large commercial ventures. Naturally, under this system, a sliding scale of rates would be necessary.

As Mr. Cochran noted, the auditorium-coliseum authority has nothing to give away, but it recognizes its responsibility to the community and will attempt to make its facilities available to all.

It had been argued that the auditorium-coliseum authority could not or

would not serve the needs of all. Thus, some Charlotteans reasoned, the Park & Recreation Commission's Armory-Auditorium should be rebuilt to provide facilities for organizations which could not afford the larger, costlier Owens Auditorium and Coliseum.

If Mr. Cochran's policy statement is to be accepted at its face value, there is no longer any serious basis for such an argument.

In fact, a new Armory-Auditorium would be in direct competition with the Owens Auditorium and Coliseum. It would actually overload the field with auditorium space. (In addition to a private auditorium, Charlotte has three schools with auditoriums seating from 750 to 1,000 people and nine schools with auditoriums having average seating capacities of 400.)

It would be the height of foolishness to take public funds—more than \$400,000 in insurance money from the fire—to build still another competing auditorium when civic needs would be served by other public structures.

The insurance money can be put to far better use. Many improvements in Charlotte's park program are needed. A small fieldhouse could be built at the stadium. There are many other projects that are crying for attention.

The Park & Recreation Commission would be serving the community's best interests by:

1—Abandoning any idea of rebuilding a structure that would have little if any real usefulness, and

2—Allocating Armory-Auditorium funds to meet civic needs which are far more urgent.

George Barclay: Target For Tonight?

A WEEK of boiling oil was readied for George Barclay, head football coach of the University of North Carolina. The match was applied Nov. 27. Duke University's bowl-bound Blue Devils had just smothered UNC by the horrendous score of 47-12. It was the worst smothering Carolina had ever received from its bitter rivals and it left the Tar Heels with a dismal 4-5-1 record for the season.

In a matter of hours, it seemed, a venomous Barclay-Must movement had ripened into a full-blown crusade. Tonight in Chapel Hill, Barclay may find out whether he will be plucked into the boiling oil by his employees—to the enormous satisfaction of discontented "old grads"—or whether he will guide Carolina's grid fortunes for one more uncomfortable season.

You see, the University's Athletic Council meets tonight and Barclay will decide, it is said, whether to fire Barclay one year short of his contract's expiration.

But what is really behind the efforts to make Carolina's coach the target for tonight? Let the University's student newspaper, THE DAILY TAR HEEL, explain.

Nobody says George Barclay has been dierict in his duty. Nobody says he has not tried to do his job well. There is nothing morally wrong with him. He gets along well with his fellow men; he has not been late to work.

But there is a yelping jury of alumni who want to fire George Barclay because his team lost five football games.

The campaign has been loud and empty. One alumnus wrote all the state's sports editors that "hundreds of contributors to the Educational Foundation did not make contributions this year and still more will make none next year unless something is done."

From The Asheville Citizen

MEMO TO THE ALUMNI

SEASON oughtn't to get by without a brief word to you about this year's lettermen—Greek letters, that is.

Chapel Hill chapter of national honorary scholastic fraternity Phi Beta Kappa, has initiated 47 students for fall academic season.

(Phi Beta Kappa is what you earn for starting in academic good, place that's occupied week days, or between football games, by some undergraduates. It's tops in conference.)

University's PRK roster shows 41 of 47 are North Carolinians. Our high schools evidently sending up good material, real fast native talent able to share German irregular verbs in open field and run with them.

Five of lettermen from Chapel Hill (You never know when a flashy chemistry major may pop up in own backyard, found and conditioned, briefed on all fundamentals.) Raleigh alumni apparently busy, too. Sent over pair to test, shiny seatbelts for school of commerce.

Remember how daddy of one of them turned back William & Mary in '24 in close debate (W. & M. fumbled the rebuttal in last second of play) on independence for Philippines. Next Saturday night at library they ought to be ready to go all the way.

Can't help returning to subject of native talent before closing. Four platforms, almost. Makes recruiting out-of-state easier. Cuts down scholarships from

Educational Foundation (or is it Football Foundation?) and makes for well-rounded squad. Well aware that classroom work is only incidental to a university, but suggest results justify renewing Coach Bob Owens's contract for '55. He had a good season.

And next year—oh boy! Look out, John Hopkin!

They do say that by 1965 every American will have an \$8,000 income. That's fine. But can we buy anything with it by then?—LAUREL (MISS) LEADER-CALL.

A real good snow storm that covers up the leaves you were supposed to rake up on Saturday would not be welcome.—KINGSFORD (TENN.) TIMES.

The best advice we can think of for the motorist is this: Drive as if it were a matter of life or death—your own.—NASHVILLE BANNER.

"The frost is on the pumpkin," said the poet. So what? It's a pretty poor substitute for iced watermelon.—CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

Salesgirl—"Isn't it a sweet doll? And you can lay it down and it closes its eyes and goes to sleep just like a real baby." Mrs. Jones—"Have you ever had a baby?"—GREENVILLE (TENN.) SUN.



"... They called you an intellectual, Pa..."

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

Give Luminous Tape To Traffic Policemen

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

ON TWO or three occasions recently, I have seen traffic policemen who must direct traffic from the middle of intersections or other hazardous places narrowly escape serious injury or even death during the heavy late afternoon traffic, when the visibility is so poor because of smoke, fog and rain. While most motorists drive carefully under these circumstances, it is still extremely difficult at times to see the policeman on duty in his dark uniform.

As a citizen of Charlotte, may I suggest that some method be made to furnish these gentlemen with luminous tape for their shoulders, sleeves and trouser legs so that their capes to that reflection of the headlights during wet weather conditions would outline the entire body of the policeman, which would be a protection both to the officer and the motorists. Of course it might be more practical to furnish San Brosme belts for these traffic officers with the luminous tape on the belts. The city probably could secure tape that would not be visible in the daytime and could, therefore, be worn continuously either on uniforms or belts.

I believe there are possibilities

in this suggestion and I hope that the Police Dept. will give the matter some thought. I'm quite sure that it would be appreciated by the motorists as well as the traffic officers involved.

—ROY F. BRANON

Put Junk Mail In Garbage Can

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I HAVE a suggestion regarding "junk mail" addressed to "Boxholder."

Allow each carrier to deliver all such mail to the first boxholder on his route. Provide that boxholder with a large garbage can (from public contributions).

—LEON STOUT

Julian Scheer Story On Kilgo Praised

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I JUST wanted to take this opportunity to let you know how much all my friends and I appreciated and enjoyed the story "Julian Scheer" wrote about "Our Boy," Jimmy Kilgo, WIST's great mascot.

All of us are backing Jimmy 100 per cent and think he is the best. I also urge any teenager not attending the "Kilgo's Run" may come up with something.

—W. H. HEINEKE
Exec. Vice President
Automobile Club of America

Ike's 'Slogan' Won't Go Over

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT Eisenhower has excellent connections with Madison Avenue. He is to be advertising what Wall Street is to finance. But either he neglected to consult them or they let him down when he adopted progressive-moderate as a campaign slogan for Republicans.

Such tri-syllables fit neither into the headlines nor the human larynx. Galleries which are readily induced to chant "We want Willie" or "I like Ike" would not be so ready to repeat "progressive-moderate."

Also the word progressive has been a three-time loser in American politics. Theodore Roosevelt couldn't put it over even when back-stopped by that trenchant, red-blooded, money-baiting slogan, "Bull Moose."

The LaFollettes succeeded with it in one state—Wisconsin—but Fighting Bob failed with it nationally and the LaFollette dynasty did not long outlive him. Its latest appearance was in the Communist-infiltrated party headed by Henry Wallace and Glen Taylor in 1948. The party hardly

made a ripple. Wallace has faded away and Taylor, even against a dull and feeble opponent, could not make a comeback last fall in Idaho.

Copy readers often can do something with initials when they are up against what Al Smith used to call "them ten-dollar Court of Appeals words."

But the initials "PM" suggest not the bright, beautiful and hopeful morning, but the lagging afternoon.

They might even recall Marshall Field's adventure into New York journalism, the now defunct PM. Its sheer brightness earned PM to many, including those who thought it was a word to be left. But it is hard to believe these admirers included many Republicans.

It is the reporters, usually, who invent the political catchwords out of their professional compulsion to be interesting, to make the situation clear to the milkman in Kansas City and to hit the headlines. As the internal war between the President and his party develops on Capitol Hill, they

may come up with something. Unless it is a lot more appealing than "progressive-moderate" the President's best cue would appear to be to grab the Republican standard and claim the GOP territory in behalf of himself and his adherents.

This is standard practice. In this republic the majority rules—that is, when it refuses to be intimidated—and two elections have made it clear that the President is bigger than his party. He should leave it to Sen. McCarthy to invent a phrase.

McCarthy hasn't one, either, and so far is shying away from that word, "progressive," a third party. Some of his supporters have suggested that he fasten the label "Fabian Socialism" on Eisenhower but that is far too poetic for a man with the President's fetching grin and mid-western twang. Nobody is going to believe it, which just about sums up the difficulty all the Eisenhower opposition has as 1956 looms on the political horizon.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
SECRETARY of the Treasury Humphrey, returning from the Inter-American conference in Rio De Janeiro, told friends:

"If I were only 25 years old, I would go to Brazil by the next boat, working my way if necessary, and I guarantee you by the time I was 40, I would be a millionaire."

Humphrey's brief trip to South America convinced him that Latin America is on the threshold of phenomenal industrial development. He suggests that, if American businessmen are wise, they will put more investment dollars south of the border than in other parts of the world.

The economic progress of some of these nations, Humphrey says privately, will amaze the world in the next 20 years.

Hatemongers

The House Committee on Un-American Activities will soon publish a sensational, but tragic, report on "Neo-Fascist and hate groups," a subject the committee

Go South, Young Man—Make A Million

has ignored for almost 10 years. Communism, during that period, offered better headlines.

The report singles out the National Renaissance Party for possible prosecution under the Smith Act; and also blasts the hate-peddling party "Common Sense." This is the first official suggestion for applying the anti-subversive statute to a Fascist group during the ice 15-year history.

The committee found that "the program and propaganda of the National Renaissance Party is virtually borrowed wholesale from the Fascist and Nazi dictators."

The little Hitler in charge is a "young fanatic," James H. Madole, of 10 W. 90th St., New York City, whose slogan is "Go South, Young Man—Make A Million."

The party is replete with a "uniformed elite guard in the Nazi style," the report goes on, though a host of lightning-bolts has replaced the swastika as the party symbol.

The committee sums up NRP's aims as

Reds Stepping Into Power Vacuum in South Viet Nam

By JOSEPH ALSOP

SAIGON, Viet Nam
FOR ONCE in a way, there is some truth in Communist propaganda.

The Viet Minh radio constantly accuses the South Vietnamese government here in Saigon as a mere shadow of a shadow; and that for the time being, at least, is exactly what it is. If South Viet Nam can be said to have a government at all, at present, it is the underground government of the Viet Minh.

In this rich, fantastically corrupt city, where the same gangsters who run the gambling, the prostitution and the opium dens also wear the uniforms of the police, you do not get many echoes of the real state of affairs in the Vietnamese countryside. Life goes on in Saigon as though the fate of the Hanoi were something that had happened on another planet.

Yet the really important political process in southern Indochina is not the dreary round of intrigues among the non-Communist Vietnamese political leaders here in Saigon. It is, rather, the progressive takeover of the rest of South Viet Nam by the Communists.

Under the terms of the Geneva agreement, of course, the Viet Minh forces were to evacuate south Viet Nam, just as the French forces were to evacuate the north. The Communist regime, which formerly held four large areas here in the south, are indeed being moved out as promised.

More important, still, the Communist cadres are being driven behind the Viet Minh agreement and the subsequent transfer of authority to the Viet namese left an almost total power vacuum in huge areas which the Communists did not formerly hold. Because of its quarrel with the army, and because of its own inherent weakness too, the government of President Ngo Dinh-diem has hardly attempted to govern.

Hence it has been only too easy for the Viet Minh to send their cadres out into the provinces, and to establish themselves in village after village. "Committees to defend the peace" are organized, and become the real village governments. After these come "committees to defend the interests of the peasants and workers," which are the Viet Minh disguised courts, and innumerable women's organizations, youth organizations, and the like which are instruments of propaganda.

The villagers see no other real authority than the Viet Minh. Both villagers and townsmen are being deeply in the Viet Minh victory at Dien Bien Phu and all its volcanic sequels. They would tend in any case to regard the Viet Minh as the wave of the future, and since there is no counter effort to balance the work of the Viet Minh

There is no violence. On the surface, life goes on as usual, or a little better than usual, for the rubber planters and their families no longer wear revolvers and carry submachine guns to their villages. But there is a new sign, such as the recent arrest of the famous poet, the present far-eastern minister of South Viet Nam, for joining in founding a peace committee here in Saigon.

The same goes on in the same way, towards the creation of an effective though underground government in the South Viet Nam by the Communists. The end is not yet. A strong and efficient Communist government, working through the Viet Minh, is re-establishing authority in the countryside, carrying out the reforms, could still halt and reverse the process of Communist penetration. But there is very little time and as these reforms are being carried out, Communist government is in sight.

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cadres, village after village passes into Viet Minh control.

The estimates vary as to how far this process has gone already. But the examples cited plainly suggest that it has gone very far indeed. For instance, at Ben Tre, a French officer who is himself half Vietnamese, formerly ruled a province that was celebrated for its immunity to Communist penetration. By imaginative reform and by organizing at the village level, Col. Leroy achieved positive, solid anti-Communist unity among his people.

Then Col. Leroy was transferred. Geneva left a vacuum at Ben Tre as elsewhere. And today, among Ben Tre's hundreds of villages there are reported to be less than a score which still have the "Council of Notables" which is the Saigon government's instrument of village administration. In most of the rest, "Peace Committees" rule.

A few days ago, this reporter visited the rubber planting region near the Cambodian border. Here the big plantations had fortified themselves, created small armies, and carried on rubber production right through the civil war. Immediately after Geneva, however, Viet Minh organizers entered the villages of the rubber workers.

Today, one of the biggest plantations is already under effective Viet Minh control, with the French manager running the plantation through the Viet Minh leader, with excellent production results, incidentally. The other planters were not prepared to submit in this manner, but they found it was only "a matter of weeks" before the Viet Minh would be deeply entrenched as the real government of their region.

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