

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1954

Charlotte Needs Human Relations Group

TN RALEIGH, Greensboro and Rocky Mount, interracial "citizens' committees have been formed and are meeting regularly," reports Jay Jenkins in Southern School News. "Their stated purpose is to work in the field of human relations and to study and plan ways in which the (Supreme Court school cases) decision can be met."

In Rock Hill, S. C., a Council on Human Relations is functioning.

In Chicago, citizens are profiting from unpleasant experiences in racial friction by launching information and education campaigns before taking a step that may cause racial tension.

In Florida, a state group studying problems relating to the Supreme Court decision came to these conclusions:

It is evident that a vast area of misunderstanding as to each other's feelings about segregation exists between the races, with white leaders believing Negroes to be much more satisfied with the situation than Negroes are and with Negro leaders believing that whites are much more willing to accept segregation than whites are.

It is a logical first step towards implementing the principle set forth by the Court, and one suggested by both whites and Negroes, would seem to be taking of positive, cooperative steps to bridge this gap and establish better understanding between the two groups.

Interracial meetings and cooperative activities already engaged in by teachers and school administrators in many counties demonstrate steps that can be, and are being, taken voluntarily and through

local choice to contribute to the development of greater harmony and understanding between whites and Negroes in Florida communities.

It appeared last spring that Charlotte was going to move quickly to form a human relations committee. In May the City Council approved the idea. The mayor announced on May 26 that he hoped to have a 25-member committee appointed within two weeks.

Tris News complimented him on his leadership. We pointed out that the committee should have been appointed long ago but that we shared the blame for the tardiness by not "needing the mayor to set up such a committee, just as he appointed within two weeks."

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Consider this, then, the neglected "need" for Charlotte's able and busy mayor. It's high time to appoint this committee and get it to work.

Deep Are The Roots Of America's Political Folklore

FROM DEMOCRATIC DIGEST

WHY is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November election day? How did such phrases as "fence-mending," "on the hustings," "lame duck," "enter our political arena," and "Are election bets legal?" This article answers these and other burning nonpartisan political questions without fear or favoritism.

For the last 109 years the fate of congressional candidates has been decided on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Weather conditions, religious scruples and harvesting of crops all played a part in fixing this allimportant date.

Way back in 1792 the first presidential election in December had been fixed by law as the day presidential electors meet every four years to cast ballots for president and vice president. The same law permitted states to name the electors themselves any time within 34 days of the Wednesday in December.

MUCH VARIATION

Until 1845 there was no uniformity in the date. Most states held November elections, it is true, but the dates within the month varied from one state to another. Understandably, this led to abuses. Results in one state were used to influence voting elsewhere. By traveling from state to state, an unscrupulous partisan could vote for presidential electors several times. In 1840 and again in 1844, both Whigs and Democrats were accused of sending gangs of voters across state lines. Finally in January, 1845, President John Tyler signed an act fixing the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as the day for naming presidential electors.

"Smoke-filled room" as the preferred setting for choosing nominees is a comparatively recent addition to political slang. Associated Press reporter Kirk L. Simpson is credited with this one in a story filed at 5 a. m. June 12, 1920 on the nomination of Warren G. Harding at the GOP convention in Chicago.

It is Mr. Simpson's thesis that much of the sporting patois found in our politics is the natural result of the days in Merrie Old England when most politicians were racing fans and betting men. "Race," "favorite," "runner-up," "henceman," "bolt the ticket," "scratched ticket," "dark horse," "stalking horse" are just a few borrowed from the track. "Stand pat," "New Deal," "Fair Deal," etc., are notable steals from the poker table. Before 1800 the colonists followed English practice and called pre-election contests "canvasses" but as elections became more militant, they came to be known as "campaigns," "war chest," "spoils," etc. are other political echoes of the military.

Stock Exchange who was absolutely bankrupt was called a dead duck, but one whose finances were but seriously crippled, a lame duck. Lincoln was apparently the first president to make frequent use of the term in a political sense.

ELECTION BETS VOID

And finally, it may come as somewhat of a surprise to learn that courts have held that a bet by a participant on the outcome of an election is against public policy and void since it might tend to corrupt the election. Several of the states have laws disqualifying someone who has bet on the result from voting—if he is challenged at the polls.

However, election bets are an old American custom. One of the most colorful occurred in 1856 when Washington columnist Ben Perley Poore declared publicly that if former President Millard Fillmore did not carry Massachusetts in the election he would wheel a barrel of apples from Newburyport to Boston. It took Poore two days to trundle the apples to the State House in Boston. He lost the bet but won a place in the history books and in articles like this.



A Free-Wheeling Musical Renaissance

THE GROWTH and popular success of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra is no isolated phenomenon. It is part of a free-wheeling musical renaissance, that is penetrating every corner of the nation.

Just as Charlotte's community orchestra is laying plans for its own 1954-55 season, so are approximately 150 other symphonies across the nation. It simply means that Carnegie Hall and the Metropolitan Opera House are no longer America's lone citadels of music.

New flutes and violins are tuning up all over the land today and soon happy applause will be rattling balcony railings from coast to coast again.

Charlotte has a better right to boast of its musical heritage than most southern cities. Its orchestra—22 years old—has helped plough the cultural ground below the Mason-Dixon Line. This year, under James Christian Pfohl, the Charlotte Symphony will launch its most ambitious season with six pairs of subscription concerts and a string of 100 free public known soloists. The ticket sales campaign, opening with a kickoff dinner tonight, will undoubtedly be a success.

The rediscovery of fine music is the healthiest aspect of America's search for "normalcy." Gone is the artistic inertia that once gripped U. S. minds. In its place is an awareness of cultural and spiritual verities that would have been unbelievable a few years ago.

There are no sizable cities in America today where you cannot hear an acceptable rendition of Beethoven's *Eroica* by a group of local or visiting instrumentalists. In addition to scores of new symphony orchestras, chamber music ensembles and civic choruses are sprouting everywhere. The smallest communities are booking one-night-stands by the world's top touring talent. And even hard-headed political bodies like North Carolina's General Assembly are willing to invest the public funds in building this musical heritage.

For the first time in history, America is becoming a musical mecca. Europe's greatest composers are moving to work and live in the United States—Igor Stravinsky to Los Angeles, Darius Milhaud

Quemoy Crisis Will Affect Balance Of Power In Asia

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

THE REAL nature of the crisis which has caused President Truman to summon an emergency meeting of the National Security Council is, as usual, muffled and hidden.

Most people think that the crisis involves only the fate of the small Nationalist-held island of Quemoy, off the China Coast, which the Communists are preparing to attack. Most people, understandably, are quite indifferent to Quemoy's fate. In fact, the decision now confronting the National Security Council closely involves the fate of Formosa and Chung Kai-shek's government there. Indeed it involves the whole future balance of power in Asia.

The choice which the President and the NSC must make is whether to back up the well-entrenched Nationalist force on Quemoy with the air and land power of the Seventh Fleet, or to let the island go to the Communists by default.

The Chinese Nationalists have the hope of a return to the mainland. Already, Nationalist hopes have received two stunning blows in the form of Quemoy, Korea and the defeat for the West in Indochina. The Communist capture of Quemoy will kill all hopes on Formosa, since Quemoy is the essential stepping stone to the mainland.

With Quemoy in their hands, moreover, American might provide the Communists an ideal staging area for a later attack on Formosa. It might never be necessary. For the Chinese disintegration on Formosa likely to follow the loss of Quemoy will lead, in time, to Communist conquest within.

"PAPER TIGER"

Nor does the Quemoy crisis end with Formosa. The Communist triumph in Indochina, after many brave words in Washington, has already made this country look suspiciously like a "paper tiger" to many non-Communist Asians. If the United States makes no attempt to prevent the Communist takeover of Quemoy, this will be taken as a further and final demonstration of Communist power, and American weakness and irresolution. Then, all over Asia, non-Communists will begin to run for cover.

Such are the stakes in the impending battle for Quemoy. Where else, but in Quemoy, will the risks of American intervention on Quemoy also, it must be said, very great.

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.

Are Major Air Lines Overlooking Dixie?

Rock Hill, S. C.
 Editors, The News:
 It is surprising sometimes how little we appreciate it when pressed in print.

I am referring to your excellent and timely editorial on Charlotte's need for better air service. I recently boarded a plane at Charlotte's magnificent new terminal and I wondered then why the only airline serving this more important city than its population would indicate, is not served by the larger air lines like American and National. It seems that these two air lines have overlooked the possibilities of the new South. I should appreciate it if you would let me know what Charlotte's chances seem to be of getting better air service.

By the way, your editorial contained an error, probably typographical, that should be called your attention. According to the 1950 census, North Carolina has 3,533,000 people, instead of 970,000 as stated in the editorial.

Although I am a native of Raleigh and have lived there all my life, I became a resident of Charlotte when I first saw it, a couple of years ago. (However, I'm not disloyal to Raleigh.) I am now in Rock Hill with my parents, who

Rep. Multer Thanks News For Editorial

Editors, The News: Washington

Many thanks for your encouraging editorial on Congressman Multer's fight against the Communist Party, which I shared the liberty of adding to the Congressional Record of Aug. 20.

—ABRAHAM J. MULTER

Quote, Unquote

A new "mechanical monster" called the rhinoceros, has been invented and tried out in the swamps near Indianapolis. This huge truck with a hydrojet unit is said by its inventor to be ready to succeed the present "slow-moving trucks." This toy must have been too busy to go out on the roads lately. —Lexington, Ky.

Breakfast could be the happiest meal of the day. It's just that it comes so early. —Greenwood (Miss.) Commonwealth.

From The Montgomery Advertiser

A DOG'S LIFE — 1954 EDITION

An experiment was recently launched in Texas to determine the effect, if any, of living in completely air-conditioned homes. Participants in the experiment, besides contractors and architects, were doctors, psychologists, sociologists, etc.

However, no veterinarians were included in the test. Nobody seemed interested in the effect on pets. Therefore, in the interest of science, we would like to pass along the following case history related by a Montgomery dog owner—this summer bought a window air-conditioning unit.

The dog, a long-haired, hates summer. His ancestors were retrievers, accustomed to icy waters and near-arctic weather. For the past five years, the life of our hero almost panted his life away. When June came this year, he seemed on the point of migration. Then his owner—the word "master" is singularly inapplicable in the case of this beast—bought a three-quarter ton window air-conditioner.

The dog immediately took interest in living again. The cool breeze recalled inherited memories of other lands, other climates. Soon he refused to eat unless his bowl was placed in line with the frosty draft. Except to answer the calls of nature, which he does with unseemly haste, he balks at going outside from 10 a. m. to 6 p. m.

Chang Kai-shek 'A Wasting Asset'

WASHINGTON

SHORTLY before President Eisenhower called his National Security Council meeting in Denver, Pentagon advisers had begun to get some appreciation of what cutting off military aid to France would mean. The picture was not a happy one. And it looks less happy every day.

It is all very easy for Secretary Dulles to talk about an "agonizing reappraisal" of aid to France and for senators to spout off about getting tough. But when the military men spread a map of Europe before them, things look different.

What they see on that map is a network of air bases, docks, harbors, pipelines, highways, auxiliary fuel depots, supply dumps carefully installed under the direction of the United States, all leading east and calculated to prevent invasion by the Red Army. This network cost the American taxpayer a cool billion dollars.

To take it up and put it down somewhere else will cost another billion. For these are not mere investments. Where else can these supply lines be laid?

U. S. military experts are skeptical about putting them in Germany. If we bet all our chips on Germany, almost anything can happen. Chancellor Adenauer's government is shaky. However, West Germany is almost certain to be united with Communist East Germany, after which—What? Who will control?

Those are some of the "agonizing reappraisals" taking place right now.

Drew Pearson's 'Agonizing Reappraisal' Irks Military

TRAGIC DIPLOMACY

General Brehm Smith, the hard-working retired major general in the Capitol Hill, unfortunately, when U. S. foreign policy is based on pleasing Congress it is not always good for the U. S.

New York-Go-Round

Gov. Dewey isn't dead yet. He's made a quiet deal with the State as a foreign affairs trouble-shooter. It will keep his name in the papers, put him in a position to take a comeback—if and when the time is ripe... Dewey's family was adamant that he retire. Mrs. Dewey has been dead with official life for years. The boys haven't relished going to school with bodyguards... One argu-

Deletion Of Pogo Ruins The Weekend

Editors, The News: Charlotte

Thank you for your editorial about the "Pogo" comic strip. To me, "Pogo" is the very best. But please, please—please do not leave "Pogo" out of the colored comic on Saturday any more. It ruins my whole weekend—and makes me hate the advertiser who has pushed "Pogo" out.

—JRS. PRISTON DELPH

Rep. Multer Thanks News For Editorial

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ment put up against FIDEL JR., during secret Democratic holidays over the governorship of New York, was that New York's best vote-getter had been dignified, unpretentious Herbert Lehman, long-time governor, now senator. Lehman is no great speaker, merely impresses people by his sincerity. It was argued that Averell Harriman, also no great speaker, had merely impressed. Another argument was that Harriman had a wealth of executive experience—as secretary of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, head of the Union Pacific Railroad, head of the foreign aid program—and that this would be more appealing than Sen. Jev's legislative background. Sen. Jev would like to nominate a judge Sam Di Falco, an Italian-American, for lieutenant governor, or possibly Judge Anthony Di Giovanni of Brooklyn. Both are A-1 men, but both inadvertently alienated a Salvation Army benefactor given by Frankie Costello and Republicans would be sure to exploit it. Best bet to run for attorney general on the Republican ticket is hard-working Congressman Jack Javits of New York.