



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON.....Publisher
J. E. DOWD.....General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH.....Executive Editor
C. A. McKnight (On Leave).....Editor

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1955

Goodbye To Gothic And Williamsburg

SIX short years, the State College School of Design has built a solid international reputation for itself and North Carolina architecture in general. It has withstood the silly rantings about "modernism" and "functionalism" in contemporary design and has emerged as the South's great champion of an indigenous architecture.

In recognition of its achievements, the U. S. State Department has selected the school as one of several major institutions to prepare an exhibition on architectural education for circulation in Europe and Latin America. In addition, it has been hailed recently by experts as "one of the leading architectural training centers in the U. S.," among the most energetic and experimental in the nation.... beginning to revolutionize southern art and thought.... the first sign of a new era in home-building.

While others have talked about southern architecture, the School of Design has gone quietly to work to do something about it. The Raleigh institution deserves all the praise it has been receiving.

There has been too much nonsense spoken and written about architecture today. Discussion is good but when discussion takes the form of reckless abuse and broad generalizations disguised as logic, it is virtually worthless. As Dean H. L. Kampfoefner, has often pointed out, the world's great architects themselves set poor examples. As long as Frank Lloyd Wright thinks Le Corbusier is "not architecture at all"—naming more than aestheticism, and Le Corbusier thinks Wright's work is "architectural fingerprinting," others can hardly be expected to practice tolerance.

Nomenclature can be as misleading in architecture as anywhere else. When some people condemn "functionalism," for instance, they will have to describe just what they mean. If they are referring to structural nakedness, emptiness, complete lack of ornament and emphasis solely on new materials, there may be some basis for their disapproval.

All modern buildings must "function" but this does not mean there is no room for imaginative expression in architecture. The architect is free to discover new forms, new integrations of space and volume. Comfort and utility can go

hand-in-hand with beauty.

Wright has insisted that there should be as many styles of houses as there are styles (kinds) of people and as many differentiations as there are different individuals. A man who has individuality, he argues, has the right to express it in his own environment.

But Wright also maintains that a house with "character and integrity" stands a good chance of growing more valuable as it grows older while a house in the prevailing mode—whatever that mode may be—is soon out of fashion, stale and unprofitable.

A house may have character and integrity—and function—in one location but not in another. The sprawling, flat-topped ranch house may be well suited for the sun and heat of South Texas where there is no snow to pile on the roofs but it is all wrong for New England. Yet there probably are as many ranch houses in Maine as there are Cape Cod cottages in Texas.

Just as ridiculous is dogged adherence to transplanted traditions of the past—Gothic school buildings in North Carolina, for instance. The Williamsburg style is another example of a transplanted mode that does not solve the fundamental problem of shelter for the region where it is most popular. Dean Kampfoefner once called the Williamsburg Restoration "a catastrophe.... (that) is today casting a shadow on the progressive development of an indigenous architecture for the region."

The design of good buildings perfectly suited for North Carolina living is the No. 1 aim of the School of Design. The imprint of the institution has already been felt in the state's school building program. Through the cooperation of private architects, the State Board of Education and the School of Design, Tar Heel children have been saved from the drafty, cumbersome citadels that once replaced the little red school house. New North Carolina schools give little more sunlight, more warmth in winter, more fresh air in spring and autumn, more physical inducements to learn.

North Carolina architecture is slowly being revitalized. Someday fadism and eclecticism will disappear and the devastating and sterile forces will be defeated. That is the challenge for Tar Heel architecture today.

An Evil Omen In The Fiscal Sky

MORE and more major American cities are eyeing the earnings tax as a convenient device to rescue municipal finances from a sea of red ink. It is a grim warning to Charlotteans watching revenue needs of the Queen City grow as the population grows. It is also an unhappy omen for the city and its residents who earn their salaries inside the city but live just outside the grasp of the municipal tax collector.

Seven major cities have adopted municipal income levies since 1939—St. Louis, Mo.; Louisville, Ky.; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Toledo, Columbus and Dayton, Ohio.

Most of the ordinances adopted in the various cities are cut to the same pattern, according to THE AMERICAN CITY. All tax nonresidents for work done or services rendered within the borders of the taxing city. Levies also apply to the family breadwinner who lives in the city but works in a nearby community.

What Happened To Fulbright's Idea?

WERE a mile surprised at the politicians' memories. Remember Democratic Sen. William Fulbright's suggestion, back in '46, after the election? He wanted Democratic President Harry Truman to appoint a Republican secretary of state and then resign, so control of the executive would go to the Republican Party which had won Congress. Marshall Field endorsed the idea in the CHICAGO SUN-TIMES. Many Republicans, for some reason, thought the idea excellent. Fulbright's comment, directed at Fulbright:

From The Christian Science Monitor

AMERICAN DIVERSITY

AMERICANS traveling comfortably in their own land and visitors from overseas may touch down at the big cities, stay at the sleek, many-storied hotels, gaze at the glittering bigstore windows, sight-see in any one of the cars sold by the million, and observe that America is all the same.

But do these people know that in Kentucky green beans are cooked with bacon, with milk in Maine; that house ceilings are calcimine in Massachusetts but papered in Iowa; that New Englanders cool off on the piazza on a warm evening, Alabamians on the gallery; that hot breads are wholesome in Arkansas but slow poison in Wisconsin; that the trail of one type of village house can be traced from Virginia, through Missouri, to New Mexico?

Observant travelers have long known such things, but they have had to venture outside the metropolises to learn them. Many deeper and more subtle regional differences were observed,

The various ordinances require employers within the city's jurisdiction to withhold the tax from the employee's pay and to submit these withholdings to the city tax collector at specified periods. All major cities involved set a flat rate of taxation, and none provides for a graduated rate. Most of the cities have levied a one-half of one per cent rate, although a few have levied a flat one per cent. Philadelphia has the highest rate—one and one-fourth per cent.

A growing number of small cities is adopting municipal income taxes, too. The Pennsylvania Commonwealth Department of Internal Affairs reports that 343 units of local government in Pennsylvania alone were levying some form of income tax last year.

Unhappily, this system means one more unwelcome hand in the wage earner's pay envelope. This "last resort" form of municipal taxation should be avoided if possible.

That little man that runs the store pays it for us because the state has these big men who go around with a big checkbook, their arm looking very important,

"that over-educated Oxford blank-blank."

But no one to our knowledge has put on his poker face and suggested that in the interests of unity, harmony, efficiency and economy the President and vice president should step down to permit Speaker of the House Rayburn (he's next in line now as the law has been changed) to enter the White House.

Must be the country has entered another of those eras of good feeling. It may last another month.

From The Christian Science Monitor

AMERICAN DIVERSITY

studied, and in effect a cultural map drawn from them by Dr. Howard Washington Odum. This esteemed North Carolina sociologist gave scholarly definition to obvious but somewhat vague evidence that America does have regions, and that each has a culture of its own worth knowing and preserving.

Dr. Odum's contributions to bettering racial relations and other problems of the South may have been as great. But he is likely to be best remembered for quietly, and perhaps unintentionally, busting the myth of American uniformity.

Overheard: "He's the most miserable man I know—he has ulcers and still he's a failure!"—CARLISB (N. M.) CURRENT-ARJUS.

Pedestrians may be wrong in the eyes of the law, but they hardly deserve the death sentence.—ELBERTON (GA.) STAR.



Democrat's Big Problem

'President Ike's Good'

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

AS THE sixth Congress opened there was much back-slap and other evidence of amiability among the members, and such words as "harmony" and "good will" appeared in the headlines. Yet the fact remains that this Congress is sure to bring forth at least the normal crop of bitter political rows in the coming session. Here are a few predictable battles:

1. Sooner or later, and probably sooner, there is very likely to be a major row about foreign policy in Asia. This seems most likely to happen when Adm. Arthur Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who is unhappy about the administration's Asia policy, is called before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Sen. William Knowland, who shares Radford's discontent, will

then have an opportunity to initiate a "great debate" on the subject.

2. There will be a row about the cut-back in ground forces. The Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Matthew Ridgway, is already scheduled to testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee on this point. Ridgway is expected to record his dissent in no uncertain terms.

3. There will be, of course, a row about tariffs. The protectionist Republican bloc has already declared war on President Eisenhower's reciprocal trade program. 4. On the domestic side, there will be a row about the Dixie-Vates contract. The Democrats think here have a useful issue they can, locally in the public power stake,

they are not going to drop the issue.

There will be a row about the security program. Of course there will be other rows as well. For example, no one expects Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy to sink happily into obscurity. McCarthy is now so utterly excited that he can only get the headlines by the most violent assaults on the administration, and this is the course most observers expect him to take.

But the above brief sampling suggests an obvious fact. By a not very strange coincidence, the now foreseeable battles likely to take place in this Democratic-controlled Congress are of a sort likely to help the Democrats and hurt the Republicans. But this prospect is not quite as cheering to the Democrats as might be expected.

For the objective of the Democrats is no longer to capture Congress—it is to capture the White House. The Democrats hope and believe that the political battles to come will show the Eisenhower administration and the Republican Party in the worst possible light. Logically, this ought to hurt President Eisenhower and thus ease the Democrats' task of recapturing the White House. But even the most sanguine Democrats doubt that whatever happens in this session will hurt the President more than it will hurt the Republican Party as a whole.

9-YEAR-OLD'S ANALYSIS

The problem of cutting President Eisenhower down to a manageable size is, in fact, far and away the Democrats' most baffling problem. The President's nine-year-old son, who received a junior-sized printing press for Christmas, may have indicated one reason why the problem is so baffling. He recently produced the first issue of a newspaper with which he hopes to reduce the Federal Government to a manageable size. "PRESIDENT IKE IS GOOD."

While lacking of certain journalistic objectivity, this headline may be a good deal more significant than that which has appeared in this space. For as long as nine-year-olds buy—and large numbers of voters—have this opinion of the President, the Democrats will continue to be baffling. It will be baffling no matter how cleverly the Republican Party attempts to commit suicide.

F. S. I am not in business.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER talks with intimates regarding his political future are continuing. The details of the talks are not always identical, but the general substance is, and one thing he keeps harping on is that he doesn't want to run for a second term.

Another thing he emphasizes is that the Republican Party must build a solid liberal organization, develop new leaders.

He also talks of policies very similar to those of Roosevelt's Truman administration in foreign affairs—though, in at least one important case, Ike's ideas didn't get one inch beyond his more conservative, budget-balancing secretary of the treasury, George Humphrey.

Lunching with one liberal Republican the other day, the President emphasized the importance of getting vigorous, young Republicans to build the party from the grass roots up, talked about sending several thousand young Americans to work overseas in a mammoth crusade to win friendship.

He mentioned such men as Sen. Clifford Case of New Jersey as the type of Republican needed to run for President. He indicated that he was not unhappy with the outcome of the November election because the two men he wanted most to win were Case and Rep. J. Lee Rankin, who became attorney general of New York; both liberal Republicans.

Friends who have talked with the President point out that he faces some-

what the same problem as Franklin Roosevelt had with the Old Guard Democrats. Roosevelt had to sidestep the Jim Farleys, the Ed Flynns, and the other pros by organizing independent political committees such as that under Fiorello La Guardia. Likewise, Eisenhower has sidestepped the regular Republican National Committee by reinstituting the Citizens-For-Eisenhower Committee.

He confided to one close friend that he was even thinking of making James Murphy, head of the citizens committee, the new chairman of the GOP national committee.

Ike's friends also recall that he started out with a GOP chairman supposed to be a liberal Republican—Wesley Roberts of Kansas—but had to drop him when Roberts' unimpressive record was revealed. In a hurry and not knowing where to turn, he took Leonard Hall as the new chairman, but hasn't been too happy with him.

The President's friends say he really waxes eloquent when describing his ideas for building friendship abroad and putting across more liberal domestic policies at home. The trouble is that he runs up against constant road blocks from his own supporters.

George Says No

For instance, Harold Stassen and John Foster Dulles had worked out a new Marshall plan for Southeast Asia with the full blessing of the President. But when Stassen announced it at a press conference, Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey telephoned him from Brazil

Democrats, Seeking Unity, Reach Filibuster Agreement

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATS in the Senate have rejected a proposal to amend the rules so that unlimited debate could be curbed by a rule of closure. This decision on an issue that has been one of the chief sources of friction between the northern and southern wings of the party was taken in the interests of harmony.

Nevertheless, it produced a great deal of soul-searching and uneasiness in a sometimes-heated session of northern Democrats who are ordinarily rated "liberal." The proposal was made by Sen. Herbert Lehman of New York who has been a consistent advocate of a change in the Senate rules that would prevent filibusters. Filibusters have repeatedly through the years blocked legislation involving "fair employment" and segregation in the South.

When a new Senate meets, theoretically on the opening day new rules can be agreed upon by a majority vote on a motion from the floor. This is on the assumption that it is a new body, and the rules of the previous Senate.

Therefore, under ordinary parliamentary procedure—H. M. Roberts' Rules of Order—a motion from the floor can come up for a vote, since it is not subject to unlimited debate. Unlimited debate, however, is assured under the famous Senate Rule 22.

HUMPHREY MOLLIIFIED

His chief opposition to a show-down on the opening day came from Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota. Humphrey, formerly one of the most ardent civil libertarians who often stirred southern ire, argued that since the motion had no chance of passing in any event its only purpose would be to stir old party divisions.

"Why should we do this just to please these civil liberties groups?" Humphrey asked the assembled

Democrats. "The maximum number of votes we can get is 52, and nearly that large. Last year we got only 17 votes when we tried the same thing."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the CIO and the American Civil Liberties Union have been actively advocating an opening-day move to change the rules. These and other organizations have put great pressure on all senators, but particularly on northern Democrats. The harmony theme is indicative of the generally more conservative trend within the Democratic Party.

"We have to remember," Humphrey said in arguing against the Lehman proposal, "that we united on many issues in the last session, southern and northern Democrats alike. We were united on the censure of McCarthy. We maintained virtually a straight party line on the Beaman matter."

This last was a reference to the efforts by northern Democrats to prevent the confirmation of Albert Beaman to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board because it was charged that he had not severed his connection with the Beaman company for which he had been labor relations director. The vote was 45 to 45 for confirmation, on strict party lines.

UNITY AT ANY COST

Several new senators were asked about their feeling on the closure issue, and one or two indicated they would go along with the change if it were proposed. But support was so feeble that after the meeting Lehman reluctantly decided against offering an amendment to Rule 22 calling for the right of debate on a two-thirds vote of the Senate. While he would not discuss what happened in the closed session, he was obviously disturbed by what many feel is a policy of harmony at any cost.

Benson Action Remindful Of Truman Defense Of Cronies

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

THE WHITE House met W. L. Ladejnsky's fight for dropping his embarrassing private life from the operations of the Agriculture Secretary Benson who had fired him as agricultural attaché in Tokyo in security grounds.

Ladejnsky wanted more than a comparable job. He demanded and got a full security and loyalty clearance before he accepted a Foreign Operations Administration post in Viet Nam. He will do the same land reform work he did for General MacArthur in Japan.

Ladejnsky's partisan include influential Republicans as well as Democrats. With the press, they raised a storm of protest to which the White House felt compelled to bow even though it meant the public reversal of a favorite Eisenhower Cabinet member, Secretary Benson.

NO MISGIVINGS

But while the President was willing to admit that this was Mr. Benson was wrong, Mr. Benson had no such misgivings. He has been motivated two to one, as the State Department earlier and now FOA have given Ladejnsky full clearance and marks of personal confidence.

The secretary was calm and self-assured as he confronted a large press conference for nearly an hour. He conceded that "reasonable men" might not always take the same view and he deplored the anti-Semitic issue raised in the Vitt letter which

his executive, Milan D. Smith, made.

He still felt he had had the facts—though he has still to meet, much less talk to, Ladejnsky. He made the decision according to his best lights. Furthermore, Mr. Smith has his confidence in Ladejnsky. He made a "fortunate" mistake. The Benson security officer, a newcomer, who initiated the proceedings, is

It had a familiar ring to those who were accustomed to hearing Harry S. Truman defend his cronies until after hell froze over.

In the Truman manner, too, Benson admitted no doubts about Ladejnsky's return. He permits two Cabinet members to come to exactly opposite conclusions. It is a widely debated by responsible people, but the secretary showed no trace of concern.

The most unkind cut of all was the personal one.

Wolf Ladejnsky has worked for the State Department for 19 years. During that interval he has earned great praise and the confidence of a widely differing assortment of politicians and government officials, including Gen. MacArthur.

He was fired without a hearing on the day of two newcomers to the Agriculture Department, Smith and security officer Cassidy, who had accused their work completely and still does. Ladejnsky's efforts to see him were rebuffed by the White House expressed concern failed.

The land expert leaves the department he served so long with a large press conference for nearly an hour. He conceded that "reasonable men" might not always take the same view and he deplored the anti-Semitic issue raised in the Vitt letter which

Ike Would Like To Be A Liberal

Neuberger and Case of New Jersey were the feature speakers. Case gave an excellent speech, so good that Neuberger's might well have been an anticlimax. After a few wisecracks and pokes on himself, he hit the theme: "We must base our politics on issues, not on character assassination."

This brought general applause, but Vice President Nixon, sitting one yard from the speaker's stand, did not applaud. He had gone on to Oregon, together with eight Republican senators, and had personally delivered some of the worst character attacks on Neuberger.

"No election is worth winning," continued the young senator from Oregon, "if we have to abandon our principles on the Mount and the Commandments."

By this time the vice president was getting red in the face.

"I hope," continued Neuberger, referring to Benedict Arnold, "that we will not begin accusing George Washington because he once trusted a traitor."

Nixon squirmed and got more crimson.

Nixon Vs. Neuberger

Here is a play-by-play account of what happened when freshman Sen. Dick Neuberger of Oregon chastised Vice President Nixon at the Women's Press Club dinner and then, at the instigation of Mrs. Malone, wife of the GOP senator from Nevada, walked out in a huff.