

Keep Uncle Sam Out Of Our Schools

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER's suggestion of a multi-million dollar federal participation in public education is a tempting proposal to state and local authorities harassed by growing demands for more classrooms and better qualified teachers.

There is no room for disagreement with the President when he emphasizes the "importance of free education to a free way of life." There is agreement, too, with his statement that "the best possible education for all our young people is a fixed objective of the American nation."

The country is conscious as it has never been before of the importance of free education for all children and throughout the nation vigorous efforts are being made at the state and local level to provide the classrooms and furnish the teachers.

That is as it should be. It would be a mistake for the states and local communities to turn over this problem to the federal government.

In the first place, and the President's disclaimer to the contrary notwithstanding, whatever the federal government helps it will control. Experience has demonstrated that fact. When the states and local communities begin to look to Washington for financing their public school programs control of the schools will certainly pass into the hands of a federal bureaucracy.

Furthermore, whenever the federal government sticks its nose gingerly under the tent of some new public service, it isn't long until it is all the way inside, holding up the whole structure. Nobody thought, for example, when the Agricultural Adjustment Administration came into being, in 1933 to relieve distressed farmers, that 20 years later the

Feds would be telling 'em what and how to plant. And by so much as the U. S. assumes the burden of education, by so much will the state ease out from under their own loads. It is human nature and it is inevitable.

More important, perhaps, is the cost of doing business the federal government way. When Charlotte, Mecklenburg county or North Carolina spend bond money those who pay the cost have a very personal interest in the way the money is spent. By and large we get our money's worth when we are spending our own money for our own school buildings in our own communities.

There is implicit in the President's willingness to take on partial support of education and in the attitude of Washington generally a notion that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts—i.e., that the U. S. is a good deal more affluent and less limited in the gratification of its desires than the 48 states can possibly afford to be. It is a costly fallacy. Matter of fact, the average state government, and this would go for the average southern state government, is better off in a realistic sense than Mr. Humphrey's treasury.

It is noteworthy that in the last City of Charlotte bond sale the interest rate was only 2.22. The President's secretary in commenting on a "reasonable" interest rate was the federal government buying school bonds, fixed the rate at 3.8. On the basis of these figures Charlotte would fare much better in the open market than in selling its bond to Uncle Sam.

Mr. Eisenhower's interest in free education does him credit. But it will be a mistake if the states and local governments turn over their responsibility in public education to the Washington government.

Untangling A Knotty Tax Problem

"DID I hear right?" asked City Attorney John Shaw. "Do you actually propose to give a discount to a man when he pays his taxes on the last month that they are due?"

There was nothing wrong with Mr. Shaw's ears. That was precisely the effect of the City Council's recommendation on municipal tax discounts yesterday.

If the new schedule goes into effect, a citizen will get a 2 per cent discount when he pays his taxes in September, 1 1/2 per cent in October, 1 per cent in November and 1/2 per cent in December. In other words, he will get a discount of at least 12 per cent if he antes up on time.

It must be pointed out, however, that the council's intention is to go on and in proposing the new schedule it is attempting to eliminate a couple of major tax collection headaches.

The present schedule allows the same percentage discounts, but they begin a month earlier; i.e. the 2 per cent mark down begins in August instead of September. But, due to technical difficulties, tax bills seldom go out before September—way the life for some citizens to take advantage of August's 2 per cent. Naturally, a few anguished cries are raised.

If County Commissioners follow the council's lead and also adopt the new system, there will be the significant advantage of complete uniformity in city-county tax collections. This is certainly to be desired.

Despite some generosity in the timing of discounts, the proposed new system is clearly better than the old.

Big Vote: A Triumphant Affirmation

THE City Council acted wisely in finally selecting May 3, the 1955 municipal election day, as the date for proposed new bond elections to meet pressing civic needs.

By choosing a regular election day, the council:

1—Saved taxpayers' money (a special city bond election would have cost more than \$1,000).

2—Insured a good turnout.

There was, however, great reluctance on the part of some members to toss the bond question out in a regular council election. They feared that a large vote might spell defeat for projects—such as the additional auditorium-coliseum bonds, for instance.

Such sentiments seemed strange indeed coming from elected public officials. A larger vote simply means a fairer, firmer expression of the will of the public. We have complete confidence in the ability of the people of Charlotte to recognize their responsibilities as good citizens. The May 3 vote, we are convinced, will be a triumphant affirmation of Charlotte's ability and willingness to meet those responsibilities.

Is This An Idea For Your Civic Club?

IS YOUR civic club or church group looking for a worthwhile project? If so, how about doing what North Charlotte Rotarians are doing? They're sponsoring blood collection in their neighborhood, and doing a good job of it.

Here's why sponsorship of the blood collection program, by various groups in different parts of the city, would boost collections. Most of us would be glad to donate some blood several times a year. But, perhaps the American Red Cross Blood Center at 510 E. Morehead, is inconvenient to reach. Perhaps it's difficult for you to get away during these hours when a Bloodmobile is stopping nearby.

If, however, a Bloodmobile were to make regular stops, perhaps at shopping

centers or thoroughfares like Central Ave., and Providence Rd. and Wilkinson Blvd., and if collection in each area were supervised by an organized group, there would probably not be the shortage of blood which now exists in this community.

There, anyway, is a suggestion for the future. But it doesn't provide for the shortage of blood in the present. For some reason, collections aren't keeping up with demand locally. And because there is no reserve this could mean delay of an urgent operation.

It can help prevent this from happening, and do a very good turn to your community and some person, by calling ED 4-2891, and making an appointment for donating at the Center, or at the Bloodmobile when it is in your vicinity.

From The Philadelphia Inquirer

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND SMOG

SHERLOCK HOLMES, so far as anyone knows, is still alive. Save for his present spell of being in Sussex, he never was far from a fireplace. Indeed, most of the Holmes tales begin with the light and warmth of a cozy hearth at 221-B Baker Street.

We mention this because, of all men, Holmes will be most seriously affected if new reforms abolish all London fireplaces. It seems that the British fireplace is a major offender in the pollution of air and creation of smog.

Such is progress! As any reader of Conan Doyle knows, fireplace abolition would abolish Sherlock Holmes if

not Watson as well. There could be no such scenes as that in the "Five Orange Pips" in which the wise, shaggy and crinkled like a child in the chimney, while Sherlock Holmes sat moodily at one side of the fireplace. In "The Blue Carbuncle" the drama began when Watson said, "seated myself in his arm chair, and watched my hands before his crackling fire, for a sharp frost had set in, and the windows were thick with the ice crystals." And had there not been a blazing hearth handy, Holmes could not have burred out all the compromising letters boarded that villain Charles Augustus Milverton!

While it is not the intent of the



Desegregation's Benefits

Fulfillment Of The Dream

By PROF. ALEXANDER HEARD

In The Daily Tar Heel

(Editors' Note: Prof. Heard, author of "A Two-Party South," teaches political science at the University of North Carolina.)

NORTH Carolina is presently searching for ways to accommodate to the segregation problem. The Supreme Court last May, this ruling may well prove to be the Court's most important action of this century.

Regardless of what measures are ultimately worked out to assure equal educational opportunities to white and Negro Americans, two results of the Court's action seem inescapable. Another step—has been taken in fulfillment of the American dream. The American dream has always envisioned equal opportunity for all men. And, since it is hard to make this kind of dream come true, an enormous responsibility has fallen upon all Americans to respect the Court's purposes, and to act with speed and good will.

By the nature of our times and the nature of our country, whether we like it or not, the American dream is achieved for Negro Americans, and how it is achieved, will affect the life of every citizen of the United States. This, no man has a more vivid sense.

THE future of Negro Americans is a large part of the future of the United States. This is not alone because of their large numbers. This country was once the universal emblem of the hopes of the world. We are now engaged in a great struggle to free ourselves from the world, against all around the world, against all other and never great hope. Most of the men for whose faith

we struggle are like Negro Americans: they have dark skin.

The struggle in which these persons play such a part is really two struggles, different yet inseparable. The United States and the Soviet Union are engaged in a rivalry of nations. A rivalry of nations is familiar to our time, and in the fleeting second of which is American history, that nation has never lost.

There is also a contest in the world that crosses the boundaries of nations and reaches individuals everywhere. This is a rivalry of the individual, imperfectly called communism, with its initiative centered in the Soviet Union, and the other, political democracy, with its exemplar around the globe and its strength centered in the United States.

THE battle of the nations and the battle of the systems is being waged and in the end must be decided among the peoples of dark skin. Whether in Nyassaland or Laos, in India or Indonesia, or Ecuador, or elsewhere, on the islands of the Pacific or on the Gold Coast, the soldiers of victory will have dark skin.

President Abraham Lincoln would have said that God must have loved these peoples, for he made them in his image. The battle is down. How does the dark man fare in your land? How does he do under your system?

These are challenges to Americans of the next half century. Religion and education are the ultimate source of power. With freedom and equal opportunity for them both, the answers can be our strength instead of our weakness.

This is to say that the ultimate test of the United States before the world is not its armed might, but its purpose and its record. Yet, if we fulfill the purpose of the American dream and enable the record, we shall also increase our might. All these things are required if we are to survive the rivalry of nations and the rivalry of systems.

WHAT'S IN THE HEART? The prompt and well-mannered execution of the Supreme Court's directions will bring together better schooling in the years ahead to millions of Americans. Better schooling means greater mental and manual contribution to the common wealth that makes a nation strong. It is not alone, however, in the making of more goods and of more men able to find them that the greatest new power is to be found. It is what can happen in the hearts of men that can most strengthen America.

An English jurist once said that it is not enough for a judge to be just. He must also give the appearance of being just; he must convince the parties to the contest, and all who look on, that justice is being done. When Americans feel that they receive an equal chance to learn in skill, to grow in mind, and to deepen their appreciation of the beauty of the world, then they can feel that justice is being done, and then their strength and their resolve will be multiplied.

Then, too, the United States can face a world clean of hands. Some of the first and some of the last city or county are located in the Providence section and consequently the citizenry in this

Now U. S. Has Evacuators Instead Of Emancipators

By JOSEPH ALSOP

ABOARD AMPHIBIOUS FLAGSHIP ESTES IN THE EAST CHINA SEA.

IT is wonderfully inspiring to see the armed might of the United States deployed for battle. But it is also a bit dispiriting to know that the purpose of this great show of force is to make sure that the enemy is given an important strategic position.

As these words are written, a great fleet is steaming towards the Tachen Islands in order to consider for them a true military novelty. If the enemy resist, given a most valuable present, we are to fight him. But if he accepts the present graciously we are to make the offering in the same amiable spirit.

At this writing, no one knows which case will arise, although it seems most probable that the Chinese Communists will accept the gift with a good grace. But we are certainly ready for the giving of it. A carrier task force led by the super Midway with four other great ships and a vast array of other vessels in its screen; an anti-submarine force of considerable strength; a surface air striking force heavy with the weight of metal it can throw; and this amphibious task force with its own tremendous apparatus of landing craft and ships of every sort, all converging on the Tachen area.

In short, which this reporter cannot help recalling, was more outlandish and much less overshadowed by the threat of an enemy attack on the fleet exposed in narrow waters. And without making any invidious comparisons, the naval leadership at Inchon did not make the impression that is made by the commander of this amphibious task force, Rear Admiral Lorenzo S. Sabin.

REMEMBER OMAHA? This lean, tough, laconic but decisive man seems to be formed to lead. You talk to him, and it is a partial history of American defense in the last 15 years, including the hair-raising passage of the wily North Atlantic by the first flotilla of landing craft

ever to make the ocean crossing; the landings at Sicily, at Salerno and on the Normandy beaches; the new amphibious assault at Omaha and Iwo Jima; and all the mixture of assignment that promising officers receive in peacetime.

More recently, perhaps symbolically, Admiral Sabin had a different set of assignments. Last August, in Japan, he got his new orders. The most vital strategic area in southern Asia, the key to all that rest, and it defended promontory of the Asian land mass towards which the Chinese Communist are so eagerly reaching out, was also to be given to the enemy. Admiral Sabin's new assignment was to command the amphibious force assisting the French in the evacuation of Northern Indochina.

LOTS OF HAULING In the admiral's briefing room—for assigned jobs must be done without complaint and as efficiently as possible—there is a recalculation of huge tonnage of equipment and the nearly 200,000 people that he and his men transported. It is a big job, and it is a big haul. (There is nothing, however, to suggest where the refugees from the Communist Viet Nam, which he took over, and if the southern half of Indochina also falls to the Communists.)

From this brilliantly performed but unimpressive task, the admiral and his ships were again called, once more with maximum urgency to make sure that another important position was smoothly handed over to the enemy. Now the admiral is back in the next (but will they be last?) on the list.

THIRD EVACUATION In a place of honor, the Estes also has a citation from the Korean government for its performance in the evacuation of Hung Nam, which was a kind of signal that we did not mean to win the Korean War. Looking at this, one of the ship's company remarked: "The old Estes has been through three of them, and the old man's leading his hair-raising passage of the wily North Atlantic by the first flotilla of landing craft

People's Platform

String Up The Sex Deviates

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

W HEN I APPRECIATE Mr. Neal Forney trying to get something done with these sex deviates, I think he should be strung up by the neck. Nam, which was a kind of signal that we did not mean to win the Korean War. Looking at this, one of the ship's company remarked: "The old Estes has been through three of them, and the old man's leading his hair-raising passage of the wily North Atlantic by the first flotilla of landing craft

—MRS. J. D. BIGGERS

Widen, Resurface

Providence Road

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

PROVIDENCE ROAD is fast becoming one of the most traveled residential thoroughfares in Mecklenburg County and also at the same time the one that needs the most resurfacing and widening. In most parts of this road there are so many holes and ridges that one might think he was riding across a cotton field that had just been freshly plowed.

Since the Providence section is one of the few residential areas in the suburbs of the city that has not become industrialized and as attractive as such there has been, everything possible should be done to preserve this last unspoiled residential section.

Some of the finest homes in the city or county are located in the Providence section and consequently the citizenry in this

What's So Funny

About Hold-Ups?

Kings Mountain

Editors, The News:

I THINK that little episode of the finance company robbery should be captioned "What could have been a tragedy turned out to be a picnic, and a good time was had by all."

Perhaps I have been seeing too much of "Badge 714," but it seems to me that the robbery affair was treated very lightly. I wonder if those people who "re-acted" the crime realize that it was a tragedy that had been hurt or killed?

I also wonder what comes over people when they know a camera is trained on them. The victims were grinning, the officers were grinning, even the robber was grinning. I tried to see the humor in the situation.

Perhaps next time someone will get shot. I'm grinning when they can laugh their silly heads off. I wouldn't be a bit surprised!

—MRS. JANELLE MURPHY

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THE big television networks have been quietly pressuring the Senate Judiciary Committee to tone down its report on the connection between TV programs and juvenile crime. However, it doesn't look as if they would succeed.

The Senate Committee on Juvenile Delinquency did such a forthright job on comic books and child crime that the comic-book industry appointed a czar to clean up. Equally forthright hearings were held on television programs which the big networks offer up to children during the hours between 4 and 6 p.m., and a draft report has been written by the staff distributed to members of the committee. A copy of the report was also sent to interested networks for their comment, and the howl that came back has echoed around Senate committee rooms.

However, the three members of the Senate committee—Langer of North Dakota, Kefauver of Tennessee, and Hennings of Missouri—are standing pat. They may even strengthen their report. Meanwhile, here is some of the stinging criticism in the TV programs which the preliminary Senate report, so far still secret, levels at the big television networks who mold the minds of millions of children.

Greatest Mind-Molder

"Sociologists have pointed out that television has wrought the most marked influence upon the habits of the family of any technical development since the automobile. It has mass up to children during the hours between 4 and 6 p.m., and a draft report has been written by the staff distributed to members of the committee. A copy of the report was also sent to interested networks for their comment, and the howl that came back has echoed around Senate committee rooms.

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TV Programs Get Stinging Rebuke

WASHINGTON

subcommittee to equate crime and violence with badness," says the draft report. "The number of acts and threats of violence have increased substantially between 1952 and 1953. This meant 62 acts and threats of violence per hour, the survey showed."

Commenting on this survey, the Senate draft report stated: "Young children may be termed a unique group. For them television is not intruding upon already established patterns. Because they can watch television before they are able to read the printed word, they are apt to undergo heavy exposure to television in preschool days. Television is frequently the first teacher."

Violent Programs Increase Despite this, the amount of violence which the big networks are dishing out to young children has increased rather than decreased, the Senate report found.

Citing a study of the seven New York TV stations, the Senate report showed that the number of acts and threats of violence had increased substantially between 1952 and 1953. This meant 62 acts and threats of violence per hour, the survey showed.

"Furthermore, during the week of Jan. 4-10, 1953, children's television hours in New York were twice as saturated with violence as other hours," the survey stated.

Another TV survey cited by the Senate subcommittee indicated that "the domination of crime and violence is increasing rather than diminishing." Summarizing the obvious effect of TV programs upon juvenile crime, the unpublished Senate report states: "It was found that life is cheap; death, suffering, sodomy, and brutality are subjects of callous indifference, and that judges, lawyers and enforcement officers are dishonest, incompetent, and stupid."

Crime Via Knob

Washington

"Television crime programs are potentially much more injurious to children and young people than motion picture, radio or comic books. Attending a movie requires money, so an average child's exposure to films in the theater tends to be limited to a few hours a week. Comic books demand strong imaginary projections. Also they must be sought out and purchased. But television is available at the back of the eyes and ears of American children indicates a complete disregard for psychological and social consequences."

Other highlights of the senators' findings on juvenile TV: The National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters has only three on their staff to review TV shows. They have monitored only 42 TV stations in 20 cities, have never informed the NABT official seal of approval from any TV station.

The Federal Communications Commission has steered clear of guidance re children's programs.

Applicants for TV licenses talk about the high quality of their proposed programs in advance, but do little about them after the fact.

"The commission," says FCC Chairman Rosel Hyde, "has only very rarely been able to determine that a station's programming is of high quality. It has been so terrified as to warrant a finding that its continued operation would not serve the public interest that it has never been able to do so."

The British Broadcasting Company, in contrast, does an excellent job on children's programs. Senators commended "its fair and objective approach of BBC; also noted its 'fairly rigid control of the air waves.'"

TV Highlights

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