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The Target - Charlotte's Speedsters

HORSE-AND-BUGGY days called for few traffic laws, little policing. The coming of the automobile to North Carolina streets and highways marked the beginning of citywide traffic laws...

Before 1930, Tar Heels and other U. S. citizens were still dreaming of a network of miracle roads stretching in every direction to speed people to their destinations in comfort and safety.

But as thousands upon thousands of new high-speed automobiles poured onto streets and highways, the dream became a nightmare.

North Carolina's highway history has been a story of belated and sometimes frantic efforts to keep abreast of the problem.

As the problem becomes more and more complex, safety experts have turned to science for new tools, new techniques, new devices.

The "whammy" is an electric instrument designed to gauge the speed of a motor vehicle quickly and accurately. It is one of these motor-age contributions of science. It makes it easier to detect the speeder. Thus, it becomes a powerful psychological

cal weapon—aimed straight at the deliberate law breaker.

The "whammy" has been used effectively on the open highway in North Carolina and in many cities and towns. But, for some reason, public officials in Charlotte have been reluctant to put it to use on local streets.

Now, at the insistence of Police Chief Frank N. Littlejohn and Traffic Capt. Lloyd W. Henkel, some official qualms have been shelved. Apparently, the city will hesitate no longer. The "whammy" will be used inside the city limits.

The step, we believe, is a wise and realistic one. The city, as the state, must go all out to attack the speeding problem. Horse-and-buggy enforcement techniques are not enough. Charlotte simply must keep pace with the history of effective traffic control.

Signs alone did not help the problem. But if speeders know the "whammy" is about they will be less likely to bear down on that accelerator.

Yet there are some who attack the "whammy" on the grounds that it has nullified its usefulness. Drivers warn other drivers about the "whammy" opponents report triumphantly. If so, then the "whammy" is doing its job after all, isn't it?

The Girls Are 100 Years Old—Congrats

DESERVED tribute is being paid throughout the world to the Young Women's Christian Association, which is celebrating its centennial this year. The local YWCA grew from the desire of the Women's Club to establish a place of residence for working women in Charlotte, in 1901. In 1902, the Y was officially organized and Mrs. Walter Liddell elected president.

The association moved from W. 5th St. to its present location on Trade St. before World War I.

The original YWCA was organized in 1855 in London—12 years later there were more than 100 Y's in this country. Experience gained in World Wars has placed the YWCA high among Amer-

ica's resources in times of national emergency.

The life span of the organization covers 100 of the most revolutionary years in the changing history of women. The YWCA has pioneered with such programs as the National Travelers Aid Association, the National Federation of Business & Professional Women and the National Institute of Immigrant Welfare.

Over a period of 40 years the association in the United States has worked directly with an emphasized international friendship among Y's in 34 countries, aiming to promote the Christian and democratic life for all women and girls. May we add our congratulations to one of the community's finest organizations.

Wailattina? Palmettora? Gulchland?

THAT thunder echoing out of the hills to the north is not from the roaring furnaces of the moonshiners.

It is the grumbling of the sturdy, strong-willed people of West Virginia who say the name of their state is not sufficiently distinct from that of the Old Dominion right next door.

They are demanding that something be done about the whole wailattina-and, naturally, a commission has been appointed.

This is a delicate matter because there has been bad blood between the two states ever since The Late Unpleasantness—when West Virginia seceded and seceded from the secessionists.

The West Virginians now complain that too many casual map readers think that their 40 counties form a sort of province, colony or protectorate of Virginia.

Virginians merely snarl and say, "They never had it so good."

In addition to making arrangements to evacuate refugees over the mountains when the feud breaks out, North Carolina should consider its own nomenclature problem.

For the life of us, we can't understand

why South Carolina doesn't adopt some nice old Indian name—like Karankwa or Wailattina or something—and leave "Carolina" to us real Carolinians.

Or how about Palmettora? Or Gulchland? Or Sassafras? Or it might even use the name of a U. S. President—Trumania has a good clean sound.

By gum, it'll even serve as godfather at the christening.

About Face

EYE-OPENER for striped-pants strategists who would slash the Army's budget again in favor of more emphasis on atomic weapons: By 1960, Soviet Russia is likely to have 18 men under arms in every 10 Americans.

It doesn't take a West Point education to deduce what this will mean in terms of military planning behind the Iron Curtain. With U. S. ground strength so reduced, Reds can be expected to plot isolationist ground actions where atomic weapons will be tactically ineffective.

America, planning for a big war, may instead be faced with a series of small ones.

Look at every proposition in a selfish way. If you are not the one who gets the most good out of it, vote against it. Never consider what it will do for the town as a whole.

Don't do anything for the youth of the town. Criticize them as potential delinquents. Keep your feet on them. Encourage them to move away when they grow up.

If you have good town leaders, don't follow them. Take a belated attitude and talk down everything they do.

Don't work on any committee. Tell them, "I'm too busy."

Don't say anything good about your town. Be the first to point up its shortcomings. Pretend that if trouble comes your way it will be residents of some other town who will visit your while you are ill, bring in their department if your home is burning, comfort you if you lose a dear one, stand back of you in disaster.

And don't support your local retail stores and industries. Claim the prices are too high. Demand special treatment. Better. Claim industry and its payroll hurts the town. But if you need a donation, ask your local stores and industries for it. Expect them to back you, but don't back them.

If these 13 trends don't ruin your town, it isn't your fault.

Man on the Capitol bus said Wednesday that the Formosa crisis didn't worry him much. "I've got flat feet, asthma, hernia and ulcers," he explained, then added that he was 69 years old.—DALLAS MORNING NEWS.

People's Platform

Charlotte Editors, The News: I WANT to comment on the disparity between what I saw happen at the corner of Trade and Tryon Sts. last Friday evening and what the official reports say happened.

I did not see the beginning of the affair. Since it was obvious that at some time or another Officer Jolly was struck in the eye, it may be had a valid reason for using force to subdue the prisoner. This I cannot know because I was not present. When I came onto the scene, Officer Jolly was on top of the prisoner, striking him. The officer says he didn't strike the prisoner more than twice. This is simply untrue. He struck him many more times than this while I was present.

City Cops Seemed Unnecessarily Rough

Charlotte The half seen. Both officers then proceeded to rough him up, pushing him against an iron pole finally. During the next several minutes, the prisoner made absolutely no attempt to move but Officer Burgess continued the half Nelson, frequently exerting extra pressure for no evident reason.

When the police car arrived the prisoner was moved roughly to the car. He was pushed into the door. He did not attempt to strike anyone, he made no attempt to escape, he remained passive while he was being pushed into the car. The officer at the door of the car kicked the prisoner as he fell into the back seat of the car. I saw where the officer report says the officer pushed him with his foot. I

would like to suggest that a physician examine the right side of the prisoner and see whether the "pushing" produced a visible mark.

As a man whose profession has brought him into frequent contact with law enforcement bodies, I am well aware that officers of the law must frequently use force and that force should not be denied them when it is necessary. I seriously question whether it was necessary in this instance.

A police investigation might determine whether or not the prisoner first struck the officer. If he did then Officer Jolly was justified in attempting to subdue him even though there was no criminal charge against the man except that he had failed to move on when the officer told him to do so.

But the prisoner plainly tried to attack on the second officer and in the case of the officer at the car—unidentified in news reports—there was clearly evidence of unnecessary violence.

Police officers are protectors of the law and they deserve our respect, but they are protectors of the people and servants of the people as well and when they assume an official position in a way that violates the trust the people place in them then they forfeit their respect. Since this is not the case of incidents such as those in Charlotte, it would be well for officials to remind officers of the law of their full responsibilities to their community.

Charlotte's crime rate is extraordinarily high. It may well be that such incidents as the one of which I speak contribute to this shameful state. Officials of the city must realize that crime prevention does not come through fear of the law but respect for the law.

—NAME WITHHELD

'Awful Sneaky Kitty' To Feed The Kitty

Charlotte Editors, The News: I HAVE several times recently had articles in your good paper pertaining to the need of police force. I am wondering if we need as many policemen as we already have. I have a neighborhood on Lawndale Road which street is three blocks in length in a row of apartments on the side of the street. There has been living in my apartment there for almost three years and have always parked my car on the left side of the street due to convenience. Feb. 17 at 8:27 p.m. two officers of the police force came by my automobile and left me a citation ticket for parking my car with the left side to the curb. In the first place there is really no built-up curb in front of my apartment and it is hard for me to understand why these two officers did not politely come to my door and inform me that I was parking illegally. But no, they just put the ticket on my windshield of my car which will cost me three dollars.

If these two officers had nothing more to do that night other than put parking tickets on automobiles parked at home and three miles from the square, it appears to me that they had very few duties to do and an awful sneaky way to get three dollars in the "kitty."

—R. L. HOWARD

Low Tariffs Produce Soup Lines In U. S.

Charlotte Cheraw, S. C. Editors, The News: I WISH to try to point out some of the effects of the lowering of the tariffs in our country, a proposal that is at present being discussed in Congress.

We, as workers, know what cheap goods coming to this country to be sold on our market will do for us and our employers, especially in the textile industry—the Southland's largest industry. Shut downs. Cut in wages. Soup lines down. Purchasing power gone.

I defy any man or any group of politicians to do anything to retard the progress and have a law made that will lower the living standards of our people. I will help a few people who have already tried to lower the economic standing of our country.

I do not care to lose my job so that a few watches might be sold and other cheap goods be marketed. I have a good watch made by an American firm and workers. It's good enough for me if it's American.

—J. A. GRAHAM

Florence Has Cure For Youth Problem

Florence, S. C. Editors, The News: PEOPLE HAVE sought a cure for juvenile delinquency. Our young people of Florence have found the cure. It is the Christian Crusade Ballies. They thought of this and are putting it on themselves.

Back Harris, who speaks each Saturday evening, is a freshman at Furman University. The song leaders really have talent. One of them studied under Herby Sunday, Billy Sunday's song leader.

—W. W. GASQUE

Anyone Know About Dear Tongue Leaf?

Phoenix, Ariz. Editors, The News: I YOU would please get me the address of a place that I could write in order to get some Dear Tongue Leaf. My father is from Kentucky and he said he got the dear tongue leaf there and mixed it with his smoking tobacco. He has been unable to find any out here. He said it would have to be obtained from a tobacco-growing section of the country. He seems to think his pipe won't taste good until he gets some dear tongue.

If you can give me any help I would certainly appreciate it.

—CATHERINE YOUNG

(Any ideas from our readers?)

Shape Of Things To Go



Chain Of Death Can We Rely On The H-Bomb?

By STEWART ALSEP When the first atomic bomb was exploded in 1945, the world set out on a new road, and it is not clear where the road will lead.

But the physicists—including Dr. Edward Teller, the nuclear genius of the hydrogen bomb—are sure that the hydrogen bomb is not the end of the road.

Even the monstrous Super-Strauss, the bomb with a power more than 20,000 times the power of the first atomic bomb, will not be the end of the road. And this country cannot afford to let the Soviet Union travel further or faster on this terrible road than the United States.

We must be sure, to put it bluntly, that our weapons are at all times even more horrible than their weapons. And we cannot possibly be sure of this unless we constantly test our weapons.

SUCIDAL DANGERS WILL WE USE IT? But suppose all these experts' fears are wholly unfounded. Suppose the only danger is the local fall-out described in the Strauss report. Will we ever get our own weapon which rains death on an area the size of New Jersey? Will we use such a weapon when we know that the enemy has it too? Indeed, might we not hesitate to deal such indiscriminate death to a good friend if the enemy could not reply in kind?

No one in his senses will argue that we should stop making these weapons, as long as the Russians are making them. But relying on such suicidal weapons as the central element in our power something else again. And it does seem to ask whether we are right to do so. It is not at all an easy question to answer. But it is time to ask it all the same.

Radio strontium has a special affinity for bone. The human foetus is peculiarly sensitive to radiation. The danger here is that radio strontium fallout on grazing areas might reach and destroy the foetus through a complicated grass-cattle-milk-bone-fetus chain-of-death.

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From The Dawson (Ga.) News

WAYS TO DESTROY YOUR TOWN

HERE are 13 sure ways to ruin your home town. They were compiled by the SENATOR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT. An interesting game is to figure how many of the ways apply to our own lives or to our fellow townsmen.

Don't pay taxes. Let the other fellow pay his. Vote against taxes. Then fuss because the streets are not kept up.

Never attend any of the meetings called for the good of the town. If you do, follow them. Take a belated attitude and talk down everything they do.

Get all the city will give you and don't give anything in return. Write unsigned letters to the editor demanding more for your tax money.

Talk cooperation but don't do any work for your city unless you get paid for it. And by all means refuse to serve unless they make you chairman.

Never accept an office. It is easier to criticize than to do things. Accuse anybody who serves in an elected office of being a publicity seeker. (Or a crook.)

Don't do any more than you have to. When others willingly and unselfishly give their time to make a town better, how because that town is run by a clique.

Don't back your fire department or your police department. If the firemen work to bring the insurance rates down, tell everybody that it was their expense to do. Don't thank them or the policemen for endangering their lives that you might have a safer town in which to live. Demand special treatment. Insist that if anybody expects you to obey traffic and parking laws.

Drew Pearson's Phone Co. Lawyer Proposed For FCC

WASHINGTON HERE'S what the American public should watch for if the Senate confirms George McConaughy as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission: A general hike in phone rates.

That is the backstage reason for this prediction. For a long time the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. has been trying to force a change in its base for fixing phone rates. In the past the FCC has held that rates should be based on the original cost of the phone company's equipment. But the phone company wants rates based on the replacement value of its equipment, arguing that costs have gone up since the equipment was first purchased.

So far the FCC has refused. It would have business before the Federal Communications Commission. "I have never represented anyone who had business before the Federal Communications Commission."

"Have you numbered among your clients at any time American Telephone & Telegraph?" asked Sen. Monroney of Oklahoma a moment later. "No," replied McConaughy. "You have never represented them?" "No sir, never represented the American Telephone & Telegraph Co." replied McConaughy without batting an eye.

Close To A Lie This was about as close to a lie or concealment as you could come. For actually McConaughy has represented the Ohio Bell Telephone Co., a part of American Bell, & Tel., also Cincinnati and Suburban Bell.

Clear City's Slums To Combat Crime

Waxhaw Editors, The News: I HAVE just finished reading your February 18 editorial, "Crime Causes Crime." Nationality? No. But Poverty is And Causes Crime." and agree with it in every way.

If people would only realize that where you have poverty, bad housing, sickness, etc. you are going to have crime, then maybe we will get somewhere in our prevention of crime. It doesn't do any good to send a man to jail for committing a crime, and then send him back to the very same environment from which he came.

Only when the public is educated as to the cause of crime and fully realizes their responsibility will there be any cure. To really cure anything, you have to find the cause first. Then and only then do you have a real cure.

When the slums of Charlotte are gone and there are plenty of them here right now, then I believe the crime rate will improve, but not before.

—MRS. ROBERT W. BALDWIN

Quizzed By Senators

However, new FCC Chairman McConaughy has already pioneered this rate-base change in Ohio. And it's reported the reformer is now in Ohio, a good friend of the phone interests, put him on the FCC was to help make the change national.

Significantly, McConaughy tried to slip away from this background when first quizzed by the senators last fall. He was not then under oath. Otherwise he certainly would have opened himself up to the charge of lying.

When alert Sen. John Pastore of Rhode Island asked whether McConaughy ever represented people "who ordinarily have business before the commission," McConaughy replied:

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These were the cases involving the same principle which A. T. & T. wants to change in the Federal Communications Commission—namely, rates based on replacement value, not on the original cost of equipment.

McConaughy, attorney for the phone interests, took the cases up to the Supreme Court of Ohio and won. As a result, his two Ohio phone companies now have the highest earning records of any affiliated Bell companies in the USA. Cincinnati and Suburban earned at the rate of 8.2 per cent in 1954. Bell earned at the rate of 6.8 per cent. The average earnings for other Bell associates was 1.8 per cent.

No wonder McConaughy didn't want senators to know he had worked for the Bell System. He knew that never before in the history of the FCC was a lawyer representing the telephone or telegraph companies or any other big communications interests being appointed chairman of the commission.

Yet McConaughy has been named FCC chairman.