THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1955

An Investment In Better Protection

CHARLOTTE, after penny-pinching on law enforcement for more than a year, mended its ways yesterday. When the City Council granted Police Dept. requests for 18 additional officers, it authorized at long last the sort of protection a growing community *must* have against the virus of crime.

Charlotte was "saving" thousands of dollars a year by keeping its police force comparatively small — then suffering frightful losses because of the rising crime rate. The economy was clearly false economy.

City Councilmen had to find only $25,430 in the municipal budget to pay for the departmental additions—including three extra patrol cars—starting April 1. The cost was estimated at $30,530 starting a month earlier on March 1. Both sums are fairly moderate—particularly when one takes into consideration the type of increased protection the extra dollars will buy.

In presenting the problem to councilmen yesterday, Mayor Phil Van Every commented that "our people are due all the protection that is sensible and reasonable." We heartily agree. We hope, too, that Charlotte will continue to view its law enforcement problems in relation to the swift, steady rise in the metropolitan area's population. Once a city lags behind in such matters as providing adequate protection and keeping crime under control, it is extremely difficult to catch up again. Crime is like cancer: Once it gets started, it is hard to stop.

Action Needed On Job Classification

"I . . . recommend for your consideration that we put into effect job classification in its entirety as originally proposed in the budget meeting. Funds are available."

With these words, Mayor Phil Van Every raked a $43,000 chestnut from the embers of City Hall politics. He urged City Councilmen to take favorable action on a plan that would mean immediate salary increases for municipal employes.

Here is the background:

When the city's job classification program was instituted with the beginning of the current fiscal year July 1, there were not sufficient funds in sight for the full increase in salaries called for by the new system. As a result, only half the salary increases were authorized for this fiscal year.

If the necessary funds are indeed available, the mayor's plan is just and reasonable.

The city has an obligation to its employes to complete its job classification program.

The principle of job classification with appropriate compensation is sound. It is designed to promote effectiveness and efficiency in government through a personnel program based on thoroughly scientific factors rather than political favoritism. If honestly administered, it can contribute handsomely toward a strong, healthy public service system. Until it is fully in force, the way remains open to special treatment, backstairs influence and the like.

Critics of some aspects of the city's job classification program maintain that it is faulty and unfair. If there are indeed bad spots in the machinery, they can and should be corrected—after careful study and comparison with the personnel programs of other cities.

Meanwhile, we feel that in all fairness to the majority of the city's employes, the full program should be instituted for the remaining months of the current fiscal year.

Opportunity To Learn About Cancer

THERE is much to be learned about diseases which are most feared. Among them are the illnesses which science, having conquered other formerly prevalent diseases, are now concentrating on. One of them is cancer.

Researchers and practitioners are discovering techniques which decrease the danger of cancer to those who will guard against it and, if afflicted, submit promptly to qualified medical experts. And afflicted persons are discovering daily—as did the late Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S. J., whose remarkable message of hope and confidence is reprinted elsewhere on this page—that cancer need not cause the dread it frequently does.

It is to share the latest and best scientific knowledge of cancer with volunteer workers and the interested public that the Mecklenburg unit of the American Cancer Society begins, at 7:30 o'clock tonight, a series of three panels on cancer, in Ovens Auditorium located in Presbyterian Hospital Nurses' Home. The general aim of the forum is to provide basic information on the nature of cancer, the place and time of its diagnosis and treatment, the cancer problem today and the role of the ACS. Outstanding pathologists, internists, radiologists, surgeons, social workers and other specialists will discuss aspects of cancer control with which they are familiar.

The person who attends this forum will learn how to guard against cancer, how it should and should not be treated. He will learn what facilities for diagnosis and treatment are available. And he will learn of the important role of the American Cancer Society, through whose many volunteer workers and financial supporters as well as professional workers the war against cancer is being waged.

The program tonight and the next two Thursday evenings affords you an opportunity to become informed on what could be a life-or-death matter.

A Good Man For A Crucial Post

MORE OFTEN than not, ambassadors who do not come up through the ranks of the Foreign Service are politicians being rewarded for contributions to the party in power. The appointment of a non-career man who is nevertheless aptly suited for diplomacy is rare. Because this is so, we are pleased to take note of President Eisenhower's nomination of John Sherman Cooper as ambassador to India.

Last fall the voters of Kentucky had the good fortune of choosing between two estimable Senate candidates, Republican incumbent Cooper and former Vice President Barkley. Cooper lost. But the nation will gain by his appointment to the crucial Indian post, which has been vacant for several months since the transfer to Washington of Tar Heel George Allen, who followed the popular Chester Bowles.

As a consultant to Secretary of State Acheson, as delegate to the U. N. during the Truman administration, and in the Senate, Mr. Cooper exhibited a grasp of foreign affairs equal to that of many career diplomats. The Senate should speedily confirm his nomination.

From The Washington Post & Times-Herald

THE IDOL SMASHER

NOW it appears that Mr. Richard Aldington, thwarted in his efforts to have his biography of Lawrence of Arabia published in English either in Great Britain or the United States, has translated it into French and had it published in Paris under the title LAWRENCE, L'IMPOSTEUR. That, as you know, is a very harsh epithet and calculated to make the late Col. Lawrence's still numerous and influential friends more outraged by Mr. Aldington than ever. What Mr. Aldington seeks to prove is that Lawrence had nothing to do with fomenting the Arab revolt against the Ottoman Turks—an important factor in Gen. Allenby's great victory in the Middle East—and that most of the other exploits credited to him are equally mythical. The curious thing, as this newspaper pointed out about a year ago, when the general tenor of Mr. Aldington's biography was first divulged, is that Lawrence himself should have admitted as much.

Nobody, of course, accepted Col. Lawrence's repudiation of the legend that had grown up around him; it was ascribed to his singular modesty and dislike of publicity—certainly a paradoxical trait in a hero. Similarly, there will be many who will now refuse to accept, or even to consider, Mr. Aldington's findings, no matter how plausibly he may have presented them or how airtight his documentation of them. Once we have adopted a myth, we are unwilling to have it disturbed; and the probable explanation is that popular myths are rarely deliberate fabrications but rather products of the collective imagination. And though popular mythology is not seldom in conflict with historical fact, it usually possesses an allegorical or symbolical truth of its own. Men become heroes not so much because of their private characters and their concrete deeds as by becoming accepted symbols of a national genius or of universal human values.

In short, as Goethe once observed, the heroes serve us as mirrors that reflect back to us our own fondest aspirations. It is because we desire to be brave and noble that we delight to read of the godlike Achilles and the noble Hector, though had daily association with them been possible for us, we should no doubt have found them very dull and perhaps disgustingly barbarous fellows. This is why heroes ought always to be viewed at a distance and where possible through the magnifying mists of myth.

A Woman Driver Has Her Say: 'Men Are Monsters'

By P. D. L.

In Highway Highlights

THE DRIVER in front of you slows almost to a stop without signaling, seesaws back and forth, and finally decides to wait 'til the next corner to turn.

It's a blankety-blank woman driver!

The driver to your right shoots out, darts ahead in your lane, honks before the light changes, and speeds up when he sees you need to slide into his lane to make a turn, calls out the car window some interesting, if violent, sentiments, double parks on the main street during the rush hour, obeys neither speed zone laws nor no-parking signs.

It's one of those doggoned men drivers!

THE MALE 'Gangway'

ARMED AGGRESSION

The battle of Waterloo was said to have been won on the playing fields of Eton. And to watch many men drivers, one would think training for the traffic battles of the city streets came on the football fields of the public schools. The same aggressive, competitive spirit prevails. The same daring, darting, dashing tactics are employed. To many men, beating the change of the traffic light is as much a triumph as making a first down. And every other driver in the world is on the opposing team.

True, a lot of men are better drivers than a lot of women. They HAVE to be to stay alive. Still, in the game of life or death they play, they sometimes do not win.

The National Safety Council reports that, in 29 states where the records are available, women were involved in only 8 per cent of all fatal accidents. And women do 14.5 per cent of all driving.

AS GOOD OR BETTER

During World War II, a national women's magazine reported on the traffic accidents in one mid-western state. The motor vehicle department of that state found that men had 2.85 accidents for each million miles driven, while women had only 1.79. The same national magazine canvassed traffic authorities and found that, two-to-one, they rated women drivers as good as men or better.

A study by Dr. A. R. Lauer, director of Iowa State College's driving laboratory, reveals that women between the ages of 16 and 33, and the ages of 41 and 53, have fewer accidents or traffic violations than men in the same age groups. Men had a slight edge in the in-between and over - 53 groups. In general, Dr. Lauer found that women are troubled by timidity, lack of strength and poor distance judgment.

POOH-POOH

Recently, in Massachusetts a state legislator hinted that women should pay higher insurance rates. Rudolph F. King, registrar of motor vehicles in the Bay State, pooh-poohed the idea, pointing out that "not one woman has had to appear before me this year." He went on to say that his four hearing officers all agree that women are definitely in the minority in cases handled.

Although men undoubtedly have the advantage of greater strength, women are often completely capable of handling huge commercial vehicles. In a Wisconsin State Truck Driving Contest last summer, a woman who was not an entry drove through the obstacle course and scored more points than any of the men. After three men, including one four-time winner, were picked as top drivers in a field of 47 someone urged Mrs. Bernice MacDonald, part - owner of a Ripon, Wisc., trucking firm, to try out one of the trucks. She piloted the big vehicle through the course and was awarded 330 out of a possible 400 points. The best effort by the three men champions was 328.

REACTION TIME

One advantage held by women, which may offset men's superior strength, is the fact that women seem to have a quicker reaction time, according to the results of tests released by the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies of Columbus, Ohio, in 1953. Two hundred and fifty-six high school students—half girls and half boys—were tested on braking and stopping distance. It was found that 66.4 per cent of the girls were quicker than boys in putting on the brakes—that is, getting their feet from accelerator to brakes. In total braking distance, 59 per cent of the girls showed superior control. For a total stop in a car going 20 miles an hour, from the first warning impulse, the girls took an average of 38 feet, 7½ inches, while the boys took an average of 40 feet, 4½ inches.

But more than physical strength or reaction time, the clue to men's tendency to become involved in more serous accidents than women probably lies in male mental attitudes. Some driving instructors are reported as finding women better pupils than men, largely due to their attitudes. Men, they say, begin taking driving lessons with a preconceived notion of their own competence, whereas most women are eager to follow the instructor's advice.

MOTOR MANNERS

Also, in psycho-physical testing of driver aptitudes women are said to take the test more seriously and to strive harder than men for a good score. Safety educators say, too, that women try to improve their driving ability throughout their life while men appear to level off at an early age with the assumption that they have mastered the skill.

Emily Post, eminent authority on courtesy, has stressed "motor manners" as a safety measure.

Another boon to safety might come about if the aggressive male transferred to his driving more of the sportsmanship of the football field and fewer of the techniques of play.

"He's advocating a return to first principles . . . 'Keep the women barefooted, in the kitchen and out of the drivers' seats of automobiles . . .'"

'This Could Spoil The Whole Racket, Men'

He Lived—And Died—With Cancer Without A Whimper

From CATHOLIC DIGEST

(Editors' Note: This article was written for the July, 1954, issue of Catholic Digest by the late Rev. Daniel A. Lord S. J.)

I HAD come to St. John's Hospital in St. Louis for my quarterly anesthetic and fulguration. I hope I have that word right: it means literally to be struck by lightning. And that is what my surgeon, Dr. Bartels, says he does when he puts his instruments deep into my bladder and with electric current hits the small but annoying growths. That has been going on for almost six years. Ask me anything about going under an anesthetic, and I can be very vivid. This time, as often before, I also had X-rays taken of my lungs.

I had emerged from the anesthetic, and was relaxing peacefully in bed, when Dr. Bartels entered the room. With him was one of the kindest men who ever lived, my physician, Dr. Munsch. It was clearly a committee, so when they sat down, I grinned and they smiled wryly. I asked, "News?" and they said, "Yes."

THE TRUTH

Then I started guessing. "Return of my old TB? Heart condition?" They shook their friendly heads.

"Don't tell me it's cancer," I said, half joking.

"You'd want to know the truth, wouldn't you?" they quickly asked.

Well, all my life, I've wanted to know the truth. I have always thought the truth, pleasant or unpleasant, is something to which people have a right, and in the end, truth is the only kind answer. So I nodded. "It's cancer," said the doctors, "cancer of the lungs."

I suppose my next question was inevitable. "How long do I live?"

NO PREDICTING

"Who knows? There is no predicting with cancer. If you were a young man, your time might be short indeed. The same natural law which makes healthy tissue and cells in a young man grow fast, makes his wild tissues and cells also grow fast. At your age, 65, it may work very slowly."

There was a second question: "Can I go on with my normal life and work?"

Their answer was wonderfully reassuring. "Absolutely," they said. "In fact, that is precisely the thing to do. If you come to regard yourself as an invalid, you'll hamper treatment, and speed up the disease. If you keep at your normal work, see friends, eat well, and put back that weight you've dieted off, keep cheerful and contented, you'll be a perfect patient, and we can have all possible hope. What's the schedule for the next few months?"

It was a fairly heavy one, and we discussed it. "You mustn't get yourself over-tired," they said. "You have to get decent sleep and rest and, once more, all the good food you care to eat. We'll watch, and God is good."

I write this little message of hope and confidence three months and a half after the decision. The doctors kept me in the hospital for a bit, and then turned me loose. In a sudden spurt of energy and a determination to use time to the best advantage, I found that I was itching to be at my typewriter and to write some of those books that I had long planned.

Then I hit the road, back at my routine of talks and meetings.

LIVING WITH CANCER

I am a little shortwinded; a little quicker to tire, but thus far I live with cancer and find it a gentle enough companion.

But the interest of the general public has astounded me. Cancer is big news, a great national concern, a preoccupation of the press and the general public.

The St. Louis papers kindly gave my illness just the most general notice. But out-of-town papers and the news agencies wished details. How did I feel? What happened when I was told? Did I consider myself an invalid?

Cancer actually seems to incapacitate less than most fatal diseases, and loving my life, my work, and my friends, I was grateful that I could cling normally and affectionately to all.

GOD'S MESSENGER

I cannot but feel that the dread of cancer is vastly exaggerated. People with cancer live often long and sturdily. Cancer does not necessarily withdraw a man from his normal routine. Since we all must die, God seems kindly when He sends a messenger in advance with a gentle emphatic warning.

Surely we can all use a little time to get ready for the Judgment. The realization that one has cancer sharpens one's whole outlook on life; the earth is more beautiful, the sky a little clearer, and every moment of the day precious, a thing to be hoarded.

ETERNAL PROMISE

I am glad that the nation is cancer conscious. But when I read that it is man's worst enemy, I am not so sure. I do not think God allows enemies to prevail; rather He seems to use the things we dread to draw us closer to Him.

And life seems sweetest when it melts gently in the Life that is our Eternal Promise.

(Editors' Note: See editorial, "Opportunity To Learn About Cancer.")

People's Platform

Rescind Jefferson Pl. Action

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

AFTER reading the letter of rebuke from Mr. Chas. Crutchfield, I am forced to ask of Mr. Crutchfield who makes it possible for the Jefferson Standard Life Ins. Co., The Duke Power Company, and The American Trust Company to build those million dollar buildings, and to pay the enormous taxes?

By his own admission his company is interested in taxes and taxpayers as they well should be, since the people whose interest you have at heart and are trying to protect and to consider in this matter are the same people who purchase the insurance of the Jefferson Standard Company, burn the power of the Duke Power system, and deposit their money in the American Trust Company, also we listen to and look at, and purchase from the sponsors who support the Jefferson Standard Broadcasting Company which is represented by Mr. Crutchfield.

It is my belief that you are correct in your position on this street naming merry-go-round and that you should be commended on your staunch stand, and I only ask that you not deter from this position even at the threat of losing such institutions as mentioned by Mr. Crutchfield. My only concern is that you may be influenced by such big institutions as those mentioned and would slack off rather than suffer any loss of revenue from advertising from those big taxpayers and builders.

It is also my belief that Mr. Crutchfield could better service both his customers and those of his parent institution if he would not use his high position for bringing political pressure into focus on a controversy of this nature but rather remain as a well-liked gentleman in his own backyard. I suggest that he withdraw his request for this name duplication that he has fostered, in the interest of less confusion, and exert his powerful influence and efforts into getting our City Council to take immediate action on this matter.

If the letters of Mr. Crutchfield carry such weight as to be able to sway the valued opinions of the engineers and those whom we pay for handling such matters as this then I am certain that his efforts could be used and his seemingly powerful political influence in this community could be put to better use if he will only apply it to helping us to get this street-naming duplication stopped and a more sensible approach taken to matters of this nature.

I trust that you will print this in its entirety as a rebuttal to those harsh words by Mr. Crutchfield and that this be considered as being representative of those of us who cannot pay taxes in the millions nor make capital investments of the high nature as described by Mr. Crutchfield, but only have the interest of all Charlotte citizens at heart when we are concerned over matters of this nature.

—THOMAS H. SYKES

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Too Little Space For Gen. MacArthur?

WASHINGTON

THIS column today may be somewhat personal. If so, it's because my wife has given some directions as to what kind of column I should write.

Mrs. P. doesn't often intrude in the business of column-writing. If she did, I'm sure the product would be better. Occasionally she gets pretty indignant when I take out after someone she likes in the government, and she used to get quite annoyed when I paid my respects to Harry Truman over Gen. Vaughan plus some other things.

Anti-War Speech

But most of the time she's pretty good about not being a back-seat column writer, in view of which perhaps her current idea deserves serious consideration.

She feels that the newspapers did not give sufficient space to the recent speech of Gen. Douglas MacArthur in which he said that war is an outmoded instrument of national policy. And when an old soldier who has come through three wars—from World War I to World War II to the Korean War, plus the eviction of the bonus army—takes a public stand like that, then I think Mrs. P. is right.

Some papers of course played up the fact that the old soldier was against the United Nations and collective security; so that the public may have missed the way he emphasized the idea that war would be the end of civilization and that the only remedy was people-to-people friendship.

I certainly agree with him about people-to-people friendship. It's something I've been harping on for a long time. But I think he underrates the United Nations and collective security. If you are going to have police states upsetting the peace of the world, you have to have police action to stop them. And I would like to call attention to two things that are working reasonably well today in either blocking war or making the world a better place to live in.

Pan American Police

One of them is pure collective security; namely, the way the Pan American nations have been pulling together in police action to promote peace.

The other is the way certain religious and private groups have been working among other people to promote friendship.

While Adm. Radford has had us skating perilously near the brink of war in the Far East; and while Germany and France are still haggling over cooperation for the mutual defense of Europe, the Pan American countries grabbed hold of an energetic young war in Costa Rica, pulled out its tail feathers, clipped its wings and dumped it back where it belonged inside Nicaragua.

They acted as the cops of the Western Hemisphere.

It took some fast and forthright work to get this done. Several times they worked a good part of the night. Some members sat the entire night getting ready to take off on a rush intervention airplane to Central America.

The Pan American Union operates on a high diplomatic level. Operating much lower, right down among the peasants and peons, are certain religious groups which are doing a wonderful job of winning friends and promoting peace. In Bolivia last fall I saw how the Catholic Maryknoll Fathers, the Methodists, got out and worked with their fellow men.