

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Public, Picket Lines And Principles

AS A constant user of both batteries of telephones, both local and long distance, this newspaper considers that it has a stake in the deadlocked contract negotiations between Southern Bell and the Communications Workers of America—negotiations which threaten to conclude in a strike rather than an agreement. For that matter, the continuous, uninterrupted operation of a public utility, which is a tradition of the telephone service, is a matter in which the public in general has a vested interest.

Before us is a pamphlet, *THE PUBLIC INTEREST*, issued by the telephone company and setting forth—well, we know not what, because we have not read it and don't intend to. We aim to enter this argument unimpeded, and to limit whatever we have to say to the enunciation of certain basic principles.

The first principle which should govern the relations between a public utility and its employees is that of arbitration. Arbitration procedures should be set forth in every labor contract, and, with due safeguards for the rights of both parties, decisions rendered in arbitration should be binding on both parties, and without cessation of work.

The second principle which should be incorporated in all public utility labor contracts, somewhat related to arbitration, is one which would outlaw strikes. What good is a contract, painstakingly riveted and set forth in vast de-

tail the rights and duties of both parties, if it lacks a no-strike clause? With arbitration available—arbitration of grievances, economic issues, succeeding contracts, etc.—what necessity is there for a strike and what justification for a union's unwillingness, in return for such assurances, to commit itself against strikes?

A third principle, admittedly difficult of enforcement but nonetheless essential in the interests of all parties concerned, including the public, is a commitment by the contracting parties not to permit relations with any other party, including another labor union, to invalidate their obligations each to the other. If the two principal parties have reached an agreement which includes, as it should include, an arbitration procedure and a no-strike clause, and then members of the union let the picket line of still another union deter them from carrying out their contractual obligations to perform the work of their employer, in effect constituting a sympathy strike against the employer, they have accomplished by injunction what legally, under a no-strike clause, they could not accomplish directly.

With these three principles embodied in the labor contracts of all public utilities, we believe that the three parties most concerned—employer, union and public—would be assured of fair treatment without the pains and penalties of work stoppages.

Unlocking A Judicial Logjam

OBTAINING justice in the civil division of Mecklenburg Superior Court is a long, painful process. Sometimes it takes years.

The county bar association's plan for a small claims court would provide one sensible answer to the problem. It would sift off cases involving claims under \$3,000 to a separate judicial body, thus relieving the Superior Court of the crush of a great deal of relatively minor litigation.

The cases, of course, could still be appealed from the inferior court. But the most important feature of the plan is the fact that it would speed up

the tortious legal process providing swifter administration of justice.

The idea is not new. It has been tried elsewhere, with variable success. The Mecklenburg plan incorporates the best features of operations in other North Carolina counties.

Without doubt, the small claims court should be a part of this county's judicial machinery.

But time is short. Mecklenburg's legislative delegation should act without delay to put the proposed enabling act into effect. It should act through the 1955 General Assembly.

The Quest For 'Purity' In Politics

THE 20th century search for new definitions of morality has begun to take a whimsical turn. There is a movement afoot across the nation to induce the various state legislatures to draft codes of ethics for public officials. The ambitious aim is to achieve complete "purity" in politics.

This is somewhat like teaching a youth to read after he has entered college. If a student has not mastered the three R's, he certainly has no place in higher education. If a man does not know right from wrong, he certainly has no business in public office. In a democracy it is the responsibility of the public to sit in judgment on its representatives and weed out the amoral and immoral members.

No political rule book is needed to define good and bad. Society is already equipped with a moral code. It finds its expression in the traditions of each of the higher religions. Christian, Hebrew, Buddhist, Taoist and Mohammedan all attempt to explain the same essentially indefinable fact. In its final purity, it is called truth. "Truth," wrote Henri Frederic Amiel, "is the secret of eloquence and virtue, the basis of moral authority; it is the highest summit of art and of life."

Will Durant once said that a statesman cannot afford to be a moralist.

If not, then he is no statesman. Politics and morality should not be treated separately.

Mr. Brubeck Vs. June-Moon-Croon

IN A music world steeped in canny commercialism and fed by one rickety novelty after another, pianist Dave Brubeck is a curiosity. He is an uncompromising jazz musician, yet an enormous popular success. Even in the June-moon-croon set, the stronghold of Eddie Fisher fandom, he is winning friends and alienating listeners.

Why? A cover story in *Time* has helped. So has smart record promotion. But the real answer, as concertgoers at Davidson

College found last night, lies in a kind of free-flowing, billowy freshness in the sound and concept of his music. It is jazz with a new look—delicate counterpoint, indefinable fact. In its final purity, it is called truth. "Truth," wrote Henri Frederic Amiel, "is the secret of eloquence and virtue, the basis of moral authority; it is the highest summit of art and of life."

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From The Shelby Daily Star

POPPING CORN

NOTE with some alarm that the popping has been taken out of popcorn.

It is now possible to purchase a container of popcorn, enclosed and seasoned. This container is placed on the stove and in three minutes the aluminum foil cover is removed and a gallon of hot popcorn is ready for eating.

It is a very clever device, entirely in keeping with the trend to take the work out of the kitchen. It is a product of the quick-frozen meal age, a development we approve of generally.

But popcorn, it seems to us, is a thing apart.

Except when it is used for a bowl filler at a center piece at one of those hastily prepared parties, popping corn has a unique virtue.

Its entertainment is in the popping, in figuring how much butter or vegetable oil to use, in determining how much corn the guests will consume, in factually asking guests to be wary lest the corn leave smudges on furniture and rugs, in adjusting the amount of salt to the tastes of a group, in being diplomatic when the corn runs out before you get any, in being casual about winding up with a well-filled container in the next year. After they get through we'll know what not to do—

ata-time clip or by the shovel method. But most of all there is the great satisfaction of doing it yourself in a short space of time.

A host of hostess may disappear from a roomful of guests and return shortly with a brimming container of hot popcorn. There is something about this venture that allows a person to think to himself: "This is my handiwork. A few moments ago this delicacy was inedible kernels. By my efforts it has become a food eaten by everyone and only slightly fattening."

It is this idea that the new contraption denies.

There is little satisfaction in merely turning on a stove, although the results may be the same.

The only big thing you can get without influence is an automobile tag number.—ELAVILLE (Ga.) Sun.

Eventually everything worth remembering can be attributed to Will Rogers, Dorothy Parker, Oscar Wilde or Winston Churchill.—DECATUR (Ill.) Herald.

Legislatures in all the states in the union except Kentucky and Virginia are meeting in the next few days. After they get through we'll know what not to do—

The One-Party State Goodbye To An Anomaly?

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON
The one-party state—long the anomaly of a two-party nation—is well on its way to extinction.

In progress for some time, the change gained further momentum in the 1954 election, according to an analysis by Congressional Quarterly. Upsets were scored by both parties, but in many cases reflected trends established in earlier elections.

In Oregon, for example, Richard L. Neuberger became the state's first Democratic senator in 40 years, while Mrs. Edith Green, who was elected representative from the Third District by 5,600 votes, became the first Democratic House member in a decade. But the Democratic share of the vote in this Republican stronghold had been increasing in House races in the past five elections, particularly in the Second and Third Districts.

DEMOCRATIC INROADS
Democrats are also making inroads in normally Republican northern New England and in the Midwest, traditional GOP preserve. For their part, Republicans are making significant gains in the Democratic South. The results in close contests in areas once regarded as safely "one-party."

Maine upset tradition by electing a Democratic governor, Edmund Muskie, by a margin of 22,400 votes. Maine's three House seats remained in GOP hands, but in the past five elections the Democratic share of the vote has increased in almost all of the state's 13 congressional districts over the past 10 years in 1954. Democrats unseated GOP incumbents in two of these districts, and elected Sen. Patrick McNamara by a 39,000-vote margin.

A similar trend shows itself in Minnesota and Wisconsin. In 1954,

Democrats retired GOP incumbents Harold C. Hagen in Minnesota's Ninth District and Robert Hale won re-election in the First District by only 3,900 votes. Both the First and Second Districts are now classified as marginal.

SUBSTANTIAL GAINS
In neighboring New Hampshire, Republican Chester E. Morrow, a six-term from the First District, won re-election by only 400 votes. Next door in Vermont, long-time GOP stronghold, Republicans were pressed hard for the second time in two years to keep a Democratic out of the governorship.

Democrats also made substantial gains at GOP expense in the Republican heart-land—the Midwest. The GOP share of the 1954 vote in House contests was less than its share in 1952 and 1950 in the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. It was also down in Missouri, which has a Democratic background.

MICHIGAN TREND
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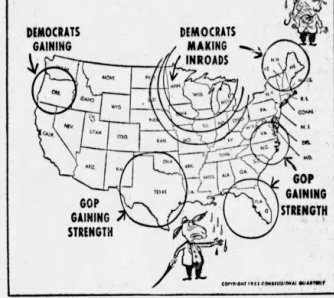
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GOP INVADES SOUTH
Republican gains in the Democratic South have not been so extensive. Handicapped by a lack of "grass roots" machinery, the GOP has concentrated on selected House races and has made real progress in Virginia, Florida, North Carolina and Texas. Virginia in particular is moving rapidly toward two-party status.

In North Carolina, President Eisenhower won 46.1 per cent of the vote in 1952, and carried four of the state's 12 districts. Republican Charles R. Jonas was elected in the 10th by 57.4 per cent, a margin which he retained in 1954. In the Ninth District, the GOP vote has averaged 48 per cent in the past two elections.

In 1952, Mr. Eisenhower carried eight of Virginia's 10 districts—four of them by more than 60 per cent of the vote—and swept three GOP congressmen into office, the first GOP newcomers to be elected since 1928. One of them, William C. Wampler (Ninth), lost his

Political Weather Map



sent to a Democrat in 1954 by 1,000 votes, but Richard H. Poff (Sixth) and Joel T. Brothill (10th) won re-election by large percentages, despite the GOP's national trend downward.

Poff increased his margin from 31.5 to 62.3 per cent, or about the same edge that President Eisenhower won in the Sixth in 1952. Moreover, the GOP share of the Virginia vote in House contests jumped from 24.6 per cent in 1950 to 40 per cent in 1954, and Republicans made a strong showing in the 1953 gubernatorial contest. In Florida, President Eisenhower carried five of eight districts.

'Me Tarzan - You Jane' Or The ABC's Of Conversation

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I HAVE read MALAMOS Spain with some fascination a series of advertisements for a firm that professes to win you friends and build you popularity plus business success merely by instructing you in the art of everyday conversation, and an thinking of abridging this course myself.

The art of conversation as you probably know, has been largely lost in a morass of "Now let me tell you what I said to..." and "Then I said..." or just plain "I..." There are no real conversations any more, just a series of monologues, interrupted by interruptions and new monologues.

It seems to me that a handy guide for daily conversation could be busted down into two basic groups, the He's and the She's. This would be the basic pattern of "Me Tarzan, You Jane," and would run roughly as follows:

SHE TO HIM
The She's to the He's:
(1) You're the only man I've met who really reminds me of my father, so sincere and genuine, so completely without sham or pretense. You make me feel so protected and comfortable.

(2) I don't understand it, but please tell me how a man as young as you could have learned so much about the world?

(3) I like your hair. It makes you look so youthful.

(4) You aren't fat at all. I like mature men with big shoulders.

(5) What a divine suit! English tailors, of course.

(6) I hate the penalty they put on youth. If they gave you half a chance you could run the company with both eyes closed better than old J.C. is running it now.

(7) What I like best about you is your quiet humor.

(8) I simply can't kiss a girl any more. It only reminds me of my mother.

(9) You're wonderful on a dance floor; I'll bet you'd be as wonderful in the woods or on a fishing trip. Sumner would hurt your nose.

(10) But first I have to respect your thinking; being pretty isn't enough.

(11) I wonder what color your kids would have, if I ever had any.

(12) Why don't you bring your roommate by for Sunday brunch? I'd love to meet her.

(13) This will cover, I think, any necessary interplay between the sexes, and you can see the same result. Eventually the total conversation will boil down to "Hmmm" and "Yes, dear. I'm listening."

Marriage is so saving on the vocal cords.

Protocol Gone
The New Morality

By E. S. TURNER
In "A History of Courting" the significant thing about the new morality ushered in by World War I was that though many a woman during these war years "lost her name" yet she was not permanently ruined. For the first time in history the "fallen woman" got up again—a little shaken, a little surprised at herself—and carried on. The thing became a joke; there was a proposal to erect a plaque in a famous London hotel "to the woman who fell here during the Great War." Soon there would be many more jokes.

Courting, as distinct from cohabitation, was by now an acc-



"I want you to know I have the greatest of sympathy for the down-trodden... HEAVENS, you're not one of the down-trodden!"

People's Platform

Union Not To Blame In Telephone Dispute

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I WISH to comment John F. Klutz for his letter to People's Platform on Saturday. Mr. Klutz has hit the nail right on the head by telling the truth when he says that the Southern Bell Telephone Co. is living in the atomic age as far as its scientific development is concerned while living in the dark jungle of another era as far as its relations with its employees are concerned.

If the strike called for March 15th comes off it will affect a great many people besides the employees of the telephone company and it will be the fault of the top management of the telephone company and not the fault of the union.

The company is insisting that the union sign a new contract with

an added "no strike clause" in it and the company says this is the only bone of contention left. To insist on this is asking the union to sign an agreement that says they who they are pledged to protect in case there are violations of any part of the existing contract. This would lay these people open to any action the company would see fit to take with them.

The union cannot afford to sign such an agreement yet this is exactly what the company is asking them to do.

—JOS. CONRAD

News Thanked For Support Of Program

Raleigh

Editors, The News: THANK you very much for your editorial support of our proposed new program in products design. I think you stated

the case for us very ably, and we are grateful to you for what you have done.

—HENRY L. KAMPHOFFNER
Dean, School of Design
N.C. State College

Local Audubon Club Appreciates Coverage

Charlotte

THANK you so much for the nice publicity you gave our club in The Charlotte News.

—MCKENZIE AUBUDON CLUB
Mrs. B. D. Hendrix, chairman

Quote, Unquote

Did you hear about the man with the short corn yield? Said he ate 14 acres of corn for dinner and was still hungry. —Donalsonville (Ga.) News.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
SOME of the facts lurking in the background of our synthetic rubber situation don't look good.

Despite this, the Eisenhower administration continues determined to turn the rubber factories, built at enormous expense to the taxpayer, over to the big rubber and oil companies. In fact, if Congress doesn't act, they automatically are sold on March 26.

Here are some of the disturbing facts which Congress ought to take a careful look at:

Low Stockpile—All government press releases regarding synthetic rubber reserves have suddenly stopped. They used to be published once a month but none since January 20. Reason: The synthetic rubber reserve has dropped alarmingly. Though we're supposed to keep 60,000 tons on hand, today we have only 28,000 tons. The synthetic rubber factories are to be sold on March 26, delivered April 25.

Little Companies Squeezed—The rubber companies ordered a total of 61,000 tons of government synthetic rubber in March. The big four companies pay Uncle Sam \$260,000,000 for the rubber factories. Meanwhile the factories are making an annual profit averaging about \$40,000,000. This means

U. S. Selling Synthetic Rubber Pants

that if the U. S. government kept the plants and ran them for four years, it would make as much profit as the purchase price.

Another way of putting it: The big boys who are buying the factories pay for them out of profits. In the end the factories cost nothing. It's a good deal if you can get it, and the companies have to pay for them out of profits. In the end the factories cost nothing. It's a good deal if you can get it, and the companies have to pay for them out of profits. In the end the factories cost nothing. It's a good deal if you can get it, and the companies have to pay for them out of profits.

Reds March On—Meanwhile the march of communism into southeast Asia, chief world source of natural rubber, continues.

Washington Whirl
Allen Dulles, efficient head of Central Intelligence and brother of the secretary of state, plans to bow out. His

hero son, terribly wounded in the Korean war, isn't recovering as hoped. Allen wants to give all his time to the care of his son.

Simultaneously, he pulled one law partner away from the same firm—Sen. John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky who's going to India as Ambassador—then of the most difficult and important jobs in the diplomatic line-up.