



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1955

The Target And The Temptation

SOCIAL Planning Council proposals for new facilities at Charlotte's Memorial Hospital must not be allowed to rot like water lilies in a stagnant pond of politics. The opinion of New York bond attorneys that the city is without legal authority to issue bonds for planning purposes came as a rude jolt, but the need and the community's responsibility to meet that need—as is compelling as ever. Swift, decisive action should be taken to see the project through to completion regardless of the handicaps.

The danger is obvious. Special legislation may be required to grant Charlotte special authority for the proposed \$250,000 bond issue. This will necessarily take time—probably too much time for the question to be voted on in the May 3 election. There will be the temptation to let matters drag, to refer to committee, to ponder, to raise objections that might be overcome by aggressive action, to try and outwit the other fellow—then to

forget, or come in with too little, too late.

This must not happen.

The fervor of public interest must not be allowed to cool.

The principal aim of the project, of course, is to provide decent hospital facilities and services for Charlotte's large Negro population. A good part of the proposed extras at Memorial will go to fill this urgent need. The problem of Negro hospital care in Charlotte is serious today. It will get worse tomorrow. There should be no unnecessary delay in meeting the problem head-on.

The first step was made by the Social Planning Council. The City Council demonstrated its own good faith by authorizing the bond issue for plans and specifications. There has been a setback but it need not be a lethal blow. We urge municipal authorities to lose no time in seeking alternate means of meeting this heavy community responsibility.

Sunnier Prospects For Orderly Growth

PERIMETER zoning and subdivision control legislation, wrapped up Monday night by the General Assembly, is a major contribution to the health and welfare of metropolitan Mecklenburg. It gave the City-County Planning Commission badly needed tools to provide for the community's orderly growth.

Almost every day, Charlotteans are pushing their bulldozers into the corn fields and pasture land to carve out new residential areas, new clusters of industry, new developments for service stations and stores.

In the past, the absence of legal con-

trois over far-out-of-town stretches of land produced multiple problems. People fleeing the city frequently found that they had jumped blindly into areas that soon became unplanned jumbles with nothing but nuisance value.

Armed with ordinances possible under the new acts, planners can head off many of the unpleasant situations caused by chaotic growth. From Mecklenburg's standpoint, the zoning measures and subdivision control laws are among the most important legislative achievements of the year.

Sex Deviates: Research, Then Action

IN PSYCHIATRIC circles, a bill providing for treatment of sex deviates in Tar Heel mental hospitals is still the subject of major concern.

The objections are well-founded.

For one thing, the state does not have facilities in its mental hospitals to care for sex deviates.

For another, they do not have the trained personnel.

But there is also the matter of what might be called treatment techniques and procedures—a scientific terrain full of vast uncharted areas.

We seriously doubt that North Carolina's legislators—however skillful they may be as lawmakers—are in any way equipped to discuss a legal system adequately designed to meet the problem.

They do not possess the factual data they need and they have absolutely no extended experience in this highly specialized field.

The wise way to approach the problem would be to appoint a staff of research sociologists, psychologists and psychiatrists to go into the matter fully, assemble all known evidence and information, elaborate hypotheses and carry out a certain amount of research to test these hypotheses.

Recommendations, coming later, would then have the stamp of authority.

With so much human happiness at stake, it would seem that the relatively small amount of money required for the research should not be begrudged.

The Clean, Fresh Smell Of Unity

AFTER considerable huffing and puffing, the governing bodies of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County finally got together on a new discount schedule. It was probably the most touching display of political friendship since a kind of informal "co-existence" policy began to develop in City Hall and County Court-house executive offices months ago.

The final agreement was preceded by a round of finger-wagging and general reluctance. But backers of the city's plan lobbied tirelessly among commissioners and the county board finally agreed Monday to a two-year trial run.

The proposed new system would start the 2 per cent discounts on tax payments in September instead of August. Under the present system, the city never seems to get its bills out until September anyway, thus depriving thousands of taxpayers of the full 2 per cent.

The burden of responsibility in this matter now shifts to the county's legislative delegation. Since this remarkable display of unity has been achieved, legislators should draft the necessary legislation and have it enacted without delay.

Meanwhile, all three groups (City Commissioners, County Commissioners and legislators) might note how pleasant a little governmental unity can be on the subject of taxes—and proceed immediately to the matter of complete consolidation of city and county tax departments.

Acid Test

TONIGHT Gov. Luther H. Hodges talks to the people of North Carolina.

It is an important speech, coming as it does amid heated debates on taxes and other major issues.

But it is more than that.

The Hodges administration has been hardworking and confident. It has been sure in its dealings with the General Assembly. Success may be measured somewhat by the fact taken by Mr. Hodges tonight. You'll get the first real measure of Hodges, the politician.

Also, possibly of the next governor of North Carolina.

From The High Point Enterprise

RED-FACED DEPT.

THE usually dependable Associated Press had a story the other day which mentioned that the "fishing trawler Lorella was nicknamed Lucy because of her bad catches."

No telling how many editors passed the reference without challenge but one came up complaining he didn't "catch on." A check showed it a traffic error, that the name of the boat was "Lucky."

Closer by, a reporter in a neighboring city was querying by telephone a prominent Presbyterian on the selection of a new president for the seminary at Richmond. The churchman was astonished to find himself quoted saying the seminary is supported by the "poor sinner" Presbyterian church. What he had said, and the reporter had misheard, was the seminary is "supported by the four synods of the Presbyterian church."

It goes to show how easy it is for errors to occur. The odds of it all are there aren't more instead of as few as there are. Discovery of a mistake in a newspaper story, magazine article or even book calls for charitable consideration, not should one be too hard on the author. Sometimes it's due to sloppy work or failure to check facts; sometimes it is poor editing or proofreading; but the amazing thing is that with

all the possible combinations of letters and hands printed and never passes through, more errors don't occur.

There's a familiar quotation in printing offices that says "He who makes no mistakes does nothing. He who makes too many loses his job."

All of us try not to make too many, but the typewriter is slippery and sly and no one in the most embarrassing spots as witness that item in which "faculty wives honor husbands," except it appeared "faculty wives."

But the atomic blast came when one of our own writers took over the telephoned report of "debtor nations" that appeared in type but not in print as "detonation."

In order to get people to fill income tax returns early without waiting for the April 15 deadline, why not give prompt payers the benefit of a discount?—KINGS-PORT (TENN.) TIMES.

Pome In Which Is Contained A Small Observation Concerning The Eating Habits of Some Southerners:
Natives sometimes fall in fits
If they cannot get their grins—ATLANTA JOURNAL.

'That's Not The Way We Plan To Celebrate It, Bill'



There'll Always Be A Congress

A Pox On Captain Queeg

FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

THE SPEAKER pro tempore:

Under previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Rivers) is recognized for 10 minutes.

MR. RIVERS: Mr. Speaker, the intemperate, uncalled-for, unnecessary, unwarranted and untrue words attributed to actor Paul Douglas, star of the "Caine Court Martial" at Greensboro, N. C., some time ago, have roused me to action.

Mr. Douglas, known as the South. ANTI-NAZI. This is not the first occasion that he has demonstrated bad judgment. If my memory serves me correctly, he was one of the leading lights of the Anti-Nazi League back in 1939. The publication Hollywood Now under date of 1939 states that

Hollywood stars hold giant save

reason that the most sensitive nerve in the body has been offended, that is the pocket nerve of the producer, Paul Gregory. It is elementary that this troupe cannot continue playing to empty houses.

Paul Douglas not only offended the dignities of his troupe, but made an unfortunate reflection on that segment of the American people, both white and colored, who are compelled to eat "lower down on the hog" than Paul Douglas. Good fortune did not smile on these people.

KIND PRESS. The newspapers have been kind to this individual. They have obeyed the spiritual admonition of "Answer not a fool according to his folly lest he be wise in his own conceit." Despite the fact that they were mindful, as Mr. Lowell aptly said:

L. MENDEL RIVERS
No Boos, No Eggs
played professional football, and I remember when he was a sports announcer for Chesterfield on CBS, since, he has, I have been informed, married and divorced four times, this may be a whole lot longer, if it skulls behind the shield of some farseeming name.

My people have ignored Paul Douglas, instead of booing him, are egging him on. So they desired to shun him as a copper snake, or a leper, and let him, without anything, with nothing but his guilty conscience to smite him; with nothing but his countless abominations to rebuke him; with nothing but the ghosts of his intemperate thoughts and utterances to haunt him; with his own, and our, branded attacks on my people and our traditions.

VILE DUST. Mr. Speaker, long after Paul Douglas has returned to the vile dust from whence he sprang, my land and my people will continue to hold the great promise it now has. We will continue to progress despite those who, like Paul Douglas, would remake us and our land. Despite the political decisions of the Supreme Court, the executive orders of Presidents, and the unconstitutional acts of the Congress of the United States, despite all these, the land of the magnolia, the honeysuckle, the camellia, and the warm and genuine hospitality will continue to attract all Americans.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE boys in the White House are rolling up their sleeves as never before to defeat the Sam Rayburn \$20 tax reduction amendment. Long distance phones all over the USA were busy last week trying to pressure certain wavering congressmen. This week they are working on the senators. (Editors' Note: After Mr. Pearson wrote these words, the Senate Finance Committee killed the \$20-per-person tax cut by a 94 vote.)

Kennon Pressured

Last week for instance, Assistant President Sherman Adams phoned Gov. Robert Kennon of Louisiana, an Eisenhower Democrat, and asked him to do some long-distance lobbying.

Gov. Kennon, in turn, phoned various governors whom he knows personally, asking them to pressure their own congressmen to support Speaker Rayburn and his \$20 tax reduction.

Sam's Trump Card

Reason for White House consternation over the \$20 tax reduction is because of two trump cards in Sam Rayburn's hands.

Trump No. 1—He appoints the conferees to the joint committee of the House and Senate which will finally iron out the tax bill. They will be at least Rayburn supporters. With the Senate conferees will stick to the bitter end, and the Senate will probably have to yield.

Trump No. 2—The tax bill, which

You Think Alexander Had It Tough? Look At Rossen

By ROBERT C. RUARK

IF there is anything I would like to see rather than a bull-fighter it is an actor or a director in a motion picture. An old caddy once put me out on the street to see the filming of "Alexander the Great," which Robert Rossen is making here, and I came home pale and shivering.

For some peculiar reason I had never seen a movie in its physical filming, and the aspect is awful. Never did so many people labor so hard and so seriously at make-believe. The inside shots are using about 200 people on the same set now; before Rossen finishes he will be working with upward of 3,500 souls. All with beards, shin guards and fur skirts. Being an actor is something less glamorous than being a subway guard or a lunch-counter attendant, since all actors do is stand around all day on poor, lumpy felt while the director, his hangers on the extras and the electricians fiddle with the lighting and the camera ride back and forth. The cameraman is about the only one who gets to sit down—except, in this instance, Prince Peter of Greece, the technical advisor. Prince Peter has built himself a kind of indoor tent, and the inside is away from the thronging hordes.

"SILENCE!" These people get up in the dirty down and stagger home beat at night, with their faces smudged and their hair scraggly, wanting nothing so much as a drink, bath and a bed. Then they go out again to stand around in a vast, gloomy cave full of ersatz archeology and obscene technical notions and wistful extras, waiting technicians and specialists who do nothing but shout, "Quiet!" "Silence!"

Spain is here for the visiting Greeks and Americans to see, but all they see is the Sevilla Studios, until they pick up and wander off to such places as Se-

govia, Mazanarres and Malaga, where they'll at least be out-of-doors, but working to less bitterly and in the dust, as well.

This may be the most ambitious of the wide-screen epics to come down the pink so far, since Rossen plans to conquer it more thoroughly and in sequence, and he proposes to do it in five months. This even beats Alexander's record for swift conquest. By the time they finish shooting the battle scenes, Rossen will have enough men and military experience to qualify for NATO.

LOGISTICS. One of the staggering things about an undertaking of this size is its logistics and the preparation for winding up with four or five cast members. We are asked to day's shooting, Rossen has spent five years of preparation—three of research all over the globe, and two in writing the screen play. There are more technicians than extras, and Lord knows that the time they finish signed up to tote a spear.

Rabbits will be born, weddings will be held, divorces will result, old friendships will shatter, list fights will take place and someone will get stepped on by a horse. The time they finish shooting, Rossen will have enough men and military experience to qualify for NATO.

Somehow I naively thought that movies just got born, like life. We are asked to pray for peace, but we must first have peace with God. There is one thing though, if the Russians attack they will not find us unprepared. We got a powerful lot of horses, helmets, and sharp sticks, and if Alexander should conquer it, then Bob Rossen's got his conquest bagged.

People's Platform

Start Housecleaning In City Government

Editors: The News. As a taxpayer and citizen of this fair city of Charlotte, I want to know the answer to a question that must be in the minds of most of the people in our city. How can we expect to rid this world of communism, that no wars, and other things plague our world today if we do not start right here at home.

Mr. Speaker, long after Paul Douglas has returned to the vile dust from whence he sprang, my land and my people will continue to hold the great promise it now has. We will continue to progress despite those who, like Paul Douglas, would remake us and our land. Despite the political decisions of the Supreme Court, the executive orders of Presidents, and the unconstitutional acts of the Congress of the United States, despite all these, the land of the magnolia, the honeysuckle, the camellia, and the warm and genuine hospitality will continue to attract all Americans.

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Now, there are many things that are being printed in our newspapers that fail to look like a nation wanting peace. We are asked to pray for peace, but we must first have peace with God.

One of our President has joined the "Back to God Campaign." That is the only solution to the problem.

As long as prejudice exists between the black man and the white man and the red man there will be wars.

Jesus came to bring peace and good will, but instead of good will the hearts are full of hate. The white man hates the black man because he is black, the black man hates the white man because he knows the white man hates him.

God is not pleased with such love. God has no favorites. The white man is no more in the sight of God than the black man.

I am sure the white man will have to admit that there is just as much evil committed among the whites as there is among the blacks. The whites may sneer and think that the purpose of the black man is to mix the race, but we are already a mixed race and the white man is not in slavery time, when our Negro women could not help themselves.

Now we are coming to the plan of God, whom we know is the Father of all. He sent his son into the world to save men.

Now, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." He is talking to the poor man, the rich man, the white man, and the black man. The word of God says: "If a man says he loves God and hates his brother, he is a liar."

The brotherhood of man takes in all races. Now, if I fail to love each other, our hearts are black with sin. So is the sinful heart that will be damned and not the color.

The word of God says: "Love not in word and tongue but in deed and truth." To do this you love your brother and you love your brother you don't love God. The love of God will not let you set poor people in the street.

The word of God says: "If you see your brother in need and shut up the bowels of compassion against him, how does the love of God in us?"

Now, God has but one way to Heaven and Jesus said, "If a man climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber." To the rich man, if you don't love your brother, you are a thief and a robber.

Let me say to Charlotte, "Go back to God."

—MRS. G. COCHRANE

The Only Solution: 'Go Back To God'

Editors: The News.

[THIS letter is to all who are concerned about the condition of our country and our city.

Charlotte

Let me say to Charlotte, "Go back to God."

—MRS. G. COCHRANE

Rayburn's Tax Cut Has GOP Frantic

Among others, Kennon called Gov. Phil Donnelly of Missouri, a Democrat, who did not bolt to Ike, asked him to work on the Missouri delegation.

His words fell on barren ground. Gov. Donnelly did not exert himself. No votes were changed among the Missouri representatives in Congress.

Sam's Trump Card

Reason for White House consternation over the \$20 tax reduction is because of two trump cards in Sam Rayburn's hands.

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Rayburn has tackled his \$20 tax reduction, will expire April 30 until Ike gets some action. And he wants action badly. He needs to have that bill renewed so badly that he can't very well veto it.

Rayburn's tax reduction is in the bill. For the bill contains wartime excise-profit taxes and corporation taxes.

Is Ike Hooked?

So if Rayburn's amendment stays on, Ike is hooked. If he vetoes, he may not have a tax bill at all.

That's why Sherman Adams is working the long-distance phone overtime to try to switch votes in Congress.

During the first weeks of Eisenhower's term in 1953, he enjoyed excellent personal relations with Sam Rayburn, at that time denoted as Joe Martin Speaker of the House. But one day,

when the Eisenhower budget went to Congress, Ike went out of his way to slap Democratic failure to balance the budget.

Rayburn's Dare

Whereupon, Rayburn made one of his infrequent speeches. He took off the gloves and blasted Eisenhower for sending that kind of critical message. And he dared Eisenhower to balance the budget—which so far has not been done.

That afternoon, Rayburn got a call from the White House asking him to breakfast next morning with the President. Eisenhower opened the breakfast by saying:

"Sam, I thought you were a friend of mine."

Rayburn replied that he was, but that in the American system of government, loyalty to your party was more important than friendship, and he was not going to let the Democratic Party be unfairly criticized.