THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Polio: Remembrance Of Things Past

AT FIRST, the hush was unearthly. Disease had come on cat-feet, mutely, without warning.

Then, like some poisonous fog, infantile paralysis settled over North Carolina in 1948.

In hard-hit areas like Greensboro—bull's-eye of the worst epidemic of polio in Tar Heel history—the live coals of fear glowed in the hearts of thousands of parents, glowed with spectral brightness.

Child after child was struck down by the invading virus. Tiny muscles seemed to disintegrate before the eyes, lungs collapsed, hearts stopped beating.

In some counties there were so many casualties that there was no longer any place to put them. Guilford, in 60 days, raised $311,000 to erect an emergency hospital to serve the Piedmont.

By what chemistry fear can be converted into energy and resourcefulness and courage, no one can explain. This is part of the mystic science of the human soul. But North Carolinians, energetic and resourceful and courageous, weathered the polio storm in 1948. They have weathered lighter outbreaks since.

Nobody, however, who went through the 1948 epidemic will forget it. Such memories are not easily erased.

So it was that yesterday's dramatic announcement of the success of the Salk polio vaccine had special significance for Tar Heels.

It held out, at last, the promise of victory over a foe that had preyed mercilessly upon countless North Carolina families.

It meant that the terror of 1948 need not be duplicated—ever.

To people all over the globe, it was an announcement of historic proportions. Medical science has again produced a modern miracle. Someday, in the perspective of history, the Salk vaccine may rank with such discoveries and achievements as the diphtheria antitoxin (1894), raduim (1898), insulin (1922), cortisone (1936) and cortisone synthesis (1946), penicillin (1929 and 1945).

The difference, of course, is that work on the Salk vaccine will continue. It has been found 80 to 90 per cent effective in preventing paralytic polio in tests. Dr. James E. Salk feels that it is potentially almost 100 per cent effective.

Even some of the well established vaccines against diseases—such as smallpox—are not 100 per cent effective.

With the confirmation of results given at last, vaccination should, of course, be general among children.

Immunization shots will begin in Charlotte and Mecklenburg schools for first and second graders on April 25. Drug distributors, meanwhile, report that there will be plenty of the vaccine available to take care of other children within the next six to eight weeks. This too is good news for Charlotteans.

But the good news about Dr. Salk's vaccine has broader significance. Its impact is not confined to those who know and fear polio. As a milestone in medical history it automatically spreads new hope and confidence to all of mankind's sufferers—hope and confidence that science's men in white will soon be able to conquer other terrible diseases as well. With the help of God, they will.

Anguished Cries From The Wings

LISTENING to the doom-and-gloom opposition to a state minimum wage law, unsophisticated spectators might gather that Tar Heel industry is teetering on the brink of disaster.

Nothing of the sort is true.

North Carolina is actually experiencing tremendous growth in wealth and productive power.

Yet lobbyists are resorting to the same old anguished cries that were first heard around Washington in 1937 when Franklin D. Roosevelt said:

> A self-supporting and self-respecting democracy can plead no justification . . . for chiseling workers' wages or stretching workers' hours . . . Our problem is to work out in practice those labor standards which will permit the maximum but prudent employment of our human resources to bring within reach of the average man and woman a maximum of the goods and services conducive to the fulfillment of the promise of American life.

Congress responded to these words a year later with the Wage and Hour Act. "This means bankruptcy, price rises, unemployment, shutdowns," warned the voices of doom.

It didn't.

But the same sort of arguments have been heard every time the national minimum wage has been adjusted to America's expanding economy.

The identical arguments are being heard in Raleigh today—where protection is being sought for workers not engaged in interstate commerce and thus not covered by the federal law.

The proposed 55-cent minimum wage is a modest request. It would amount to but $22 a week. This is little enough protection to ask.

After all, the vast majority of Tar Heel workers and their bosses have been living contentedly under a federal minimum wage law for about two decades. The principle of a minimum wage law is well established. It is not "socialism," as some of its Tar Heel critics call it.

The human needs of North Carolina's lowest paid families should spur the General Assembly to action. Surely every moral and fiscal consideration—whether it be compassion for underpaid workers or the stimulation of the state's economy—cries out for passage of the present bill.

A Double-Action Cure Is Needed

WITH the air of a Borgia guest spurning a poisoned cup, Charlotte Merchants Association rejected Traffic Engineer Herman Hoose's plan for peak-hour parking bans on Trade and Tryon Sts. Directors voted unanimously yesterday to oppose the proposal.

It means simply that with no support from this powerful segment of Charlotte's business community, there is little chance that the plan will get beyond the blueprint stage—at least for awhile.

Certainly, the parking ban would speed up traffic. One could hardly deny this fact. But in easing one problem, it would probably irritate another. Charlotte's parking woes would be more serious than ever.

Traffic and parking are companion problems. They must be attacked together. If streets are to be cleared of parked cars at peak hours, some other place must be found for the cars. This place must not be far away on the other side of the city either. It must be close by, convenient to stores and eating establishments in midtown.

Obviously, the first chore is to create additional off-street parking facilities in midtown. When this is done, the city can begin talking about curtailing on-street parking.

From The Raleigh News & Observer

AN OLD QUESTION RAISED

THE enlistment of the legislature in their efforts to get Stonewall Jackson into the Hall of Fame of New York University raises an old question: What is fame?

Neither the Confederacy nor its Daughters can complain too much about the Hall of Fame since Robert Edward Lee, along with Ulysses Simpson Grant, was included in the first group of famous Americans selected in 1904. It is true, however, that William Tecumseh Sherman was admitted in 1905, and Thomas Jonathan Jackson's supporters have been knocking unsuccessfully on the door ever since.

The interesting thing about the Hall of Fame is not the universally famed who are included but some of those whose fame is at least not universal who are in there too. North Carolina school children and their elders may be a little surprised to find among the 83 most famous Americans recognized by the Hall of Fame the following:

William Ellery Channing, Peter Cooper, Asa Gray, James Kent, George Peabody, Joseph Story, Mary Lyon, Maria Mitchell, Emma Willard, Charlotte Saunders Cushman, Mark Hopkins, Rufus Choate, Joseph Henry, John Lothrop Motley, Alice Freeman Palmer, James Buchanan Eads, William Thomas Green Morton, Simon Newcomb, and Josiah Willard Gibbs.

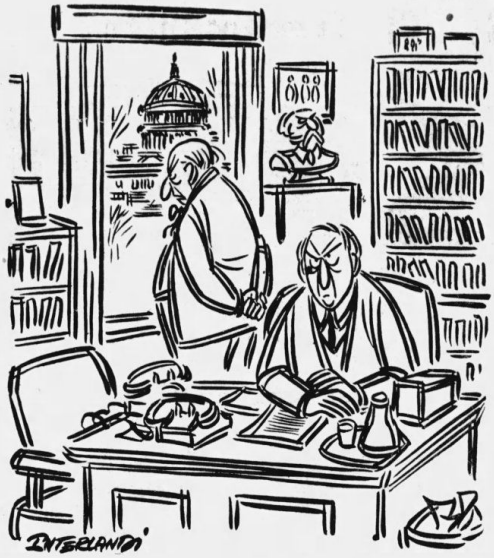
Even some members of the UDC may be surprised to note that the other Confederate leader listed with Lee is not Jackson, but Matthew Fontaine Maury. And some UDCs might be a little reluctant about pushing Jackson for membership in a club which has included Harriet Beecher Stowe since 1910. From the South Sidney Lanier is in, but John C. Calhoun is still outside. Booker T. Washington's name was added to the list in 1945. Only 11 Presidents, from Washington through Wilson, have so far been added to the list. North Carolinians may be particularly interested to note that of the three presidents whose nativity it claims, Andrew Jackson has made it but James K. Polk and Andrew Johnson are still left out.

Appealing for copyrights on jokes, gagwriters are protesting to Congress that television is stealing jokes that they (the gag manufacturers) have created. The complaint would have more force were it not coupled with the statement that the gagsters spend "toil, sweat and tears" to create jokes—a direct steal from Winston Churchill if we ever heard one.—SHELBY STAR.

A local furniture store displays this sign: "Two kinds of family are likely to have a house full of antique furniture; the kind with money and the kind with kids."—HIGH POINT ENTERPRISE.

One of the great mysteries of life is how the boy who wasn't good enough to marry the daughter, can be the father of the smartest grandchild in the world.

—MATTOON (ILL.) JOURNAL-GAZETTE.



"It's my view, senator, that with a bigger highway program, and an inadequate educational program, we'll just have. . . . faster 'dumb-drivers' . . ."

People's Platform

Report Card Ballots Unfair

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

HOW gullible can we parents be? Are we to let the public school administration slip a "Russian type" ballot over on us in the report card controversy? Yet isn't that just what's happening?

The "questionnaire" brought home from Midwood School by my child a couple of weeks ago offered only a one-name ballot. All it said was, "Would we accept the compromise report card?—Comments:" Now, how could a questionnaire be any more loaded? In other words, we could vote for their compromise or nothing. That's what voting is like in Russia!

Let's face it: The school administration doesn't dare have a fair vote on the issue that by now must be clear to all, namely, which do we parents want of these three reporting methods:

1) A, B, C, D.
2) Compromise.
3) Unsatisfactory and satisfactory.

And let us not think we are only talking of report cards. The real issue is the unwillingness of our public school administration to keep competition-between-pupils in our grade schools.

—HOWARD SNOW

(Editors' Note: At a meeting yesterday, a citywide committee of parents and teachers adopted the compromise report card plan. School officials announced that parents voted 7,731 for and 1,065 against the proposal.)

U. S. Postal Workers Need A Raise Too

Huntersville

Editors, The News:

SINCE you always print Summerfield's and Ike's anti-postal clerk salary views verbatim, I thought you might like to hear the other side for a change. We would welcome a 7½ per cent raise but not tied to reclassification as Summerfield wants it. Besides, clerks would only get about 6 per cent while the supervisors would get about 12 per cent, bringing the average up and making us seem greedy. If you will study HR 4644, which was defeated in a rush-through attempt, you will understand our objections to a degrading reclassification such as is contained therein.

Ike was only too happy to sign the raise for Congress, which amounts (the raise alone) to twice our annual top salary. Congress does not provide revenue for its own support, so that objection should not be valid in arguing against a postal pay raise.

Also, heretofore postal clerks have always been lumped with other government employes in pay legislation and have had to help put their cause over when they are already much higher paid than we. It is happening again now.

As a veteran of both World War II and Korea (both times a volunteer) I can understand the merits of a raise for the armed forces, even though I was subjected to some considerable kidding about my low postal pay during my Korean hitch. The armed forces, regardless of your statements, got a raise in 1952, while the last postal pay raise was in 1951. Fringe benefits cut out during the last part of Truman's administration, and the early part of Ike's, caused more drops in reenlistments than pay. Pay already was fairly good. You show only base pay but the other is just as much a part regardless of what it is called. Commisaries and medical care for dependents, which had been reduced, were the real needs for the armed forces.

I think postal clerks, who get no allotments, commissaries, flight pay or other allowances, are entitled to enough pay to live without having to work parttime at other jobs or having wives work.

Now that you have heard our side, please try to be a little more impartial in your news reports and don't make us seem so bad. Please withhold my name to avoid reprisals.

—NAME WITHHELD

Knowland's Defection Jumbles The Rules

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

MODERN democratic government representative of the people and controlled by a majority of the electorate in the election of a president embodies the policies he stand for and advocates. In theory, and so far in our political history in fact, the leader of the party of the president in the popular house of Congress is in accord with and is the champion of the policies of the administration. That is inherent in our form of popular rule. In no other way could the policies of a party be presented. The president and the policies he advocates represent his party or otherwise he could not have been nominated or elected, and the leader of the administration party in the popular house of Congress simply stands as the leader and supporter of party policy, which is, according to all the rules of politics and government, administration policy.

I know of only one instance where the leader of the popular house disagreed with the policy or measures of the administration and that was under Roosevelt. The Democratic leader at that time was Mr. Barkley, of Kentucky, and he immediately resigned.

It is a strange quirk that Mr. Knowland the Senate Republican leader should disagree with administration war policy (if there is any) and lunge out upon a policy of his own, but Mr. Knowland is reputed to have Chinese constituents who are in sympathy with Chiank Kai-shek. Is it possible that Mr. Eisenhower does not realize the puzzlement among the people; the division that is building up in the Republican Party, the national political situatio. ifording the spectacle of the administration without a policy, the Republican leader with his own policy and the only definite pronouncement coming from a Democratic senator?

—HOYT EAVES

U. S. Constitution Can Always Be Amended

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

WHY WORRY about integration? From all that I read, I believe there is entirely too much worrying by the white and colored people over the Supreme Court's ruling on the end of school segregation in the South.

All of us should stay calm and keep in mind that a court order, just like a law, is good only as far as it can be enforced. I believe that the justices of the Supreme Court realize this when they think of the miserable failure made to enforce the 18th Amendment to the constitution of the United States.

I believe that the court realizes that its order to end segregation will come only in a complete manner when the white and colored people as a majority want it that way.

As it is, I do not believe that the intelligent and respectful people of either race want full and complete integration of the races now or ever. The ones who advocate the immediate ending of segregation are the so-called social reformers, crackpots and the class that was once known to the South as "carpet baggers," because they stand for the same thing their ancestors stood for after the Civil War.

Let us all stay calm during the trying days ahead and keep in mind that there also remains the possibility of the 14th amendment going in much the same manner that the 18th Amendment went, if the majority of the people find that they do not want it enforced.

Remember that Congress still has the power over both the Supreme Court and the President and that we the people have the power over Congress by our votes on election day. So why worry? If integration will not work then Congress will have to do something about it or else answer to the voters for not doing it.

—RALPH CONNELLY

A Fiscal Furor

Income Tax Limit?

Second In A Series

By WILLIAM D. HELM

WASHINGTON

TWENTY-SEVEN state legislatures have petitioned Congress to act toward placing a top limit of 25 per cent on the federal income tax.

What they've asked Congress to do is to submit to the states a proposed amendment to the constitution. The states then would decide if they want the 25 per cent limit. Ratification by three-fourths of the states within seven years would be necessary to write the directive into basic law.

Early next month a House judiciary subcommittee will hold hearings to get taxpayers' views as to whether such an amendment should be submitted.

MANY PETITIONS

The 27 states that have petitioned for submission of the amendment are:

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The population of those states is approximately 87 million.

In seven other states — California, Colorado, Maryland, New York, Ohio, South Carolina and Tennessee — one house of the legislature has adopted such a petition to Congress but the other house has not. Thus in those states action has been incomplete and the petition has not been sent to Congress.

The population of those states is approximately 45 million.

LONG ROAD

The 27 petitions extend over 16 years. Wyoming, the first state, sent its petition to Washington March 3, 1939. During the period the legislatures of some states later rescinded the earlier petition. Just how many took action to rescind is not known definitely at Washington. The overwhelming majority, however, did not rescind and their petitions are still before Congress.

Advocates of the limiting amendment claim that recision is open to question as to its validity; that once a state has petitioned it cannot withdraw any more than a state ratifying such an amendment as that giving women the right to vote can later rescind its ratification. Opponents think otherwise. The question doubtless will be threshed out at the forthcoming hearings.

PIGEON-HOLED

The long list of petitioning states acted because Congress itself over the 16-year period had been unwilling to submit such an amendment. A joint resolution to submit was introduced in the House of Representatives in 1939. Its sponsor was Congressman Emanuel Celler of New York who today heads the committee that soon is to hold hearings. This resolution and others in succeeding years were pigeonholed by Congress.

When it became clear the Congress had no intention of relinquishing its power to place unlimited taxes on incomes, the states desiring a limit took other steps. In Article V of the Constitution they found a way—a long and difficult road to travel—by which they thought they could force submission of the amendment.

Article V provides that when two-thirds of all the states petition Congress to submit a proposed amendment to the constitution, Congress must do so. Whether Congress wants to do so is beside the point; the constitution requires that it be done.

REP. EMMANUEL CELLER
He Was First

So long as there are 48 states, this provision means that 32—the necessary two-thirds—can compel Congress to submit the amendment. Should Hawaii be given statehood, the petitions of 33 states would be necessary. If Alaska, too, is made a state, 34 of the then 50 states would have to petition.

PIONEER PETITION

When Wyoming's pioneer petition was placed before the Congress the state's lone Congressman Horton made a speech in which he said:

"We of Wyoming believe that a man has a right to keep as his own a fair and equitable part of his earnings to take care of his family, to educate his children and to provide for their welfare after he is gone.

"We so truthfully believe these things that we want them safeguarded again under our constitution; hence this Memorial."

Congress at that time, as now, was spending a great deal more money than the Treasury was taking in. Horton's speech went unnoticed at Washington. In the hinterland, however, other states began to follow Wyoming's example. The second World War and the government's need for financing it diverted attention from the proposed amendment, yet by midsummer of 1943 15 states had petitioned Congress.

RISING TIDE

Soon after the war ended opponents of the limiting amendment, in Congress and out, became concerned and acted to prevent other state legislatures from petitioning. They succeeded in doing so in some cases and in others were successful in having legislatures rescind their earlier petitions. Notwithstanding, the move was popular and other states petitioned until the total reached 27.

Meanwhile nationwide polls in 1950, 1951 and 1952 taken by Gallup pollsters showed a rising tide of approval for the amendment, from 59 per cent of those interviewed in the first year to 71 per cent in the last.

That is where the matter stands today. All of which, with arguments for and against submission of the amendment, doubtless will be placed before the congressional group in hearings next month.

Precision And Variety

The Born Traveler

By GEORGE SANTAYANA

In 'My Host The World'

IN SPITE of my longings for unexampled things, I have always been a realist about the facts and suspicious of all desiderata and utopias. Your sanguine man who sets forth enthusiastically for El Dorado nurses a secret passion for the happy home. For that reason he is restless in his accidental lodgings and risks everything in the hope of discovering other lodgings where he could enjoy forever an unclouded happiness. The born traveler, on the contrary, is not pining for a better cage. If ever he got to heaven, or the next day he would discover its boundaries, and on the third day he would make a little raid beyond them.

Imagination is potentially infinite. Though actually we are limited to the types of experience for which we possess organs, those organs are somewhat plastic. Opportunity will change their scope and even their center. The free spirit in us knows that whatsoever may be offered to it is but a reversible accident, and though we are compelled to be absorbed ignominiously in such accidents, yet the interesting side of those accidents for the intellect is only their character and their reversibility. The precision and variety of alien things fascinate the traveler. He is aware that however much he may have seen, more and greater things remain to be explored, at least ideally, and he need never cease traveling, if he has a critical mind.

Quote, Unquote

At a party several young couples were discussing the difficulties of family budgets.

Young wife — I really don't want an awful lot of money. I just wish we could afford to live the way we are living now.—Greeneville (Tenn.) Sun.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Dulles Is Scared Sick By Congressmen

WASHINGTON

THE firing of Ed Corsi as assistant to Secretary Dulles on immigration shows two significant straws-in-the-wind in Washington. They are:

Straw No. 1—Tom Dewey, for two years the closest man to Ike, is no longer close. Dewey put his old campaign manager, Herb Brownell in the Cabinet; his press relations man, Jim Hagerty, on the White House staff; another associate, Tom Stevens, on the White House staff; and a partner in his prospective law firm, John Harlan, on the Supreme Court.

But Ed Corsi, who was in Dewey's cabinet as industrial commissioner for ten years, got fired.

Straw No. 2—Dulles is still letting congressmen dictate his foreign policy. He doesn't call the tune himself.

During Dulles' first two years in the State Department he listened attentively to the threats of Senator McCarthy. If McCarthy even whispered, Dulles bowed. McCarthy is hoarse today and few people are listening, but Dulles is still bowing to congressmen.

In Corsi's case it was Congressman Francis Walter, Democrat of Easton, Pa., with an indirect assist from Senator McCarthy's pal, Scott McLeod. To appease McCarthy, Dulles two years ago put McLeod in charge of security and immigration. Three months ago Corsi was appointed over McLeod's head. And it was a neat double-play—a smear leak from McLeod to Walter—that got Corsi fired.

Dulles Trembles

Corsi is no fly-by-night Republican. Coming to this country at the age of 10, he served as commissioner of immigration under Herbert Hoover, ran as GOP candidate for mayor of New York, is one of New York's leading citizens. He does not deserve to be sacrificed.

Much more important than Corsi, however, is the principle—the Dulles policy of bowing to congressmen. Every time a congressman crooks a little finger, Dulles puts on an appeasement somersault.

Far more important than Corsi is the peace of the world. And what John Foster Dulles is doing is letting congressmen dominate foreign policy in such a way as to upset the peace of the world.

For when Anthony Eden proposed that England would guarantee us in Formosa if the U. S. would not guarantee Quemoy-Matsu, provided a plebiscite were held on Formosa, Dulles immediately ran up to Capitol Hill to ask Sen. William Knowland of California if he had any objections.

Dulles did not decide the Eden proposal on the basis of what was good for the American people and the peace of the world. He decided it on the basis of whether Senator Knowland would cause him trouble.

Senator Knowland did threaten trouble. He told Foster Dulles that if the British plebiscite idea was adopted, he, Knowland, would make a speech on the Senate floor denouncing it. He knew, as everyone in the Far East knows, that Formosans hate Chiang Kai-shek, that his executives shot 60,000 of them in one of the most bloody massacres since the war; and that any plebiscite would go overwhelmingly against him.

So the Eden plan, aimed at getting the U. S. off a hot spot which might precipitate World War III, was vetoed—all because the Eisenhower administration bows to congressmen who threaten trouble.