



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Sex Deviates: A Scientific Approach

THE longsmoldering controversy over the Charlotte's sexual deviates is blazing again. Latest to stir the embers is Superior Court Judge George B. Patton. During the trial of two men charged with attempted crime against nature, the Franklin jurist bluntly called the Queen City "a happy hunting ground" for sex pervers.

He added grimly: "You've got the worst situation in the middle of town than any town in North Carolina." Judge Patton then complained that the General Assembly, by failing to change its system of sending sex deviates to prison, "puts judges in a terrible position." Legislators, he said, "sort of winked at the situation."

Here the jurist reached the heart of the matter. What has to the public, become Charlotte's shame is in reality a statewide disgrace. It is the result of North Carolina's failure to give judges and law enforcement officers the tools to cope with a situation which haunts all large communities.

But the problems which are crying out for solution—problems of maladjustment, guidance and treatment—are so complicated that application has outrun knowledge.

There is a dangerous gap between science and the law. It is a gap that prevents one from making use of the

contributions the other has to offer. It is a gap that actually encourages the misunderstandings that have bedeviled their relations for so long.

There are no easy solutions.

The General Assembly cannot simply pass a law calling for the treatment of sex offenders in mental institutions when there is no room for them there and there are no doctors to treat them.

Obviously, legal remedies require a little more thought, a little more planning. We have serious doubts, too, whether politicians, policemen and even judges are adequately equipped to prescribe a cure for this serious social problem. They possess neither the necessary scientific data, the professional training nor the extended experience in a highly specialized field.

Certainly, North Carolina must come up with a better system of coping with the problem of sex deviates. But the new system should be devised with the aid and advice of trained psychiatrists, psychologists and sociologists.

This kind of professional advice is expensive. The treatment facilities and techniques they will recommend will undoubtedly be expensive too. But with the good of the community involved and so much human happiness at stake, such a program would be well worth the investment.

Sound, Fury & The Report Card Issue

"COMMUNISTIC," "Realistic," "Stupid" and "Sensible."

These are just a few of the spirited epithets tossed around in the wrangle over report cards for Charlotte's school children.

After a great deal of fuss and ferment, the issue is finally on its way to the City School Board for solution.

The decision to discuss the matter "at the summit" is a wise one. Decisions on the lower level simply have not settled the issue in the minds of most parents and school patrons. The time has come for a clear answer to the report card riddle—an answer that will turn the matter away once and for all.

There has been a great deal of crit-

icism of the city school system's administration during the past few weeks. This sort of lively controversy is not unfortunate at all. It at least indicates a lively interest in public education.

But we must remind some of the administration's harsher critics of two things.

Fair, intelligent, constructive criticism can stimulate wide interest in educational problems and arouse people to find the solutions to these problems and improve the schools. But unjust, derogatory criticism can do irreparable harm by undermining the morale of teachers and administrators at a time when they are struggling with problems of tremendous scope and complexity.

America's Reflexes: Necessarily Fast

THE speed and efficiency with which Tar Heel National Guardsmen responded to last night's nationwide alert was reassuring. But the event not only tested the Guard's reflexes. It brought into sharp focus the vital role these citizen soldiers play in America's defense establishment.

National Guardsmen, along with reserve components of the Army, Air Force and Navy, represent the backbone of the nation's Army. And military might. No matter how many H-bombs the United States gathers in secret stockpiles, and no matter how many guided missiles are stored in our arsenals, the difference between triumph and defeat in any future conflict will rest largely in the hands of young men such as those who rushed to emergency posts last night in Charlotte.

The value of a trained, ready reserve force has been proven time and time again in the past. Despite the wonders of push-button defense, such a force may mean even more in the future. This important reservoir of manpower must never be the subject of neglect.

The area Americans live in today cannot properly be called "peace." In reality, it is an armed truce—one which very likely will last a long time. This will mean continued national preparedness on a national level.

But even a nation as prosperous as the United States cannot afford the luxury of a military force of wartime proportions on continuous active duty. For one thing, public sentiment would not tolerate it. By necessity then, the nation must depend on a relatively modest standing force and a tremendous reservoir of citizen-reserves. It is a system President George Washington endorsed in the earliest days of the republic. It is a system the nation must continue to support today.

Survival in what President Eisenhower calls the "age of peril" will depend upon how quickly a nation can girdle itself for combat. The United States can measure its preparedness in the number of trained, patriotic men who can be instantly mobilized to protect liberty in the same spirit of their ancestors at Lexington and Concord.

For Old Faithful, Rest In Peace

WITHOUT an audible whimper, proposed 1955 legislation for a statewide income referendum went to its death in the House Local Government Committee yesterday. No desk-pounding or arm-waving oratory marred the dignity of the event. No one rose to predict the end of the world unless North Carolina goes bonedry.

Earlier, Gov. Luther Hodges did his duty by recommending a statewide vote. It is part of the chorus all chief executives sing. Mr. Hodges wrapped up the matter in 64 carefully chosen words in his biennial message—after recommending, rather significantly, a 1 1/2 per cent boost in state taxes on "the sale of

spirituous liquors." Missing too this year were the great words of people who usually descend on Raleigh at hearing time to air their fears and doubts and forecasts of doom.

Even when the coup de grace was delivered in committee—by a motion for unfavorable report—there was only a scattering of "noes."

The record indicates, we think, a softening of the dry bloc's traditional militancy. We hope it means too that more and more Tar Heels are coming to realize that liquor taxes are not the answer to the state's financial problems.

It was conducted on the county level—no higher and no lower in the governmental structure.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal

FEMALE FORM: DIVINE OR DIOR?

WOULD you like to know what women are going to look like during the upcoming season? Here is the word from Dior, that Marlin for the fashion world, the wave of whose hand places millions of hips, bosoms and hemlines just where he wants them.

"The stress will be on active, mobile line, based on a silhouette subjected to rigorous laws of geometry, but escaping to a springtime full of sunshine and light."

Want some more? Well, Heim announced that "the silhouette, though controlled, will be unbound." Faith plumps for "v femininity," a voluptuous note for sure. Patou and Chanel agree on "an unimpaired bosom." But it remains for Lucie Noel, who writes fashions for the Paris edition of the New York Herald Tribune, to give us a flat-footed declaration. "Generally," she pronounces, "the

waist will be where nature placed it."

What's the matter, Mr. Dior and pals? Sure, you are going to let nature's own design for the female form get the better of chic modern planning?

He is described as a cynic when he is quoted as saying, "Political economy are two words that ought to be divorced from incompatibility." But was he a cynic? He is a lot like a realist—OKLAHOMA CITY OKLAHOMAN.

A school principal says it isn't right for parents to do children's homework for them. We don't. Can't—GREENVILLE (S.C.) PIEDMONT.

A woman will try on any number of shoes before she's finally dissatisfied.—CARLESDAD (N.M.) CURRENT-ARCUS.

'See Anybody Coming Yet?'



Classic Strategy

Red Appeasement In Austria

By WALTER LIPPMANN

NEW YORK

SINCE the Soviet government

has announced its decision to

reappraise its position in

Europe, it is not surprising

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People's Platform

The Goal Must Be Equal Opportunities

Lincolnton

Editor, The News:

IT IS GOOD to see the freedom

of expression that you permit

in your People's Platform

Freedom to speak frankly and

openly is an essential part of our

life, the attempts to thwart it or

deny it should be vigorously op-

posed.

It has been interesting to read

the various letters written in this

column concerning the extension

of the rights and privileges of our

society to all of its citizens. It is

disturbing to read the attitudes

of some men have toward their

fellows citizens; at the same time,

it is encouraging to read a letter

such as that written by Miss Har-

riet Door (News, April 16). Miss

Door put into words what many

North Carolinians have been

thinking, but have not been say-

ing very often. We pride ourselves

on our progress despite the fact

that we are 4th in per capita

income, we point to advances

in our various practices in the

field of human relations, no

wonder that some become

alarmed when state officials in

quoted documents (City-Gen Mc-

Mullen's brief) and in addresses

Atty. Gen. I. Beverly Lake, be-

fore Supreme Court give the im-

pression that North Carolina is

inhabited by persons who have

not fully recovered from the

Dark Ages.

AFRAID OF FREEDOM?

The extension of our privileges

and opportunities in this free

society to every member of the

community is such a basic and

desirable thing that one is sur-

prised that so much opposition is

raised to it. Are we afraid of

freedom? Are we afraid of the

free association of people? Noth-

ing is to be gained by our con-

tinued practice of segregation and

other forms of discrimination

minority groups in our

midst. We can achieve our full

status as free-living and

promoting people only when

freedom has equal opportuni-

ties in education, employment,

housing, recreation, and health

care. The opportunities can

be realized under any form

of segregation.

The recognition of segregation

as a sin against God and the

humanity is essential to our for-

givenness and redemption. Our

Christian religion consists of co-

operating with our fellow men

in the work of redemption. Seg-

regation is one of the most

obnoxious and destructive ex-