

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE

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Lineberry Kept Politics Out

STANHOPE LINEBERRY will soon put away his badge as chief of the Mecklenburg County police.

He has run a clean department. The citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County—law-abiding and otherwise—know it. Free of politics from the chief to the newest patrolman, the department today is one of the most respected in the nation.

Chief Lineberry has done what few police chiefs have managed to do. Not only has the force been out of the reach of the politicians but in his almost 16

years as head of the force, neither he nor his men have been accused of a serious offense. Doing their job as good policemen, they have been free from the criticisms that usually go with law enforcement work.

Added to his strong sense of duty, Chief Lineberry is favored with an inborn charm that doubtless has made his tasks easier.

In Chief Lineberry's resignation, the community and law enforcement generally have suffered a loss.

Practice: The Heart Of Civil Defense

AS long as the backbone of Civil Defense is composed of paper charts and warning words, it will be largely meaningless.

It is tests like the one being planned locally and the one executed last week in Washington and many other cities that offer some hope of survival in event of atomic attack.

It is heartening that official Washington recognized this fact in going through with Operation Alert last week. For the first time, CD received the dramatic emphasis that it needs and for the first time the heads of the federal government fully faced the anarchy implicit in atomic warfare. In sum, the administration practiced a disaster plan, and practice is the heart of Civil Defense.

Planning must, of course, precede practice. But planning cannot be wholly realistic without actual experience in "dry runs" such as Operation Alert and the projected Operation Zero here.

The national test underscored a fact that everybody knows and very few, certainly not including Congress, have done anything about, namely, most American communities simply would be helpless in an attack. Their own ignorance of what to do would be one more weapon against

them, added to the lack of food, shelter, medicine and sanitation and the invisible threat of radiation fallout.

Congress ought to pay more attention to CD. It should not be proud of its record of cutting every CD fund request it has received since 1951. It should provide the tools for attaining, through education and practice, every town and city in the nation to the reality of atomic warfare.

Meantime, Charlotte is fortunate to be able to face the disruption that inevitably will occur on the test day. Charlotte-Mecklenburg County CD Director Charles E. Cullen estimates 50,000 people will be moved out of the downtown area during the test. There are to be hauled by rail and road to points at least 15 miles from the Square.

The exercise will cause a lot of inconvenience and confusion, but that will only add to the hard experience that will come out of the exercise.

The CD organization should have all the support it needs from the city and the county governments and from citizens.

And if, as we devoutly hope, all the time, money, and work is spent against an attack that never comes—well, that will be wonderful, indeed.

Censorship Rears Its Ugly Head

THE urge to purge is back. Inspired perhaps by Sen. Kefauver's well-publicized junket to Hollywood, some North Carolina communities are reviving the movie censorship issue. In Greensboro, for instance, a dispute has been raging over Blackboard JUNKIES and a five-man "Board of Public Amusement" finally had to decide whether Greensboro ought to be allowed to see it. They passed it. The same film is stirring interest among keepers of the shears in other sections.

BLACKBOARD JUNKIES has recently completed a long run in Charlotte. It is a rather unpleasant case history of an idealistic teacher's efforts to tame juvenile hoodlums attending public school in a big U. S. It is rough stuff—certainly not for delicate eyes. When the blood-lusting is done with, the only "message" discernible is that schools probably ought to spend more of their time teaching good citizenship than those nasty old three R's.

We would not recommend the film for anyone with tender sensibilities—not anyone in search of a good hard lesson in the philosophy of education.

But neither would we recommend that it be banned.

Censorship is a dangerous thing to toy with—ever. Pornographic and obscene films are beyond the pale of toleration. There are laws to deal with this sort of thing and they should be enforced. But shifting the responsibility for taste and moral influence from the movie industry to police agents, on film for general release, is quite another thing. Recent attempts to do just this have too frequently become monuments to fear, hypocrisy, intolerance, ignorance, confusion and, as often as not, sheer stupidity.

This goes for literature as well as for movies. Book banning dates back to 337 B.C. In fact, Plato once suggested that Homer ought to be expurgated for "immoral readers." As late as 1954, Boccaccio's THE DECAMERON was ordered destroyed as "obscene" by a magistrate's court in England, although an appeal

court later reversed the decision. In Henry David Thoreau's home town of Concord, Mass., Mark Twain's THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN was banned by the public library. It was labeled "trash, suitable only for the slums."

Ann Lyon Haight's new edition of BLACKBOARD JUNKIES recounts one of the silliest manifestations of the age of the purge—a ruling established by the Post Office Dept. in 1931. ELMER GANTLEY had been banned in Boston. The publishers protested. Washington retaliated by "upholding" the ban.

The New York Post Office banned a catalog which merely listed the book. A Manhattan bookseller issued another catalog in 1944—listing 100 books selling at 49 cents—and again the Post Office refused to handle it unless two titles, CANNES and DOGS, STRONG, were blocked out.

As for the movies, the most disturbing examples of censorship have occurred in Memphis. It has long had a board set up to forbid the showing of films which are "injurious to the public safety, morale or welfare." On this ground, Memphis banned—until the State Supreme Court upset the ruling—CURLEY because it showed white and Negro children playing together. Likewise it scissored a night club sequence featuring Negro singer Lou Home in Danny Kaye's A SOLE LION.

Memphis has also banned Ingrid Bergman's SYMPHONY and Charlie Chaplin's CITY LIGHTS because censors disapproved of the private lives of the stars.

We agree with Jefferson that freedom is not merely for the good or the evil, it is freedom to be free. It ceases to be freedom when it becomes the reward of merit or of virtue or of benevolence. The assumption that a committee or an individual has the right to decide what others are to see, read or know borders on intolerance, to say the least. As William L. Cheney wrote recently, "Life in a free land has proved, in the long test, that Americans are fit to be free." Censorship is a strange weapon in the arsenal of democracy.

Ike Making GOP Happy

BY DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT EISENHOWER is making the Republicans very very happy this week. The reason: He is acting like a candidate for reelection.

During his one-day stay in San Francisco for the United Nations celebration he amiably consented to receive a group of party leaders at breakfast. Furthermore, he talked politics with them and impartially praised Californians Nixon, Knight and Knowland in the best candidate style.

Now he has taken off for a tour of New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont where he will make speeches, fish, dine on regional specialties and be generally agreeable to crowds of voting Americans. The journey is almost bound to be a success and no pains are being spared to make it so.

NOT CRITICAL

For one thing, this area does not too often see a president of the United States. His electoral votes are relatively few and it is normally so safely Republican, neither party pays much attention to it. Nor is there any reason to believe that it is critical of Eisenhower as President.

Normally the visit of a Republican President to Republican areas would not excite much comment. The relations of this particular President with his party are, however, far from normal. It is not alone that he was able to win a landslide victory that they have not since been able to duplicate nationally or locally. He and his cabinet and staff of businessmen are running the administration to suit themselves and the regular organization is on the outside looking in.

PARANOIA

The party has not been able to establish patronage channels to its satisfaction. GOP senators are usually told of important bills before the decision has been made. They have had to watch the President change the whole tone and direction of foreign policy and they are powerless to interfere lest he get mad and refuse to lead them again next year.

'You Know The Old Saying—No News Is Good News'



Atomic Weapons Dim Danger Of A New Pearl Harbor

By DELBERT LIPPMANN

NEW YORK

THOSE who make it their business to read Soviet newspapers have been hearing a new note lately. It is the note of a Soviet military expert, notably Mr. Harry Schwartz, who has been writing by some recent articles that Soviet military experts are running the administration to suit themselves and the regular organization is on the outside looking in.

It is even more odd that the subject of this public indoctrination should be the importance of surprising your opponent by not letting him have warning that you will attack him.

This is so paradoxical that I cannot help wondering whether these articles are not addressed to the civilian governing class and to the party hierarchy, as well as to the Col. Blimp of the Red Army. The general purport

of the articles is to tell the Russians that their ancient security—based on the vast bases of their country and the enormous masses of their soldiers—has been destroyed by the revolution in the military art. It is at least plausible that the progressive military men and the civilians who have understood the new warfare feel it necessary to reeducate the Soviet ruling class and what public there is that has to be taken into account publicly. They may well be training their audience in the second phase of the U.S.S.R. broke the monopoly of the weapons. In the second phase, which is not technological but psychological, the governing classes of the world have gradually realized that the military revolution has revolutionized also

the relations of the power with one another. The new weapons are something radically new—something altogether without precedent—in the military situation of the world, and they have now begun to revolutionize also the political relations of states.

THIRD PHASE

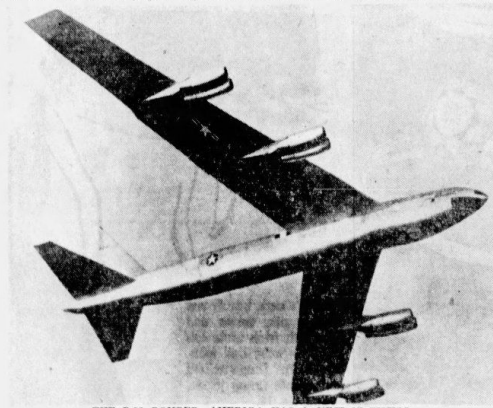
From the point of view of high policy we are now in the third phase of this epochal military revolution. In the first phase the U.S.S.R. had a monopoly of the weapons. In the second phase, which is not technological but psychological, the governing classes of the world have gradually realized that the military revolution has revolutionized also

the relations of the power with one another. The new weapons are something radically new—something altogether without precedent—in the military situation of the world, and they have now begun to revolutionize also the political relations of states.

TO BLOCK OPPOSITION

Whether or not it was the President's deliberate intention in authorizing Operation Alert at this time, the overall psychological effect is to destroy all serious opposition to the coming negotiations. The exercise demonstrated not only that there is now no passive defense in the form of shelter and evacuation, but that for the practical purposes there can never be such a defense. It is conceivable that the inhabitants of 61 cities could camp in the country for a few days in June. But the human mind boggles at what they would do for shelter in January, and at any time for water, food, fuel, and sewage disposal during the weeks and weeks on end while the cities were being decimated.

The lesson of Operation Alert is that when an attack on this scale becomes feasible, and it is now, the only course is to see to it that it never takes place. To this end the exercise which should be repeated again and again is the protection against sneak attacks of the bases and facilities of the strategic air force. Insofar as they are secure, there exists the most effective defense that it is possible to provide.



THE B-32 BOMBER, AMERICA HAS A NEST OF THEM. Why Has Moscow Suddenly Warned Russians Of What B-32 Can Do?

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
NOW that the GOP National Committee has given the resignation of Health Overta Culp Hobby and even picked her successor, it can't get the candidate lady to resign.

Her patient replacement, Marion Folsom, is waiting like a gentleman for her to make the first move. But she won't budge.

Though she originally threatened to resign over the Salk mix-up, she has exercised her feminine prerogative to change her mind and now seems determined to see the Salk battle through to the end.

Mrs. Hobby first spoke to the White House about resigning before the polio problem hit the headlines. She gave her husband's ill health as her excuse. Then she suddenly found herself in the middle of the Salk whirl.

After a Presidential scolding for her handling of the problem, she burned to get back to her home in Texas. Her advisers warned, however, that it would look bad for her to resign and make a hasty retreat.

But every time she opened her mouth, the politicians at GOP headquarters winced.

Mrs. Hobby Now Reluctant To Resign

"She blandly belittled the Salk problem when the papers were reporting children dying from bad vaccine," complained one Republican. "Now she associates those who are against socialized medicine with the whole Salk mess. Before you know it, she'll have people believing many a sensible medicine is a good thing."

Meanwhile, she is brushing off the polio suggestions from Republican headquarters that she ought to resign right away for her husband's sake.

Cheese Scandal

It hasn't been advertised as part of the GOP farm program, but Secretary of Agriculture Benson has been paying cheese subsidies not to the dairy farmers but to the cheese manufacturers.

This novel "farm support" program has enriched a few big producers, while the farmers have collected next to nothing.

Yet the whole idea of price supports is to help the farmers.

The great cheese scandal was uncovered by House investigators, who have been mousing around in the government's cheese. As an example of what has been going on, they reported in a confidential memo to the House Government Operations Committee:

"During March, 1954, the Commodity Credit Corporation purchased approxi-

mately 180 million pounds of cheese at 90 cents per pound. In April about 90 million pounds of this cheese was resold to the original manufacturers at 34 1/4 cents a pound. Thus the loss to the government on the purchase resale transaction was approximately \$2.5 million."

In other words, the cheese producers bought their own cheese back from the government and made nearly three cents per pound profit on the deal within a month. What's even more shocking, the producers' warehouses, as left the producers' warehouses. The whole transaction was carried out on paper, and the manufacturers collected their profit without moving a pound of cheese.

Like most other farm policies, the cheese program was adopted with a minimum of advice from farmers but after careful consultation with the cheese industry. In other words, this plan to enrich the cheese manufacturers came largely from the manufacturers. One of those consulted, for example, was Carl Berst, whose big Wisconsin cheese company promptly sold \$2,573,484 pounds of cheese to the government at the best it back for more than \$150,000 profit.

Ripe Profits

Borden and Kraft executives were also consulted in advance about the cheese

subsidy program. Afterward, investigators report, these two cheese giants together received a million dollars in one transaction.

For example, Kraft Foods sold 29,164,800 pounds of cheese to the government in March, 1954, then immediately contracted to buy it all back. Lakeshire Dairy Co. of Plymouth, Wis., a Borden subsidiary, pulled the same deal for 11,189,248 pounds of cheese. Oyster Kraft and Borden subsidiaries also turned a neat profit at the taxpayers' expense.

Still other companies that collected huge farm benefits include: W. S. Pope & Sons, Philadelphia; Paul Cheese Co., Green Bay, Wis.; L. D. Schreiber & Co., Carthage, Mo.; Land O' Lakes Creameries, Plymouth, Wis.; Central Cheese Co., Marshfield, Wis.; Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., Green Bay, Wis.; Superior Cheese Co., Green Bay, Wis.; and Tillamook County Creamery Assn., Tillamook, Ore.

For the one month alone, 108 companies sold and repurchased 86,639,277 pounds of cheese, and cost the taxpayers three cents and, incidentally, raised the price of cheese for the same taxpayers will have to pay more for their cheese at the corner grocery.

Sneaking Off On A Sly Trip

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW ORLEANS
ORDINARILY I am not allowed to visit New Orleans, because of its bad influence on me, but Mama let off in Spain or London or somewhere, and I reckon I can sneak in a sly visit if nobody calls on me.

The town never changes for me, unlike a lot of other things and places. When my pal Owen Brennan showed up at the airport to meet me, the same bartender, the same waiter, the same boy from the corner, the same old Brennan out of bed before 6 p.m. LEAN OUT.

The apartment over the Alsbine House is still there, and if I lean out the window and holler, somebody will fetch the breakfast coffee from across the street. Miss Ella Brennan, my chaperone, still scolds me for misconduct, and if there is any extra chaperone needed on the other side of Canal, Mr. Weiss will provide it in the Roosevelt or Cap O'Leary will furnish it in the St. Charles.

Mr. Hip Gunie, the gentleman from the Famous Door, is still doing things about the jazz business to make an old Bourbon Street man proud to know the difference. Apart from Teagarden, I think that Santo Pecora blows the coolest slush pump in the business. An English dame named Jerry Linn is singing behind him, and nobody has sung that level since Leo Wiley.

EGO SWELLS

New Orleans is still the most relaxed town I ever saw, and your ego swells when you walk up and down a certain boulevard and everybody on the street—bookies, doormen, cops, hotdog vendors, strippers going to work in the bump joints, shady ladies and panhandlers, give you the large hello and call you by name and say: "How long have you been home?" meaning New Orleans.

I don't know about Broadway, because I never saw anything in it but noise and crowds and fruit-stand stands, but New Orleans at night or early morning still has more glamour for me than all the Paris and Rome combined.