

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. E. DOWD, General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH, Executive Editor

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Urban Traffic: Slow Down The Trucks?

THE splintering crash of metal against metal that took the lives of two elderly Albemarle women on the streets of Charlotte Wednesday was bound to produce echoes in the community's conscience.

One example: THE PEOPLE'S PLATFORM letter to the right expressing deep concern about obstructions at busy intersections.

The matter is worth considering. But to our mind, another question presents itself. It concerns speed.

Thirty-five miles an hour may be a safe speed for passenger vehicles inside city limits but, at the same time, an excessive speed for a loaded truck.

We are in no way suggesting that the truck driver was at fault in this week's tragic accident. According to police reports, he was operating his vehicle properly within the limits of the law. In fact, testimony indicates that the car contained the two women pulled out in front of the on-coming truck.

But this truck was loaded with eight tons of crushed stone.

At 35 miles an hour—the approximate speed of the vehicles was, according to police, verified by skid marks—this load became a deadly coiled spring.

If the driver had been able to stop the truck on a dime he would probably have been buried in crushed stone—which would've stopped. Some may remember the old classroom formula: Linear momen-

tum equals the product of the mass and the velocity of the center of the mass.

There was a particularly ugly demonstration of this process in action several years ago when a truck carrying marble tombstones hit a hole in the road and collided with a bus. Momentum sent the marble hurtling ahead. It sheared off the cab of the truck, killing the driver and his companion instantly.

Truck drivers generally have a better safety record than the operators of private automobiles. Perhaps driving for a livelihood instills a sense of caution and promotes better driving habits.

But loaded trucks are potentially more dangerous than passenger cars because they are heavier and sturdier. When they collide with an unexpected barrier the result is seldom pleasant.

Furthermore, a person can be loafing along well within the speed limit and still have difficulty stopping.

Even at 20 miles per hour—five miles below the speed limit in force where Wednesday's accident occurred—a car needs 83 feet for stopping. This includes a distance of 33 feet for reaction time before the brakes are even applied and 50 feet after the brakes are applied.

State highways have a differential between truck and automobile speeds. True, there seems to be little enforcement of it at times. But a similar law on city streets would probably save a life or two. We urge consideration of such a measure.

Alas, No Beethovens Or Michelangelos

AMERICA may not be a hotbed of culture but it dearly loves to engage in verbal battles about what exactly constitutes culture.

For instance, a publicist has gone to a great deal of trouble and expense recently to advertise the viewpoint that "modernism in the arts is a deplorable thing." An effective counter-offensive has been mounted by poet Archibald MacLeish, president of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He not only defends "modernism" in the arts with glorious zeal but goes on to paint a highly romantic picture of the state of the arts in this democracy. Culture, he seems to be saying, lurks beneath every buttercup.

Again, it depends on what you mean by culture.

It may be true that the United States has more and better symphony orchestras than any other nation in the world. Certainly, America has the largest libraries, richest museums and some of the finest universities. Mass-circulation magazines do indeed feed the man in the street, occasional slices of Renaissance art and avant-garde poetry sandwiched between spongy bits of sex and sadism. Joyce and Plato are available in cheap paperback editions and Braque reproductions are on sale at the dime store.

But America still lacks a buoyant, free-spirited cultural life because it is still concerned principally with the organization and cataloging of art.

Unfortunately, most Americans do not seem to grasp the fact that art is essentially a creative process. No matter how long or how feverishly a country absorbs and catalogs art, it is not an artistic country until it produces art—or at least recognizes the value of creative activity.

Too many people who speak of America's ravenous appetite for culture conceal the interpretive artist with the creative artist. Here are two distinctly different fields. They must be separated in any true evaluation of a nation's cultural activities.

The fact is that America is perfectly willing to tolerate interpretive artists. At the same time, the country has little or no use for the creative artist.

Struggling painters, poets and composers are regarded as virtually useless members of society. If these creative artists persist in their lonely pursuits and fail to achieve financial success they are often ostracized by other members of the community.

Take the case of a young man who might suddenly tell his father that he has decided to be a painter. A prairie? Dad would more than likely be speechless with alarm. Finally, there would be a rather pointed campaign to get Junior to abandon this unmanly nonsense.

Yet in Europe it is not unusual to see a talented youngster aided and encouraged by his family for years and years for years while he struggles for artistic expression.

It's perfectly all right for a man to practice art for fun in his spare time. Churchill paints. So does President Eisenhower. No one thinks any less of them for it. But the individual who concentrates solely on spiritual values rather than material ones is never completely understood in America.

Small wonder that many of the nation's finest creative artists complain about a "lack of roots" and flee to Europe in a frantic search for identity.

The sad fact is that Americans seem to have little understanding of the importance of creative activity. They enjoy art as long as it is old and established and "accepted." But they ignore or minimize the problems of the continuing process of artistic creation. And then they turn right around and wonder why the United States is producing no new Beethovens and Michelangelos.

America must realize, as Gian-Carlo Menotti said several years ago, that a nation is directly responsible for preparing the kind of soil that will produce art. America's artistic soil needs a little watering.

Footnote To Toynebe: Go, Go, Go

LOUDEST laments for the poor old 20th century man have undoubtedly been registered by Arnold Toynebe. Life is just too soft, says the famed English historian. He argues that the deteriorating habits of easy living sap ambition, vigor, strength and power.

So, what happens? So, last Saturday in London's White City Stadium, Laszlo Tabort of Hungary ran the mile in 3:59 with two Britons.

Chris Chataway and Brian Hewson do it in 3:58 behind him.

Thirteen months ago there were no four minute miles on record. Now there have been seven under the magic figure. And all of a sudden the breakthroughs are coming in triplicate.

Man may be hurtling to his doom as the gloom merchants say—but not because he has lost his stamina. Even if doom is his destination, he is likely to cover the Last Mile in a snappy 3:55.

From The Greensboro Daily News

A MYTH IS AS GOOD AS A MILE

THE LYND, MASS., DAILY ITEM in an editorial entitled "The Diehard Myth" puts on its rose-colored glasses and opines:

"It's not all honey and roses and candied yams down below the Mason-Dixon line, so far as business enterprises are concerned.

The Item goes on to say that businessmen thinking of moving from New England had better beware of the siren song of southern chamber of commerce boys and what they may gain in lower taxes and wages is likely to be offset by "lower productivity and less initiative."

"That's not the way we heard it. The Item cites 'one Worcester County executive who 'tells for the siren lure of the South and took his business to North Carolina a few years ago' and 'is coming back to Massachusetts. He's had enough.'"

Well, one Worcestershireman doesn't make a summer.

The Item is welcome to all who go back North and we'll keep all who stay South. We'd be glad to settle on that basis.

"They'll never really eliminate the clutch in modern cars; not as long as there are moonlight nights and young couples.—EMMITSBURG (IOWA) REPORTER.

A policeman was questioning a man pinned under his overturned car. "Married?" he asked. "No," was the reply. "This is the worst I've ever been in."—LAMAR (MO.) DEMOCRAT.

A newspaper reported had to cover a debate in the House of Representatives between two solons who loved the sound of their voices. He wrote: "Rep. Blunk and Rep. Hlangk engaged in intellectual combat today. Both were unarmed."—CARLEBAD (N. M.) CURRENT-ARGUS.

People's Platform Dangerous Intersections: A Survey Is Needed

Charlotte Editors: The News: A CLOSE survey should be made of a lot of intersections here in Charlotte. From the look of the picture in your paper Wednesday at Central Ave. and Eastway Dr. it appears that the accident might have been avoided if some of the underbrush and bushes had been cleared away.

Some intersections such as at Gesco St. and Tuckasegee Rd. you have to pull into the oncoming traffic to see if someone is coming.

It seems as if the city has an ordinance on carpets attached to homes but not on obstructions at intersections.

Also, there still remains a lot of holes in the streets that should be repaired, which would help save the tires on our cars and maybe lives.

I traded cars about a month ago. The car I acquired was owned by a Charlottean and had a new set of tires put on it right after I traded. The service station man said the old tires had so many patches and holes in them he didn't see how I got to his station.

Charles Raper Jonas Serves District Well. Speaking as a registered Democrat who proudly voted for Charles Raper Jonas, I feel fine. In my opinion, so do all those patriotic citizens who put their country's welfare first and voted for the best man and not for a political party's candidate, regardless.



SCENE OF FATAL ACCIDENT AT CENTRAL-EASTWAY INTERSECTION Obstructed Vision?

There has been no slightest reason for any change of sentiment. On the contrary, every reason for greater support. The record speaks for itself. So does the last election! Both, it seems, prove that the people of the Tenth District know they have a gentleman and a statesman as their representative who has their interest and his country's interest at heart. Charles Raper Jonas has only missed one roll call and that when he was out of Washington on House business. His voting record has been wisely and constructively. He introduced and had enacted by the Congress the Jonas Motor Fuel Bill which will save the taxpayers a considerable sum of money. (Estimated at \$1 billion the first year—eventually going up to \$100 million.)

Congressman Jonas is interested in all the people of his district, be it farmer, laborer, housewife, or businessman, but remember, he is honest and fair to all. So, unquestionably, he will vote



There are still a lot of diseases they have to find vaccines for . . . ignorance, bigotry, intolerance. . .

Fido Had Better Answer

Time For New Trend In Dog Names

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK WE ARE sweating out a long acouchement around here, because it looks like my dog Schnorkel is going to be a father again, and this time I aim to start me a trend back to the honest naming of dogs. I am going to call this one Fido. The time has come to return to the old good days of dog naming. I am sick of the chic ones. My Schnorkel being a boxer, I am really sorry I didn't name him Hermann. I tried to rectify this by calling the scottie bitch Mammelle, but even that was too chic for such a dog, and somebody went and bought her a rhinestone collar. No, me, you bet. When I was a kid dogs had good, honest dependable names like Blackie, White, Browie, Tiger, Fido, Spot, Pal, and Pardon. The lady dogs were called Quenee and Bess and Bell and Lady.



They Called Him Christobel

But now there is a trend to the ridiculous. Most of the dogs I know are named William, and Beverly, and Oliver, and Andrew, and Howard and one poor thing, Condy. I know a now-defunct dachshund — he charged a Bus station wagon in a fit of his usual evil temper — who was called Moss Rose, although he was the meanest male that ever bit anybody.

The pooxies are all named Pierre and Annette and the German breeds all seem to be named Rudi, while the Scotties are called

by their last names, MacTavish or MacDougal or MacKenzie. The least the people could do, in civility, is add a Mister to the last name. It is dreadful what you can do to a dog, or a child, by hanging an awkward calling handle on it. I hum. I knew a be-dog who was named after a girl, and she was called Christobel. I've also known a few little boys called Chauncy and Percy and one called Pearlie, who never had a chance from the start. In my own case I was cursed with the middle name of Chester,

which was regarded as highly humorous about six years ago and I fought my way home from school for six straight years, which is why today I breathe badly through a busted nose.

A lot of modern mothers are doing the same thing to little girls now, calling them by last names, such as Yardley and Mason and Sloan and Leslie and Anderson and Thompson. If I was in the kissing stage I would not lay no smooth on no dame I had to call Thompson. It lacks tenderness.

There is still nothing wrong with being called Mary or Helen or Eleanor or Susan, or any of the other good, old stand-by handles that sound like a dame's name. And it also makes for clarity in calling, whether you are hollering for the dog or the boy or the girl.

The way it is now, if you sound off with William, the dog comes. You yell for Lynn and the boy comes. Scream MacTavish and as not the girl answers.

So this is why the next little stranger in this house is going to be called Fido, just to keep down confusion, and I want no cheap gags about it. I'm not any funnier than calling a pretty girl Kyle or Michael, or naming a man Vyvan.

And don't care if this pooch's square handle is Grand Ch. Unregistered Lower Black Eddy. Pa. If he don't answer to Fido he don't eat.

Asia Is 'Vulnerable Flank' Of U. S. And Free World

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON ASIA is the vulnerable flank of the United States and the free world. That sentence would be the psychology of course, there is the vast and increasing military power of communism in Asia.

The weak Korean truce that the Eisenhower administration granted a China strained to the breaking point, in effect insured that all war would be indefinitely overshadowed by the huge army and large air force of the People's Republic. The Geneva-Munich added to the calculation another 20 divisions, which the Communist dominated Viet Minh are now shipping into shape in North Indochina.

But in Southeast Asia it is the mere threat of Communist military power rather than the direct application of Communist troops that constitutes the primary problem. If affairs in Southern Indochina develop as had been expected, the American policy must be expected to be semi-paralyzed by the menacing existence of 20 Viet Minh divisions in North Vietnam.

These Asian threats had already found themselves, threats which shake them far less. But only Burma is even beginning to find herself. All are disorganized. All are open to infiltration. In all, large groups of the population are waiting to see which way the hand-wagon is going. This international situation is being exacerbated by the threat of Communist military power, and so the Communist attack on a strongly fortified line. If there is a naked, unprotected flank by which the whole position can be taken, Asia is that flank. If there is any hope of peace between the Free and Communist worlds, the place to look for signs of peace is in Asia. As of today, unfortunately, no such signs are in sight.

NO JOY OR TITLE In the hope of getting what they want without the bothersome risk of fighting for it, the Chinese would have the opportunity of declaring their willingness to talk about the situation in the Formosa Strait. But there is no joy or title of evidence that the Communists will not attack the offshore islands in the end, if the Quemoy and the Matsus will not succeed in giving them que-moy and the Matsus as a present.

And if the administration succeeds in making this handsome present to Peiping, there is no joy or title of evidence, either, that the Communists will not then proceed to prepare an early attack on Formosa proper. Possession of Quemoy and the Matsus will make this possible, and Peiping's claim to Formosa has never been abandoned or abated.

COMPLEX DANGER Furthermore, this local, predominantly military situation in the Formosa Strait is far less important, except as a symptom, than the political-military situation in Southeast Asia. It may be necessary to say so, but this country and the free world could well afford to lose Formosa if we could be sure of losing nothing further. Unfortunately, however,

SEATO No answer to this danger. Yet the danger must be met, somehow, for the kind of chaotic reaction of triumph that the Communists can now hope for in Southeast Asia, will surely beget an even more disastrous chain reaction in less remote parts of the world.

Japan, which President Eisenhower has so far officially proclaimed "an American bastion," the writing is already on the wall. The betting is far better, than even that a Communist triumph in Southeast Asia will be quickly followed by the rupture of the Japanese-American alliance. And similar effects will surely be observed in India and the Middle East, in Africa, and even in Europe.

That is the perspective that opens out in Asia today. If the Senate could give the Senate opening prayer, but that he was also admitted to the United States as a displaced person. The displaced person act was passed for the benefit of persons fleeing from terror at home. Trifa, who helped create terror, was admitted to the USA under this act on July 15, 1950.

As for the opening prayer to the U. S. Senate on May 15, 1955, the gentleman in question is Vlore Trifa, a former leader of the Iron Guard who helped initiate an armed insurrection against the Romanian government before Pearl Harbor was announced. He was freed from persecution.

The amazing thing is not only that he was permitted to give the opening prayer, but that he was also admitted to the United States as a displaced person. The displaced person act was passed for the benefit of persons fleeing from terror at home. Trifa, who helped create terror, was admitted to the USA under this act on July 15, 1950.

Drew Pearson's Secretary Wilson's Son In TV Deal

WASHINGTON A UNIQUE situation whereby the son of Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson would take an educational TV license for Michigan State College is churning up political circles in Michigan. John Hannah, who once worked for Wilson as assistant secretary of defense in Washington, made the deal with Edward E. Wilson, son of the secretary of defense. Young Wilson is a General Motors distributor, being president of the Wilson Downtown Cadillac Co., and Wilson GMC Co., which sells trucks and co-owner of Windrow Farms, a 1,000-acre estate owned also by his father. He is likewise a director of the Nelson Manu-

facturing Co., which sells parts to General Motors. At the age of 34, Wilson lists himself in his TV application before the Federal Communications Commission as having "marketable securities in excess of \$1,000,000." However, if his deal with Michigan State College to operate a highly valuable TV channel goes through, Wilson could be worth a lot more. For, by the deal, the college uses the much less valuable daylight time, while Wilson would use the highly valuable night and evening time. The college would get 20 per cent of the profit, but with no right to audit the books, and no right to say what salaries are to be paid.

In other words, the profits could be eaten up by high salaries. Some Michigan senators, debating the question in the Michigan legislature, claimed that the valuable high-frequency TV license could make around \$800,000 for the son of the secretary of defense, with \$200,000 going to Michigan State. They finally OK'd the deal after complaining that they were pressured by general Motors lobbyists. It will be interesting to see what the FCC in Washington now does about this political hot potato.

Former Nazi It continues to be a deep mystery as to who was the former Rumanian Nazi, once convicted by a court-martial, Senate on May 15, 1955. The gentleman in question is Vlore Trifa, a former leader of the Iron Guard who helped initiate an armed insurrection against the Romanian government before Pearl Harbor was announced. He was freed from persecution. The amazing thing is not only that he was permitted to give the opening prayer, but that he was also admitted to the United States as a displaced person. The displaced person act was passed for the benefit of persons fleeing from terror at home. Trifa, who helped create terror, was admitted to the USA under this act on July 15, 1950.