



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1955

School Board Takes The Right Step

THE City School Board's action in continuing present assignment policies into the new school year reflects the same approach to the desegregation problem the board has followed since the Supreme Court decision was handed down. Equally level-headed was the report of the committee on desegregation on which the board acted.

While the board has recognized its responsibility to comply with the law, it also has the responsibility of saving the public school system from harm and it says quite correctly that any hasty, ill-considered gesture of compliance would serve poorly both responsibilities.

The committee report stresses that the board is acting in good faith to comply with the law and that the committee will seek advice and information from

a "wide variety of individuals and groups," thereby recognizing a third responsibility to help the needs and wishes of the community.

The board is activating a belief that by careful, painstaking study and counsel with sincere community leaders it can serve the law, the schools and the citizens.

That is a policy worthy of support by all groups and the only policy that promises an equitable solution to the problem posed by the court decision.

By no interpretation can the school board be charged with flouting the decision since the court itself recognized that time would be required for the development of a workable program such as the board envisions.

The board deserves the confidence of all the community's citizens.

Disarmament: The Avoided Subject

TEN YEARS of international talks about disarmament every conference has founded on the critical issue of inspection and control.

The U. S. consistently has stressed it cannot agree, for example, to curtail nuclear bomb construction until a fool-proof system is devised to assure that Russia will do the same.

This week a widely-heralded disarmament conference opened at the United Nations and the inspection roadblock popped right up again. U. S. Delegate Henry Cabot Lodge renewed the mutual air inspection and blueprint-exchange plan Mr. Eisenhower introduced at Geneva and this proposal apparently is to be the meat and potatoes of this nation's presentation at the talks.

Although it is disheartening that disarmament conferences never really get down to the subject, spending their time instead of talking about inspection, it seems impossible for the U. S. to proceed otherwise. It would be suicide to drop the atomic stick without a guarantee that Russia would strip herself of the same weapon as well as the large standing armies she possesses.

An agreement on the issue of inspection

tion alone, disregarding the larger issue, probably is all this country can hope for. Indeed it might be enough to hope for since effective inspection would prevent a surprise attack and it is not possible to achieve an atomic war victory without the element of surprise.

But at the very moment Mr. Lodge was expounding the President's inspection plan another part of the world was demonstrating the utter failure of the first international inspection and control system devised since disarmament talks began a decade ago.

In Korea, the Armistice Commission took the first step toward abolishing the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission by agreeing to cut inspection teams almost in half. And the United Nations Command served notice that it would demand complete abolition of the N. S. C. for the reason that its Communist members have used it as an instrument of sabotage and spying in South Korea while preventing Swiss and Swedish members from inspecting arms build-ups in North Korea.

In view of this a workable inspection plan, while it might be enough to hope for, appears now to be too much to hope for.

Water Board Tackles Vital Job

IN A DRIER year the swearing in of the state's new board of water commissioners would have created a larger splash. As it was the Tuesday ceremonies seemed just another routine administrative act in Raleigh.

But memory does not have to travel far—just back to the parched summer of 1954—to reflect the vital significance of this board getting down to work on one of the state's key problems but being a shortage of water for home, farm and factory.

Gov. Hodges cited two tasks of the board—to inventory water resources and to act in drought emergencies to divert available water so that essential needs can be met. In addition Assistant Attorney General Clifford Love suggested the board might concern itself with problems of flood control in view of the havoc caused by recent hurricanes, although the legislature in creating the board was primarily concerned with the shortage of water.

Since several droughts have demon-

strated how inadequate the water inventory is we hope the board will concentrate as much as possible on developing new programs of conservation. For droughts and emergency actions are merely the creatures of a continuing population that grows in direct ratio to population and industrial growth.

The fact that water is essential to all forms of growth is a compelling reason for better conservation methods. Prospective industry is more interested in water tables even in tax rates, and industry does not go or stay where water is not in good supply. The explanation in figures is that it takes 140,000 gallons of water to produce, for example, a ton of cotton goods and 64,000 gallons to make a ton of paper. Added to this is the thirstiness increasing irrigation on farms and air conditioning in cities and it takes less and less time for a dry spell to turn into a drought.

The board of water commissioners is tackling a big job and any easement it brings to the water problem will render a great service to the state.

A Goal Mecklenburg Will Meet

THE Red Cross faces one of its biggest tests in providing relief for victims in the northeastern flood disaster area.

Whether or not it is able to meet the test of helping the 60,000 families who suffered serious loss in the flood depends, of course, on the traditional generosity of the American public.

Although the rivers are back in their courses, the full extent of the loss in a five-state area is just now being realized.

From The Richmond News Leader

LEAVE ALICE ALONE

A PUBLICITY handout from the International Universities Press advises that of September 8, Dr. Phyllis Green, a psychoanalyst and professor of clinical psychiatry, will bring forth a book entitled SWIFT AND CARROLL. Among other things, the book will take the position that Lewis Carroll's ALICE IN WONDERLAND is a "reproduction in words of many of the sensations and emotions of the 24-to-3-year-old child familiar to psychologists and psychoanalysts." Dr. Greenacre has undertaken to reconstruct important events in Carroll's early childhood and Swift's "obscure early years" to show that these events "unintentionally were revealed in adult writings in a form apparent to a psychoanalytically trained observer."

Count us out. This sort of ingrown intellectualism can take all the fun out of ALICE and dull the edge of the keenest Swift. Are we to comprehend that the Jabberwock with eyes of flame, who whiffled through the foggy wood, is no more than a psychanalytical manifestation of a nightmare suffered by Carroll in his cradle? Is the fall down the rab-

bit hole a subconscious reaction of some infant tumble from the crib? In the mad tea-party, presumably we are to find echoes of a boy's birthday party, when Alice swims in a pool of tears, we have the recollection of a bathtub?

Fufu! Who on earth cares whether Carroll saw a chicken beheaded, if he did, at 10 years old? A profoundly humorless post mortem on the loveliest fantasy in all literature is a recommendation to whack off somebody's head, sure enough. Pick on Shakespeare, we would suggest to the psychoanalysts, or go look at Shelley's psyche. But leave ALICE alone.

Inscribed With Regard To People With A Good Sense Of Humor.

Everybody loves the folks Who appear to like their jokes —ATLANTA JOURNAL

"And is the prince incognito?" inquired a guest at a London party. "Well, no, sir," replied the butler. "I don't know as I'd say that, but it's certainly 'ad a few.'" —MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR

The Men Who Weren't There

Absentees Cut Party Strength

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

ABSENTEES helped to write the record of the 84th Congress. A Congressional Quarterly study showed that Congressmen who failed to vote forfeited "bonus" votes to the opposition. On several roll calls, they probably would have reversed the result.

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The party that benefited from opposition absenteeism in effect got bonus votes. On an amendment to the highway bill, for example, 48 Democrats and 41 Republicans voted. Instead of only two votes, the Democrats had a margin of five — or a bonus of three. On an amendment to a

bar association in Philadelphia, the President expressed some of the big issues of the cold war. There was never any excuse for raising the false hope that the Soviet were about to surrender their main position in Europe or the false fear that we were about to surrender the Western position.

It is often said these days that nothing of substance was changed by the Geneva meeting. It should be said, I believe, that Geneva reflected and registered the very great change that has taken place during the past two years in the relations between the Soviet Union and the Atlantic community. The change is in the realization on both sides of what has become official doctrine and policy—that with modern weapons and in the existing balance of power there is, in the President's words, no alternative to peace.

What was affirmed at Geneva was the recognition of this military stalemate. This stalemate has and will go on having far reaching consequences.

It is unrealistic to assume that all absentees would have voted with the losers on each roll call. However, absentees COULD have over-turned 10 Senate and 18

House roll calls. At least a few of the closest votes probably would have been reversed. Congressional absenteeism tends to increase on Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays. Congressmen often take long week ends to visit their constituents. Voting participation scores for 1955 reflect the influence of weekend commuting only to a slight degree. Apparently, members tried to stay in

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White House Floats On A Cloud Of Abstract Principles

By WALTER LIPPMAN

NEW YORK EXCUSE for letting the impression arise that Geneva would soon be followed by a settlement of the big issues of the cold war. There was never any excuse for raising the false hope that the Soviet were about to surrender their main position in Europe or the false fear that we were about to surrender the Western position.

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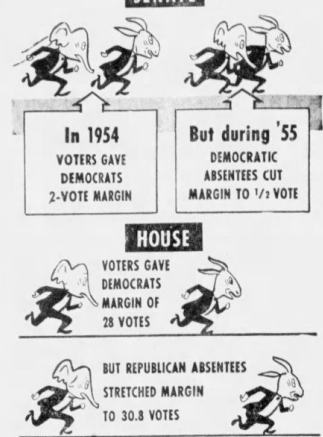
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Toll of Absenteeism

SENATE



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'Old Man Of The Mediterranean'



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round United Tanker Corp. Gets Big Navy Job

Editor's Note: While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation his column will be written by members of his staff.

THE Navy has quietly awarded a multi-million-dollar contract to a shipping company whose tankers hauled oil products to North Korea, Red China and Siberia on the eve of the Korean war. The same company, United Tanker Corporation, also thumbed its nose at the law to get war-surplus oil and paid only \$25 federal tax \$14,000,000 in 1945 to 1950. Again, it violated the "spirit if not the letter" of the maritime code by hiring American crews for short periods, then discharging them in Asiatic waters and signing on low-paid foreigners.

Inscribed With Regard To People With A Good Sense Of Humor. Everybody loves the folks Who appear to like their jokes —ATLANTA JOURNAL

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