

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

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Red Ink On Charlotte's Safety Books

PROMOTING traffic safety in a community is like housebreaking a puppy. Education comes first. Then, if the educating doesn't take, the only answer is swift, sure discipline.

It usually takes a little of both. Charlotte, with more cars and greater traffic woes than any other Tar Heel city has a poor safety record because it has been lax in both education and discipline. Its techniques need improving—and none quite so much as education.

The revival by City Manager Henry A. Yancey of proposals for a safety bureau is particularly welcome. The need is great. Both traffic deaths and injuries increased in Charlotte in 1954. In fact, only two cities in its population group had more traffic fatalities.

It is obvious that the municipal government has not been measuring up to its responsibility in this matter. The city manager frankly admitted as much this week. "We've done a sorry job," he said, "and we're not going to get adequate results until we have someone to assign it to."

Fundamentally a social problem, traffic safety is the responsibility of all segments of society. It concerns industry, schools, of local civic organizations and of the public itself. But when government plays an ineffectual role, efforts of nongovernmental agencies lose of their potential effectiveness. Persuasion and pressure brought to bear on the public unofficially can accomplish little without a reasonable degree of regulatory control being exerted at the same time by government to support their objectives.

Time to Get Tough?

Unless I am mistaken, and I don't believe I am, a review is intended to appear in an article discussing the relative good and bad points of a picture, play or book as the case may be. This article completely ignored the performances of the cast...

Politics Aaain

OUTRAGED by location in the South of combat training camps for military reservists. GOP Sen. Wiley says the Defense Department is playing politics with camp location by ignoring the need for teaching soldiers how to fight in bitter cold areas such as Korea.

The Poem The Perons Didn't Read

In A workshop at Pietrasanta, Italy stands a 53-foot white marble statue of Juan and Eva Peron. The man who sculpted it is puzzled. Eva is dead and Juan is exiled, and their God-like pretensions are crumbled in the same dirt in which they ground the free people and institutions of Argentina.

Shelley said it like this. I met a traveler from an antique land who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand, Half-burnt a shattered visage lies, whose frown And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command, Tell that its sculptor well those passions read Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things, The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed.

Deluge Washington With Letters On Textiles

People's Platform Charlotte

Editors: The News: AFTER having read your editorials and the editorials of many fine southern newspapers the last few months regarding the problem the textile industry faces with regard to the concessions granted to the French and our administration to Japan and others on the import into the United States of fine woollen cloth...



Time to Get Tough?

mentous decision of the federal court. Negro students were restricted to segregated undergraduate curriculums with too little discretion. No Negro college in this state has the qualifications or facilities to offer a degree, nor proper training in journalism. Having been denied the right, because of my race, to study journalism at the University, I feel a measure of personal satisfaction in knowing that the undemocratic racial barriers are being vanquished forever. Long may democracy and racial harmony prevail at the State University, for irrespective of jurisdictional tactics of reactionary delay, democracy is inevitable. The Supreme Court of the United States has already made its position clear on segregation in state-supported institutions, so may the people of this state look with pride to a democratic American university dedicated to the enlightenment of all mankind.

God Had Proper Place In Program

Editors: The News: SO OFTEN We get so busy around in our day-to-day existence that we forget the good in our city. We take so much for granted until we see or hear comments like Mr. Morgan's in last Wednesday's issue of The News. Mr. Morgan must have forgotten the Bible says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." The cities make up the nations and this is one family that it proud to live in a city that still puts God first in dedications of its facilities.

Too Much Emphasis On Material Things

Editors: The News: TO OUR friend from Lynchburg, Va. I'd like to say if the church were head of government the world over, I'm sure you'd find a much happier and contented existence. Take Russia and China as two prime examples. That's just the trouble with the world today—too much emphasis on material things and not enough on spiritual thoughts. Frankly, I'd be ashamed of myself admitting I believed anything else heads the church, even our own government.

Wide Suffering

If these foreign interests are allowed to export into the United States under the present Geneva agreement and force our industry to slow down or to cut back production, or the worst case, completely, every man in industry will in some way suffer. At the present rate of credit buying in our country the cut backs will affect homes all over the United States. Payments on automobiles, refrigerators, television sets and more important, homes themselves will lag causing repossessions in many cases and at least work a tremendous hardship on the family budget.

Protests

I would therefore suggest that in some manner the press of the South which will probably be most effective, initiate a campaign incorporating the efforts of all the southern newspapers, of the textile workers' unions, the textile workers themselves, textile machinery and chemical manufacturers and merchants to deluge Washington with letters of protest that the administration cannot ignore.

UNC May Now Fulfill Mission

Editors: The News: AT LAST our great State University at the behest of the federal government will be forced to pursue a democratic policy. Henceforth, the University of North Carolina shall fulfill the mission of a people's institution in a democratic society. The institution's past department was inconsistent with the supposed liberality that is synonymous with higher education.

A Solid Bullyseye But Wrong Target

Editors: The News: WHILE OTHER day I read a review of the new motion picture, "The Cobweb," written by the critic of your paper. This is without a doubt the worst review I have ever read.

Do Not Deprive Kids Of Rod And Reel

Editors: The News: NOW WHAT is all this nonsense about fishing being bad for American youngsters because "it teaches them to be cruel"? That's what a magazine which shall go unnamed is trying to palm off on the American public.

No Defense Needed For Mrs. Roosevelt

Editors: The News: IT DOES not add to the prestige of my favorite newspaper to publish from time to time such letters as those signed by the brain of one J. R. Cherry Jr. His latest outburst, in which he engages in a very ungentlemanly attack on one of the world's 10 greatest women, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, calls this suggestion the most stupid of the year, or words to that effect.

Political Predicting Is Risky Business

Editors: The News: MR. Mercer Blankenship has taken pen in hand and has written a real cute (7) letter to People's Platform. I am not unhappy to note that he refuses to make any predictions about the '56 elections, although he does infer that certain changes may be made. I also noted that Mr. Blankenship's done a bit of confessing. Said he wasn't too smart at predicting. Well, if my memory serves me correctly, I can vouch for the truth of his statement. It seems that back in '34 he made a prediction. Truth be the matter it was 50 per cent right. To He said Mackenzie would go and it did. Only trouble was, Mr. Blankenship picked the wrong man. For congressman that is.

A Problem Of Sense Rather Than Dollars

Editors: The News: SOMETIME ago I read in the People's Platform that a kind gentleman had offered to send the Negroes back to Africa. Would like to inform him that it is not a problem of dollars that is delaying our return, but a simple matter of "sense." I don't think his great white forefathers would be at all pleased with his suggestion. Don't believe they brought us over here to learn of the "civilized" ways, and then send us packing back because we seem to be learning too well. In the first place, my going to take the responsibility of sorting out the "Negro" by color from the Negro by blood percentage or the good from the bad? Believe it or not, it takes the best that's in the worst of us and the worst that's in the best of us.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round They're Clocking Ike's Laughs Now

WASHINGTON REPUBLICAN leaders are now grasping at any straw in the wind to bolster their hope that Ike will run. Two of those straws developed at Denver after Ike made his very discouraging statement that the party should not depend on one man.

Various states urged Simpson to concentrate on winning as many as possible. These were messier straws in the wind, but they encouraged GOP leaders like Len Hall, who says factually that he'll commit suicide if he doesn't run.

Harry Nixes Adlai This will be denied, but ex-President Truman is working behind the scenes to sidetrack the presidential bandwagon on the man he supported for the presidency in 1952, Adlai Stevenson.

Nothing Personal The former President has assured Democratic trustworthiness that there's nothing personal in his anti-Stevenson maneuvering, that he is acting only for the good of the party. He still believes Stevenson would make a fine president.

He has the highest respect and admiration for him. But he's more convinced than ever that the defeated 1952 candidate lacks mass appeal.



For Wide-Awakes, An Updated Bear

RECIPE for insomniacs: Plug the teddy bear into an electric socket. Get into bed with the bear. Cuddle the bear. Its artificial lungs will breathe 10 to 12 times a minute. As it breathes you will breathe in imitation, 10 to 12 breaths a minute. Then both of you will be asleep because that's the rate at which sleeping adults breathe.

Will the initiating insomniac quit breathing, too, and drift into a sort of eternal hibernation? Or will the bear slips a cord and breathes 40 times a minute. Will the lulled insomniac wake up sprinting around the bed?

THE VINDICATION OF DR. WATSON

FOR MANY YEARS American admirers of the greatest sleuth of all time, Sherlock Holmes, have been discontented at the manner in which the master detective's friend and biographer, Dr. Watson, has been presented to the general public. Readers of the Holmes saga, of course, know Watson for what he is—a magnificent, sturdy, loyal, dogged sort of a man, the ideal foil for the brilliant, incisive Holmes. What would Holmes be without Watson? Not too much, as the few Holmes case studies written by the great detective himself show by their lackluster prose.

in many cities throughout the country, a new Sherlock Holmes television series is being started. Ronald Howard, son of the late Leslie Howard, plays the famous sleuth, and the role of Dr. Watson has been assigned to H. Martin Crawford. While the new series has not yet been acquired by a local station, we happened to see it the other night in another city, and we admit to being entirely rapturous about the whole thing.

When in recent years the old Rathbone-Bruce films were given over to television use, and shown over stations throughout the country, Sherlock Holmes aficionados trembled with despair. A new generation, it was feared, would grow up to know Dr. Watson as a plump, adipous, nothing more.

We can report other good things about the new version of the Holmes stories. It was faithful to its period, the 1890s. Hansons, gas lights, British newspapers that looked like British newspapers, not the New York Daily News, were to be seen. Holmes embarked on no airplane rides, spied no Nazi plots as the Rathbone-Bruce series had done. He was Holmes, sweet Holmes, and Watson was the good doctor himself.

WASHINGTON MARGINAL contests for House seats in various states, urged Simpson to concentrate on winning as many as possible. These were messier straws in the wind, but they encouraged GOP leaders like Len Hall, who says factually that he'll commit suicide if he doesn't run.