THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

EDITORIAL PAGE

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1955

Protecting A Precious Resource

RUTHLESS competition, duplication, waste: This has been the bitter fruit of more than a century of haphazard handling of the nation's water problems.

Most Tar Heels testifying in Raleigh this week before a congressional subcommittee studying Hoover Commission recommendations on water resources agreed that, nationally, a better job must be done. The arguments erupted only when specific types of remedies were discussed.

Regardless of the merits of individual Hoover Commission proposals concerning reclamation and irrigation, flood control, navigation and public power, the need for a national water policy is clear and basic. Before wrangling begins on minor points, agreement ought to be achieved on this general principle.

The demand for water is steadily increasing. Industrial needs are expected to rise in the next 25 years by 138 million gallons a day; domestic consumption by 7 million gallons a day. At the same time, water is being withdrawn at the rate of 180 billion gallons a day.

There is no doubt about it: Water has become America's most precious natural resource.

But federal development of water resources has been carried on under a system of complex and conflicting policies. Unless these administrative knots are untied and a consistent national water policy evolves, the nation will suffer—and suffer severely.

There must be closer coordination between state and federal agencies. The federal government must learn to assume its full responsibility wherever broad national objectives are involved and whenever projects are beyond the means of local or private enterprise because of size, complexity or potential multiple purposes. Furthermore, the federal government should provide advisory assistance to state and local agencies even when they are undertaking their own water resource and power development projects. Finally, Uncle Sam's regulatory and administrative duties should be clearly defined, simplified and, where possible, centralized.

These objectives would require, as the Hoover Commission recommended, the establishment of a permanent Water Resources Board to determine the broad national policies needed. The body would have the further responsibility of devising methods of coordination of plans and action both at the Washington level and in the field.

In mapping these vast and important plans there is, however, need for a word of caution. Gov. Luther Hodges put it this way:

> Whatever is sought to be accomplished with respect to these water problems that are so vital to our state and nation should be sought insofar as possible on a non-partisan and objective basis. In a matter of such importance to all of us, it does not become any of us to take a selfish approach to these problems by trying to turn the activities of the federal and state governments to our personal ends. The problems should be considered always with the interest of the nation at heart and the interest of each state and area insofar as it fits in with the nation's interests.

Sounds simple enough. But so difficult to achieve.

Keep Busted Signals Off The Street

POLICE Chief Littlejohn has been distressed this week by a couple of traffic problems. One of them—the mysterious death of birds on the wing around the airport—he probably can do nothing about. The other—the danger to life and limb caused by the mass movement of autos to and from football games—he should be able to solve quite easily by strict enforcement of traffic regulations. His announced intention to do just that, while it may earn him the temporary status of a spoilsport, should be welcomed by the general public and the sporting set alike. It may well save some human lives.

The worrisome thing about the delicious disease of football fever is that it has a way of dulling common sense, particularly when hundreds of people are infected simultaneously and 25 per cent of them are driving automobiles. One horn blast produces another. One "cute" trick with an automobile spawns a string of copy cats and pretty soon, as the chief said, "the drivers assume that they have official sanction to violate the traffic ordinances of the City of Charlotte."

This is all very natural but it can be deadly, too, particularly to more stolid citizens who are driving along within the law, going on green and stopping on red, when the football crowd comes by using a reverse set of signals.

Chief Littlejohn ought to back up his warning. If he does all the fans who attended the openers can be counted on to show up at season's end.

Stengel, Green & Intellectual Snobbery

"THE public as a whole—that is, the public barring the Intellectual Snobs—shows its sensible preference for having its artists in sufficient possession of their faculties to put us all, and immediately, in possession of their meaning."

So said Britain's Ivor Brown, that stout protagonist of clarity in contemporary writing.

As an example of what he is waving his literary arms about, he reproduces this "muddy, intellectualized nonsense" from the pen of chi-chi novelist Henry Green:

> It was wet then, did she remember he was saying, so unlike this he said, and turned his face to its dazzle of window. it had been dark with sad tears on the panes and streets of canals as he sat by her fire for Jane liked dusk, would not turn on the lights until she couldn't see to move, while outside a single street lamp was yellow, reflected over a thousand raindrops on the glass, the fire was rose, and Penelope came in.

Mr. Brown, a leading intellectual himself, may have a point.

But if he gets mired down in the twisted, turbid prose of Henry Green, he would sink completely from view in the twisted, turbid prose of Manager Casey Stengel of the New York Yankees.

Here, in pure Stengelese, is Old Case telling a TIME reporter how it happens that the Yanks are battling the Dodgers in the 1955 World Series:

> I put that fella in left and he can't field now, somebody else would use him maybe, but I can't. So I wait, and then my big fella gets hurt because he's goin' at half-speed and he's got to bunt once in a while because he can't always swing from his heels. Especially when he hits the ball to either side of the other fella he's sure to get on because nobody can catch him. But he wants to hit now and I give him his chance to play center and he does me a good job because he's a strong fella. But some fellas don't know about getting a bat with a thick handle like that Chicago fella does. He knows when you get it on the fists your muscle ain't worth a damn. But do you think these fellas understand that?

But who cares about Clarity when its Art that counts? Both Mr. Green and Mr. Stengel are artists of great and enduring stature. They're welcome to all the poetic license they can use.

Go ahead. *Call* us intellectual snobs.

From The Richmond Times-Dispatch

TAR HEEL JOURNEY 'WITHOUT BREECHES'

NEARLY all Virginians, we suspect, revere John Marshall for his immense ability as a jurist, his brilliance as an interpreter of the constitution, and his grasp of the vital importance of strengthening the federal republic in its early years. But only a minority, we daresay, are acquainted with Marshall the man.

Convivial, companionable, absent-minded, sloppily dressed John Marshall was a familiar figure on the streets of Richmond for half a century. During 34 of those years he was chief justice of the United States. Yet during all that time he was a "democrat," with a small "d," who loved to pitch quoits with his cronies, or to swap jokes with them over a glass of Madeira.

He traveled to Raleigh, N. C., on one occasion "without a pair of breeches," having absentmindedly left them out of his baggage. He remained in this predicament for several days, until a "taylor" could make him some others. When he wrote his wife of his plight, he didn't explain what he had worn on the journey to North Carolina.

Marshall had met Mary Ambler at Williamsburg when she was only 14, and he was a veteran of four years' service in the Continental Army. The impression she made on him may be appreciated today by anyone who examines the notebook he kept on the law lectures of the celebrated George Wythe at the College of William & Mary. Instead of carefully noting what Wythe was saying during the bare six weeks Marshall sat in his course, the student, much of the time, was scribbling "Mary Ambler" across the pages.

They were married some years later, and although "Polly," as he called her, was an invalid during most of the remainder of her life, Marshall's devotion never wavered.

The quality of Marshall's character was nowhere more clearly shown than in his domestic life, but he demonstrated his physical courage at Valley Forge, and his moral courage on the federal bench. Were it not for the opinions he rendered on behalf of a stronger central authority, in the teeth of bitter attacks from the Jeffersonians, the federal government might have disintegrated in the early years. Thomas Jefferson was sincerely convinced that these centralizing decisions were potentially disastrous. His own brilliant achievements for the infant republic in other spheres blinded him to the essential role which Marshall was playing.

People's Platform

You Could Let Your Hair Down In Old Armory

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

NOW THAT the re-building of the old Armory-Auditorium has about come to a head I would like to make a few remarks in regard to same.

Having been on the entertainment committee when the building was erected for the Confederate Veterans reunion in 1929, attended numerous affairs staged there for 20 years and served as manager for five years I feel that I have a better than average knowledge of the service that this building gave the public.

SERVED PURPOSE

While the acoustics were bad, the lighting faulty and the heating poor it served a clientele that the magnificent Coliseum with all its glamour will not attract. To better illustrate the point I might explain that I had a son who served with the armed forces in London for three years and he came home sold on the idea of the so-called "pub" for the working man or general public. The old building served this purpose on a larger scale.

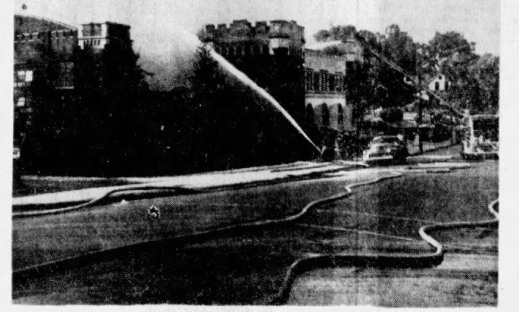
It was a place where you could take the family or a few friends for an evening's entertainment and it made no difference what you wore, where you sat, or, I can almost say, what you did. The children ran loose in all directions while the parents milled about talking with their neighbors and friends and making themselves at home.

PLACE FULL

Basketball games, college and other dances for either race and barbecues, commercial exhibits, poultry shows, etc., kept the place full almost seven days or nights a week.

With the new and improved facilities that the modern Park Center will furnish I am sure it will fill a demand that no other building will or could.

—OSMOND L. BARRINGER



ARMORY-AUDITORIUM BURNING DOWN
It Was A Place Where Good Times Rolled

Park Shelters Need Repairing

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

WHILE the Park and Recreation Commission and the City Council are getting their heads together on the leasing of the heating and air conditioning of the new Park Center auditorium, I think it would be a good idea to award someone the contract to fix up some equipment in the parks.

We of Hutchinson Ave. Baptist congregation held our annual church picnic in Freedom Park on Sept. 24, and, believe me, the whole group got soaking wet. Why? Because the rain came right through the roof of the so-called place to serve a picnic lunch. We all gathered under this shed, hoping to get out of the rain, but to no avail, as the rain came through the roof in torrents. I believe the Park and Recreation Commission would like to see these things repaired if the money was so appropriated by the proper authorities.

—JOHN E. CANIPE

Traffic Tickets Gouge Citizens

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

WAS MY misfortune yesterday to park on E. 4th St. just after 4 p.m., hoping to complete my business quickly and avoid the 4:30 p.m. "unfair parking regulation." Unfortunately, time slipped by and I was presented Citation Number 146309. (This is evidence of the large number of fair and unfair "gouges" the citizens are receiving.) It is entirely possible that good citizens can be caught short on time and make other pardonable traffic mistakes. Should they do so, the city certainly commits an unpardonable act by imposing a $3 charge, with a threat of, "A bond required for your appearance in court."

LAYING TRAPS

Apparently, the city is deliberately laying both traps and snares for its citizens as these forms they so gleefully present to you show 15 spaces plus one blank space that you can be taxed and charged—so to speak. This particular person feels that this is both illegal and unconstitutional, as is the forcing of a second tax or license on an automobile or motor vehicle. It occures to me that we really need some kind of association or vigilante formation to protect both our major and minor rights against all branches of government. Feel there are many other citizens who, within reason, feel the restraint of personal liberties that I do.

—EDGAR L. JONES

Vicki Was Victim Of Circumstances

Black Mountain

Editors, The News:

I WAS quite interested in the letter from Mr. William McIntire in your Sept. 19 News, ("Shoot the Elephant") and his unkind remarks regarding Mr. Poovey, president of the Charlotte Humane Society.

To me it is quite inconceivable how anyone this side of the Iron Curtain could take such a heartless position against an innocent victim of circumstances.

First, Mr. McIntire should remember that Vicki was born in her native land, where God intended. But much against her will, she was captured and brought to Charlotte by man. Showing her disapproval and dislike for human beings, she broke for freedom, seeking refuge in God's woods out of sight of man, harming no one.

I have never heard of anyone having worse thoughts than Mr. McIntire, to blind this poor victim with ammonia and chop her to pieces, piece by piece.

If we had more Christian-hearted Humane workers to help the poor defenseless children and animals who cannot speak for themselves against the heartless people who infest our beautiful land, oh what a world we would have.

—FRANK W. DIXON
President,
N. C. Humane Fed.

Dixie Dishes It Out —But Can't Take It

Monroe

Editors, The News:

THE South is beginning to sing the "Low Tariff And Poor Economy Blues." Its textile industry is losing ground to the American-modernized mills in the land of Nippon's fertile peonage.

The South can dish it out, but she can't seem to digest the contents of her own southern-styled dishes. Has the South forgotten so soon the anguished wail of a flood-strickened North crying the blues because Dixie, with its cheap labor, was trying to woo northern industry into its embrace" Did she then think of the hardships she was trying to visit upon northern workers?

The South can't have her cake and eat it too. Her childish antics are causing her to be treated as the nation's step-child. The reactionary South is dangerously nearing the state of a social outcast. She must become All-American in her department or, be disheveled by the maelstrom of social evolution.

—ROBERT F. WILLIAMS

Critic Of Graham Doesn't Know Bible

Lincolnton

Editors, The News:

IN a recent issue of The News I was right amused with two letters relating to the opening of the auditorium. The man from Lynchburg, Va., criticizing the "mayor and his officials" for putting the church first in the form of Dr. Billy Graham. He must not know much Bible for we read to put first things first. Wonder if he knew that all which had been constructed in the building belongs to God, or still better, did he stop long enough to realize who was letting him breathe.

Then there was the man from Forest City wanting Dr. Graham drafted for our next president. What a contrast. The one from Forest City must know a little of his Bible.

Since then two letters giving the Virginian a blasting which he well deserved. If it were me don't believe I would make another trip to Charlotte, N. C. If I did, I surely would not write another letter.

—MRS. FLORENCE BRIDGES

Can Integrationists Be Christians?

Hamlet

Editors, The News:

IT IS amazing that the desegregationists and integrationists (twin evils) are in such a hurry to get the Supreme Court's decree across for mixing the children of the two races in the schools this fall, never thinking for one moment that it will take time to get the mechanics of the schools rearranged so as to meet their hurried demands, if and when it can be done, or will be done. They are like "tiny tots" wanting a toy, and wanting it right now. Their leaders are the rambunctious ones, who are trying to run rough-shod over the majority of the right thinking men and women of both races, never giving a thought to the disaster which is sure to follow. I venture the assertion that there is not a real true Christian among them. God forgive me if I am mistaken! If these so-called "do-gooders," both white and black, were Christian minded instead of politically minded, they could readily see that the ultimate result of their move, at long last, will prove, perhaps, the undoing of many of them. The white man, being the majority, will not be pushed around, and the future will prove it. It is the white man's civilization, which none can deny, but at the same time he has given aid, comfort and freedom to the minority groups of this land. They can worship as they please, live as they please, without fear of being persecuted as are many peoples of other lands today.

DIVERGENT RACES

It is a blessing and a privilege to be born in this good land of America. If these groups, who are now making protest, were in Soviet Russia "we would see what we would see." We are two divergent races, as everyone knows, and our ideologies are as far apart as the poles, yet we have lived together in seeming peace until a few (shall I say evil?) well meaning persons stepped in to bring discord into our ways of life, which will, I fear, be felt for generations to come. Our ideologies are separate and distinct and will remain so forever, so why try to reconcile them? Man is destroying himself by the things he is proposing. It is not nature that races should intermingle or be mixed socially or by marriage. History proves this, but man will never learn until he falls headlong into the abyss of his own making. After 400 years of bondage in Egypt Moses was leading the Israelites, who were called God's chosen people, back to the land of their fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, which God had given them and their descendants as an inheritance forever, the land called Canaan. He told them not to give their sons and daughters in marriage to these heathen (Canaanites) who had settled the land in their absence as bondsmen in Egypt. Men, being disobedient by nature, disregarded God's command, and gave their children in marriage to the Canaanites and disaster followed them for hundreds of years. Heb: 10:31 reads, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

DESTRUCTION

The book of Genesis gives you the whole history, so get out your Bibles and read the first five books, and trace the history of these disobedient Israelites until they were utterly destroyed. Only a remnant was saved hundreds of years later. God's laws are irrevocable and man dare not try to change them unless he wants to destroy himself, utterly. Disobedience brings its own reward. All the tumult and strife which besets our world today can be summed up in one word, Satan. He is striving against God for the mastery, but of course he cannot win. He is turned loose in the earth for a season. We do not understand why. He knows his time is short and he is trying to wreak his vengeance on God's creation until God says it is enough.

The conference at Geneva was what we expected. The Russians are adamant and will continue their hold on their captive peoples, no matter what is thought or said. I feel that she (Russia) is a modern Babylon and is destined to overturn and destroy the nations of the earth unless they repent and return to God who is the giver of every perfect gift. May He in His mercy world. We are told that history repeats itself, and our Bible says that "God is not mocked."

—MRS. A. S. COWAN

Quote, Unquote

Listening to the diesel horn at dawn, we just realized millions of youngsters now growing up will never know the plaintive call of a steam locomotive whistle in the night. It's a lost chord.—**Tallahassee Democrat.**

A small town is the place where a fellow with a black eye doesn't have to explain to people: they know. — **Greeneville (Tenn.) Sun.**

A sign in a store window read: "Fishing Tickle." Noticing the error, a customer asked, "Hasn't anyone told you about it before?" "Oh, yes," replied the owner. "Many have dropped in to tell me —and they always buy something. —**Columbia (Mo.) Tribune.**

"Why is it that, no matter how innocent they may be, five youths in a car look delinquent?"

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Russia Still Eager For U. S. Food

WASHINGTON

WORD has reached the Agriculture Department that Russia is still anxious to make a deal for surplus U. S. food. The offer came from Communist Chief Nikita Khrushchev himself during a private audience in Moscow with five U. S. senators.

The question was brought up by farm-minded Sen. Milt Young, North Dakota Republican, who asked whether it would be possible for America to trade surplus American crops to Russia.

He Said Yes

"It not only would be possible but desirable," replied Khrushchev through an interpreter.

Sen Estes Kefauver, Tennessee Democrat, then launched into a technical discussion of the two nations' problems. At one point, Khrushchev remarked mischievously: "You have helped us to be self-sufficient by refusing to sell us surplus food."

He referred to the Soviet program to bring new farm land under cultivation. The American agricultural attache later confirmed to the senators that Russia has opened 75,000,000 acres to farming.

This was forced, in part, by the administration's refusal to sell surplus food behind the Iron Curtain. The Russians can thank Sen. Joe McCarthy, who raised such a clamor against trade with the Soviet bloc that the administration lost its nerve and dropped plans for a sale. Secretary of Agriculture Benson had repeatedly recommended disposing of our surplus crops behind the curtain, but Secretary of Commerce Weeks fought against it. Finally the administration, worried about the political repercussions of McCarthy's clamor, sided with Weeks.

Aided Soviet

It now looks as if McCarthy and Weeks indirectly aided the Soviet farm program.

Note: Khrushchev also let the senators know he was annoyed with the Voice of America. "You can hardly call that a friendly voice," he snorted, though he added tauntingly: "You fellows have been traveling around Russia. How many Voice of America partisans did you find?"

Spoke Too Soon

More than 40 senators and congressmen went to Russia this summer. And only one was refused a visa. He is Congressman W. R. Poage of Texas, who was promised a visa but didn't get it at the last minute.

Poage and Congressman Harold Cooley of North Carolina, Democrats, went together to the Russian embassy before leaving Washington where they were assured they could pick up their visas in Helsinki at the Interparliamentary Union.

On the same day the visas were supposed to be ready, however, Poage made an anti-Communist speech at Helsinki. Speaking on disarmament, he declared that Reds should agree to Ike's inspection plan, warned that past experience of the U. S. made us reluctant to place our trust in words alone.

"We don't want coexistence, but cooperation," he said. "The Soviet nations should stop shooting down unarmed planes . . . Our prisoners should be released by the Reds . . . I will never take the bloody hand of the Chinese Communists as long as a single American boy remains in a Chinese jail."

Result: That afternoon Harold Cooley and the others got their visas, but there was none for Poage. He went to the Soviet embassy to inquire. Everyone played dumb. He then went to the Soviet delegation to the Interparliamentary Union. No results. Finally he had U. S. Ambassador Jack McFall telephone Ambassador Chip Bohlen in Moscow. Bohlen went to the Kremlin to inquire. Again everyone played dumb.

Poage finally gave up, turned over to Cooley the Helsinki-Moscow-Warsaw reservation he had prudently secured beforehand. Cooley took off for Moscow, Poage came back to Texas. He had spoken too soon.