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That They Shall Have Music

BEHIND the glass, steel and concrete elegance of Charlotte's multimillion-dollar Auditorium-Coliseum lies a warmly human story of one man and his dedication to a cultural ideal. That man is David Owens, patron of the arts, philanthropist, citizen extraordinary.

But for his tireless efforts the handsome twin structures might not have risen out of the dust at all. The Auditorium is named for him and its lobby contains Marjorie Ludean's bust of him but these hardly express the community's debt to Mr. Owens.

He is best known perhaps as a business and civic leader who gave a fortune away at mid-century to colleges, universities and a number of other worthy causes.

But an equally important feature of this distinguished Canadian-born merchant's long career is his enormous impact on the cultural life of the community—particularly in the field of music.

Charlotte first felt the effects of this devotion years ago. Mr. Owens personally organized many concert programs for the city. At one time, he arranged for the appearance here of the great Enrico Caruso. It was one of the Italian tenor's last public appearances.

After he and a few friends organized the Charlotte Community Concert Association, he became president of the group in 1932 and served in that capacity until he retired in 1950. In those 18 years he brought dozens of great artists and concert groups to Charlotte—Lauritz Melchior, Lotie Lehmann, Fritz Kreisler.

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As a matter of fact, he has indicated time and time again to the fearful West that he is fully prepared to match every "yes" with a "no."

Lawrence Tibbett, Helen Traubel, Yehudi Menuhin, Jussi Bjoerling and such famous orchestras as the Philadelphia and Cincinnati Symphonies.

His desire to bring good music to Charlotte as much as anything else prompted him to take on the preliminary studies for an auditorium here. Mayor Victor Shaw, a close friend and admirer, appointed him chairman of a citizens committee to make surveys and decide exactly what Charlotte needed to house music, dramatic and sports events and other entertainment.

The Owens committee worked for a year, finally decided that Charlotte needed not only a 2,500-seat auditorium but also a 10,000-seat coliseum.

Mr. Owens was in ill health when his committee made its report on "minimum needs" to the City Council. But the city's governing body knew he had led his study without relaxation and it approved the group's recommendations without question.

The result of that group's spare work under the inspiring leadership of Mr. Owens was viewed at a ceremony honoring Mr. Owens last night by more than 400 people. Appropriately, the event was celebrated with music.

The formal dedication of the Auditorium-Coliseum Sunday will be a moment of enormous importance for Mr. Owens and for Charlotte. The fine citizen who did so much to make it all possible deserves the salute of the entire community.

No Goodies In Adenauer's Pack

THE worried little murmurs echoing out of Washington as German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer confers behind the Kremlin's walls are as unseemly as they are unnecessary.

The chancellor is, after all, not in Moscow as a venerable Red Riding Hood loaded with goodies for the Big Bad Wolf.

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Any important agreement on the reunification is exceedingly unlikely.

But even if, miraculously, some deal were proposed, it still would require the assent of the Western powers—in addition to that of Bonn and Moscow. West Germany's sovereignty has indeed been restored but the United States, Britain and France have not surrendered their prerogative on reunification. They have, on the contrary, made a point of retaining it and plan to exercise it at the coming foreign ministers conference in Geneva.

Suburbia: Who Can Ask For Anything More?

People's Platform Charlotte
Editors: The News.
ON AUG. 13 you published a very enlightening letter from Mr. Stanford B. Brookshire under the heading of "Many Suburbanites Share City's Tax Burden," and we certainly appreciate your interesting and approach that the city administration should take.

The ill-fated, haphazard extension of some 30 square miles a year or so ago had its effect on the Thomasboro election and even today what a detestable proposition the city limits extension took.

NATHAN WINSTON
Mr. Brookshire however, is not unlike many other county residents in his statement that those municipalities which do not wish the "loss of police and fire protection, lighted streets and garbage collection as well as sewer and sewer connections" and as a county resident I wish to take this means to put the record straight.

First, the Mecklenburg County Police Department, we refer to them as the "Nation's Finest" has an efficiency standard equal to or above any department in the state and each year receives an effective traffic control program 365 days a year, not periodic "drives" and it has paid off in reduced traffic accidents.

SAFETY
This high death and accident rate which we looked into the Chamber of Commerce. The City of Charlotte is certainly no safe place for anyone to move with their family.

As for fire protection, the various volunteer departments have been so far superior to that of the city to fight a suburban blaze: in fact almost two years after the last general extension of the city limits, the fire extension of Spencer Bell on Chelsea Drive was practically destroyed by fire when the City Fire Dept. was looking for a fire plug.

GARBAGE
Garbage collection is certainly no problem for there are several good collection firms operating in the county.

As for schools, more than adequate bus service, often right to driveways, take children to some mighty fine schools. I have one son in the new Mecklenburg Junior High School and one in East Mecklenburg and any county resident will tell you that when they are on the school buses they are far safer than being exposed to the pedestrian killers that daily terrorize or kill pedestrians on the streets of Charlotte.

FAIR HAPPIER
I can assure you that my children are far happier in the county schools and both wish they could be in the city through the first years of their schooling.

I firmly believe that until the City of Charlotte can offer services only partially equal to the county that any attempt at a city limits extension will be defeated.

It is, of course, a highly optimistic interjection, since if such a balance of forces can be maintained then there is real hope that in the foreseeable future the government of the Soviet Union will evolve in the direction of the freedoms of the West.

It is only the ignorant ones who are trying to destroy what we have worked so hard for with the help of our good wife friends.

FROM SLAVERY
This generation owes too far from slavery to understand the meaning of slavery and anti-slavery freedom. But they stay in the South because they cannot find any place like the South. The good colored people



NATION'S FINEST GUARD MECKLENBURG'S SUBURBAN SCENE
It's So Peaceful In The Country

live here because they know what it means to them to live among white friends.

The whites and the best colored people have always gotten along fine. There are a number of good colored people who do not want changes in their schools.

The white children and the colored children are happy in their own schools.

We are proud and thankful for what the white people have done to help us. It is high time that we learn the full meaning of freedom and slavery.

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Let us, too, bear the good name of our freedom in this land of peace.

Unfortunately, the good names of our white and colored friends have sometimes been brought into ill repute by unthinking people.

Love is the master of hate. Let us God bring us together in love.

have sometimes been brought into ill repute by unthinking people. But let us colored people be thankful for our own schools. Let us advance in the right direction, forgetting the past wrongdoing of our sires, keeping God's commandments.

Love is the master of hate. Let us God bring us together in love.

North Carolinians: 'Just Wonderful'

Editors: The News.
THE PEOPLE of North Carolina should be congratulated for their good common sense and wisdom in spite of all the appeals to prejudice and hatred by various groups and politicians and in spite of all the demands for abolition of the public school system very few rank and file Tar Heels have responded. There will always be a few highly vocal fanatics who thrive on hate. They will make a lot of headlines and attempt to hog the limelight.

But we have a vast majority of North Carolinians are sincerely interested in helping the state of North Carolina solve its problem in the very easiest, calmest way possible — and without any defiance of the law. Tar Heels, as a whole, are just grand. More power to them.

Back To The Couch For Joe DiMaggio
Editors: The News.
I SEE where Joe DiMaggio says that someone or another the Dodgers will continue to lose the World Series and he says how good they are. The reason he gives is that Brooklyn is afflicted with a deep-rooted masochism which makes them unconsciously desire to be humiliated by the Yankees or any other American League club.

Not. DiMaggio can have his Freud. I'll take Furillo, Snider, Reese, Hines, Campanella, Robinson, Gilliam, Hoak, Zimmer, Newcombe, Erskine, Loeis et al any day — or night — in the week.

A Thousand Voices Make Better Music
Birmingham, Ala.
Editors: The News.
IN OLDFATHER days of South Carolina, the people assembled on Sundays and sometimes on several days at a time to sing together as a group or choir. This custom is still practiced in a very few places but there is an inclination on the part of audiences to keep the quartets and soloists on the stage during most of the entire day.

As a lover of gospel choir singing, I have had the privilege of attending these on several occasions in South Carolina as well as other states and have seen where several thousand people assembled and including hundreds of singers the program was devoted entirely to diet, tea, or quartet concerts.

This has proved to be a little discouraging as in these audiences often there are accomplished song leaders, composers and visitors from different states and who never have a chance to lead the large assembly in harmony singing.

The opinion generally is that a thousand voices make better music, better balance, more harmony and a richer tone than two or three or four voices.

It is my hope that arrangements can be made to have South wide and statewide singing conventions that will be entirely devoted to diet, tea, or quartet concerts.

Hurricane Coverage Praised By CAP
Charlotte
Editors: The News.
I THANK you for a splendid job of news coverage on the damage done by Hurricane Connie and Diane, as well as the emergency communications work carried out by North Carolina members of the Civil Air Patrol during this period. All the members of your staff who contributed to the news coverage made possible the news coverage that is helping to charter job the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration.

Note: The Black was named after Maj. Gen. William Murray Black, West Point graduate of 1877 and former chief of Army Engineers. He was in charge of helping to move 210,000 anti-Communist refugees from Northern to Southern Vietnam. Almost every modern language has been spoken on her decks.

Sister Vessel
The Black's sister ship, the Gen. W. C. Langfitt, is sailing in the Black's wake as the Freedom Ship of the Opinions and Charter Job the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration.



"You see, folks, functional design eliminates wasted space... we leave out the book shelves and have a built-in TV set, we leave out the dining area and substitute television trays..."

Marxist Turnabout

The New Revolution In Russia

By MARQUIS CHILDS

NEW YORK
Marshal Zhukov. Under Stalin the big decisions were made by one man and to get creative of his will was very likely to mean liquidation. There is evidence that the men now governing Russia have had enough of that kind of system and they mean to try another.

The beginning is small and the road ahead is very long. For all the "atmosphere" of harmony generated at the summit meeting of the Soviet cognates to try to virtually all broadcasts from the West in Russia, including even that of the Soviet radio.

Perhaps the most intensive phase of the cold war has been on the communications front. The lead in trying to break through to peoples held in subjection by the Soviet cognates to try to virtually all broadcasts from the West in Russia, including even that of the Soviet radio.

Freedom Ship
To thousands of hunted and herded refugees, the World War II transport Gen. W. M. Black is regarded as sort of a floating Statue of Liberty. It may bring a catch to their throats to learn that the worn, old ship has been retired. Her humanitarian career was ended last month when she was towed into Suisun Bay at the mouth of California's Sacramento River to join the mothball fleet.

Note: Texas Sen. Price Daniel, chairman of the Senate Narcotics Investigating Committee, is working with state and federal authorities on the D'Agostino case. Needless to say, the French would like to get their hands on him.

There are students of the Soviet Union, and among them those who have been most farsighted about this matter. It is, of course, a highly optimistic interjection, since if such a balance of forces can be maintained then there is real hope that in the foreseeable future the government of the Soviet Union will evolve in the direction of the freedoms of the West.

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by federal agents in this country the moment he landed in San Antonio after hopping across the Mexican border.

Fabulous Frenchman
The full story of his arrest cannot be told. It can be said, however, that the fabulous Frenchman did not come here of his own choosing. Our narcotics agents tipped off Mexican authorities that he was using their country as a base for smuggling dope into the United States and Canada. The Mexicans quietly busied him on a plane bound for San Antonio.

It is enough to say that the federal government was in the San Antonio D'Agostino got off the plane waiting about being kidnapped. Meanwhile, a ruthless, but unpublicized international criminal is cooling his heels in the San Antonio clink.

WHEN PREACHERS MADE BRANDY

THE section has recently been interested in Lemuel Burkitt, the Sandy Run pastor who was North Carolina's top Baptist during the Revolutionary period and the early republic. A marker to him was recently unveiled at Sandy Run Church in Roxobel—product of the work of a committee of the West Chowan Association.

Drew Pearson's Merry Go-Round

Editors' Note: While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation his column is being written by members of his staff.

Nazi Collaborator Held In San Antonio

included displaced persons from Europe, White Russians from Shanghai, Dutch Soldiers from Java and Poles stranded in Africa. Her latest major service was helping to move 210,000 anti-Communist refugees from Northern to Southern Vietnam. Almost every modern language has been spoken on her decks.

Roy Parker, Jr. in The Hertford County Herald

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