



# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1956

## Crisis In Farming: Everybody's Problem

NORTH CAROLINA'S agricultural kingdom, after much stretching and straining to meet depressing national trends, is shrinking at last.

The state lost 20,602 farms between 1950 and 1954, according to the latest University of North Carolina News Letter.

Except for the abnormal years of 1935-40, this is the first time Tar Heels have ever lost farms.

In fact, North Carolina is the only state in the union in which increases in farms during the 1940-50 decade.

Nationally, the number of farms reached a peak about 1910, remained fairly constant for 25 years and has been steadily declining ever since.

Between 1935 and 1940 the country lost nearly 11.2 million farms.

In 1800, four out of every five Americans lived on farms; now only about one in five.

Why then, with fewer farmers, is the "farm problem" the No. 1 issue in U. S. politics today?

The pressure groups supply part of the answer.

The farm bloc started with the tractors in the 1920's and became great and powerful after 1933.

This group—made up of congressmen amenable to farm legislation, general organizations representing all the farmers and a few special interest organizations—may symbolize ancient, homely, back-country virtues. But behind the facade is hard-boiled commercial drive.

W. M. Kiplinger once called the farm bloc the best turned-out lobby in Washington, controlling 16 million votes, "once the organizations stand united."

The most important of these organiza-

tions are the Farm Bureau Federation, the Grange and the Farmers Union but there are all sorts of smaller pressure groups devoted to special fields of interest—like the ones that go whooping to Washington everytime they catch a whiff of Argentine beef.

Still, with agriculture diminishing shouldn't the national influence of farmers diminish too? A stern moralist might suggest that the farmers stew in their own juice now. But not the politician.

In the union election of congressmen give the agricultural states a big mathematical advantage—especially in the Senate. The farmer is important. And rightly so.

You can't let one out of five U. S. citizens stew in his own juice without wrecking the economy and, for that matter, the stability of American society.

Anyway, as Stuart Chase says, we had better not get too haughty with our farmers and the thinking he represents on the one hand and the sophisticated and international-

New York Times on the other. The one is everything that the other is not. The one fears the Democratic institutions that the other is dedicated to upholding.

In this struggle the Eastlands and the McCarrans and their friends have been on the losing end for a long time. They are losing in politics and in the courts; the press is the recorder of their losses and frustrations.

Lacking personal majesty of any description they never rise above their setbacks. Rarely if ever, in

## No Good Notices

# The Probe And The Book

By DORIS FLEESOM

WASHINGTON  
 CHAIRMAN EASTLAND of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee says he is trying to find out whether a few Communists in the press influenced public opinion and so aided the Communists. His principal target is the New York Times and most of his witnesses are drawn from the very large staff of that newspaper.

A BOOK  
 He will find out that the answer is no, they did not. It would have been a little cheaper for the taxpayers if he had read the Times consistently for there is one thing about writing. Once put down, the words are there, this indelible aspect of the trade lives in the saying: "Would that mine enemy would write a book."

Anyway, Eastland will be challenged to show Communist influence and he can't. He will get the headlines Committee Counsel Saurine promised him. The insular, reactionary minority of the Senate to which Saurine has been a grey eminence since the late Pat McCarran recognized his special talents, will enjoy the harassment of the press that has so signally failed to appreciate it.

OPPOSITION  
 This is the essence of the conflict on Capitol Hill between Eastland and the thinking he represents on the one hand and the sophisticated and international-

New York Times on the other. The one is everything that the other is not. The one fears the Democratic institutions that the other is dedicated to upholding.

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the parlance of the theater, do they get a good notice in the great Washington and New York newspapers which are the federal government's daily fare.

If responsible politicians were holding the present hearings the press would take them very seriously. Congressional leaders instead predict a hasty retreat and a dull end to the episode.

Perhaps however the politicians are not too unhappy watching the reporters report the misdeeds and poor judgment of reporters for a change. Certainly these existed among some of the Eastland witnesses, clamish as one would like to be about one's own.

JUDGMENT  
 The feeling among politicians that the correspondents sit in judgment all the time but are never judged was expressed by an important Republican who had helped to bring about the GOP congressional victory in 1946.

"We got a new Congress," he said with satisfaction, "and we were going to get a new President in two years." Then his face fell. "But I guess we're stuck with you same old reporters in the press gallery. He was mistaken about the President."

A LEGACY  
 The undue concentration of McCarran in the parent committee of Internal Security, Judiciary, is McCarran's legacy to the country. From his powerful post as Judiciary Chairman, the strong-willed Nevada dictator his committee membership and

Forest, Miss The New York Times, the quality he valued which was McCarran's style of thinking.

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## 'And Now, At One And The Same Time—'



# People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but will be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

## The Court Usurped Power Of People

Pittsboro  
 Editors, The News:  
 THERE may be much truth in what you say in your editorial captioned "The Case Against Interposition" as being the "flimsiest weapon" employed by "reactionaries." But you go far afield in your interpretation of the function of the U. S. Supreme Court.

CHANGE  
 The founding fathers understood thoroughly that life is not static, but changing; hence they provided for changes in the basic law, the U. S. constitution. These able men submitted the work of their time and labor to the people for approval, the source of constitutional power in a republican form of government, and they wisely inserted in its original document provision for its change in the same way—resort to the people for approval of the change. There is no other lawful way in which the change may be made.

FRUSTRATION  
 In face of the foregoing obvious fact, you nevertheless contend that "it falls to the Supreme Court to keep the constitution alive and growing." Why have a constitution at all if it is the function of the U. S. Supreme Court to keep it "alive and growing," not in keeping necessarily with the will of the people whose sole privilege and duty it is to keep it alive and growing—provision for which the constitution itself contains, by amendment, of course? In your interpretation of the function of the Court there is no other branch of the government, no other power, in the people or any other branch of the government. This results in complete frustration of a republican form of government.

On the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States on May 27, 1954, is as complete usurpation of power as you can find in the annals of any republican form of government. All the criteria theretofore approved and used by courts in the interpretation of constitutional provisions were discarded—intent as indicated by current acts and expressions of the framers, and approving the 14th Amendment—and no supporting legal or constitutional authority cited as basis for its ruling. On the other

hand, it repudiated (overturned) 123 expressions of the courts of the country, including five of its own, and based its conclusion on researches of social scientists, some of whom were of doubtful national loyalties. And the 14th Amendment itself provided that its enforcement should be by appropriate legislation on the part of the Congress. So we find the Court both interpreting and legislating.

Of course, I am not a candidate for any contemporary citation, but there is no force under Heaven that can make me respect such usurpation of power.

—JOHN W. HESTER, Dumas

And remember, too, that their great, white forefathers brought Negro here from Africa and taught him the civilized ways of America cultures, so doesn't that include cutting and fighting and having illegitimate children?

—MRS. LOUISE ADREY, Charlotte

'Greatest Evil': Mixing Of Races  
 Editors, The News:  
 THE HUAC of Christ is a spiritual church and that they worship must worship in spirit, St. John 4:24. They that go to God in heaven will be as the angels of God in heaven. Matt. 22:30, 30.

In order to obtain heaven we are to obey God's commands. "Thou shalt not commit adultery," Ex. 20:14, and all

## God-Given Rights Can't Be Erased

Charlotte  
 Editors The News:  
 GOD SO loved the world, and that includes everything, that He gave His only begotten Son, so that all men could be free. And what some may think have taken from the Negro, his God-given right to the tree of life, they are sadly mistaken.

I hope they have given God sufficient notice that they don't ever intend for the Negro to have his rights. Just why are they so sure that God is a white man? Taking for granted that if he appeared at their front door in the skin of a black man they would send him around to their back door.

Speaking of "crime," what goes with this beautiful America that was once inhabited by the Indians?

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interest in a television station in Beaumont, Tex.

The FCC, which is in for an investigation by Sen. Magnuson of Washington next week, is a political party, the husband of the only lady member of Ike's cabinet, and had ruled that he could not be a politician, but took care to watch that his poem is not crushed by the burden of preaching, philosophy, and "Beyond Criticism."

The FCC also turned down the Enterprise Co., because it owned newspapers, and gave the TV license instead to the Beaumont Broadcasting Co.

Then suddenly, the FCC did an unusual thing. It scheduled a rehearing. In only one other political case had the FCC opened up a decision it had already made. But this time unusual forces were at work behind the scenes.

Peacemaker  
 And after the new hearing was ordered, something even more peculiar happened. Mr. Hobby, husband of the secretary of health, education, and welfare, suddenly moved in and took over part of the victorious Beaumont Broadcasting Co. He netted \$33,000 and received 35 per cent interest—a dirt-cheap deal.

through the Bible it is taught. All people know that anything that is mixed with another, though both may be pure alone, but when mixed they become adulterated (impure, which is adultery.) Nations commit adultery when they go out of the pure way, Ezek. 23:7. Also Jer. 3:9.

Any ruler, any court, any body of dictators, any law, any person, any preacher, black or white, any body of teachers, any teachers, or anyone else that tries to persuade, force, or deceive anyone, thereby mixing with race society, in marriage, (for that is the goal the Negro has set because they have already stated so) is a partaker of this greatest evil that could come on any country.

Any preacher that doesn't know enough about the Bible to know that God's ways are pure ways, shouldn't be allowed to preach and deceive Bible-ignorant people. The Bible says to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. But nowhere did He say to mix up with them, thereby mixing with race society, adultery in doing so.

One race of people is as good as another as far as I know, if they have not had a curse put upon them by the Lord, proving they keep themselves a pure race. The Negro shouldn't want to adulterate his race, no more than the white race should want to adulterate their race.

—JOHN S. DICKEYSON

## The Poet

THE poet's fame and honor are based on his love and knowledge of beauty; he does not love religion, science, or philosophy more, or as much. And it is love of beauty which other men sometimes interpret as love itself.

The poet is a man of love. But he next goes on to say that he is so fired with the love of beauty that he must create beauty itself. He does so by his license instead of trying to create beauty. No good poet departs from the obsession with beauty for a second. The moment he does so he is lost—off on the journey to historic life or myth. If the poet must play poetry, he must play it as the desire of a poet, and he takes care to watch that his poem is not crushed by the burden of preaching, philosophy, and "Beyond Criticism."

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## The Right To Speak Your Mind

IF there is any one place where there should be complete freedom of expression, where the interchange of thought and clash of opinion ought to be absolutely untrammelled, it is in the letters column of a newspaper.

This is the ideal. We believe in it sincerely.

Over the years, we have been proud of the flow of letters to THE NEWS. It has been strong and steady. Since the announcement of the Supreme Court decision on segregation in the public schools it has often reached the flood stage.

It is a healthy sign for it indicates that interest in the most significant issue to face this area in half a century runs deep, that the unique forum offered by the column we call PEOPLE'S PLATFORM is being used as an instrument for fashioning a better democracy.

But, unfortunately, some letters received by THE NEWS have been highly inflammatory. They have included sweeping assaults on whole racial and religious groups. They have been full of anger and hate and have been patently fashioned to stir up racial animosity.

We were faced with a disturbing responsibility. We have found it necessary to eliminate some of the more inflammatory language or eliminate some letters altogether.

But, if anything, we have not been strict enough. A few phrases have slipped by that should have been deleted.

THE founders of Utopia have not yet found what to do about philosophical diversity. When they insist on making Utopia universal they are actually making it an instrument of frustration, if not suppression.

Take the plight of Britain's tramps, for instance.

They are deserting the deserted isle for the continent, leaving behind protests that the welfare state is ruining their profession.

It all started in 1948 when tramps were officially classed as "persons without a settled way of living." Since then they have been docketed, checked, herded into reception stations, bathed, quizzed, coded and urged to give up their way of life. Now they are fleeing abroad rather than face extinction.

The trouble is that some tramps choose their way of life because they enjoy it. A few we have met on this side of the Atlantic are men of education who like the roving life because it gives them peace and time for reflection. George Orwell, author of *Nineteen Eighty-four* and *ANIMAL FARM*, was a practicing tramp for many years and wrote a fine book about his experiences. DOWN AND OUT IN PARIS AND LONDON. He was a stout defender of the brotherhood.

Things have indeed come to a pretty pass. That's the main thing we have against the welfare state enthusiasts: They believe in government by busy-bodies.

As we have said before, in trying to keep the Platform from being used as a vehicle to create racial hatred, the editors are not invoking censorship. It is our policy to let our readers speak their minds, short of libel and obscenity. A letters column that does not grant that latitude must not be devised as a political lollipop for a special group but as part of a program for all Americans. Anything less will be unacceptable.

We value the letters and attempt to edit them with care. If space limitations make it necessary to prune the longer ones we make a conscientious effort to preserve both the line of thought and the force of the argument.

But on such issues as race and religion, THE NEWS has a responsibility to the community and to the region to encourage temperance and to discourage high emotions. Strong convictions are welcome but not blanket insults of an entire race or religion.

We must, again, ask for temperance. In addition, may we offer the following suggestions about future contributions to PEOPLE'S PLATFORM?

1—Be as brief as possible; letters are subject to condensation.

2—Avoid blanket indictments; use moderate, reasonable language.

3—State your own opinions and avoid criticizing other letters or writers.

4—All letters should be signed and your address should be included (name may be withheld on request).

We welcome your letters. THE NEWS PEOPLE'S PLATFORM is your column. We invite you to read it.

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"The person who associates with younger people and joins in their activities will never grow old," says a psychologist. Of course he won't—he won't live that long—JACKSON (Miss). STATE TIMES.

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SEN. MCCARRAN  
 PAT MCCARRAN

SEN. EASTLAND  
 PAT MCCARRAN

## Leisure And Grace

End Of The Six O'Clock Swill  
 By ROBERT C. RUARK

SYDNEY, Australia  
 CIVILIZATION IN some respects has come to Australia with the abolition of what we used to call the six o'clock swill. That was the closing time for the public houses and the legitimate

leisure and grace have come to Australia. Service is going on longer stretches to the country. The hotels have improved immeasurably and so have the shops here. The new Australian is responsible in a large degree. The natives of 20 countries have brought their skills and cultures to Australia and the impact is noticeable on every hand.

Gradually the harshness and discomfort of living have been gentled by a European hand. Public drinking has been outlawed a few years ago in Australia was shocking. A man belted up against a bar and a six deep in edging smoke and bloated himself with as much beer as he could swallow before the barman took him back to the glasses. The man went home sozzled to the eyes, staggered through dinner and passed out in his chair.

WASHINGTON  
 OMAHA'S Sen. Mike Monroney, in making his probe of Civil Aeronautics appointments, might well take a look at a portrait entitled "Custer's Last Stand" which has disappeared from the White House.

Some Bearing  
 He might find that the picture had some bearing on the friendly relations between the White House and American Airlines and on the visiting of Sen. Josh Lee, Democrat, as a member on the Civil Aeronautics Board, a position which by the way goes to a Democrat. Lee had voted rather consistently against the big airlines, especially against the biggest of them, American Airlines.

Nothing Illegal  
 There is nothing illegal in making such a gift to the President of the United States. However, it isn't usually done. And, as in the case of the freeze given to Mrs. Truman, such gifts, when coming from those doing business with the government and seeking important contracts from the government, must be subject to public scrutiny and sometimes criticism.

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