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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1956

Recreation: Fit Remedies To Needs

ALL OF Charlotte's problems are man-made and man-remediable. A city is, after all, only a multitude of human impulses.

Its progress is measured by the participation of the people, whatever the direction of their collective actions—toward chaotic growth or toward high achievement.

And it is our firmest belief that an overwhelming majority of Charlotte people will follow plans of the highest order when those plans are widely understood and accepted.

That includes plans for needed improvements in the recreation facilities of Charlotte and the surrounding countryside.

The Social Planning Council performed a distinct public service today in launching a comprehensive drive to educate the community on the needs and the remedies. If conducted vigorously, earnestly and with imagination, it cannot help but succeed.

A potentially strong special committee has been appointed, headed by Charles A. Hunter. As a guide, it will use the recommendations of a survey conducted nine months ago by the Allen Organization, professional consultants.

All of the Allen report's program cannot be implemented—nor should it be. It is an expensive package. In some respects it is a luxury for a city of Charlotte's limited resources to absorb for many years to come.

But the Allen report was not intended as an all-or-nothing proposition. It represents ideals and, if you will, perfection. It contains, however, many suggestions that can be acted upon immediately and at comparatively little cost to the government of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

The important thing is to get busy

on what can be done now and earmark for the future the plans that are obvious beyond the means of the present. But, as Chairman Hunter warned today, "We don't want to wake up some day and find there's no recreation available for our citizens."

To a large extent, it will mean making a place in the fast-growing metropolitan community for our children to play. Last year, 4,261 children were born in Charlotte alone, 4,347 the year before that and 3,963 in 1953. According to the Census Bureau, Mecklenburg County had 55,315 children aged 14 and under in 1950. That is the county's second largest population group—only a few thousand behind ages 30 to 49. Homes are being built by the thousands. Last year, \$28,300,417 in new building permits were recorded at City Hall.

Active, growing, restless children of today and tomorrow will need places to play. Unless they can we return cities to their former, unexciting and unexciting 19th Century patterns. But we can build a 20th Century America where there will be increasing opportunities for play and leisure living.

Recreation is a 20th Century necessity.

Mr. Hunter's committee will not deal in generalities. It will address itself to facts, individual circumstances and neighborhood application. The community will be doing itself a favor to listen.

'Old Excellence Guaranteed 200-Proof'

JUDGE Robert W. Winston once described North Carolina as a "militant mediocrity."

Years later, William T. Polk penned a prideful apology. "Yes, we Tar heels have our ups and downs," he wrote. "Ordinarily we are willing enough to tip the weak tea of mediocrity, but ever so often we go off on a root-tooting binge inspired by our incurable thirst for 'Old Excellence Guaranteed 200-Proof.'"

With its new million-dollar State Art Gallery in full operation and winning plaudits at home and abroad Tar Heels are rightfully enjoying their happiest cultural glow in years.

It had begun to look as if North Carolina's interest in art was not going to progress much beyond John White's paintings of Indian life on Roanoke Island in 1585. But today the state's millions can enjoy the paintings of a Rembrandt just as easily as the best of ball ability of a Rosenbluth. What's more, the Rembrandts will keep.

It is particularly gratifying that the Mint Museum and Kenneth Whitsett, a local artist-businessman, are making it possible for Mecklenburgers to make a pilgrim page to Raleigh Saturday

by view the state's art treasures first hand, through the cooperation of Queen City Trailways.

Charlotteans are fortunate enough to have a modestly equipped art museum of their own. But whether they join the Mint-Whitsett excursion or not, they should make arrangements to visit the excellent state-owned collection soon. It is truly a gallery of masterpieces and worthy of the pride of every North Carolinian. In fact, it is a presumptuous soul indeed who will again describe the state as "a vale of humility between two mountains of conceit."

No Regrets

THE Army's banishment of the carrier pigeon and the pack mule have brought many an editorial tear to the eyes of our sentimental contemporaries. But we lament not.

War has assumed such a terrifying status of late that it simply was not fair to ring in unnecessarily any other living species.

The invention of homo sapiens, let him stew—alone—in his own juice.

Postscript To The Battle Of Cotswold

MECKLENBURGERS are indebted to the mothers of Cotswold for an illustrated lecture in effective political action.

Through their efforts traffic lights are going up at three unsafe crossings. Speed limits are to be reduced in most county school zones. And somewhere in the maze of Raleigh's bureaucracy a rule book that forbade these concessions to school safety is being rewritten. It was a tough fight, but the ladies won. "The saying is 'You can't fight city hall.'"

illustrates the individual's supposed helplessness against government. But you really can fight city hall and the State Capitol, too, if you have a good cause and are willing to spend the time and shoe leather required to prosecute it.

As an appropriate postscript to the Battle of Cotswold, we suggest that the now unneeded stop sign at the school crossing be presented to the gentleman who kept taking it down—along with a bill for the price of it.

From The Chicago Daily Tribune

THE VANISHING PORCH

THE disappearance of the rocking chair, according to a reader who cornered us the other day, is due not to the quickening tempo of life but to changes in the style of houses. A rocking chair was to be seen in or sit on the porch in, he says. Nowadays sewing is done at a sewing machine, and front porches are out of style.

The porch itself has been a sort of American institution for which we have borrowed names to suit our fancy. The word "porch" is our most common one because it is the only one which originated in England.

In England, if you consult an English dictionary, is "a building forming an inclosure or protection for a doorway." Quite a different thing from the screened-in area where we—or at least our grandparents—relax on summer evenings with a cool drink. The word is from Latin portico, and implies a stately row of columns.

The Dutch settlers didn't know the English word of porch columns. They always referred to the entrance of their houses as the step, a step or series of steps which led up to the door. This is the origin of "stoop," which is now used almost as indiscriminately as "porch."

Both "porch" and "stoop" are homey

sorts of words which did not appeal to the pretentious. The latter, therefore, looked about and adopted words like verandah, terrace, piazza, loggia and patio.

"Verandah" was imported by travelers to India, where it described the imposing enclosure which went all or part way around upper class homes and was adopted as part of standard British colonial architecture. Actually the word may have been planted in India by the Portuguese, to whom a railing was a "Veranda."

The "piazza" began as a public square in Italy, and has gradually metamorphosed into a hybrid between a porch and a balcony. The "loggia" is a sort of arcade in Italy which probably sounded good to the matrons of early American society. The "terrace" and "patio" should not be used for parts of the house, as both are outdoor features, the former composed, etymologically, of a raised heap of earth, and the latter surrounded by parts of the house or a wall.

"Ship-in-bottle makers, attention: Young man accepts full bottles of Scotch whisky, returns them ready for insertion into the satellite's consignment work guaranteed Service free—Ad in the Texas, London.

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People's Platform Abolish Grants-In-Aid To University Athletes

ONE of my many disagreeing friends writes me that the public is deserving of relief from my constant effusions in the press, and maybe he is right. I have on several occasions re-

solved that the world might go to the devil in its own fashion, only to later conclude I should make another effort to avert such disaster. Your editorial of Dec. 10 concluded that "The Moreland Case Can't Be Won" and that it should

be closed and the heads of the two institutions, one at Raleigh and the other at Chapel Hill, should get back on their primary jobs. Bob House, chancellor of the Chapel Hill unit, says that the situation actually exists, and Bob is not given to exaggeration. So

let's not stir it more lest it stinks more.

Moreland is a very attractive graffe — something highly prized in contests on the court, as he can lay them up and in. However, college athletics are mere aids to the development of a sound body to support a sound mind, and should not be permitted to become the top instead of the bottom of the educational process.

Moreland has a background of grief, not necessarily to himself, but to those who contended for the top potentials. An institution in his home state thought they had him "hooked," so also, the Texas A. & M., which this year won the Southwest Conference championship in football, but it has been barred from Cotton Bowl as the last team because of irregular recruiting practices, and Moreland is listed as an instance of attempted irregular recruiting.

Now N. C. State has been overthrown in an attempt to get by the NCAA's rules relating to recruiting and has been put on a four-year probation period. Moreland has caused trouble plenty, but I do not blame him. The system now employed by many of our top educational institutions is to be blamed. Grants-in-aid to athletes should be abolished. Such aids should never have been adopted.

Grants-in-aid to students who need it should be encouraged, and if they happen to be able to handle a football or basketball game, the oldest league or association in the country, the Ivy League, has found it necessary to abolish the grants-in-aid to student-athletes, and the Big Ten Association is now working on the same problem. Bobby Dodd, one of the great coaches of the country, told the Touch-Down Club in Winston-Salem last week that the desire to win athletic contests at all hazards would kill our great college sports. And low true he is.

—JOHN W. HESTER

EVERY night I read the Empty Stocking totals and it makes my heart glad to know that people have money to give to make others happy. I know they have Christmas spirit for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Know that an Christmas morning many little children and perhaps older people, too, will have happiness — all because somebody cared.

Christ gave so much—His life—and that is something to think about. He considered the price paid by each of these home owners for water lines, sewerage lines, street tanks, gas, electric wells in meeting the county code, and why shouldn't we protest an.

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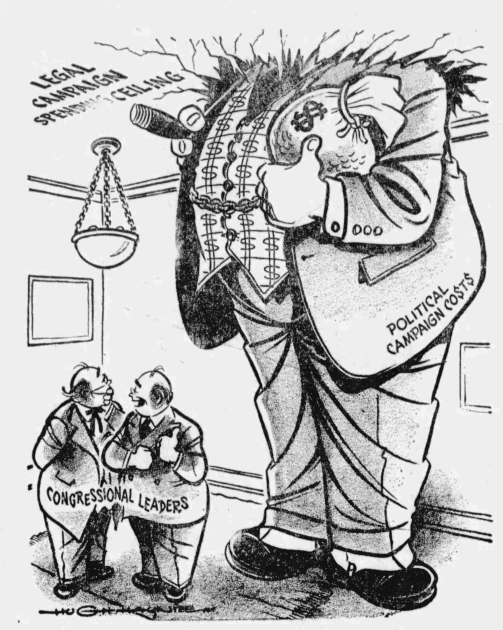
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'Y'know, We Really Should Do Something About That'



Snapping Shins On A Clear Day The Silliest Of All Olympics

By ROBERT C. RUARK

WAS out in the bush when our little battery radio informed me that the Russians had pulled ahead of the Americans in the Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia. They had accrued a fleet of gold medals for winning the Greek-Roman wrestles, dandruff - scratching, and physical jerks and had rolled up a sizeable advantage, as I heard it through the squawks, whistles and hoots of our noble little set.

I do not believe that the Russians' medals included any for shop-lifting, although well they might because that beely brood, shuttler Nina something, was arrested in London for pinching ladies hats and created a marvelous scandal.

ROUGH EVENT The radio said, though, that the Hungarians whipped the Russians in the swimming and that it was a very rough event. I am really surprised that nobody introduced a snicket conflict between unarmed civilians and Russian tanks. They have had a lot of practice at that sport lately.

One of the chief reasons an Olympiad is silly is that in the case of the Russians, at least, the women that aren't women and the women that aren't men are no pro anyhow and have done nothing but practice athlete's foot.

OWL-EYED WRITER The only strictly amateur performance I can recall was when Paul Gallico, an owl-eyed sports writer, fell off an Alp in the middle 1800s and won the involuntary skiing championship. According to Mr. Westbrook Pegler, Gallico's previous skiing had been confined to the beginners' ramp at Abercornie and Pico.

And the only sports I consider duller than Greek-Roman rasses and competitive calisthenics are swimming, running, jumping, putting the shot, hurling the javelin, diving, target-shooting, archery, croquet and squash, all of which seem to be performed in short pants and cool points.

BROKEN NECKS I always enjoyed the equestrian events because occasionally a rider fell off and broke his neck. And then I think of all the horse shows I covered and smile.

I always liked Herter for more or less the same reason. The sound of snapping shins on a clear day is distinctly pleasant. The only thing I wish is that somebody would invent a point system for the Olympics by which everybody would lose. We could save a lot of useful newspaper that way and devote it to fuller coverage of all the private wars that friendly competitors are now fighting outside Australia.

TEA TIME AT MELBOURNE Horses Were Not Invited

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Demos To Probe Liberation Promises

WASHINGTON THE extent to which the Republican Party won votes last November by promising liberation of the satellite nations is an interesting question sure to be probed by Congress in January. Already Sens. Humphrey of Minnesota and Neuberger of Oregon have indicated they will press for such an investigation.

Swing Necessary He then explained to newsmen that he had fought as early as 1952 that it was important for the Republicans to swing the big mass of votes among Poles, Slovaks, Italians, Hungarians and east Europeans generally away from the Democrats where they had steadily voted ever since the early days of Roosevelt. So he developed the technique of taunting the Democrats with the Yalta agreement pertaining to the satellites and simultaneously pledged liberation of the satellites.

Amazing Job Ab Herman, the astute and able director of the Minorities Division of the Republican National Committee has had some interesting things to say on this point. Mr. Herman unquestionably did an amazing job of swinging the foreign-language vote to Ike and from a cold political viewpoint deserves credit. A few weeks ago, prior to the tragic bloodshed in Hungary, he was willing to take credit.

was all Ike's doing." "What about the fact that you don't liberate 'em?" Mr. Herman was asked. "Well, it's kind of coldblooded," Mr. Herman admitted, "but it's the way you win wars."

Not So Talkative Visited later, after the Hungarian bloodshed, Mr. Herman was not so talkative. He did talk about the big swing of the foreign language group over to Eisenhower, and he let that they would remain in the Republican column. He was also willing to have newspapermen inspect literature which the Republican National Committee had circulated among Poles, Hungarians, Czechs, et al. Part of was in the languages of these na-

Cabinet Shifts To Strengthen Nixon's Nomination Chances

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON RE-SHUFFLING of the administration posts is now in progress, as always after an election. And when the game of musical chairs is over, Vice President Richard M. Nixon, who was no throat-bitten by the most powerful man in the Eisenhower administration, may emerge as the second Eisenhower administration's second most powerful man.

Within the next several months, there may be six new faces in the Cabinet — in the State, Defense, Post Office, Agriculture, Commerce and Treasury places. And of the six new faces, the vice president will in all likelihood recognize in three and perhaps four either a close personal friend or a powerful political ally.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles is expected to be among the first to depart. Until recently Dulles had wanted to stay on until his 70th birthday, in February 1958. But in the nature of things, the secretaries of state are not particularly close personally, but Hall did as much as any other man to give Nixon's nomination. And the astute Hall is an ally well worth having.

Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson's departure is also expected. Perhaps the late spring or early summer will see the departure of a Cabinet member. It is then clear why Nixon will almost surely become far and away the most powerful vice president in history. And it is also clear why the vice president, even this far in advance, looks like a hard man to beat for the Republican nomination in 1960.

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