



# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## In The Age Of The Team, A Huddle

There was a time, not long past, when many a Tar Heel congressman viewed the executive hierarchy of state government in Raleigh with little more than detached condescension. When he left for Washington he remembered his district and his personal political fences but his relations with the governor's mansion were strained to say the least.

Luther H. Hodges, an organizer of rare talent and team-man par excellence, would like to change all that. For the first time in the memory of the oldest ward heeler, a governor in North Carolina is inviting the state's entire congressional delegation, including the two senators, to an elaborate low feast with heads of state departments, agencies and institutions.

The justification is set for Tuesday at the mansion. About 15 agency heads will be present to make brief talks explaining their needs and problems—particularly needs and problems affected by federal benevolence.

It is a happy plan and a necessary one.

However, state's fighters may deplore it, centralization is a fact of political life in this country. As a result, state and federal interests are closely and delicately allied. The state must look to Washington for many things—including the return of an occasional tax dollar routed originally out of the jeans of a tobacco farmer from Edgecombe or a manufacturer from Mecklenburg.

A congressman's highest achievement is no longer registered when he rises, like the late Felix Walker, to "make a speech for Buncombe." Today he speaks, and he should speak, for the state—and that includes the governor, the State Highway Commission, the Department of Public Welfare, the Employment Security Commission and Timothy T. Tarheel.

Members of the congressional delegation may differ with the governor and his lieutenants—some of them decidedly. But they are all to be fully aware of the problems and needs of government on the state level. And a tighter partnership would be good for us all.

## Onward & Upward With The Economist

The upward march of the consumer price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics has economists more horrified than housewives. They simply cannot agree on terminology to describe what is going on. The resulting gobbledegoo resembles a Shinto nightmare of semantics.

It is not, as Mr. Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, points out, "runaway inflation." Neither is the index "blown up." Nor is it a "rolling adjustment," an "inventory correction" or properly a "seasonal alteration."

The financial experts of the New York Times point out sagely that it is not an "adventitious non-recurring phenomenon," either. The Times prefers to call it the "first genuine breakaway from a sideways movement."

While indices have been moving mysteriously sideways in this country, Russia has been experiencing what the So-

viet Academy of Science refers to as a *Spad*—and this may be the first time since the October Revolution in 1917 that a Communist spokesman has called a *Spad* a *Spad*.

As the science of measuring human appetites for goods and services, economics is shaky enough without playful word games that change faster than military's hat styles. In recent decades we have survived a depression, a recession, a boom, a leveling off, an easing off, a lull, a drop, a dip, a slip, a correction, an upsurge, a slowdown, a rolling adjustment and a whatnot. Now we have apparently broken out of the grip of a sideways movement, avoided an adventitious non-recurring phenomenon and are apparently experiencing something like walkaway (not runaway) inflation.

And what's all the brain-racking, word-wrangling and anguish about? Seems that things cost more.

## They Say That Nice Guys Finish Last

The very thought of Jackie Robinson trotting on the field with the hated New York Giants in 1957 is enough to send the Flatbush faithful into deep shock. The fact that the most valorous gladiator of modern Dodge history has been traded is had enough. The fact he is going to the Giants is catastrophic.

When he hustles out of the Polo Grounds runway amid unlikely and undeserving teammates, some wisecracks in the sports writing fraternity are sure to recall the classic lines that once described Jack Dempsey's entrance in a ring:

Hail! The conquering hero comes,  
 Surrounded by a bunch of bums.

Such is professional baseball. The system has no heart, no sentiment. It tolerated Gehrig in his final decline. But Ruth was finally traded. And last summer the Yankees booted out Rizzuto with only three or four weeks left in his farewell season.

Robinson made baseball history with the Dodgers. He made social history, too, and lived hard doing it.

He is an older, grayer athlete today. But the champ looked fit in 1956, square of shoulder, springy of tread and devil on the base paths.

His success story was Brooklyn's success story, too. The club should have let him bow out as a Dodger. That it didn't makes baseball a little poorer—and sentimental fans a little sadder.

## The Post Office And Saint Nicholas

CHRISTMAS is coming and creatures are stirring.

They are writing letters to Santa Claus, some of which are not being shyly accepted for mailing by parents and then hidden away. Some of these letters are being toted to mailboxes on toddling legs and placed, with infinite trust, in the hands of the U. S. Post Office. Answers are awaited.

Having the burden of deception transferred via a three-cent stamp may be a boon for parents. But how, one is tempted to ask, is the Post Office discharging this tender trust?

What happens to these letters?

Several possibilities may be posed: Mail planes dump all Santa Claus letters in the general vicinity of the North Pole.

There is a Post Office clerk who writes nice, non-committal replies over the signature of Santa Claus.

The letters are returned, stamped on the front: NOT AT THIS ADDRESS, INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS, or TRY SOUTH POLE.

The letters are sold at public auction to toy manufacturers who can them for fresh ideas.

They are sent to various congressmen who write nice, non-committal replies over the signature of Santa Claus.

Older folks at the Post Office takes none of these ways out.

It would be simple, of course, to ask and find out what it does do with Santa Claus letters. We don't ask because, whatever it does with them—short of actual delivery—we don't think we'd like it.

From The Washington Post & Times-Herald

## MUSTERING OUT THE FAUNA

WELL as the military people say, orders are orders; and so a few years ago the last remnants of the once celebrated United States Cavalry obediently repaired to a remount station where they turned in their steeds, saddles and sabres and were issued in return trucks, jeeps, ignition keys and tire-changing jacks. They also exchanged their little yellow-bound manuals on the Scoop, or The Thorozor for learned texts on the anatomy of automotive engines.

Still, it was not until the other day that the last mule-powered field artillery battalion was converted into an "airplumbious firing unit," which, as we understand it, will be transported from one difficult terrain to another by helicopters. (All this must have seemed an almost unbearable insult to the old Army mule-skinner whose blasphemous eloquence in all Indo-European languages, including the classical Greek, has long been proverbial, and who therefore knew, who the Pentagon obviously does

not, that the new descriptive name of their outfit, if in any wise warranted, should have been the "aerobious" or even better, the "aerobic" artillery, which is to say the kind that can live in the air.)

And now it seems that even the Signal Corps is getting rid of its carrier pigeon service on the principle that anything a bird can do an electron can do better and cheaper. Well, no doubt it can and we wish it also were possible to muster out the Washington starlings by order of the Chief of Staff. Anyway, it seems that the only remaining form of animal life of any value to the national defense is human. And indeed it may well be that even human beings will be soon obsolete for war-making purposes, and that we can now look forward to that happy day, envisaged by so great an authority as the British Major Gen. Fuller, when helicopters will be fought exclusively between machines of one sort or another in the outermost reaches of space.

# Getting Out Is The Most Important Part Of School

By ROBERT C. RUARK

A CONSTITUENT, obviously afflicted with offspring, is quoting some doublethinkers as saying that the public school year is six weeks too short and should be increased from nine to 10-and-a-half months.

Our constituent heartily approves of these treasonous statements, and suggests we endorse them as well. We will not deny them.

It just goes to show you can't trust adults. Give 'em an inch and the first thing you know they're off you sentenced to 12 months of penal servitude, with no time off for good behavior. Talk about your creeping socialism!

### CLEAR TITLE

My correspondent is beeing that in addition to 11 weeks' free time in summer, the sprouts get 10 days off for Christmas, a week for Easter, two days for Thanksgiving, and one each for Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays, Election Day, Columbus Day and Memorial Day. You'd think this bum had a clear title to the calendar and it was hurting him personally to parcel out a day off from algebra.

We had a six-month-a-year school system in my neck of the woods when I was a youngster, and it seemed too much time in the cell. Then they started to gann on us — seven months, then



School's Out: Don't Let Them Take It Away

eight, then nine, and if you weren't careful, they clapped you into a six-weeks' summer school.

PAPA'S SIGNATURE

This left practically no time for divinity, unless you cut classes to practice it. Cutting classes was a deplorable habit leading to forgery, since teachers were

unreasonable about written excuses. Sometimes I still absently use my father's signature.

The most important part of school, I always thought, was getting out of it so that a fellow could develop his intellect unimpeded by geometry, geography, English grammar, Latin and other sub-

jects designed to stultify the thought processes.

A child's mind is a very delicate mechanism and must not be overstrained in early youth. It should be left to caper and kick up its heels, not broken to harness.

Our constituent says that incarceration of the young for most

of the year would serve as a strong deterrent to juvenile delinquency. I think this is sheer rubbish. I learned more had hard characters in school than I ever did out of it. As a matter of fact, I practiced inhaling in the boys' room at New Hanover High.

In a slightly more serious vein, I think that a young person's capacity for knowledge is limited by time spent in its acquisition. Overextension of that time results in absentmindedness, resentment, and an acute rejection of effort to teach him.

No kid learns much for the first two weeks after the summer holiday. No real learning anything for the last three weeks before summer vacation. His mind is out of the window.

### NO BUSINESS

Childhood is a precious thing. It is not a business. It is not supposed to be entirely practical. It is not supposed to be engineered according to the precept that adults know best, because a lot of the time adults don't know best. Just read the box scores on the scores of scores, nervous breakdowns, psychiatric treatment, alcoholism and suicide.

Anything a kid can't learn in his parents' home, he's more likely to learn in 10 or 11. Any other justification for extended education is a flimsy excuse to get the kid out of the house and out of your hair.

# Russians Harbor Deep Resentment Of The Kremlin

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

THERE is no longer any doubt about it, in the minds of those best able to judge. There has been at least a partial break-down of the iron authority of the Soviet regime, not only in the foreign Communist parties and in the satellites, but within the empire of power, the Soviet Union itself.

Some evidence to this effect has already been cited in this column. But, since the Hungarian revolt, there has been more and more. Here is the sort of thing that has puzzled, fascinated, and impressed the Soviet experts.

Mme. Furteva, a candidate

member of the all-powerful Presidium, and the most important woman in the Soviet Union, recently addressed a meeting of workers at the Katamovitch ball-bearing plant. It was at this plant that a strike — something hitherto unheard of in the Soviet Union — occurred in the first period of the Hungarian revolt.

Mme. Furteva addressed the assembled workers on the need for discipline and production. A voice in the back of the hall shouted "and how much money do you make?" Thereafter she was hissed, booed and laughed at, and she left the platform pale and shaken.

A Russian-speaking British citizen, traveling in southern Russia, went to the opera and took the last seat in a box. The other occupants of the box began chattering with him, and after the opera all concerned went to the house of one of them. This in itself is extraordinary — a foreigner is almost never asked to the house of one of them. There followed a kind of private, spontaneous protest meeting, in which all these present poured forth their bitterness against the regime — this to an unknown foreigner.

The most extraordinary incident of all has been reported in the London Sunday Times by Alexander Metaxas, a reliable

Russian-speaking journalist, who has just returned from several months in the Soviet Union. According to Metaxas, Communist boss Nikita Khrushchev recently tried to address a youth meeting. Instead of booming him, the assembled youth applauded him so long and loud that he was not able to speak at all. Khrushchev was perfectly aware of the derisive intent, but he could do nothing about it.

Metaxas, in his remarkable series of articles, has reported that Hungary spoiled the death knell, not only of Khrushchev and Bulganin, but of the Soviet system itself, as it has happened in the last decade and a half. The system, he wrote, is visibly disintegrating.

### SOME FEAR

There is no recognized authority on the Soviet Union, in Washington at least, who is prepared to go nearly so far as Metaxas — except possibly Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, who strongly implied in his speech to the NATO meeting that the Soviet system was "cracking" but the experts do agree that there has been a serious weakening of discipline, and that the Russian rulers are scared, and in doubt what to do.

Most experts further agree that it would be very difficult — perhaps impossible — for the Soviet bloc to reimpose the old iron discipline by a return to the methods of Stalin and Beria. No one believes there is much likelihood of a Hungarian-style revolt in the Soviet Union itself under present conditions. But there

are those who believe an attempt to "re-Stalinize" might actually stimulate mass uprisings, especially in the non-Russian territories which compose more than half the Soviet Union.

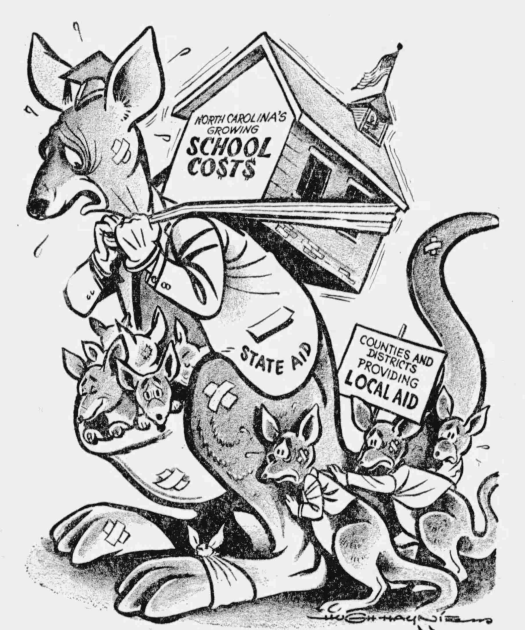
### PASSIVE SUPPORT

The experts, of course, could all be wrong — no so-called expert believes that any satellite population could do what the Hungarians have done. One of these reporters spent a month in the Soviet Union last year, and reported what all the Western experts there believed — that the mass of the people solidly if passively supported both the regime and the Communist doctrine. All the evidence available clearly suggested this conclusion.

Thereafter a letter arrived from a Soviet colonel recently defected from the Soviet Union. The colonel wrote that the reporter, like all foreigners in Russia, had been deceived by what he called "Soviet two-mindedness." A Soviet citizen, he explained, developed two separate minds. In one mind, the system was "cracking" to all foreigners and most of his fellow citizens, he was a convinced Communist, and dedicated to the regime. In the other mind, which was his real mind, he was a communist and all its works.

At the time, this seemed the mere wishful thinking to which all refugees are subject. But perhaps the colonel was right at that. Perhaps "Soviet two-mindedness" is a phenomenon which will deeply affect the future course of world events.

## 'Could Some Of You Other Fellows Help Push?'



From The Washington Post & Times-Herald

## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THE story of how the UNITED STATES permitted British and French relations to deteriorate to the lowest point since 1964, the part American oil companies and certain State Department officials had to do with it has never been told.

Full Story

Probably the full story will not be told until either a Senate committee subpoenas the documents or the State Department itself issues a white paper, as is customary, 10 years later.

However, from unimpeachable sources, here are some of the highlights and details of this important and tragic chapter in our history.

Bitterness

The man primarily in charge of American policy at this time was Herbert Hoover Jr., the charming, sometimes naive acting secretary of state. He was assisted from time to time by John Foster Dulles, then recovering from a cancer operation. Secretary Dulles at times concurred with Mr. Hoover in his anti-British, anti-French policy, and seemed personally friendly against both countries for going into Suez without consulting him.

## Hoover Action A Conflict Of Interest?

Hoover, according to his associates in the State Department, seemed to share the anti-British attitude of his father, who was once executed by Justice Joyce of the British High Court of Justice for taking possession of the title deeds to a Chinese mining property "by main force."

Oil Diplomat

In any event, acting Secretary of State Hoover did not abstain from handling matters affecting oil companies, as is customary in order to avoid a conflict of interest. When Joseph P. Cotton was undersecretary of state in the Hoover administration, Cotton disqualified himself from handling any problem affecting the Dillion Reed investment firm, financier of the Arabian-American Oil Company, because Cotton had been the attorney for Dillion Reed.

Forrestal

When James Forrestal was secretary of defense, he disqualified himself from Middle East oil decisions because he had been president of Dillion Reed.

Hoover has been an oil diplomat for years. He was the oil companies' ambassador to Venezuela, Chile, Peru, Brazil and more recently Iran. Hoover's conduct, United Geophysical, has been retained at one time or other by most of the big oil companies.

He was also a director of Union Oil of California, which has arranged a prospective marriage with Gulf Oil. Union is selling \$120,000,000 of its 25-year debentures to Gulf, which are to be converted into Union common stock, thus giving Gulf a 22 1/2 per cent interest in Union. This would control.

An estimated 92 per cent of Gulf's crude oil reserves are in the Middle East — 22 billion barrels. Only two billion barrels of Gulf's reserves are in the Western Hemisphere.

Mellon Family

Gulf, of course, is controlled and largely owned by the Mellon family, whose son, Andrew Mellon, was secretary of the Treasury under Coolidge and Hoover. The Mellon and Hoover families have been close.

How vitally Gulf Oil was affected by the Suez crisis is shown by the stock market. Its stock dropped 20 points as a result of investors' fears that its huge Arabian reserves might be jeopardized.

Arab Tock Over

Yet Herbert Hoover Jr., with both financial and family ties to Gulf Oil, did not disqualify himself from State Department decisions affecting oil. On the contrary, he made most of the major Middle East

## People's Platform

Prayers Are Asked For Ailing Airman

Cerro Gordo

I WANT every one of you who will read The Charlotte News to please remember my son in your prayers.

He is 22 years old, is serving with the Air Force and is sick most of the time. He has a disease the doctors don't know what to do with. They don't know what it is.

But we all know God can heal and will heal when we do our part. So I ask everyone who reads this and who prays for himself to please pray for my son.

If anyone will please send him get well cards and Christmas cards, I know he will deeply appreciate them. He is a good boy

and all who know him love him. His address: A/V. James N. Hardy AF 14566051 3230th USAF Hospital Amarillo, Tex.

—MRS. BERNICE HARDY

Editors, The News

Editorial Helped Party To Success

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

WE JUST wanted to let you know that we appreciate everything you did in regard to the Dixie House Christmas Party. It helped tremendously. Thanks very much for the editorial. We thought you said it just right.

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