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Annexation And A Lack Of Certainty

THAT annexation of Charlotte suburbs cannot be hastened short of legislative action is held a certainty by a Council majority.

Five Council members—Brown, Wilkinson, Albee, Evans and Smith—give short shrift to Councilman Baxter's idea, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, that a series of town hall meetings could substantially oppose to annexation.

While conceding desirability of a fact-supported sales job on annexation, the majority thinks this approach inadequate.

Inadequate it may be if irremediable suburbanites have armed a formidable stop annexation, as the majority Council opinion suggests. The good effects town hall meetings could achieve, nonetheless, should not be dismissed so easily.

The best test of their probable value is against the course favored by the majority Council—legislative authorization of one-package annexation proposal to be voted on by both city and suburban residents.

The assumption that the weight of city voters would crush annexation opposition seems sound. But there is no certainty whatsoever that the legislative delegation can be rallied in the unity

that would be required to authorize such an election. Secondly, the next regular session of the legislature is nine months away, a period in which the pressing annexation question either would lie idle while the suburbs grow, or would become a political war.

Town hall meetings, on the other hand, offer the opportunity for positive accomplishment—with no risks involved. Both before and after Mr. Baxter's proposal was made, there were favorable expressions on the idea from suburban residents. Certainly if there is a willingness to listen to the city's case, the city should be ready to make it with the planning study now being completed.

If the projectual election is the only way out, as the Council majority contends, the town hall discussions would be good round-robinbing for a favorable vote. If the election could not be had, some good will and informed opinion at least would accrue toward attempts at a different solution.

The Council majority, in short, appears full of certainty that Mr. Baxter's plan will succeed.

The question remains: What certainty is there that the majority plan will work?

City Hall: A Voice For The Dream?

WHEN Charlotte wants a new industry it sends out civic salesmen armed with brief in a city's future and the facts to support it. Often they have come home with the bacon.

When Charlotte wanted to express its true dimensions as the cultural and entertainment center of the Carolinas it appealed to the imagination of the people. The Coliseum and Auditorium rose from red clay, and citizens of Kings Mountain, Laurinburg, Wadesboro and Saluda came to make the turnpike click.

When Charlotte wants to bring its suburban neighbors into the city, the civic salesmen are idle. The imagination is un-

tested, the dream of a great, unified metropolitan community is unspoken. How is it that Charlotte can sell itself to a New Yorker with a million dollars to invest, but writes off its neighbors as bad prospects for persuasion?

Maybe smart-balls won't believe that their future is so carefully laid to Charlotte's and that they are needed to assure a better future for all. But maybe they will, Nobody's asking them.

Among all the voices at City Hall, and there are many, the loudest to display the dream of the future in terms that will spur action and maybe even annexation?

What The Red Probe Accomplished

LITTLE new information was made available to the public by the three days of Un-American Activities subcommittee hearings in Charlotte.

The only real news that came out of the testimony, in fact, was a short list of people named by a former FBI undercover man, Otis Beavis, as Communists.

But the hearings were beneficial, just the same, not for their revelations but for their underscoring of old facts about subversion which ought to be remembered.

Communists come in more than one size and shape.

Some of them are white, some are Negroes; some are suave, some are bumbling; some have graduate degrees, some never finish high school; some are young, some are old.

Nor is there only one way Communists do their work. Testimony by Charles Childs and Mr. Beavis made it clear that the Communist aim in North Carolina is precisely the same as it is everywhere: To infiltrate, to proselyte, and to turn to its own purposes any possible organizations and individuals—and to do this by any possible means.

The committee also rendered one other service to the community: It emphasized that Communism is not something that exists in Moscow or Shanghai or New York City alone. It exists like a leech, wherever it can get a foothold, and among the places it has gotten a foothold

are familiar places: Winston-Salem, Durham, Greensboro, Greenshore, High Point, Chapel Hill.

From all appearances, the Communists are still among us. They do not seem to be numerous, and their presence certainly should not be cause for alarm or hysteria.

What this week's hearings seemed to prove, instead, is that their presence should be cause for a calmer, better informed reliance on the strengths of democracy that communism seeks to subvert.

Here We Go Again

SEN. KEFAUVER'S victory in the New Hampshire primary puts him right back where he started on the convention trail in 1952.

But the strictures of his prize is open to debate. As the Tennessee knows all too well, cases in which the choice of the convention clearly reflects the choice of the primaries are rare in U. S. politics. Alfred Smith won in the primary states and carried the Democratic convention in 1928. Franklin D. Roosevelt won most of the primaries in 1932 and carried the convention. In virtually every other instance, the nomination was a fortuitous conjunction or the convention ignored the primary verdict.

Beginning Tremors In Sharp Focus

DIXIE'S self-portraits in this remarkable era of social crisis have been notoriously bad. Too often, the images of forces in conflict have been blurred and indistinct. Only the emotion has emerged with any clear-cut brilliancy.

It remained for a newspaper in the distant North to gather up the fractured images of the desegregation story and put them into something resembling perspective. That newspaper is the New York TIMES. Its eight-page special section, REPORT ON THE SOUTH: THE INTEGRATION ISSUE, was a distinguished exercise in group journalism.

The TIMES put 10 veteran staff correspondents on the scene, wrapped up the story in 17 states and the District of Columbia.

The project was not an easy one. It

was necessary to collect and evaluate mountains of facts and all shades of opinion in its project, the TIMES was assisted by the Southern Education Reporting Service, a nonpartisan fact-finding agency now directed by Don Shoemaker, editor of the ASHEVILLE CREEK.

Naturally, some of the TIMESmen's conclusions are open to question. Some Tar Heels would challenge Clarence Dean's observation that "there are many signs of willingness to make a start" toward integration in North Carolina. It's enough to derive a jittery, oldstyle, human writer to drink PLATYPUS.

But there's one small consolation: As the story in the WALL STREET JOURNAL put it bluntly: The TIMES' can't distinguish between acceptable words and those not ordinarily used in refined conversation. This electronic newcomer may be able to write clearer and faster than we do, but frankly, it hasn't got late.



JOHNSON



BYRD



SHIVERS



RAYBURN



HUMPHREY

Behind The Manifesto: A 'Boomlet' For Lynd on Johnson

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON DEMOCRATS are bravely assuring each other that the manifesto against desegregation signed by its senators and 72 representatives, all from the South, is strictly for home state consumption.

STIDDEN TOTING. In the same vein, they argue that Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, suddenly lashed for freedom by the same group, doesn't want to be a sectional and, therefore, a losing candidate for President.

The evidence is persuasive that this was true at first and may still be. But forces of this kind, set in motion on the turbulent sea of presidential politics, are rarely contained within the channels originally marked out for them.

POWERHOUSE. Sen. Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, is responsibly described as the powerbase behind the new manifesto. Under his guidance, Virginia is leading the fight to challenge the Supreme Court by

authority to rule against segregation. Unswerving and reluctant signers of the manifesto — there are said to be a good many — managed to get it watered down from the original draft circulated last week among the southernizers. It does not, for example, mention integration, the states' rights doctrine which Virginia and other states are pleading.

ONLY MARCH. But Byrd in a shrewd, dogged operation, temperatures are rising rapidly in the South and it is only March. Democratic liberals are losing their tempers, too, over recent developments in Congress which promise to leave them without ammunition on some of the best issues, such as farm legislation and a school bill.

If the tempo can be relaxed on the South's members of Congress need go no further than the language of the present declaration, party leaders will be very happy.

About the Johnson boomlet, there are two opinions. One is cynical. It says that a man once bitten by the presidential bug



STEVENSON

Headlock signed

never recovers, that President Eisenhower has given his fellow countryman a green light, and that the South will rally to Johnson and be to the South.

If the South goes to the Democratic convention is a solid plan as behind the Texas senator, Adlai Stevenson certainly could not be nominated on the first ballot, nor could anyone else. Beyond this point from the old practices of a third party and an election thrown into the House of Representatives.

ARRANGEMENTS. Nothing of the sort was in Johnson's mind before his heart attack signaled quits to his original presidential ambitions.

The majority leaders does not depend on inspiration but on arrangements. His strategy was to argue for the postponement of party decisions on candidates and platform until the convention could meet. Having precluded moderation, he thus planned to be available if a moderate candidate appeared to be a necessary compromise.

It was generally believed that Johnson was prepared to accept an articulate liberal — Sen. Hiram H. Humphrey, possibly, as a running mate to counter his Southern label.

His heart attack, which was massive, abruptly ended all that. But like the President, Johnson has recovered and assumed his old duties on a reduced schedule. The public reception given to the President's decision to run again must have had its effect.

'AM'S MOVE. But this is known too. Speaker Sam Rayburn's call for Johnson to go to the convention as Texas' favorite son was tactical.

As a favorite son, Candidate Johnson automatically would be chairman of the Texas delegation, freedom suit Gov. Allan Shivers, Rayburn's pet hate. Shivers has not commented, but his associates are denouncing Johnson's move as "a slick anti-Shivers trick."

NO HOOKS. Significantly, the southerners let Johnson off the hook of the manifesto. He was not even apparent.

Party leaders are keeping hands off and expressing the friendly opinion that Johnson, in the end, will choose to be a national figure. The cynics add: They hope.

The Red Hand Is Moving Unmolested In Arab Land

By WALTER LIPPMANN

IN NORTH Africa and the Middle East, from Morocco to the Persian Gulf, the three Western nations are under attack at all their key positions of power and influence.

TIDE RUNNING. The tide is being run by guerrilla warfare as in Algeria, by rebellion as in Cyprus, by a threat of war as in Palestine, by infiltration and subversion as in Jordan, Syria, and the Persian Gulf protectorates. Amidst the mounting tension and confusion there is being posed the crucial question of whether these local but connected conflicts are still negotiable by concessions and compromise, by the use of statesmanship and diplomacy.

This is a genuine doubt as to whether it is still possible to achieve agreed settlements, whether on the contrary there is an historic revolutionary tide which will allow no peace until in this area the power of France, Great Britain and the United States has been broken.

HIBED SERVANT. The question is whether the Arab rulers and politicians, their officers and intellectuals, will settle for anything short of the expulsion of France from North Africa, Britain from the Eastern Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf, the extinction of Israel as a sovereign state, and the abdication of the United States to the position of a hired servant of the Arab oil kingdom.

London, Paris, and Washington governments are still trying desperately not to despair of settlements by negotiation. But they are being forced to ask themselves whether any settlement is anything more than the taking of point for new demands, whether any agreement will in fact appear.

SEPARATE TREATMENT. At this point with the Westerners still bound to seek settlements by negotiation, they find themselves treating the local struggles separately, Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia are held to be French problems, Cyprus, Jordan, and the Persian Gulf protectorates are Danish problems, Palestine and Saudi Arabia are held to be primarily American problems.

The Westerners are treating as a series of local conflicts, and by separate actions will be one and generalized movement against them collectively. This general movement has its center in Egypt and derives its critical power from the backing of the Soviet Union. The Kremlin is not

ely arming Egypt, it is interposing its own power to frustrate resistance and opposition to Egypt. The Allied diplomacy in its attempt to negotiate is dealing almost entirely with local leaders.

WORLD ISSUE. The prospect of achieving pacification by a series of local settlements are very dim indeed. The basic issues are not really local, but are regional. They are worldwide, involving all the great powers. Even when local chiefs and leaders are disposed, they are new and they do not concede easily to win the good opinion of the uncommitted nations.

Local settlements are, moreover, incredibly difficult because there are in most of these old protectorates local vested interests which are unmovable. This has been most manifest in French North Africa. But there is a similar condition elsewhere. This damages deeply the Westerners, for they are not to concede easily to win the good opinion of the uncommitted nations.

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Mediterranean Cruise



People's Platform

President Wants All To Share His Gamble

Editors, The News:

I THINK President Eisenhower made a mistake in deciding to try for a second term and he should not so decide long before he announced his decision. I should not be surprised if the people should take such a gamble. However, there is nothing to suggest that he has had the cards spun the table for him. He is taking the gamble and suggesting that the people join him.

Since 1952 I have been voting independently when I voted the national ticket at all national elections. I did not vote at all nationally as I did not want to vote the Republican ticket. It did not require any long time for me to realize that Mr. Roosevelt did not have but little if any respect for constitutional government. We have now a government of resignation, and I could just start of a totalitarian type of government, with which Mr. Eisenhower has far too much sympathy to suit me. But where am I to go for anything better? That to me is the \$64,000 question.

This I do say and mark my words. The people are going to turn to the President and support him enthusiastically if the Democrats do not cease to talk about a part time president for a full-time job, while all remember too well that they wrapped up Mr. Roosevelt in 1944 and sold him to the people as white to carry on in that critical period when they knew full well that he was next to dead. Political audacity is one thing, but political skill is something else and quite different. The latter the people will not stand for.

—JOHN W. HESTER

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Gas Probe 'Safe' In McClellan's Hands

WASHINGTON INSIDE fact about the selection of

First McClellan's law firm represents Standard Oil of New Jersey, the Seaboard Oil Co. of Delaware, Tidewater Association Oil and Carter Oil Co. in addition to several railroads, paper and lumber companies. This is taken from the authoritative law directory, Martine and Hubbell, which also lists McClellan's firm as handling the "general practice" of law and gas titles.

Lyndon's Friend. In addition, McClellan is on friendly terms with H. L. Hunt, one of the three or four wealthiest oilmen in the world, who got his start at El Dorado, Ark. McClellan was generously backed by Hunt and the oil interests during his re-election campaign in 1954, and it's not

likely that he will want to go into the manner in which gas-oil money has been spent in an senator's election because others might then suggest that he also probe his own contributors too.

Obligation. McClellan is also heavily obligated to Lyndon Johnson for during his 1954 primary race against popular ex-Gov. S. H. Hargis of Arkansas, Lyndon got up for McClellan a petition signed by more than 40 other senators telling the people of Arkansas how important McClellan was to the U. S. Senate. This was in violation of the accepted rule that Democratic senators do not become involved in Democratic primaries against other Democrats.

McClellan had so much money to

spend, thanks to gas-oil backing that he used \$35,000 alone for a newspaper ad reprinting the Lyndon Johnson-inspired letter from senators, also spent \$50,000 reprinting the letter in pamphlet form for circulation all over the state.

Washington Whirl. The Republican National Committee is trying to coax President Eisenhower into running a one-minute TV commercial, plugging GOP candidates. All he would have to do, the politicians are being urged, is make a short statement on how important it is to have a Republican congress. Then the word would come, "Here is the candidate from your district and my friend." The local candidate would fill in his own name after the Eisenhower introduction.

From The Reporter

THINK

H. L. MENCKEN once said on an interview that even the label on a can of tomatoes is somebody's brainchild—a tender thought, and one that we have treasured. But now we learn that the words on the drug bottle may not be anybody's brainchild at all, but just the work of a machine.

This thing called IBM 702, was built for a pharmaceutical company to write useful names for all the new drugs they are creating. They feed it instructions to write easy-to-pronounce, "medical-sounding" words, and clank clank—with no stacks of pencil sharpening or writers