



# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## Teacher Needs More Than A Raise

**I**N their eyes, Tar Heel school teachers have promised a spirited fight for better pay in 1956. The determination on this point is grimmer than ever before. Not even the soothing words of Gov. Hodges could soften the resoluteness of delegates attending last week's convention of the North Carolina Education Association in Asheville.

That North Carolina teachers are underpaid is a fact of almost biblical verity. It is actually shameful that such vital members of society are so poorly reimbursed for their services.

For a relatively poor state, North Carolina has strained mightily to do what it could to correct this—and provide funds to diminish other educational inequities. Progress has admittedly been slow but by 1952 only six other states spent a higher proportion of their income on public schools than North Carolina. Almost two thirds of general fund appropriations recommended for 1955-57 went into the public school budget.

Yet, teachers are still underpaid and this fact makes it all the more difficult to recruit enough able teachers to meet the unprecedented needs of the next decade or so.

Will justice be done and the supply problem be solved merely by raising all salaries?

It is extremely doubtful that the addition of a few dollars on each level of the scale will solve much of anything.

The weakness of the typical salary structure in teaching is not simply that

it is in general too low but that it is too rigid—too narrow from bottom to top, too unrelated to ability and performance, and too prone to treat all teachers and all teaching assignments as if they were identical.

This opinion was advanced recently by the Fund for the Advancement of Education after a coast-to-coast survey of the nation's educational dilemma. It accents a problem which, unless remedied, will keep the teaching profession depressed on the economic scale.

The rate of advancement is too slow. Differences in ability are, as often as not, ignored. The salary spread from bottom to top is too narrow. There is nowhere for truly outstanding teachers to go—unless he or she leaves the classroom and enters administration. There are, in fact, tragically few high rewards.

The system, not only discourages prospective recruits but reflects an inefficient use of manpower. Teachers are bogged down with non-professional duties. Thus, a general redeployment of skilled personnel will be necessary if any significant revision of the salary structure is attempted. Charlotte, with its study of the use of teachers' aides, is reaching out boldly in that direction today.

If a proper job is to be done the General Assembly's task will not be easy. The necessary changes will require a great deal of thoughtful consideration. As far as the people of North Carolina are concerned, the time to begin considering them, thoughtfully, is right now.

## It's Those Red Notes That Get You

**I**T IS SAID that blue notes oozing from the horns of certain New Orleans jazzmen can bring a strong man to tears and send women to the brink of unbearable grief. Perhaps knowledge of this phenomenon is gnawing at the souls of certain Democratic congressmen who are disturbed about New York's Symphony of the Air. If blue notes can raise such hob what about Red notes?

It is indeed suspected that there is some Red—parlor pink at least—in the orchestra's spectrum, even if it cannot be detected by the FBI or a cathode ray oscilloscope. At least after some congressional alarm about the possible presence of Communist musicians in the ranks of the State Department canceled the orchestra's forthcoming tour of the Middle East.

According to the WASHINGTON POST & TIMES HERALD, it is alleged that four violinists in the 101-member orchestra "had at some time, past or present, Communist or Communist-front affiliations or sympathies."

It is difficult to imagine what military secrets a fiddler is heir to in America. It is likewise difficult to imagine what his extracurricular activities have to do with how he sounds his "A." To raise a fuss about a musician's political purity is to make us look ridiculous in the eyes of friends and foes alike. We remember our own detached and superior amusement when the Nazi bully-boys kicked "wrong-thinkers" out

of great musical organizations at Berlin and Bayreuth, and when old-line Bolsheviks maintained that certain Western symphonies smacked of "lascivious nationalism."

This sort of nose-cutting, face-splitting nonsense only tends to bolster the Kremlin's propaganda about Americans being cultural barbarians. Consider a foreign service dispatch to the State Department, dated last July 6, concerning what a fine job the Symphony of the Air has already done for us overseas.

It would be impossible to adequately describe the impact made on Japan by the Symphony of the Air. In the impressive tradition of Japanese cultural relations with the Western countries no example is to be found to match the significance of this visit. It is doubted whether in the future a visit to Japan by a cultural project from any country, from the Iron Curtain areas included, will equal or exceed the impact.

The visit was the greatest cultural achievement the United States has made in Japan from 1945 to the present, and of that country to its relations with the Western world.

It is reported that certain Democrats hope to use the affair to show the voters that the Eisenhower administration has been "soft on communism." This sort of shabby political jockeying will not be tolerated by thinking citizens. The administration should not dignify the charge by abandoning completely a highly effective program of cultural diplomacy.

## Basketball And The Rural Psyche

**F**RED'S BEA and Kerr Scott's BAH-RD'S helped, but it took some PAV-BARRAHRAH to really goose the rural ego. In other words, the SHIRAZIUM HAZZARD says, Roosevelt's electricity and Scott's macadam diminished but didn't really cure the "inferiority complex that most of us in rural regions have had to fight." Everett Case's State College quintet did that with perpetual victory on the basketball courts. And now, the Hazard concludes, the farmer thinks he's as good as anybody.

This perceptive insight has shaken us considerably. We have abandoned plans to go shrub shopping some Sunday, digging up a dogwood here and a red-bud there. Some AT and equal farmers, we fear, might spruce basketball among the saplings, instead of standing hang-dog while we thinned his woods.

But if the HERALD has changed the pastoral scene for us, it has shattered it for politicians and patent medicine makers. Points, not parity, are what the Tar Heel farmer's after Ezra Taft Benson. Must be a bench warm on one of those concrete teams—Kentucky Hooley, Solb bank? You bank it off the backboard, man, not off the ground. Sure we got a surplus, but we got to pile up the points in case the boys get tired in the last quarter.

As to the wistful farmer, who needs Hadaed when Molodet's hot? Or for that matter, Mama, sassafras tea or sulphur and molasses? Just give me a trick-dribble and hitch up the mules. And if you're some AT and equal farmer, we fear, might spruce basketball among the saplings, instead of standing hang-dog while we thinned his woods.

From The Louisville Times

## MIDDLE AGE CALLS TO MIDDLE AGE

**A**MONG the many things that interest us in this wonderful world is the annual poll of movie exhibitors to determine the Hollywood star with the greatest boxoffice appeal.

The No. 1 attraction this year, we note, is James Stewart, who has drawn and stammered his way through millions of feet of celluloid. Others in the top 10 include such veterans—and new men veterans—as Humphrey Bogart, Clark Gable, John Wayne and Gary Cooper. In fact, only one person in the first 10, Grace Kelly, could be called a newcomer to Hollywood's land of make believe.

ing to his studio. This is not exactly the first flush of youth.

What great attraction does this movie-going group hold for the country's moviegoers? This is no isolated instance. Other polls in recent years have found the veterans—in years as well as movie-making—up at the top. We would like to believe, since we are among the movie-going ourselves, that this is a demonstration of the inherent attractiveness of middle age.

But we're afraid the truth lies elsewhere. This is getting to be more and more a nation of the middle-aged. We suspect that the appeal of Stewart, Gable et al. merely indicates that the attraction like—and it may be that the 45-year-olds who go to see Stewart today are not really watching the 47-year-old Stewart at all but the Stewart of 20 years ago, when both the viewer and viewed were young.

# Adlai Bucked Brannan And Lost Critical Farm Support

By MARQUIS CHILDS

**THE DEFEAT** suffered by Adlai Stevenson in the Minnesota presidential primary was in part the work of prominent Democrats who decided that the party's standard-bearer in 1956 should be eliminated because he refused to advocate radical solutions for the farm program.

**BACKSTAGE HELP** The support in Minnesota might have swung away with the help of Republicans who went into the Democratic primary with the intention of killing the new Democrats' front runner; that the victory of Sen. Estes Kefauver could have been a big swing without the behind-the-scenes help of Democratic leaders denied credit of Stevenson's course of moderation.

These leaders are jubilant today. They are proud proclaiming that Stevenson will be swept in the California presidential primary which opens on June 3. They are convinced that beneath the quiet surface of the Eisenhower prosperity there are deep discontents not only on the farms but in the cities. Furthermore, they believe that a Democratic candidate who exploits these discontents with an all-out attack can win, even though several party states might lose the election.

At a meeting in three weeks in Ohio, early in March Democrats from 11 states discussed the outline of a stop-Stevenson movement with special reference to the Minnesota primary. Among those present were Frank McKinnon, former Democratic national chairman who has never forgiven Stevenson for supplanting him after the Stevenson nomination in '52, and Charles F. Brannan, secretary of agriculture in the Truman Administration. While Brannan was not discuss what went on at the meeting, he appears to have

taken the lead in urging support for Kefauver in Minnesota. Stevenson says that he is for 50 per cent of farm on farm prices," Brannan told the gathering, "but he adds so many reservations that this is actually a drop down to 40 per cent."

Most of those present were not for Kefauver, except as a useful slogan for the Gov. Averell Harriman of New York. The belief was expressed that if Stevenson could be blocked, then the nomination would go finally to the New York governor. While all concerned will emphatically deny it, Harriman money is believed to be behind the stop-Stevenson movement.

### ADLAI BUCKED

For at least three years Brannan, author of the so-called Brannan Plan to have the government compensate farmers directly for the difference between the market price for their commodities and parity, has been trying to persuade Stevenson to take a more drastic farm stand. Two months ago he called on Stevenson in Chicago to go over with him a proposal shortly to appear in a national magazine reviewing and modifying the plan he first put forward as secretary of agriculture. Stevenson rejected it. Brannan, now general counsel of the Farmers Union, was indignant. He felt that after all his efforts he had been given a harsh rebuff. Even before this, however,

farm family members in Minnesota, played any part in the primary. The Farmers Union has long taken a more radical stand on farm issues in contrast to the conservative American Farm Bureau Federation, which backs Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson and flexible price supports.

These were, of course, many elements in the Stevenson defeat. A curious and unwitting combination of the extreme left and extreme right contributed to it in towns and cities. Following traveling elements purged from the Democratic Farmer Labor organization under Sen. Hubert Humphrey and Gov. Orville Freeman were out for revenge. The fact that voters in rock-ribbed Republican towns were found predominantly in the Democratic primary for Kefauver is taken by farmers-labor voters as sure proof of a quiet, skillful and highly successful Republican effort to sabotage Stevenson.

What is important to realize is that the stop-Stevenson Democrats could appear an apparently defeated revolt. They are saying that this result has long since turned from Benson to the President as the real target of blame for the continuing drop in farm prices. If this is true—if the prairies are on fire with revolt—then Republicans as well as Democrats have a serious object lesson in Minnesota.

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## Two Facts Delay Obituary For 'Do-Nothing' Democrats

By STEWART ALSOP

**THE** Democratic Party these days is suffering from more afflictions than Job. The party is bitterly divided. Outside the farm areas it has failed to develop winning issues. In Adlai Stevenson it is a fair way to losing the only candidate on whom the various factions can agree.

ADLAI CONGRESSMEN have been the most sanguine Democratic partisan on Capitol Hill. He claims that this session of Congress has been a political success for the Democrats. Some of the Democrats, indeed, have already begun to borrow Harry Truman's old slogan, and are talking about the good government, no robbing Democratic Congress.

The Congress has passed two major bills. The first was the gas bill—which divided the party, killed the "giveaway" issue, and gave the President an opportunity to reap an important victory with his veto. The second was the farm bill, a Christmas tree bill if you will. It is not going to be a piece of intelligent and responsible legislation.

**ANY** REPUBLICAN who sees the Democrats are going to point with pride at, unless stirred by majorities led by Senator Johnson pulls some unexpected legislative rabbits out of his hat. The President, in his cleverly conservative legislative policy, asserted many issues on which the Democrats had been counting confidently. On other issues, the majority has been paralyzed by its internal division.

The bitter North-South division has blocked any increase in minimum wages (for example, an increase of the Fair-Hartley Act), and it has probably blocked any important revision of the McCarran Act. There is no central party issue on foreign policy, partly because the prestige of Sen. Walter George has acted as a shield for the Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Similarly, defense is not really a political issue.

Before this session began, the Democratic leadership was counting heavily on aid to education as an issue for 1956. But it now seems highly unlikely that a school bill at all will be passed. Significantly the school bill automatically involves an inflated amount of school desegregation.

The bitter feelings aroused by the desegregation issue are, indeed, the heart of the Democratic trouble. The issue was dramatized by the "manitowoc" signed by 19 southern senators and 77 representatives. It was further dramatized by the appointment of Sen. James Eastland, the leading segregationist, as chairman of the powerful Judiciary Committee.



SEN. EASTLAND A RIB WIDENER

The Eastland appointment gives the Republicans a wide-open opportunity to tell Negro voters that "a vote for a Democrat is a vote for Eastland." The Republicans are planning to exploit the issue further by asking for a committee with subpoena power to investigate Eastland for the first time there are real signs that many Negroes, who in the past have voted Democratic almost as a solid bloc, are turning back to the Republican party.

The situation of the Democrats is further complicated by the near-mortal wound suffered by Adlai Stevenson in Minnesota. Since 1952, there has never been wild enthusiasm about Stevenson even among the northern Democratic leaders. But he was at least acceptable to almost everybody in the country, which was his great strength. Now the bridge has been broken, and it had wasted away entirely. And there is really no other visible Democratic candidate who can act as a bridge.

**NO MONEY** Add that the Democrats have not enough money to keep the national committee kicking over, and the picture of Democratic disarray becomes complete. The coming campaign is sure to be the most expensive in history, and the Republicans, thanks largely to the brilliant management of Richard Nixon, will have more money than at the very height of the lushly financed 1952 campaign.

And finally, of course that there are no signs that President Eisenhower's remarkable personal popularity is about to begin to wane. It seems almost certain to report the approaching demise of the Democratic Party. But two facts suggest that such a report may be premature. The first is that the Minnesota primary is only the latest evidence that the anti-administration farm revolt is probably real. The second is that, ever since 1952, the Democrats have been completely and financially winning elections.

## A Modern Columbus In Shangri-la

By ROBERT C. RUARK

**F**OR many who own a gold miner nurse who owns a gold mine. They are mighty folk, all proper pioneers of our time. They are people whose reckless vision and courage has made them a part of the world's history. New Guinea is going to play an enormous part in the affairs of the Southern Hemisphere, and the eastern world, in general.

The Japs want New Guinea, and to do the Indonesians. The Chinese would love to have it, and right now the United Nations, the Australians and the Dutch have got it.

**BIRTHDAY** I have been staying with a former district commissioner, Ian Downs. He is such a mighty man in a township only about four years old that the natives—and I am serious—really believe that Dec. 25, with its ceremonial celebration of Christmas, is in honor of Downs' birthday.

Jesus is only missionary talk to the Gaijaks—Gaijak, but Ian Downs is executive. He built them roads and administered stern justice, great sympathy and understanding. As district commissioner, he made a new world for natives, fresh from the Stone Age, in the Gorka area where a black man is a full man alongside the white man, to the mutual advantage of both.

**NEW COUNTRIES** I had a fine ranch in Texas, that really cost me \$20,000 on June 7. My brother, Jim, grows cotton on weekends, came to Washington to meet with the Lyndon Johnson campaign.

**Percentage** The case history is important for several reasons. First, this unfortunately is a practice used by other companies. They hand out bonuses to vice presidents, then require that a percentage of the bonus be contributed to a certain pay campaign. Afterward, that percentage, if elected, is in back to the company. It controls its vote which is why the Congress is more and more a thing of the past.

**Roundabout Payments** In Johnson's own senatorial primary in Texas in 1941, Internal Revenue agents discovered that Brown & Root had been contributing \$10,000 to a political subsidiary, Victoria Gravel Co., to Edgar Monteith, an attorney in Houston: \$5,000 on May 26, 1941; \$4,500 on June 7, another \$5,000 on June 7.

Monteith then used a complicated roundabout way of using the money. He distributed \$10,000 of it as a profit to himself and his law partner, A. W. Baring. Then Baring transferred the entire \$10,000 back to Monteith, and Monteith, in turn, wrote checks to pay the expense of the Lyndon Johnson campaign.

**No Help** When Johnson was given a chance to explain this, he said he had never heard of Monteith and claimed that he never received financial help from him. However, Monteith's father was the former mayor of Houston and a well-known percentage Internal Revenue agent. Four of the Second National Bank of Houston money firms all checks, including these, and that Monteith undoubtedly had used the money to pay for radio time, printing bills, and other Johnson campaign expenses.

**Toy Agent's Letter** Summarizing his opinion of the dis-cover, James M. Cooner, special agent in charge for Texas and Louisiana, wrote from Dallas on May 14, 1941, and advised that Monteith had used and abused Brown & Root, Inc., and Victoria Gravel Co. in showing that political contributions for which he was the

conduit were attorney's fees. This would make his income tax fraudulent.

**Fea** I seriously doubt, Cooner continued, referring to the fact that Monteith refused to testify, "that he was afraid of incriminating himself in connection with his own tax liability. I believe that he was afraid he might be involved in a conspiracy in connection with the evasion of taxes by Brown & Root, Inc., and Victoria Gravel Co."

Internal Revenue agents also found in the accounts of Victoria Gravel Co. and other officials at the exact time of the Lyndon Johnson primary election.

**No Explanation** The explanation for these sudden bonuses, and the employees who received them could give no adequate explanation. Nor could they show any future bonuses, etc., for which they had used the money, despite the fact that they cashed the bonuses on the same day they got the checks.

## Drew Pearson's Roundabout Route Of Political Gifts Merry-Go-Round

**W**ASHINGTON HERE are more details on how the giant Brown & Root contracts from the government, contributed to the political campaign of Lyndon Johnson, son Democratic leader of the Senate, and then deducted the contribution from income taxes.

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