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City Parks: Action After Provocation

NO ONE can accuse the Park & Recreation Commission of acting either in haste or ill temper in its move for anti-vandalism legislation. There has been provocation in plenty.
The annual battle for repair and replacement of park property damaged or destroyed by vandals runs to about \$50,000. That's an old fact but one worth repeating as it is the commission's assertion that there more parks could be built and equipped each year with that amount of money. It is ample demonstration of how young ruffians cheat themselves, the taxpayer and other children who could profit by use of the new parks.

Responsibility for the conduct of juveniles rests on the family, and a world of good community works cannot make up for a lack of family discipline. The legislative proposal of the commission is to penalize financially parents who fail in the exercise of responsibility to the point that their children willfully destroy or damage public property.

Charlotte: Queen City Of Basketball?

A STORY is going the rounds about the frugal housewife who baited a trap with a picture of a cheese. She caught a picture of a mouse.

Lurking somewhere in the parable is a lesson for ambitious Charlotteans who want to capture the Atlantic Coast Conference basketball tournament for home town fans.

A diagram of 10,000 new Coliseum seats is inadequate bait. Charlotte will have to prove its ability to fill those seats—regularly—for big time college basketball.

The conference tournament is a major sports attraction of the grand finale of what is perhaps America's fastest collegiate basketball circuit. It is patently absurd for North Carolina State College, which sponsors the annual Dixie Classic Tournament, to lay claim to the ACC finals year after successful year.

Charlotte, a neutral city with the South's finest Coliseum, has the perfect tournament site. From almost any standpoint—population, location, civic enthusiasm—the Queen City qualifies as the ACC's logical host.

Remoteness of last year's poorly attended Carrousel Tournament are fresh

and forbidding ACC institutions regard this initial experiment as an evil omen. They are unimpressed that Charlotte has a solid core of enthusiasm for an extended dose of collegiate basketball.

It is a matter of cold cash. As sports-writer Sandy Grady told News readers yesterday, the March basketball tournament is a hugely important money maker for the conference. This year's profits were estimated at \$55,000. That is the kind of money Charlotte would have to guarantee conference coffers.

It appears that Charlotte's hopes will have to be put on ice—for now. The Queen City simply must prove itself.

The community will have an attractive opportunity to do just that this season ahead. Single games by some of the region's leading collegiate basketball teams are now being booked for the Charlotte Coliseum. The University of North Carolina, Duke, South Carolina, Clemson, Furman and West Virginia—to mention but a few—will undoubtedly be represented on the local hardwoods. The turnout for these contests will make or break Charlotte's chances for the ACC tournament. It is in a manner of speaking, ours for the asking. Our insistence must simply be loud and clear.

The Unkept Promise Is Unnerving

PUBLICITY best describes the City Council's efforts to follow a firm priority list for future street improvements.

The schedules are carefully compiled in accordance with need, numbered, read out the minutes—and there they lay. Sooner or later, fresh mimeographed copies appear in time to be subjected to new interpretations of need and political necessity.

The concept of priority is noble enough. It conures up visions of quiet efficiency, equity and justice. But conditions change and so do civic needs. If municipal officials cannot observe the

priorities they should abandon them in favor of a more realistic system.

A priority, after all, has the force and significance of a promise. Unkept promises make citizens nervous.

Needed is a more dynamic system of selection—involving a frankly flexible list of needed improvements subject to constant scrutiny and constant rearrangement in the light of the most immediate needs. With nothing even resembling firmness in the fulfillment, and—and—would be held to a minimum.

In The Shade Of The 'No Parking' Sign

OF ALL the rush hour irritants in Charlotte we nominate as the two most galling the motorist who parks in a "No Parking" traffic lane, and the motorist who parks in a "No Parking" traffic lane under the "No Parking" sign.

Conductive as they are to coronaries, these motorists actually are a part of Charlotte's rural past. They have all the time in the world, theirs and that of all the drivers they stack up behind them. If they want to loiter with a

passing friend or run into the grocery store for a dozen eggs—why, they just stop, not infrequently right under the sign saying don't do it.

We have no idea how prevalent the practice is, but it seems to be increasing on the streets we travel.

We have no idea what the fine is, either. But if it is our earnest recommendation that, whatever it is, it be quadrupled, effective by or before 6 A.M. tomorrow.

From The Mootoon (Ill.) Journal-Gazette

ARE YOU A POLITICIAN?

WE REACH the boiling point very quickly when we hear someone say something about "not wanting to mix with politics." It would be just as sensible to say that we do not want to bother with breathing. The fact remains that we must breathe, and it is equally true that we must be in politics.

Whether we try to learn all we can about the issues of the day and make it a point to vote every time we have a chance, or throw up our hands, figuratively, and stay away from the polls, we are responsible for the results. We are all in politics, but some refuse to work it.

A man who has a chance to vote against a measure and does not do so is casting a vote for it. There is no neutral ground. A man is elected as surely by the people who fail to vote for his opponent as by those who go to the polls and vote for him.

We in this country are fond of saying "the majority rules." It doesn't when the votes are counted, but it does when the majority of the people did not even bother to express their views. Another point which is sometimes missed is that the majority is not always right. In a democracy we naturally move slowly, and it often happens that a few people get hold of an idea and advocate it before the larger number of the people are ready to accept it. Later, enough people accept the idea, it gets a chance to be tried out, and it is looked upon as the

"right" thing to do. If you must breathe, do something about the quality of air around you. In the same way, be as sure as possible that the conditions under which you live and work are what they should be.

Scientists say man will live to be 100 and the last 25 years will be best. Now is the time to start a smoking chair factory.—LAWRENCE (MISS.) LEARNER-CALC.

A fellow uptown was wondering aloud the other day whether George Barclay would like setting up early in the morning to open the filling station. As for me, I'd much prefer to get up early as a business coach than to sleep at all as a football coach.—BILLY ALDER IN CHAPEL HILL WEEKLY.

Whether a fellow winds up with a nest egg or a goose egg depends a heap on the kind of chick he married.—SPARKS (GA.) EAGLE.

The three eminent specialists stared at each other. "Good Heaven," said one of them to the other two. "We've got to invent something. After the expense of this consultation we can't tell him the cure has a cold."—LALAP (MO.) DEMOCRAT.

I'm disillusioned. Each we day... My children all have... Feet of clay...—GASTONIA GAZETTE.

People's Platform Southern Senators Revive An 'Empty Doctrine'

SENATORS from the People's Platform, described as incompatible with the existence of the Union, contradicted sharply by the letter of the Constitution, maintained by its spirit, insist that every principle on which it was founded, and derivative of the great object for which it was formed. "It is the People's Platform which contains the true meaning of the word 'Union' as it is used in the Constitution," declared Andrew Jackson of Tennessee.

Several very interesting historical facts have been uncovered by Prof. Schlessinger. He is the Georgia Legislature as rejecting state interposition as "another successful for comical" remedy, but on the contrary, as tending to civil commotion and disunion. The Alabama Legislature endorsed it as "unconstitutional" and would call down the force of the government.

aid essentially revolutionary, leading in its consequences to anarchy and civil discord, and finally to the dissolution of the Union." "When South Carolina tried to carry interposition into effect, it was unable to find the support of any other southern state," the Virginia Legislature called it a "heresy, fatal to the existence of the Union." "Contrary to the letter and spirit of the Constitution and in direct conflict with the welfare, safety and independence of every state," the Virginia Legislature endorsed South Carolina's ordinance and solemnly declared that the Virginia Resolution of 1788 sanctioned South Carolina's action.

'How Do You Think It Looks From Over There?'



HERBIEBACH IS THE WASHINGTON POST'S

A Marital Gamble

IF I ever get married again, I'll do it with a woman who is as sure as I write this. I doubt very much if I should be to an American woman. Mistake me not, our women are as pretty as day and as good as gold as they are, but they have a habit of getting into a man's pants and staying there. It is a matter of cold cash. As sports-writer Sandy Grady told News readers yesterday, the March basketball tournament is a hugely important money maker for the conference. This year's profits were estimated at \$55,000. That is the kind of money Charlotte would have to guarantee conference coffers.

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SADLY LACKING

IT is particularly necessary to take a hot pep to the little woman to keep order in the house. But a certain amount of discipline is necessary, and we American males have been sadly lacking in enforcement.

RUARK IS UNFAIR!



The basic difference between the Aussie lassies and the American girls is that a man who marries an Australian feels like he's married his own man, whereas an American feels like he's married his own wife.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

IT escaped neither who covered the President's golfing season in Thomasville, Ga., but Vice President Nixon paid the bill.

Single Subject

The President, however, explained that he had better stick to one subject at a time and that his man subject was his own announcement.

Cold-Blended

By the opposing Nixon six pointed out that Eisenhower while formerly a food of Dick, is cold-blended social politics and wants to have the best possible one-getter alpha running.

Nixon Held Secret Meeting With Ike

His hand somewhat indicated he was afraid of Eisenhower's Sen. Albert Gore as chairman. Gore was head of the Elections Committee which started to investigate Nixon's record.

Alleged Democrat

So Bridges proposed that Sen. John McClellan of Arkansas be the committee chairman. McClellan, an alleged Democrat, has sided more with Republicans on crucial issues.

No Enthusiasm

This is the personal friend of Bridges whom he appointed as counsel of the committee to investigate the \$2,900 gift to Sen. Case as if Case was guilty of fraud and bribery.

South Will Field A Third Party

Editors, The News: WE CAN not predict with any accuracy the result of a third party in the South. We have people throughout the nation who are voting with alarm the strengthening of one Constitution. The pace to make laws is in Congress and in courts.

Charlotteans Stunned By Outcome Of Case

Editors, The News: MANY people in Charlotte and elsewhere are stunned at the apparent negligence of the Welfare Department in the Hyde investigation.

Quote, Unquote

An elderly gentleman was walking past a drug store when, without warning, a young man dashed out of the store, tripped him and fell in a heap in the gutter.

External Values

The Urge That Animates

By RUSSELL DAVENPORT In "The Dignity of Man" ERWIN SPANGLER, an American, is talking about the wonderful achievements of industrial man. Our realistic view of the man of the future is not so much in terms of the man of the future as in terms of the man of the present.

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