

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## 'Listen — We Even Managed To Coexist With Stalin'

## People's Platform

# Stab In The Back

Charlotte

As an interested property owner I sat in on the City Council meeting pertaining to the zone reclassification of the 2500 acres of Independence Blvd. This property is adjacent to the City Coliseum. I came away from this meeting with the feeling that I have been "stabbed in the back" by a majority of the City Council that I thought was supposed to protect the citizens and taxpayers of this city.

The chief opposition to reclassifying this property as Business 1A came from the City Planning Commission and the City School Board. The Planning Commission says that it will create a hazard to Chantilly School, located one short block off of Independence Blvd.

If the Planning Commission believes that it is not ready, I would like to know what has to happen to make it ready. We are dealing now with an intolerable situation that will hamper our traffic on Independence Blvd. and its adjacent parking lot. Not only is it impossible to get in or out of our driveway, contended with the noise of trucks, buses and automobiles that are backed up bumper to bumper, we also have to contend with rock 'n' roll enthusiasts that can't get into the Coliseum, therefore they proceed to put on their own show in the parking lot and along the sidewalk area. If this is true, why was Chantilly School located so near Independence Blvd? It was known full well that this superhighway was already under construction. Also, why was a vigorous protest not raised when another area within one block of Chantilly School was rezoned for Business 1A and on which a shopping center has already been constructed. Through the efforts of the City Council, that voted in an informal session to reclassify this property to Business 1A and that someone between the mayor's office and the Council chambers two of the members lost their nerve and voted against it. I move that the city retain staunch supporters of this matter gasping for breath and with a look on their faces as if they had been slapped with a wet sack.

Obviously, we have exhausted all of our resources for relief from a situation that has become intolerable.

I would extend an invitation to any member of the City Council, City Planning Commission and City School Board to spend the evening at my home when a big show is in progress. I promise an educational evening, including a charcoal broiled steak garnished with sand from the Coliseum parking lot.

—FRED G. HICKS

Now, there will be many very important issues and matters of policy that will have to be acted upon and disposed of in a satisfactory and acceptable manner. These matters and things that will be faced by this General Assembly are of a nature that have never before been faced in a city, county, state, nation or the world. These qualities that are required are in large part, if we would continue to progress and get along one with the other. An honest and sincere man who is as a MASON'S noblest handiwork." —MAYBON CHANDLER

how they stand on the lien law or old age assistance.

You have been paying taxes, supporting others who would not try. Yet when you need aid, you must pay for it.

Do some counties, when the aged become too feeble, take them out of their homes and place them in a county home? How about Gascon County?

So just ask the politician asking for your vote how he stands on the lien law question.

The old, feeble, the helpless children are not too well cared for in North Carolina. The poor have no one to lobby for them during General Assembly.

Then the poor should be grateful for pinto beans, cornbread and cabbage. While being fed at taxpayers' expense, a lien on the home is not too bad. But taking every cent is.

—MARY GASH RODGERS

## Filing For Legislature Was 'A Grand Thing'

Charlotte

On APRIL 13, about 11 a. m., I had a real nice experience. I filed to be a candidate from Mecklenburg County for the House of Representatives which will convene in Raleigh come January, 1957.

The people who work in the Board of Elections office, which is located across the street from the Courthouse on E. Trade St., are so nice to the candidates who file that it removes any misgivings that one might have. They make one feel that it is a grand thing, which it is. In fact it is worth the \$15.00 just to be received so graciously on such an occasion.

Clearly, we have exhausted all of our resources for relief from a situation that has become intolerable.

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## Does North Carolina Neglect Old, Feeble?

Charlotte

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## Quote, Unquote

An alarm clock has been described as being that scarce commodity which you — Carlsbad Current-Argus.

## History's Verdict

History never exactly repeats itself. The analogy between the Nazi and the Communist tyrannies may lead to the erroneous conclusion, for instance, that the Communists are as bad as the Nazis were. But while their totalitarianism is similar there is a great difference between the urgency of the one and the lack of historical urgency of the other. It will not be to our advantage because it foolishly believes that "historical dialectic" is working for its success. If we believe that it is not, we could not but believe that it remains prepared and await the verdict of history on our opposing creeds.

## Contest With Communism

By REINHOLD NIEBUHR  
In The American Scholar

OUR BEST chance for survival lies not in our courage or our steadiness so much as in our modesty and patience. We cannot master the forces of history, but we may be able to beguile them. That would include the ability to wait upon the disintegration of a tyrannical system which is so counterproductive to the requirements of human nature that it must ultimately disintegrate. Our modesty must include carelessness in making historical analogies and predictions about the future based upon analogy are confusing because

## Compromise On Rights

In a subcommittee, the basic civil rights bill was worked over so as to please both sides. Some parts of the Democratic Celler bill were adopted and some parts of the Brownell Republican bill.

Chief difference between the two bills is the Democratic bill provides for tougher criminal penalties if a Negro suffers death or bodily harm as a result of his voting for certain rights. Brownell proposes no changes in the present law on this point. The compromise bill as finally adopted in subcommittee included the stiffer Democratic penalties, but adopted the Brownell plan when it came to establishing a civil rights division in the Justice Department.

ing writers of the 1850s and '60s northern editors have wisely sought first-hand answers to the South's pressing problems because these problems cannot be confined to state or sectional lines.

## Yankee Reporters & The Southern Front

WE WANT them to leave the South and smell neither of magnolias nor mudbanks.

We want them neither to condemn us nor to praise us.

We want nothing from the invasion of northern reporters but accuracy and fairness and honesty.

In the nation today, the moving, compelling story of our time is being written in the South. It is too often, however, an unwarranted attack on a Negro entertainer, a boycott in Orangeburg or a White Citizens Council meeting in Mississippi.

These are items to be reported, to be reported for northern and southern readers alike, for this is part of the big picture.

But there is another story, too—a story Yankee reporters have for the most part, missed in tumbling over adjectives to tell the world about this restless region and the strange people who inhabit it.

We are an area of many follies, of many mistakes of injustices, and if some of this reporting continues, of even more misunderstanding.

All is not mint juleps or magnolias and we have passed suddenly from the northern concept of the plantation South, the cotton field South, the barefooted South, to a region of new landscapes and old anxieties. Of course there is hate—and this is violence.

But this is not all of the story. It is not all there is to report. It is merely a corner of the kaleidoscope.

This scrutiny in recent months was well-intentioned. For the first time since the carpetbagging reporters of the Reconstruction era, and the warmonger-

## Flexible Tool For A Better Future

A CHARLOTTE insurance agent visiting in a nearby town recently met a real skeptic in a rustic type who complained:

"I bought a life policy in '27 and ain't used it since."

For this gentleman, and even those aware of the fact that policyholders draw more benefits every year than do beneficiaries after death. Life insurance education Week in Mecklenburg County can prove to be a real boon.

For although life insurance is a constant in more and more family budgets, it is infinitely more complex than other budget items. It is synonymous with personal security for all policyholders, of course, but a life insurance is more than that. It is a good investment that also serves as a damper on inflation and as a major source of the economy's working capital and thus its strength.

What needs most to be explained about life insurance is the multiple forms it has assumed since it was first made operative in 1759 as a system for relief of widows and children of deceased ministers. Life insurance since has become the means to retirement, travel and education as well as to safety and security of survivors.

Already there is increasing consciousness of life insurance as a flexible investment, adaptable to varying incomes, for achieving a better future. Insurance

## Double Pride

THE election of John Paul Lucas to the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States adds another solid star beside Charlotte's name in the roll of American cities.

The community, as well as Mr. Lucas, can take pride in the honor. He joins a distinguished list of U. S. business leaders. He brings to the inner circle of one of the nation's sturdiest and most influential organizations all of the enthusiasm and ability which have marked his activities and achievements on the local scene.

Mr. Lucas is no Babbitt. His background is broad, his social consciousness deep. The National Chamber is fortunate in having him in a position of leadership.

## Ruskin Vs. Lockheed And Relativity

A GENTLEMAN who collects limericks called to ask if he could be of any assistance in supplying an editorial slant on news of the new Lockheed F104A Starfighter, a missile-with-man-in-it stuffed at more than 1,000 miles an hour.

No, we said.

Our friend, the persistent type, continued:

"Remember back in the twenties when Einstein's theory on relativity was a popular subject to speculate on?"

No, we said, but of course we did.

"Well, this one blossomed then":

There was a young lady called Bright,  
Who could travel much faster than

light,  
She went out one day,  
In relative noy,  
And came back the previous night.

Charming but only vaguely relevant. Besides, we have our own pet reference for news stories about new speed records—air, ground or water. It is from the pen of John Ruskin brightly:

"There was always more in the world than men could see, walked they ever so slowly; they will see it no better for going fast. . . . The really precious things are thought and sight, not pace. It does a bullet no good to go fast; and a man, if he be truly a man, no harm to go slow; for his glory is not at all in going, but in being."

## From The Richmond News Leader

## BIGDOME ON THE WIRE

IT HAS BEEN two years, by gingoos, since we hollered about the Mr. Bigdomes of this community, and the years have taken their toll. Once again post-pony rides the telephone wires. Three times in one day we have answered the telephone only to hear a sweet feminine voice reciting: "Hold on, please, for Mr. Bigdome."

Whereupon, you hold on.

And you hold on.

And ultimately Mr. Bigdome consends to get on the wire. He is Too Big an Executive to make his own telephone calls. He is Entirely Too Busy to dial a number himself. That is Beneath Him.

"Get me Mr. Throtlebottom" he commands his secretary, and he sits in regal majesty, drumming his fingers on the desk or gazing out the window while his secretary does what any child can do: she dials the number for him.

It is an aggravating business, and certainly does nothing to improve public relations. If the Mr. Bigdomes of this world were aware: how their petty conceit arouses smirkings and promotes ill will, maybe they would be persuaded that it is not so terribly difficult a task to raise one's hand at the wire, extend a finger and gently but firmly dial a wanted number. With practice, it gets real easy.

Experts say that the new farm bill likely will add between \$3 and \$5 billion to the farmers' income this year. Looks like the farmer does better cultivating congressmen than corn. —NEW ORLEANS STATES.

A teacher, having given what she thought was a clear and simple explanation of the intricacies of the calendar asked, "Now tell me—what month has her small form than Ruskin brightly: "They all have." —FOUR MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.



## Whistling In The Dark

# Can Eisenhower Be Beaten?

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

SINCE the President's veto of the farm bill, and the recent series of primaries, some Democrats are beginning to say that Eisenhower can be beaten, and even to sound as if they meant it.

Most Democrats still privately believe that there is about as much chance of beating the President as there would be of defeating a suddenly restricted George Washington. Yet the remaining of the more optimistic minority has left water reproducing. It falls roughly into five parts.

1—The public opinion polls provide the only solid evidence that the President is invincible. But early in the 1948 campaign the polls also showed Thomas E. Dewey as the President's margin. And this year, before the Minnesota primary, the polls showed Adlai Stevenson running as much as three to one ahead of Estes Kefauver. In short, the evidence provided by the polls — or so the Democratic optimists claim — is demonstrably unreliable.

2 — More reliable evidence is provided by the elections which have taken place since 1952. As one Democrat put it, "The Republicans have lost more elections under Eisenhower in the last three years than under any Republican President in this century, as a proof of his invincibility."

There is some factual basis for this extreme statement. The Democrats scored a higher proportion of the popular vote in 1954 congressional election than in any off-year election since 1934. Wherever else you seek — the special elections (7 out of 8 Democratic wins) the gubernatorial elections (9 governors won, none lost), the state legislative (50 seats won, five lost) — the pattern of remarkable Democratic success holds.

Further evidence is provided by the recent primaries. The Democrats compare the party vote in 1952 and 1954, and claim the cause for jubilation. The 1952 Minnesota primary victory was about two to one Republican, and that too the Democrats were reversed. In the Republican vote in Wisconsin dropped 20 per cent. In Illinois, the Democrats went from a third of the vote to almost half, and in New Jersey from 27 per cent to 43 per cent.

4 — "All this talk about a third party revolution in the South is a lot of malarkey, plus Republican whistling." Again, there is some factual basis for this statement. According to a memorandum

plucked up by the Democratic National Committee, not a single Democratic senator, governor, or other high party official in the South has publicly favored a third party. And a lot of southerners, from Alabama's Gov. Folsom to Georgia's revered Sen. George D. Eisenhower, have been pouring cold water on the third party idea.

As a recent statement by Sen. Hubert Humphrey suggests, the Democratic leadership hopes to avoid a convention split over the civil rights plank. The idea is to frame a plank which will make a formal bow towards the Supreme Court's desegregation decision, but will leave out all mention of federal enforcement.

If this measure of appeasement has the desired effect, the Democrats will have at least rational grounds for hoping that the southern and normally Democratic border states will return to their traditional allegiance. In that case, the Democratic candidate will inherit 170 electoral votes, with only another 96 needed to win. So, the Democrats argue, with the farmers in revolt and other special voting groups unhappy, it will not be impossible to pick up those 96 votes.

5 — The Democrats have now

plucked up the courage to attack the President frontally. A headline in the current issue of the "Democratic Digest" reads: "Ezra Takes the Blame — But It's His Farm Depression." The President will be attacked frontally for "broken promises" on the farm and labor legislation, and obliquely as a "part time President" presiding over a "rich man's administration."

This line of attack could be effective. Moreover, though some Democratic claims are exaggerated, for example, there is no contest for the Republican nomination, which largely accounts for the drop in the Republican primary vote. Democratic successes at the polls since 1952 have been undeniable.

Even so, there is a certain whistling-in-the-dark sound when Democrats talk about beating Eisenhower in November. If one imagines a post-election headline—"Eisenhower Beaten By . . ." — it is remarkably difficult to fill in the blank with the name of any visible Democratic candidate. Yet the facts listed above do suggest that the Republicans may be a little too complacent about the election, as they were once before in recent memory.

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## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

INTENSE political jockeying has been started to get credit with the big mass of Negro voters for passing a civil rights bill which would protect Negro voting rights in the South. Both the Republicans and northern Democrats are wooing the big city Negro vote.

The jockeying has become so weird that in a closed-door meeting of the House Judiciary Committee last week, New York's Congressman Ken Keating, an Eisenhower Republican who claims to favor civil rights, helped sidetrack it. Democratic civil rights bill.

He did this by failing to use three Republican proxies he had in his pocket and voting them against southern Democrats and five Republicans to recommit the Justice Department over how far the Eisenhower administration should go on civil rights.

Keating's proposal to adopt the Brown-



IKE AND MAMIE AFTER 1952 ELECTION

A Repeat Performance?

## Both Parties Vie For Urban Negro Vote

ell bill failed, however, and it looked like calling for the Celler bill until a filibuster was started by Reps. Edwin Willis (D-La.) and E. Forrester (D-Ga.). At this point the GOP members lapsed into silence. They saw a chance to let the Democrats suffer from their North-South split personality.

"This is unconstitutional," Willis and Forrester insisted, "an invasion of the federal government into a field that is purely the province of the states." They were referring to Celler's proposal to mandatory approval of voting rights by a criminal offense.

Suddenly Willis moved to recommit and was seconded by Rep. Robert Ashmore (D-Sc.).

When the vote was taken the bill was

sent "down" — back to Lane's subcommittee. The five Republicans who voted against it were joined by the following Democrats: Clark M. Walley, Fla.; Frazier, Tenn.; Jones, S.C.; Brooks, Texas; Tuck, Va.; Ashmore, S.C.; Willis, La.; and Forrester, Ga.

When the vote was taken the bill was