



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Thomas L. Robinson... President and Publisher
Brodie S. Griffith... General Manager
Cecil Prince... Associate Editor
Thomas G. Peserman... Managing Editor
W. W. Sirmon... Circulation Manager

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The Two Pawns Are Out Of Jail

THIS city of 150,000 is again at the mercy of two teenagers illegally incarcerated for two weeks in city jail. But if release of the boys makes Charlotteans tremble for their safety, consciences all around must rest a little easier.

There was something farcical about the whole idea of two boys, one 13 and one 15—being so criminally "incorrigible" that they had to be locked away in a common jail with adult criminals. After a two-week run of the little drama, Police Chief Littlejohn has devised a system of supervision which he thinks will keep the boys out of trouble.

Toward A New Vitality In Politics

POLITICAL pundits searching for a "lesson" in the results of Saturday's county Democratic convention may have overlooked the obvious. More important than the momentary clamor over the chairmanship—wherein W. M. Nicholson defeated Linn Garibaldi—was the liveliness of the entire exercise.

split in the ranks but still evinced great interest in the party's local destiny. Anything less would be a hara-kiri defeat for all concerned. But rejuvenation of interest is healthy not only for the Democrats; it can affect the entire political atmosphere. It can replace old cobwebs with a fresh new awareness about government.

Club For Pops

THERE'S to be an honor roll for citizens who help clean up the air pollution problem. It's a good idea, and we hope it will take a long roll to list all the names of public-spirited smoke chasers.

Believing that politicians ought to be eligible for honors, too, we have formed a fraternity for them. It is called the Chlorophyll Club. It is open to all officials, county, state, federal and United Nations—who will help to sweeten the breath of Sugar Creek.

A Familiar Shoe, Ready For Dropping

PRESIDENT Eisenhower faced new criticism of the administration's security program with a forthright declaration: I believe that over the past three years, a vast and great progress has been made in assuring that these (security) investigations involving foreign-born citizens are not only in the best interests and protection of the government, but do take into account the justice and rights of individuals.

When the Atomic Energy System revised its security rules last week it decreed that secret informers be thoroughly questioned by the hearing boards but still may not be confronted by the accused. As for other witnesses, the boards are merely "encouraged" to call them for confrontation and cross-examination.

From The Birmingham News

WHO'S GOT THAT EQUATOR?

ARMY map service scientists have come up with something new to upset the settled state of affairs we remember so dearly. It says an epoch that old split atoms are underfoot all over the place, like halved dwarf peas, that the weather is so often cattywampus (our pet theory: because of the A-Tom Bomb), that up is down, white is black and black is white.

equator have evaporated. We might, however, consider whether in jungle areas in 1909, somebody just didn't bother to hack through the undergrowth to lay the equator down neatly. If it was, say, laid down across unreachable branches of the Ugtangri tree (Ugtangrius Estolobus) a few times, or allowed to become entangled in the feet of jungle-grazing Heffalumps, then it wouldn't take much of such to add an appearance of half a mile more than actually the equator was entitled to.

People's Platform

Editors, The News: THOSE of us who try to plan and promote the City of Charlotte feel that facts on any subject should be expressed in open meetings by those affected by the change.

It is still my hope that after due consideration the mayor and the City Council will agree to the "town meeting" plan of dissemination of information on any legislative extension rather than the forceful procedure through the state legislature.

In other words, I believe in "Home Rule" for our own problems. After all, the success of our American Way of Life has been through our informed public.

Many thanks for your second complimentary editorial on the "town meeting" idea.

-H. H. BAXTER City Councilman

'Does This Sound Fair And Impartial?'

EDITORS, THE NEWS: I WISH to express my complete agreement with the people of Mecklenburg County, whom Mr. Walsh referred to in his letter to The News on May 10, concerning the unrepresentative methods used by the City-County Planning Commission and the Planning Board.

'Haywire' Education Course Of The Land

EDITORS, THE NEWS: THE responsibility of juvenile offenders spreading criminal poison through the community should not be placed on the Juvenile Court, the Youth Bureau or the Police Department. Modern psychology with its false premises of "self-expression" for children is now reaping an awful harvest in "teen-agers" expressing themselves in vile acts and crimes beyond description.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON: REP. Victor Wickersham, Oklahoma Democrat who has made more money in real estate than most people make from oil in Oklahoma, got word of an investigation of his latest deal and had friends rush into print with his version of how he was making a cool \$185,000 by selling land indirectly to the government.

Annexation: Suburbanites Deserve The Facts



HERBERT H. BAXTER Faith And Hope

New Deal To Blame For Racial Dilemma

EDITORS, THE NEWS: I AGREE with your townsman, Mr. L. L. Childress, that the voters of North Carolina should vote a segregation ticket; but I can't agree with his assessment of responsibility for the racial dilemma we are in.

Since the campaign of 1900, or from 1900 to 1952, the racial problem was not accentuated in North Carolina. True, John J. Parker, in the campaign of 1900 tried to lift the stigma of Negro from the Republican Party by waging a life-wide campaign, in which he said he did not want the Negro vote as such, as he wanted the issues of government settled on a nonracial, noncolor basis, and that was done not so long as the Negro as such was attached to either party. However, John paid dearly for trying to place his party on such an elevated ethical and moral level, for this fact, plus his electing to lead the lead of the U. S. Supreme Court in the so-called "yellow-dog" labor contract cases, deprived him of confirmation of the appointment to the U. S. Supreme Court. He still may suffer some pang of disappointment, but I am sure glad he has been spared such discrimination, for in spite of his party aversions, I still like him, even though I thought he one time was flirted with the New Deal crowd.

Now, let's be a little honest in appraising or assessing responsibility for our racial dilemma. We Americans have an inherent propensity or irresistible impulse to handle the other fellow's business. We have an outbreak of the uplift rash now and then—a desire to make things all over again, and in the political field, the thing that is wrong is invariably in the other fellow's domain and dabbling in which is not politically costly. We would have no race problem if the Negro population in this country were distributed equally or nearly so all over the country, for in no areas would the Negro constitute more than 10 per cent of the population; but when 90 per cent of the 16 million Negroes are packed in the South Atlantic and Gulf states, there is a problem and a very troublesome one.

-MRS. L. ASHENDORF Vice President

The officious outsiders can call us anything, even the most malicious name of the country and get away with it, though every intelligent man in the country knows that the South is the most law-abiding section of the country. More violent deaths are suffered in New York City every year than in the entire South of 50 million people. Race prejudice abounds throughout the United States, but political capital can be made out of such as never here, which can't in any substantial manner be made of its existence elsewhere.

Honesty compels the confession that the revival of racial prejudice in this country coincides with the advent of the New Deal administration in 1933. Franklin D. Roosevelt and his family are as much responsible for it as any group in America. They took the Negro in as racial equals and emphasized their concept of racial relations throughout the three terms he was in the White House. Truman followed suit, and with added emphasis on civil rights. He appointed the famous Civil Rights Commission, on which was a native of your city, True, Eisenhower appointed Warren and Harlan to the Supreme Court, but Roosevelt and Truman had loaded it with like uplifting and crusading New Deal disciples. It's ironic in the extreme, but the South has just about got what it asked for.

Until the assertion of the truth is declared in conflict with the 14th Amendment and I am cited for contempt, I still continue to proclaim it. The man now in the White House is just a New and Fair Deal apostle wrapped in a Republican mantle.

-JOHN W. HESTER

Hadassah Grateful For News Coverage

EDITORS, THE NEWS: WE, OF THE Seaboard Region of Hadassah, wish to express our sincere thanks to The Charlotte News for the excellent publicity given to us during our recent conference. We are particularly grateful to Mr. Jepp Hunter, of your staff, for his kindness and patience.

-MRS. L. ASHENDORF Vice President

'Let's See — Four Oranges Plus Three Apples, Minus One Monkey Wrench, Times Two Bushels—'



Drew Pearson's Barefoot Congressman Makes A Killing

WASHINGTON: REP. Victor Wickersham, Oklahoma Democrat who has made more money in real estate than most people make from oil in Oklahoma, got word of an investigation of his latest deal and had friends rush into print with his version of how he was making a cool \$185,000 by selling land indirectly to the government.

ever, government red tape held up the deal. Meanwhile, Congressman Wickersham got busy. He asked the agency to form a team of its plans and recommendations for future building, and the agency obediently sent him a map showing four possible locations for the new laboratory.

Contractor, J. Robert Swanson, for \$427,500—a whopping profit of \$185,000. It would have been a violation of the law for Wickersham to have sold to the government directly. Despite denials, it is obvious that the Michigan contractor knew from Wickersham that the government would buy the land or he would not have paid such a price.

-GEORGIA ROBLES BOONE

Stand For 'Dixie' & 'Yankee Doodle'

EDITORS, THE NEWS: BE: "What Do You Do About Dixie?" Yes, stand, of course when "Dixie" is played — but also stand when the tune of "Yankee Doodle" rings out. We are Americans. Some day soon some song writer will have foresight enough to combine these two great tunes—and this will be the hit of his generation.

It should be remembered that there are 48 children in this big family — each equally important to the family circle — and we should be of great pride in the culture family.

-GEORGIA ROBLES BOONE

Three Choices

Now that speculators have beat the government to the punch, an amended bill should be introduced by the Administration and Geological Survey have three alternatives. They can acquire land some place else. They can pay through the nose by meeting the Wickersham-Swanson inflated price. Or they can condemn the land and fix a fair price.

Country Slicker

Probably in view of all the publicity, GSA will adopt the latter course. If the land was acquired by condemnation it would bring about half of what Swanson paid for it, which case Swanson would be left holding the bag.