



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The Declaration of Independence July 4th 1776 A.D.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of a tyrannical Government. We have submitted to a candid world.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in Name, and by authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connections between them and the State of Great Britain is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, we have pledged to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

The Park Board Burdens Public Belief

THE Park & Recreation Commission told nothing at its "tell all" meeting.

Two and a half hours of largely irrelevant explanations boiled down to this burden on belief: (1) The reported fat surplus—\$249,841.14 of it — is there, embarrassingly there, in the bank. (2) Nobody on the commission knew it was there. (3) Revelation of such riches has surprised the "po moulin" commission more than would show in July.

The money has lain there in the vault, multiplying by its own Midas touch, unseen, uncounted and unused. Meantime, the commission wrestled with "deficit" budgets, turned down worthy projects, laid playground directors by their own salaries elsewhere, and worried about the cost of the new Park Center climbing from the original limit of \$334,000 to about \$450,000.

The News will not quote disclaimers of individual commissioners because there is every indication that they are completely honorable, public spirited citizens. But the official commission stand that no one knew the surplus existed is accredited as a possibly without parallel. By taking the stand the commission argues for a judgment of fiscal incompetence.

It goes without saying that if no one knew of the surplus someone should have. Commission Chairman Ernest Sifford, for one, bunking-in Superintendent Marion Diehl for another, and Finance Chairman L. M. McEwen Jr. City Manager Yancey should have noted the surplus in the commission audit and informed City Council.

The News has no desire to hound or harass the commissioners. Even the best public service results in precious few thanks. Certainly all commissioners could not be expected to have intimate knowledge of the financial ledgers and the widespread recreation program.

But these considerations cannot ob-

ably the same object, evidence a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of a tyrannical Government. We have submitted to a candid world.

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The Communist World

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People's Platform Rock 'N' Roll Is Tolerable But Oh That Elvis!

Rock 'n' roll may be here to stay for awhile. I hope Elvis Presley is not. Rock 'n' roll is a type of music which has "caught on" with the young crowd when it has run its course, it will be subordinated in the background, as was the music pertinent to the era of the 1920s. Rock 'n' roll will remain until the young people cast it aside in favor of another such similar rage.

Elvis Presley disgraces what little dignity there is to the present craze. He gyrates in such a fashion that is nauseating, and were the onlooking crowd not already worked up into a wild frenzy, purposely they would appropriately and justifiably reach the point of repugnance.

If he knew that he appealed to only the very basest element in people, he might be properly ashamed, but it is doubtful that he would be, it takes an artist of the highest degree to appeal to the basic level of dignity in individuals, whether it is through a sentimental approach or a wholesome stimulation.

Elvis Presley's so-called music is neither sentimental nor stimulating in a wholesome way. If he must sing, he should at least confine his physical behavior, kin to a jungle refugee's, to the recording room where he makes his records. He reached the first and lowest level of the individual and went no further. It was the easiest to attain, as well as maintain. I hope it is on no permanent sort of basis. Because he cashed in on the money, it seemed useless to give any consideration whatsoever to the morality of his goings-on.

His sensationalistic approach is vulgarly misrepresenting the

South, and may seriously retard its cultural growth, which was foolishly gaining an admiring foothold here in Charlotte. He has made the vilest contribution ever to be made to our society, and that is to lead us to be profoundly ashamed of it.

Rock 'n' roll is fine in its place and in its proper proportions. But Elvis Presley's fanaticism has given it violent momentum, causing it to leap far beyond its own reasonable bounds. Only by denouncing his behavior and refusing to condone it can those of us who are willing to amend this degrading situation bring it to a final halt.

—MRS. W. T. BUNDY JR.



It's Good To Have A Policeman Near

PRE-PRESLEY ROCKER
A Little Dignity Diminished

It was rather peeved to say the least at first when I read the People's Platform letter on July 1st, sent in by an anonymous writer, on "Bad-Tempered Cop"; the small amount of praise received by the writer, I felt it was the dictate of human nature—to see the bad side of a thing.

I wonder if the writer ever stopped to consider the great service police officers have done our communities, the chances and risks they take every day—the small amount of praise received by the writer, I felt it was the dictate of human nature—to see the bad side of a thing.

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bility are encouraging when encountered on the printed news page. These manifestations do not concern themselves with the Park & Recreation business but with reactions to the difficulties of filling the news pages with the printed word. How often do we see reporters making total judgments on the happenings of the day, on people or groups?

The art of filling columns in a paper, day in and day out, the unending chain-like continuous effort of pluing words on top of words, is at best a mentally degrading business. However, to arrive at final solemn answers is an act that requires long soul-searching.

Pondering to what the newsmen thinks the public wants to read displays a lesson unlearned. It is a lesson that the people are not concerned with words but with deeds, then newspapers should be wary of loose, quick judgments on the ways of simple mortals.

—D. EMIS.

'You Think This Is Real 4th-Of-July Stuff?'



Democratic Dilemma Sparring Partner Needed For Nixon

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

THE choice of Democratic convention policy lines between Sen. Humphrey of Minnesota and Sen. Stevenson of Illinois is a delicate one.

Mrs. Roosevelt will address the convention Thursday evening, Aug. 16. She will then fly back to New York and the next afternoon, Aug. 17, she will fly to Europe on a business-with-pleasure trip.

Special honors for President Truman await his approval on his return this week from Europe. He will address the convention and will have a box of his own close to the convention floor for the entire proceedings.

The arrangements committee will polish off these and other convention matters in a Chicago next Monday.

BRAND NEW REASON

With Adlai Stevenson well out in front for the Democratic nomination, bedrock explorations of a possible vice president for him have been made.

The public apparently is deprived of a reasonable explanation of the commission's surplus. But it must be assured of adequate safeguards against any recurrence. The commission and the Council should see to those safeguards immediately.

Queen City Has Too Many Parks

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It is very happy to see that this was one thing that ought not to get over a per cent of the tax dollar. If folks have got to have so much recreation, let them dig in their own pockets.

We have more parks now than need a playground no two blocks from my house. Do not let them play in it. If they don't. They use your yard and worry you too.

—MRS. NETTIE GREY

Sound Of Airplanes: A Nocturnal Nuisance

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PLEASE someone, stop the airplanes from flying just above the houses!

For the past six months we haven't been able to hear a sound in our own house. The noise of planes fills our house day and night. We can't sleep at night from them.

What's this stopped? We can sit on the porch and see the planes in the air. Returting the mail plane at night. Stop them from flying at all hours of the day and night over our city.

—MRS. C. E. CARTER 'R.

Press Rarely Indulges In 'Self-Examination'

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An interesting and seldom seen line crept into Staff Writer Dick Young Jr.'s analysis on June 29 of the Park & Recreation story. He wrote: "Estimates of the park board's so-called 'black fund' have ranged from \$750,000—based on a sensational-pleasing newspaper reporter—to \$89,374—the figure of Park Supt. Marion Diehl."

Self-examination in full public view is a rarely among newspapermen. Efforts to try for impartiality and fairness, for holding tight to the principles of common sense and for a sense of responsibility are few and far between.

Be A Christian And Not A Snob

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I KNOW we all have met many people on the street and they know you and won't speak. That is a snob and today I am told that there are church members who belong to the same church and Sunday school class and who will call up members and tell them to come to Sunday school and they won't come.

Stop them from flying at all hours of the day and night over our city.

—MRS. C. E. CARTER 'R.

Quote, Unquote

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I'm the kind of a guy who will have nothing all my life and then they'll discover all while they're digging my grave—George Gobel.

An officers' candidate school is to restrict entrance to common sense and for a sense of responsibility.

—Bob Hoge

TELEVISION'S SOUTHERN ACCENT

TELEVISION is a wonderful form of entertainment, and we are one of those who put up with most of its shortcomings.

We can even stand to see some of the repeat shows and some of them have been repeated so often that the films must be completely worn out.

We are patient when the commercials here out twice as long as the regular portion of the program.

With but a little irritation we can sit through a half hour play which usually has an unsatisfactory ending.

We are long suffering and take the bad with the good, but there is one practice in television which makes us boil in righteous indignation, and that is the custom of casting Yankees in the role of southerners in serious plays.

And the way these Yankees murder the melodious southern dialect is something out of this world. What started out to be a drama is quickly turned into a comedy.

We favor retaliation in kind. For just once, we should like to go into the deep, deep South, say Mississippi, and select a talented group of college drama students. We would take them to New York

and talk NBC or CBS into casting them in the roles of East Side New Yorkers. You can imagine how completely ludicrous the result would be.

We would suggest to the television network that should they need some southerners in a forthcoming production, members of the Carolina Playmakers at the University of North Carolina would be delighted at a chance for the trip and some extra money.

"How did you get that black eye?" "Kissing a bride after the ceremony." "Everybody does that." "Yeah, but this was two years after."—CARLSBAD (N.M.) CURRENT-ARGUS.

Aim of automobile tire manufacturers is now said to be to make the spare tire obsolete, and we'll say that for a long time we've been using one that's almost obsolete.—LEXINGTON HERALD.

It was on a children's radio quiz show. "It's a man's best friend," began the M. C., "and the word begins with D." The youngster thought for a moment. "DAME!"—LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.

Drew Pearson's 'Progress' Has Made A Perilous World

CONCORD, MASS.

CONCORD River, unconcerned that they are in the shadow of the bridge "where once embattled farmers stood and fired the shot heard round the world," tourists, more concerned, snap pictures. They point cameras up the rolling hills, where the 500 farm arms with pitchforks and squirrel rifles came red down to the bridge to turn back British Red Coats. . . . It was here that the independence movement began in April 1776, how it swept down to Philadelphia, how Thomas Jefferson drafted the Declaration of Independence in July, how a little group of patriots signed it on July 4, 1776, and how, undisturbed, they didn't have the courage to proclaim it or ring the Liberty Bell until four days later.

Individualistic Thinkers

Across the field from the bridge a guide takes a group through the old manse, home of Nathaniel Hawthorne and the family of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Around it once revolved a cult of strong thinkers, individualistic thinkers—Henry

Actually Revere never did go to Concord. He stopped first at Lexington where he had the dickens of a time with Samuel Adams and John Hancock. . . . A month later as the first man to sign the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia went to sleep. . . . And when Revere headed for Concord, the British caught him. They also caught Rufus Davis, ancestor of Coolidge's great-grandfather Charles Davis. The only man who sneaked through was Sam Prescott, who had a late date with a girl in Lexington and managed to ride the back roads seven miles to Concord to warn that the British were coming.

Fearful Present

Riding over the smooth, crowded highway outside Boston today you can't help comparing the type of war fought then and war fought today. Capt. Parker lost 11 men at Lexington. It was a great historic battle, the beginning of a war. But only 11 men were killed. . . . Today if we came to the suburbs of Boston, one hydrogen bomb would wipe out the main area and contaminate 15 million for days afterward no one could live in the

vicinity. . . . Not 11 men, but 1,500,000. . . . That's what war means today. "Seven-time waking up" including many American allies in Europe would be killed, testified Lt. Gen. James M. Gavin, who has been out between the United States and Russia. . . . This is a dangerous understatement," countered Lauriston Taylor and Roger Lapp, two of our foremost atomic physicists. Such an attack would affect not merely several hundred million, it would be catastrophic to the entire Northern Hemisphere, they said. . . . "Such widespread contamination with its effect on human genes, would be so great," said Dr. Taylor, "that I don't believe the human race could survive." . . . The whole world would suffer under it," said Dr. Lapp.

Long, Long Journey

That's how far we have come in the 178 years since the battles of Concord and Lexington.

That also may be why the world may be reaching a military stalemate in Laos. Even the rulers of the Kremlin main cause in the face of the fearful awareness of atomic war.