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Midtown's Bottleneck Is Well-Greased

THE peak-hour parking ban on 28 blocks of midtown streets is a first-step success.
The grip of Charlotte's Big Squeeze has been broken.
If all of the bottlenecks have not been removed they have at least been greased for greater motorcar mobility on Trade and Tryon.

More significant and promising in the broad view is the fact that the Queen City has seen an example of vigorous cooperation by many groups to ease the congestion problem.

Midtown merchants once saw in the plan anything but great tidings of financial joy. Their attitude was at first one of flat opposition. Merchants association approval came only after great contemplation of all the factors involved...

Yesterday when the parking ban went into effect—opening extra lanes to traffic—midtown merchants were among those who praised the new system. They were joined by city officials, policemen and motorists themselves.

The Senate's Tax-Paid Smear Artists

REPUBLICAN employes of the U. S. Senate are putting out hate literature again and the taxpayers are still footing the bill.

A staff publication of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, eschewing any but stated endorsement by Republican senators, pictures the Democratic Party as the darling of the Communists.

Senate Democrats howled in indignation, and said pointedly they do not wish to be forced to retaliate by making copies of Moscow reports that the Kremlin likes, too, and hopes to be re-elected. A couple of GOP senators have made it clear they do not question the motives or patriotism of the Democratic Party. This is not enough.

The staff of the Republican Policy Committee is paid out of Senate funds.

Everything In Congress Is Just Ducky

WEEP no more for Ezra Taft Benson and his mountain of surplus grain. In a moment of enormous cunning, Congress has figured out a way to settle the whole problem. It is to institute wild ducks in to gobble up the surplus grain instead of feasting on precious, pre-surplus, growing grain in California's Sacramento, Imperial and San Joaquin Valleys.

President Eisenhower signed a bill Tuesday making the invitation formal. It works this way:

Farmers bothered by migrating ducks getting to grain before it is declared surplus can call on the Commodity Credit Corporation for help. The CCC will rush in surplus stuff to serve as a decoy, or at least as an alternate course on the menu. It will be spread around invitingly.

After Seaweed, A Ballbat Sandwich?

THE irony of feeding surplus grain to itinerant ducks while many Asians and Europeans go hungry is heightened by newly published worries about how the earth's millions will eat in the 21st century.

Resources of The World, a "speculative projection" published recently by the California Institute of Technology, warns that a vast increase in food production will be necessary as well as certain "non-conventional" approaches to the problem.

From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

FAREWELL TOTICKER TAPE

TICKER tape, which greeted Lone Eagle Charles A. Eadsbergh and channel swimmer Gertrude Ederle and Queen Marie of Romania on their triumphant rides up Broadway, is running out a victim of technological unemployment, just when it had become an indispensable part of the American scene.

With the advances that have come about in electronics the New York Stock Exchange now flashes stock prices on a board instead of ticking them off on tape. Only a thin trickle of tape, relatively speaking, still comes from tickers used as reserves.

How, then, are there to be showers of ticker tape, the expected salute to distinguished visitors from abroad? The State Department worried about this, and its worries came to a boil when Prime Minister John A. Costello of Ireland received what was generally regarded as a reception deficient in warmth.

Very little ticker tape. So the State Department got in touch with the Stock Exchange, which by saving up supplied ticker tape for the visit of President Sukarno of Indonesia. It had to be delivered to the office buildings along the parade route by the very Department of Sanitation which would later clean it up, after, of course, it had been thrown at President Sukarno.

It seems, at best a premeditated and cold-blooded substitute. Ticker tape growing naturally, so to speak, along the canyons of Lower Broadway, like baskets and flung with imprudent abandon—that is one thing. Ticker tape delivered and flung with planned enthusiasm is another.

What most women want most, according to a YWCA survey, is a chance to travel. Such items as education, charm, even men, were further down the list. Just try that one on your women friends at a neighborhood party.

LAUREL (Miss.) LEADER-CALL

The bright boys who name operations for the armed services were pleased with their choice for the flood relief work in the northeast: "Operation Noah."—PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE.

The Republicans are worried about how to make their convention a snappy TV show. Of course, the Democrats have it easier since, in addition to the regular panel, they have several mystery challengers.—RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH.

Quick Tax Write-Offs: A Bonanza For Big Business?

By MARQUIS CHILDS WASHINGTON

THREE years after the end of the Korean War and in the midst of the greatest postwar boom the country has ever seen, the Office of Defense Mobilization is still testing certificates for fast tax write-offs to industry that are, in effect, interest-free loans.

The policy of the five-year tax write-off was initiated after the start of the Korean war under the Truman administration to give indirect help to firms building facilities for defense production that might otherwise not have been built.

But it has continued, down to the present, with the latest report of the Office of Defense Mobilization showing the total of tax amortization certificates at \$36,271,546,000, of which \$22,601,000,000 has been written off in five years.

New Deal Democrats sputter indignantly over what they say is a bonanza by a business administration to big business. As one of them put it: "They screamed about mink coats under Truman. But this is hundreds of millions and even billions of dollars. I guess the trouble is you can understand about mink coats but the quick tax write-off doesn't get across."

Actually, although like many of the controversies in the Eisenhower administration it never showed above the surface, there was a sharp dispute over whether the fast tax write-off should be continued.

Opponents in the administration argued that the privilege was being granted to construct facilities which would have been built in any event, that the "defensive" justification was in most instances no longer valid. As a result, the practice was in part suspended for re-evaluation.



ADM. STRAUSS Atoms And Dollars

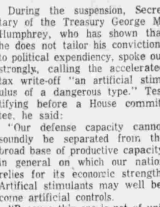
During the suspension, Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey, who has shown that he does not tailor his convictions to political expediency, spoke out strongly, calling the accelerated tax write-off "an artificial stimulus of a dangerous type."

"Our defense capacity cannot soundly be separated from the broad base of productive capacity in general on which our nation relies for its economic strength. Artificial stimulants may well be counterproductive."

"Because this one is not of universal application but is bestowed only upon some who especially qualify as against others who do not, it could become a hindrance to a sound, balanced, vigorous growth of our whole free economy. It is not the American way."

MR. HUMPHREY Stimulants And Controls assistance to all business and to our continued economic growth. It is on the tax write-offs granted to private utilities that the dispute is sharpest, with public power advocates throwing back at private utilities the charge of "subsidy" which they have long raised against public power.

A completion of the American Public Power Association shows \$2,846,675,500 in private utility development eligible for the five-year write-off. The association claims that this interest-free loan, as it has been called by the Federal Power Commission, brings in 6 per cent for the accounting period



MR. HUMPHREY Stimulants And Controls

of 33-1/3 years, would realize a subsidy of \$4,276,511,362. The utilities say this is nonsense, since what is saved in five years goes to pay later taxes.

The same argument touches the claim of Adm. Lewis Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, that private utilities must be allowed to develop atomic power with private capital.

FIVE-YEAR WRITE-OFF The Duquesne Light Co. at Pittsburgh has under construction the only large atomic power development. Of the total investment of roughly \$107 million, the commission is supplying \$72 million and Duquesne under the contract \$15 million. But after the contract was signed, Duquesne applied for a five-year tax write-off, which was granted for \$10.5 million. It is charged that over a 33-year period that will be equivalent to nearly the amount that the utility would save on the project.

All this is so complicated that it hardly comes within the scope of ordinary politics. But if the economic climate should change, it is not hard to imagine how these tax privileges and the credit rating coming on for newly opened loopholes, could be exploited in a sensational congressional investigation. That kind of reexamination in the past brought the restraints that business and industry have most bitterly resented.



ADM. STRAUSS Atoms And Dollars

Adlai's 'Moderation' Tailored To The Taste Of Like-Likers By WALTER LIPPMANN

NEW YORK THERE IS general agreement among seasoned political correspondents that Gov. Stevenson has recovered from the setback he suffered in the California election, and barring accident, is virtually certain to be re-nominated. The opposition, which came from the left, has failed to raise an issue against him and is fading away.

Sen. Kefauver's case was not based on anything more substantial than a claim that he was a better voter-getter, and that claim was refuted in the California primary.

The Harriman candidacy has faded on the hope that Mr. Truman would move actively against Stevenson. His candidacy has made no sense. Why? Because the Democratic leaders and politicians in the North and in the South are opposed to the Harriman strategy which is to gamble on splitting the party, to drive the southerners up by taking extreme positions which would be supposed to pull in Negroes, labor, disoriented farmers in the North.

RISKY GAMBLE This strategy is imitated from Truman's in 1948, and is meant to be a gamble at long odds for the Democratic leadership in Congress and with them Gov. Stevenson have addressed themselves. They have set to prove to the people that they can take over responsibility effectively. With Stevenson and with the Congress, as proved by its performance, the Democrats have a formidable alternative in Eisenhower. They are in the best possible position to appeal to the Eisenhower Democrat who, almost certainly, hold the balance of power.

EVER ON THE PRESENT This does not mean that Stevenson would be a carbon copy of Eisenhower. Though they are not far apart on immediate problems, such as the farm, the desegregation, defense, foreign policy, there is a difference between them about the future. If there is a case against Eisenhower, it is that he has raised too much in the immediate present, pending issues only when he has to air when they are brought to him by his staff, but he has refused to anticipate the future and to prepare for it. As he grows older, this case against him is likely to become stronger, and for many a voter this will be a decisive consideration.

Quote, Unquote California is a great place to live, if you're an orange.—Fred Allen. Once I went big-game hunting in Africa. What an active life we led up at a breakfast at 6:15. Back in bed by 6:30. One day I shot an elephant in my pajamas. How he got in my pajamas I'll never know.—Groucho Marx.



"I don't care how long you've been in politics... you're out of practice, and this is going to be a rough campaign... NOW, this is a precinct captain you haven't seen in years..."

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

Are 'Dixie's' Words Unpatriotic Today? Houston, Tex. Our parents is a vital cause of juvenile delinquency. He told us to always respect and obey our parents.

He also said that no matter where he is or what he is doing, every night, he calls his mother, the best friend a young person has. We think this is excellent advice for youth and that should be printed. Elvis is one of the cleanest, nicest and best-looking boys we have ever met.

HARRIETT MOORE BARBARA TIDWELL LIBBY PHILLIPS MARY HYDES SYLVIA BOLICK

Help Rock 'N' Roller 'Be Himself' On TV Charlotte, N.C. WE WOULD like to say something about the Elvis Presley incident.

Elvis is down to earth, crude and natural. He is not, as is generally said, a product of strictly brain children of hypocritical adults. We see no reason why he should not be seen on television. We would appreciate your voicing the opinions of the teenagers on this subject. We do not like the attitude of many critics and we hope you will help us and help Elvis get back on television as himself.

ELVIS PRESLEY FAN CLUB

Every Church Doesn't Study Same Lesson Charlotte, N.C. A CRACKERJACK aggregation, assuming a somewhat antinomian pose during his Tuesday night shows, issues the effusion: "Attend the church of your choice," and then adds, "We will be studying our Sunday school lesson on... naming a specific book of the New Testament, which is to imply that all churches, particularly Protestant bodies, study the same lesson and scriptural text on the same Sunday. That is a definite error.

Certain Protestant denominations have prearranged, stereotyped Sunday school lessons, but it's certainly not the case with all Protestant sects. In the main they have neither the same scriptural text or general theme. Other sects have no lesson study at all.

A. W. BLACK

Lawmakers Hush Up Cost Of Junkets

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON The taxpayers paid \$51,000 for a special accounting to fly Congressman Sterling Cole (R-N.Y.), C. Fisher (D-Tex.), George Miller (D-Calif.), Will Norblad (R-Ore.), and Bill Bates (R-Mass.) around the world. The Air Force escort officer spent another \$100,000 of the taxpayers' money on the congressman for travel expenses. Fisher also took a private \$300 side trip in Indonesia.

Free Spending Money These basic costs do not include the foreign currency that is laid out to junketing congressmen for spending money. All they need is a check signed by a committee chairman. This is good for free spending money at our credit of 42 countries.

The foreign currency is taken from special account No. 19 FT 561, which is set aside for the exclusive use of traveling congressmen. They spend the money by the bushel basket for hotels, meals, entertainment, night clubs, sou-

venirs, and whatever suits their fancy. The accounting is asked and given even for the most trivial expenses.

Special Airlines The secret vouchers also do not include the free rides congressmen were given on Air Force planes and navy ships that were going their way. By Congress curious bookkeeping, these rides cost the taxpayers nothing, since the planes and ships didn't go out of the way.

What isn't mentioned is that the lawmakers usually displace military passengers. For example, a Senate Appropriations subcommittee, including wives and aides, displaced 40 military wives and children booked to join their menfolk in Europe last September.

It cost \$41,670 for a special plane to fly Congressman Clem Zablocki (D-Wis.), John Jarman (D-Ola.), Bob Byrd (D-W.Va.), Ross Adair (R-Ind.), and Marguerite Church (R-Ill.) round the world.

Another special plane to Europe cost \$21,638 for Congressman W. R. Page (D-Ill.), Harold D. Cooley (D-N.C.), Henry Talle (R-Iowa), and Antoni Sadlak (R-Conn.). Sadlak took his wife, and Sen. Willard Robertson (D-Va.) arranged for his daughter-in-law. Mrs. Willis Robertson Jr. to make the trip.

It was to visit the Inter-Parliamentary Union, attendance at which is required by law. It can be classified as one of the more worthwhile junkets.

South American Junket Congressman Page and his wife organized a South American junket which cost the taxpayers \$18,915 for transportation. Included in the party were Congressman J. J. Jones (D-Mo.) and his wife, still another South American junket for Congressman Porter Hardy (D-Va.), Jack Brooks (D-Tex.), George E. Brown (R-Calif.), and Victor Knox (R-Mich.) cost \$20,956.

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