



# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## Mayhem In Metropolitan Mecklenburg: A Judge's Concern Is Widely Shared

The shock Judge Hugh B. Campbell expressed last week about crimes of violence in Mecklenburg County is widely shared.

There is no pride in the knowledge that Mecklenburgers main and murder with presumably wilder abandon than the citizens of sister counties through Tarheelia it is, instead, a source of deep and enduring shame.

As a jurist, Mr. Campbell should be peculiarly sensitive to the implications. Whether or not every punishment should be made to fit the crime, it is abundantly clear that most crimes and social disorders fit the culture and the environment.

We brag of metropolitan Charlotte's explosive growth. But it should be clear to all that this very growth has sown the seeds of disorder now being harvested.

It has left pockets of poverty and social disorganization. It has produced frustrations and "normlessness" that find their most intense expressions in the young and the underprivileged.

It has begun to breed some of the ills that grow wild and weeds in the larger, older metropolitan centers—delinquency, alcoholism, prostitution, breakdowns of family life or of sexual morality, crimes against property, and a mercifully minor extent, drug addiction. But most serious of all is the desensitizing of men—the lack of a belief in any values, the moral breakdowns that flow from the sense that nothing counts except possibly power or money, and that life is largely a racket.

It is the price we pay for growth but it is not a price we necessarily have to pay. That is why so many thoughtful Charlotteans are anxious for a comprehensive urban renewal program to be launched in blighted Brooklyn where many of Mecklenburg's crimes of violence occur. Brooklyn is a Negro city-within-a-city. But it is not so much because Brooklyn's citizens are Negroes that some of them assault and maim and murder. It is because most of them are poor.

Lewis E. Laves, for 28 years custodian of the largest penal institution in the country, discovered this fundamental truth long ago and wrote about it in "20,000 Years in Sing Sing."

"You could cut a knife through the prison population," he said, "and have a perfectly even proportion in accordance with the economic status and background of the prisoners received. The Negroes from the Harlem slums and the whites from Cherry Hill, Hell's Kitchen and other ghettos were received in proportion to six to one over some groups who have acquired higher economic security."

No prisoners, he continued, were received from Edgecombe Ave., where relatively well-to-do Negroes live, or from the better Jewish neighborhoods.

The late William Polk made the same point in his book "Southern Accent." N. Littlejohn added a pertinent postscript several years ago on the subject of Brooklyn's "Slum clearance," he said, "doesn't mean slapping up four pieces of beaverboard around a \$17 galvanized sink and bathtub. . . . When I talk about slums I talk about the attitudes that go with them, and the people who exploit the Negro in maintaining these areas and who take advantage of his position to get as much out of him for nothing as they can."

Violence is a crime. But poverty and social cruelty are crimes, too. They all must be diminished if metropolitan Mecklenburg is to grow into a better community with a better life for all its people.

We said the shock is shared. That is true. But so is the responsibility for doing something about it.

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Violence Lurks In The Shadows Of A County's Conscience

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# Dick Nixon's Political Braintrust Is 'Running Scared'

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON Vice President Richard M. Nixon's homecoming was not all cheers at the airport. His personal political staff was waiting, almost at the airport, with the warning that what they call the "Rockefeller situation" had been abruptly transformed during Nixon's absence.

The vice president and those around him have never discounted the potential candidacy of New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. Nixon himself has often said that events would probably "force" Rockefeller into the race. But Nixon always hoped that events would work the other way; and he also felt reasonably confident that Rockefeller would at least stick to his gubernatorial haunting until the New Year, as he said he would.

### A TRANSFORMATION

Now, however, "the Rockefeller situation" is thought to be transformed, because of symptomatic developments. One report, as yet unconfirmed, concerns a sort of Rockefeller loyalty oath imposed on the New York State Republican organization, in which there were pro-Nixon tendencies here and there. Another report, also unconfirmed, suggests that a sort of embryo headquarters for a nationwide Rockefeller underground has been opened in New York City.

Though unconfirmed, both the foregoing reports are believed by the vice president's advisors. They are no less ominous, in any case, than other developments of undoubted authenticity.

One such was the circulation by the New York State

Republican Committee Chairman, J. Edgar Mothman, of a memorandum on the Republican outlook. The memo stated that "Nixon can't win, Rockefeller can." Another, and much the most important development was Rockefeller's own announcement in Puerto Rico. At the governor's conference he told the political reporters that he would decide in November, on the basis of public opinion polls, whether to become an active candidate.

For these reasons, the Nixon staff concluded, long before their chief's return, that they must prepare for an active contest with the New York governor, beginning much earlier than had been expected. Pro-Nixon Republican leaders all across the country have reached the same conclusion. Thus the Nixon office in the capital was already being deluged by appeals for action, and suggestions of public pledges to the Nixon cause, while the vice president was still traversing the Siberian steppes and receiving the cheers of Warsaw.

### THE TRIP HELPED

As the Nixon high command sees the contest about the polls that Gov. Rockefeller will guide his decision will be a major factor in the outcome. On this front, the vice president's position has been improved, thus far, by his journey behind the Iron Curtain. Whereas the Gallup poll for July gave Nixon 44 per cent of the national vote and Adlai Stevenson 30 per cent, the Nixon-Khrushchev debate had been televised, gave Nixon 51 per cent, and Stevenson 49 per cent.

This is a substantial and

highly encouraging gain in popular support. But Nixon and his staff have noted, somewhat apprehensively, that this first pairing did not include the man they regard as by far the strongest Democratic vote-getter, Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts.

If Kennedy holds anything like his former position in the polls that he ahead, their

shock-effect can more than cancel out the vice president's gain in Moscow.

Nixon and his staff naturally contend that polls taken now cannot possibly forecast the outcome of a hard-fought campaign next year. Yet they are realistic enough to foresee that this autumn's polls may lend credence to the "Nixon can't win" slogan. The Nixonites fur-

ther consider that this is just the pretext Gov. Rockefeller wants, for an announcement that he feels compelled to use his exceptional campaigning talents to save the Republican Party.

Time must tell whether this is a reasonable analysis of the governor's intentions. For the moment it looks remarkably sound.



Stan Delaplaine's Postcard

## An American In Moscow

By STAN DELAPLAINE

MOSCOW

The American girl who handed Mr. Khrushchev a bottle of Pepsi-Cola and shook his hand is Miss Debbie Koop of Arlington, Va.

Mr. Khrushchev seemed pleased and possibly Debbie unfroze the cold war a little. (The special bottle of Pepsi was bottled in the American exhibition where they are passing out Moscow-made Pepsis free.)

We cannot find out whether Mr. K. drank the Pepsi. I asked one of the Russian girl interpreters. But she just gave me a freezing look.

Anyway, he smiled at Debbie and shook hands very warmly—"I was thrilled," she said. We may have struck a blow for peace. Who knows?

I had lunch with Miss Koop yesterday in the dining room of the Hotel Ukraina.

She is 19 and is a junior at Wellesley College.

She is blonde, 5 feet, 6 inches, weighs 120 and is trying to get down to 118. She has a "wiffie" haircut—that is the word, "wiffie." She wears a lipstick called "Painting The Town Pink."

Talk about your intimate reporting! Last night she was at an American restaurant and a man came up to her and said: "Are you a Moslem?"

Debbie said she was not. The man said seriously: "That is too bad. If you were a Moslem, I would give \$30 coins for you. That is what you are worth to me, \$30 cents!"

Debbie was surprised but, I think, flattered at that. Nobody had ever appraised her in terms of coins before. And a good many Texas fortunes were started with smaller hefts.

Miss Koop got to Moscow because she studied Russian two years at Wellesley. She gets \$15 a day in the Pepsi-Cola booth.

"When you tell Russians you get \$16 a

day, they say: 'Impossible! They just don't believe me.'"

The resident correspondents here tell me Russian girls never go out with men from the West. In fact, there are little roving volunteer bands of the Young Communist League unfroze the cold war and rebuking anyone who falls off the Party ladder.

Recently they found a Russian girl at dinner with several French movie actors. They took her to the police station where her name was taken down.

This embargo on Boy Meets Girl does not seem to apply to Russian men. And Debbie has been out with several of them. She reports they are perfect gentlemen. Almost to the point of prudishness.

"They are very polite and just want to talk to you about sports and school studies and things like that. They want to show you Moscow and can't do enough for you."

Even so, Debbie and other girls at the Fair double date just in case.

"One funny thing," says Debbie, "they want to carry your pocketbook for a while. I was sort of nervous about it at first. But now we're used to it."

A few of the things she has learned have to do with "mye kulturni."

The Russians are begged by certain things they say are "not cultured."

"They don't think a girl should smoke in public," said Debbie.

The other day she was riding on a bus and licking stamps to put on postcards.

"The bus driver saw me and stopped the bus. He was terribly upset. He said, 'Mye kulturni! Not cultured. You don't lick stamps in Russia, ever.'"

At the Pepsi-Cola booth, Debbie is offered seven or eight dates a day. One of the American picture magazines is doing a story on her.

The only thing she has been able to find (like most American tourists who find this a poor shopping place) is one of those sheep-wool Astrakhan hats.

She brought it for her father, who can cut quite a figure in it around Arlington, Va. While Debbie tells how much she is worth in coins.

## People's Platform

### A Delicate Task

Charlotte Editors, The News:

I know that all the funeral directors in North and South Carolina appreciate the article by Dr. George W. Crane in The News Aug. 6.

The very thing which Dr. Crane is talking about (extravagant funerals) is one of our biggest problems and it takes a lot of tact and finesse to handle.

People do not realize the fact that there is a lot more to a funeral service than just furnishing a casket. There are about 200 items or things which we do that people do not know about. It requires about 100 man hours of work to complete a funeral service.

Our profession is more to "Serve the Living" than to just bury the dead. Every one of us will go out of our way to protect the surviving wife and children from any burden of any kind. We know they must live after their loved one is gone.

—W. N. HOVIS SR.

## In Socrates' Story, A Kind Of Parallel

Charlotte Editors, The News:

I was intrigued by Mr. Charles L. Morris' letter in The News of Aug. 1 allowing "this country can do without the Joe McCarthy's." Of course, I'm unaware of what his name is. Morris has accomplished that makes them indispensible to this country—unable to not pursue that line of argument. Mr. Morris goes on to say that he found the slanderous book on the late Sen. Joe McCarthy by Richard Rovere "quite interesting."

Humm! Undoubtedly, then, Mr. Morris and the anti-McCarthy cult will find the following parallel tale "quite interesting." At this point, try to imagine that my name is Richard Rovere — showing the same careless abandon for truth and facts as he did in his book on McCarthy.

"Socrates, a Greek demagogue and reactionary was born in Athens in 470 B.C. He claimed to be a philosopher but was really a Sophist; he had an astounding capacity for controversial argument and his rhetoric kept Athens in turmoil for

years; he took diabolical pleasure in shallow, bombastic debate, and did it damndest to confuse everybody by dragging in facts as he went. Fortunately, however, Socrates' hey day finally came to an end; the wise establishment finally confronted him with palpable crimes and impieties and he was censured and disgraced. Yet, Socrates, during censure, was not only impious enough to defend his infidel philosophy, but suggested that those who condemned him were rotten to the core. Nevertheless, a majority of the wise and noble judges stood firm, and easily voted to impose censure."

"After his fair and impartial trial, Socrates, though given the opportunity to plead for mercy, refused to carry on his seditious discourse, thus confirming the fact that from the beginning he had been insincere. Just like a fellow named McCarthy, Socrates lingered on for a while, idolized by the naive people who always believed in him, and then, like a fellow named McCarthy, Socrates finally "drank himself to death." Hence, was the Greek's vile but deserving beverage."

At this point, imagine that Richard Rovere's spirit had departed my body and I'm me again. Fascinating, isn't it, how words can be manipulated and paraded by a rogue in such a manner as to make genuineness and greatness seem like a common dirt. But Mr. Morris, by a rogue in observation — every age of man has had its Joe McCarthy. And, tragically, many in our age of man ignorance, folly, and stupidity, have died a horrible death. Joe McCarthy.

—J. R. CHERRY JR.

## Why Didn't Mamie Get A Bill, Too?

Charlotte Editor, The News:

The Air Force is billing Louisiana Gov. Earl Long for \$4,251 for authorized use of National Guard facilities.

Why didn't the government bill Mamie Eisenhower and her sister when they flew a government plane at government expense all the way across the country for a vacation at a plush resort?

—ED DILLBERY

## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

Big Business and Labor lobbyists are pulling out all the stops on the House of Representatives as it approaches a showdown vote on the labor bill. Congressmen are being lobbied by businessmen and labor leaders, deluged with letters and telegrams. The latter are chiefly from the National Association of Manufacturers and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and are in charge of the tough Landrum-Griffin bill.

### Mail Piles Up

Democratic Congressman John Dent, of Pennsylvania, for instance, has received 100 letters a day, 70 per cent of the mail coming from business firms and bankers outside his costuming district. Almost unanimously, favor the Landrum-Griffin measure. The remaining

30 per cent, from his own constituents, overwhelmingly opposes the restrictive bill.

### Reich Is Active

Most big corporations don't show their hand in Congress, though some, including General Electric Corp., Westinghouse Electric and the Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., sign their names to telegrams. General Electric lobbyists also made phone calls to some congressmen.

One of the most active U. S. Chamber of Commerce lobbyists has been Jack Reich, executive vice president of the Indiana Chamber. Reich put the pressure on congressmen and even attended a hearing by the House Rules Committee, at which the labor bill was discussed. Reich's support for the Landrum-Griffin measure. The remaining

Capitol Hill also has been awash with AFL-CIO lobbyists opposing the Landrum-Griffin bill. In a desperate effort to offset the NAT Chamber lobby, AFL-CIO President George Meany summoned union officials from a number of states in order to get support for a bill sponsored by Rep. Jack Shelley of California aimed primarily at stopping racketeering without interfering with the basic rights of union members.

### Mr. Sam Lobbies

Speaker Sam Rayburn also was working feverishly against the anti-labor Landrum-Griffin bill. He made individual appeals to 30 or more doubtful House members from the South and Midwest urging their support for Congressman Elliott's anti-racketeering bill.

Though they showed up a little late,

which was approved by the House Education and Labor Committee. It is far less restrictive than the Landrum bill, though not as liberal as the Shelley bill.

### Rayburn's Assurance

The speaker frankly informed Shelley: "I disagree with this legislation you are sponsoring, Jack, but I will help you all I can to get it to the House floor for a vote. You and your associates have a right to that, though I doubt that you can win. I also think you have performed a service in helping to open up a full debate on this labor reform issue."

Shelley has been a trade unionist all his life, once served as head of the Teamsters Union in San Francisco, and led a move against both Dave Beck and Jimmy Hoffa.

You had hikes. You would load up a