



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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'The No. 2 Men: A Study In Contrasts

FOR all the graciousness with which he dined, Harry Truman had to swallow hard to get down two courses of crow at Chicago.

The Kefauver crowd was the toughest. Mr. Truman could blame himself for Stevenson's victory, for he had set Stevenson's national career in motion four years before, but this Kefauver crowd was something he had fought against consistently.

It is one of politics' little ironies that the crow that goes down the hardest often sits the easiest. And Mr. Truman may yet find some pleasure in Kefauver's selection for vice president.

Goodness knows, the vice presidential candidates provide the sharp, direct contrast that Mr. Truman likes. He wanted Harriman as the candidate least like President Eisenhower, as a candidate who could pronounce "moderation" like an epithet, and who would make the issues contrast in blacks and whites even if there are gray shades between them. In Stevenson, the Democrats got a candidate remarkably like the President in some respects and one who pays attention to the smaller distinctions.

But in sending Kefauver against Richard Nixon the Democrats have provided contrasts a plenty. The sharp differences in these men and their records suggests the sharp degree of outward contrast between Truman himself and Thomas E. Dewey, his opponent in '48.

THEY are differences which overshadow the similarity of their early lives and the routes and means by which they rose to prominence. Both from small-town families of modest means, they entered national politics through the House of Representatives and went on to the Senate following vicious intra-party fights in their own states. Television gave both a leg up. Nixon had a starring role in the televised exposure of Alger Hiss, and Kefauver in his cross-country crime investigation.

But in temperament and attitudes, there is the black and white contrast which Mr. Truman loves. The CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is crowded with opposing

stands during the six years they served in Congress while Mr. Truman was in the White House.

These are some of the things Kefauver was for, Nixon against:

Expansion of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

A five-year public housing program. Big loans to housing cooperatives. Rigid price controls at 90 per cent of parity.

Nixon was for, Kefauver against: The Taft-Hartley Act.

The Internal Security Act, requiring registration of Communist and Communist-front groups.

The McCarran-Walter Immigration Act.

A version of the Bricker amendment to limit the treaty-making powers of the president.

THE two candidates have found common causes in supporting the basic measures of postwar foreign policy: The Marshall Plan, NATO and liberalized trade relations. Both have voted to outlaw the poll tax and both have endorsed the Supreme Court desegregation decision.

In personality, they are as dissimilar as the barefoot boy and the city slicker. Mr. Nixon has used the broadsword against his opponents, the edge sharpened with clever, biting phrases. Kefauver's hand is bigger than his mouth, and the handshake is his main weapon. A Nixon accusation burrows into opposing political hides. Kefauver's gentle tones mask the harshness of his words when he decides to get in a few hard punches.

THOUGH their styles are different, each has had almost uniform success in getting the votes.

This time they are in direct competition.

Even if Mr. Truman might wish Kefauver had more facility with the verbal punch, he can't complain for lack of contrast between the candidates. It's there, in black and white.

Everybody Didn't Know About Erasers

"D OUBTLESS everybody knows that there is no lead in a pencil, and that rubber is not an eraser."

As far as we're concerned, the Sr. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT conceded too much. We didn't know that rubber is only a binder for grit that is the real erasing agent for penciled boobies.

Without checking another source, however, we're willing to accept it as fact because it provides elementary explanation of a mystery that has plagued us for years—that is, why some rubber erasers won't erase while others will. Stuck with an eraser that wouldn't erase we've irritably insisted that more pressure would make the eraser erase, and, of course, wound up by tearing the paper or spreading the error all over. And all the time the trouble was no grit.

Knowledge of the real nature of erasers also relieves us of an old frustration. Chewing erasers will be more enjoyable in the future. Heretofore we've always taken that gritty taste to be dirt. We didn't know that rubber is only the habit, devoted to it as we are.

Now we know it's only grit, that's it: grit that supposed to be in the rubber and that a gritty eraser is a good eraser. The GLOBE-DEMOCRAT also avers that despite "typewriters, fountain pens, dictating machines and ball-points—not to mention edicts against them by arbiters of etiquette—the use of pencils continues to increase." Most—75 per cent—are yellow.

That's wonderful.
Cows must have their erasers.
And we must have our erasers.

From The Washington Post & Times Herald

AH, YOUTH, YOUTH!

WE ARE distressed to hear that our Soviet brethren continue to have so much trouble with their jeunesse dorée—that is to say with those sons and daughters of highly placed politicians and bureaucrats, who seem to be behaving very much like the more outrageous of the younger sort among our own decadent bourgeoisie. The latest scandal, as reported by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA (a title that might be translated loosely as "The Truth About the Young Communists"), has to do with the kind of depraved thing, familiar enough, alas, to the readers of our own tabloid newspapers and gossip-mongering magazines—among the children of Soviet commissars (or ministers) and high-ranking officials of the MVD (secret police) and the Red Army. To make things even worse, it seems that these young chicks and drapes resorted to a series of burglaries as a means of financing their apparently expensive wild parties.

How discouraging, how very discouraging, all this must be! For if you have been a faithful student of the Marxist-Leninist scriptures, you must know that all such evils are supposed to be the constants of the class war and therefore peculiar to capitalist societies. Yet here they are, after nearly 40 years of socialism, cropping up again in Soviet Russia—not indeed among the ignorant moultie and the bourgeoisie, but among the chief beneficiaries of the new order. No wonder, then that Comrade Lysenko, that favorite of the late Comrade Stalin, has been put in the doghouse for his anachronistic revival of the theory about the inheritance of acquired characteristics! Certainly these descendants of Old Bolsheviks have not inherited the Spartan and ascetic virtues of their parents.

To be sure, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA endeavors to put the best possible face on this scandal by ascribing it all to the insidious influences of American jazz and movies.

Still, it is pretty hard to reconcile the moral indignation of the editors of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA with all that export propaganda about the spiritual rehabilitation of Russia under Communist rule. The more communism succeeds, the more it seems to acquire the worst aspects of our own hedonistic-bourgeois-materialist society. As far as we can make out, there is ethically little to choose between the present behavior of the new young proletarian gilded set in Moscow and that, say, of the high-born Regency Buxes in the earliest and darkest days of the Industrial Revolution in Britain. After all, there has never been very much wrong with our own society except sin of one kind and another. And if, after almost four full decades, the Communists are still unable to abolish sin along with the profit motive, all those millions of corpses it has required to pave the way to the Better and Brighter Tomorrow seem to have been a pure extravagance.

UNESCO will make a study of why it is that so many women dislike mathematics. One guess is because it's full of so many ridiculous concepts, such as the obvious fallacy that something you charge costs just as much as something you pay cash for.—RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH.

The new recruit didn't salute the colonel. "Do you realize you are?" snapped the colonel. "I run this entire camp. I'm in charge of 25,000 soldiers!" "You got a good job," replied the recruit. "Don't lose it up."—CARLSBAD CURRENT-ARGUS.

Applying at the accounting department for his first job, the recent high school graduate was momentarily stymied by a question on the application blank which read: "What machines can you operate?" He thought a moment, then wrote: "Slot and pinball."—FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

People's Platform Teenagers Suffer From A Persecution Complex

Concord
Editors, The News:
IN LIEU of the many letters that you get from teenagers each week, I would like to make a statement. I think for the most part the people who fall in the category of "teenager" are suffering from a persecution complex. I say this without emotion or being sarcastic. I merely state it as fact.

This may be in part a reprieve to a letter just recently published from one writer who bravely defended the hypothetical hero of the teenage set, Elvis Presley. The letter is a good example of the typical teenager sobbing bitterly in his not too potent brow because some adult made the bold statement that E. P. should be given a guinea drum and a Ubangi bone in place of the ever present guitar.

The topic of discussion is not Mr. Presley. Unfortunately, the writer's letter is a very fine example of the "delusions of persecution" the teenage set seems to be laboring under. I don't think anyone is killing, drawing, or otherwise maiming the young people before they have a chance to begin. Each generation of young people goes through the same cycle, under the same burdens, and still turns into adults who in turn point the finger of scorn at the evils and vices of teenagers.

She stated my point when she addressed the adults thusly: "Because one man may not be a fool, no man, do you consider yourself a murderer?" Well if someone makes the statement that teenagers throw bricks, if you don't throw bricks then don't get on your white charger and gallop forth to do the enemy in. If you don't fall in the category under discussion, then consider yourself an exception to the rule. You see, no one is oppressing teenagers as a whole but just a small representation of so-called "bad" teenagers.

Granted also that we're not here by choice, but I think a greater pride should be taken in the present day status than "I like the poor, innocent little creatures called teenagers."

I think opinions are wonderful things because that's exactly the category this letter falls in. They're exactly what makes this old globe revolve on its somewhat dilapidated axis. I only hope that the fangs of emotion and the grip of persecution will stay out of the opinions of the modern day teenager.

Oh, by the way, I'm a teenager also.
—BUD LINENBERGER

Teenagers Never Had It So Good

Editors, The News:
I AM writing this in reply to a letter which appeared in your paper under the rather sickening phrase "Think of the Poor Teenagers." I, too, am a teenager. But I, unlike the letter writer in question, am aware of the gross injustice done to the teenager that she so colorfully describes. I wonder if she means to imply that "God in His infinite mercy" created us to be what we have now become—a mass of conformists dominated by the desire to be alike and also to be the center of attraction as much of the time as possible.

Teenagers today have more free time than any other group in history. Some use this time standing on the corner and saying extremely ineuistic things and thinking just how caty they are; others listen to rock 'n' roll music and then release their emotions (but still retain enough strength to throw stones at glass houses with reckless abandon); while others spend their time spending vigorous defenses of the teenage institution.

As for Elvis and rock 'n' roll music as a whole, the hill-billy stars have never had it so good. Now, instead of hill-billy, they call their music (?) rock 'n' roll. Now, may I offer an opinion of E. P. As was far so dramatically pointed out, he is an excuse. A pitiful excuse. Mr. Presley is the leading advocate of a recent development in entertainment which can best be called male burlesque. Personally, I still favor female.

E. P. is sadly lacking in talent of any kind under the great sun. Almost any fan will readily admit that he has no voice. "It is his style," they say. Then they seem to go into a sort of daze muttering such

original sayings as the "Doll." "He's so cute," or other such comments. Perhaps I have a few EVIL EVIL, but it seems to me that E. P.'s style is a shade on the suggestive side. I trust that, with this conservative estimate of Presley, I have offended no one. For it does truly break my heart if the world does not agree with me.

—GENE KIDD JR.

Democrats Serve All The People

Cheraw, S. C.
Editors, The News:

I AM a citizen and native-born American of the southern region of this great nation of ours, the United States, which we are all proud of. Although we are a people have our faults, we do respect the needs of others whoever they may be.

I am a southern Democrat, and am not ashamed of being a Democrat, although we have those today who say they are Democrats but act and do just opposite to

what our party stands for in its platform, adopted at our national convention just adjourned in Chicago. We should all stand by and work for the re-election of our party into the control of our government in Washington. If you will search the record of both parties for the period of the last 25 years, you will see and find what party did most for the people of our nation in all walks of life, the rich, the poor, the needy, the farmer, the worker in the industrial plants of our nation, the sick, the unemployed, the maimed, our schools, the old aged, the little business man, the banker, the professional people of this country and so on.

You will remember that all the laws passed in the last Congress for the sick, the disabled and the old people were Democrat-sponsored, yet our President regretted to sign it. But in 1932, he did not regret the vote of the old and the sick, and the vote of some of our would-be Democrats of the South.

Remember, you can't serve two masters at the same time. You

will vote one way or the other.

We all know that the Republican Party has and always will be a party of big business. Just give them four more years in control of our nation and I predict we will be back where we started from 25 years ago, which would be disastrous for our nation.

The evil forces in this world today are just waiting for our country to weaken, to sidetrack our road to a greater prosperity than we have today. When we do, that will be the end of our freedom as a nation and free people. You will always have the big brass of the Republicans

show that we have so many people prospering and working, yet we have people unemployed who need work for support, but there is nothing being done to get and plan some kind of public works for these people. In the communities where such conditions exist today.

Since I can remember, there have always been broken prom-

ises to the people in all walks of life. I have always felt as miserable as the people who all our people should be put ahead of the needs of any group or party, for if my fellow workers, so will someone else of our people prosper also.

A nation and government is only as strong as its people in their foresight to operate, weigh and analyze every angle that will be best for all the people all the time, and the entire world, for we as a people cannot live alone, but we must live in our midst in all walks of life—as a nation is only as strong as its weakest link.

We call ourselves a Christian nation, but it is time we prove it to other nations of the world. You will find in the greatest book that has ever been recorded and printed, the Holy Bible, that a nation that forsakes God shall not stand.

Some of you may differ with this. But just check the records in the past and you will find it to be true. And it could happen to our nation, for we are a people growing weaker every day as for as our spiritual life is concerned. This includes the majority of us.

So as a free people, let's support the Democratic Party in November, the party of all the people instead of supporting the party of the privileged few and broken promises.

They talk about the volume of business. Yes, who gets the profit? Not the farmer, the worker or the little man. Those who are only interested in self are the ones who profit.

You hear the promises from the Cow Palace in California of the Party of Promises to all, and kept only to the big boys, for they are the ones who run this circus party. No wonder Ringling Bros. Circus had to close shop, for the Republican Party has stolen the false acts from them. But we won't be fooled once November, for everyone remembers the broken promises of the elephant gang. They better buy all the elephants from Ringling Bros., so they can ride them out of our nation's capital, for we are the greatest and the proudest and the most patriotic people in America. And, above all, the best for the benefit of our nation and all the people in the world, then we can get back to working for the benefit of all our people, regardless of who they are.

But we must remember it will take the work of all to restore our country and government to the rightful owners, the American people—not to just a few of our citizens who sit in the seats of the mighty in government and on Wall St.

This is as much our country as anyone else's and we must remember that when we cast our vote in November so that we may have a hand in the affairs of our government, which is our right.

—J. A. GRAHAM

Douglas Named Us 'The Friendly City'

Charlotte

Editors, The News:
OUR 10th Congressional District extends from the South Carolina line to Tennessee and includes the counties of Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Lincoln, Avery, Catawba and Burke. It contains our nation's second largest city, Charlotte, and the finest of fruits and the famous sugar maple trees, also native flowers beyond comparison, including the famous Grey's Lily, found only atop the heathered Roan Mountain. And, but by no means least, it contains the Queen City, settled atop and around Lord Selwyn's Mecklenburg hills. The Friendly City of North Carolina.

Perhaps I might remind some Ben Douglas as a native son named the Friendly City. It was when Ben Douglas was Mayor and Charlotte was at the cross roads of a depression, that he, Ben Douglas, and an uncertain future ahead. Then it was that Ben Douglas as mayor decreed that henceforth Charlotte should be known far and wide as the Friendly City; and over the radio and in the columns of our newspapers, he proclaimed the new doctrine to the newcomers and the old timers alike until Charlotte began to be the Mecca of millions who came here to trade and some to make their new homes. Now, thousands of new homes each year are springing up like mushrooms. All of Mecklenburg has become Charlotte suburbia. Charlotte, nestled in the foot-hills of the West, appreciates her leaders.

—MERCER J. BLANKENSHIP

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go Round Truman Will Go Fishing In Australia

WASHINGTON
EX-PRÉSIDENT Truman is taking another trip abroad, and taking it right at the beginning of the election campaign. He is booked to leave for Australia on Pan American Airways Sept. 18. Unless the politicos persuade him to change his mind, this will be his answer to the question of whether or not he will campaign for Adlai Stevenson.

In brief, Mr. Truman, who was not so appreciated by Stevenson when he went white-stopping in 1952, has now decided to go fishing in Australia in 1956.

Stand Reversed?

Only recently Truman returned from one trip abroad, the first he ever made as a private citizen. But now he will go to Australia and Asia to see a part of the world where his foreign policies

played an important role in fighting communism. Apparently Mr. Truman has reversed his Chicago statement that what Adlai Stevenson needs is help "from an old man from Missouri."

Ike And Zhukov

President Eisenhower's big secret campaign weapon, to be sprung around October, is to be a visit from Marshal Zhukov of Russia.

Coming at a time when the American public is intensely interested in peace, the other fellow's visit will have the same bombshell effect of Ike's "I shall go to Korea" promise made during the 1952 campaign.

Wartime Buddy

They believe that a visit from Eisenhower's old wartime buddy will arouse

none of the criticism that might come from a visit by Bulganin and Khrushchev, but will receive almost unanimous approval. It will especially stamp the President as a leader.

Convention Aftermaths

Len Hall says the Republican motto is "Stick With Ike." The Democrats say their motto will be "Stick with Ike and get stuck with Dick."

Even Republicans are joking about the Nixon and the other fellow's visit. The other fellow is supposed to be Ike.

Quoth ex-Mayor "Ladd Harrish" Curley of Boston, apropos of Averell Harriman's hope to be President: "Any candidate who comes to the convention with 36 votes and \$200 million has a chance."

Biggest score of the two conventions was scored by Bill Hearst—his quote from Harry Truman that Adlai could not win. "Roy Chubb, one time foe of the Adlai-Hearst rivalry, pulled wires for Governor Harriman at Chicago. He was especially influencing Nevada voters through J. Saurine, former counsel for Sen. Eastland's wife-husband."

Cohn and Harriman don't agree on anything political, but Harriman is Sen. Eastland's wife-husband. Cohn's well-known invitation of New York National Guard's training rules. "Members of the Missouri delegation couldn't get their luggage set their luggage in St. Louis, on the telephone for two days. They wanted to switch to Adlai instead of Adlai. Harriman was given only one political contribution so far—to Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon."

