

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. E. DOWD, General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH, Executive Editor
C. A. McKNIGHT, Editor

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CONVENIENCE BEFORE SAFETY

IT WOULD SEEM that a few minutes standing in line every four years is not too high a price to pay for protection from incompetent drivers. Yet the "tomfoolery" of having to stand in line is the only "motivation" advanced by Rep. R. M. Carr of Duplin County for his bill to eliminate personal examinations before renewal of driver licenses.

Rep. Carr tossed his measure in the legislative hopper this morning, and the bill is expected to be easier on the people. Instead of requiring drivers to report for a personal examination, he would permit them to send in a sworn statement saying their mental or physical condition has not changed, and that they have been involved in a major accident since last examined.

A Legislature that blithely dumped the automobile inspection program because it was inconvenient to motorists may give seri-

ous consideration to the Carr bill. He hopes not. Instead of weakening the driver re-examination law, the General Assembly ought to tighten it by requiring road tests as well as routine questions and answers and a vision check.

Driver re-examination is not, of course, a complete answer to highway safety, as a complete answer, it both are very good parts of a program that must be based on driver education.

If the 1953 General Assembly wishes to make a real contribution to highway safety, it will (1) keep the driver re-examination law, (2) restore some workable plan for auto inspection, and (3) provide funds for a driver education course in every state high school as recommended by Governor Umstead in his inaugural address.

THE SCOPE OF EDUCATIONAL TV

BY NOW, most of us are aware of the entertainment potentialities of television. But what about its value as a vehicle for mass education?

Last month a group of educators met in Atlanta to seek an answer to that question. We quote from their report on the subject of television presents to educators an "electronic blackboard" with which millions can be reached where hundreds benefited before. The coverage is so broad as to include cultural programs, wholesome entertainment, pre-school instruction for children, small attendance nursery schools, in-school instruction, adult education, and actual courses for credit.

"Without sponsors, and with well-balanced planning, educational television can be supplemented through educational television. Let us emphasize 'supplement,' rather than 'supplant,' for, although television can bring a better state of mind to our citizens, it can never take the place of the teacher-pupil relationship which is the basis of our present system.

"It can, however, bring better living to rural areas, to adults whose formal education has ended, to invalids, to teachers and professional people who wish refresher courses, to individuals training for special industries, and to any who seek it."

Prompted by that concept, yet aware that there are many problems and much expense involved, Governor Umstead asked the General Assembly to authorize the appointment of a special commission to study the whole question of educational television. Because the deadline for reserving educational channels expires in June, the Governor said he would ask the Commission to report to the current session of the General Assembly. His request is expected to be approved and action under suspension of rules Wednesday.

To do less than act decisively in this matter would be to sacrifice a tremendous opportunity for all Tar Heels. The extension of popular education as a result of the printing

press has been a slow and expensive process, and the goal has not yet been reached. Educational TV stretches the horizon of popular education beyond the limits of the imagination, to the point where every citizen of our democracy will have access to information and ideas upon which he may exercise his own independent judgment.

The opportunity must not be lost by inaction, and it must not be limited by a supercautious approach that stresses the obstacles rather than the potentialities.

NEW INSTRUMENT

ROBERT E. LEE has just taken on a new job. He will head a permanent staff of budget analysts, working for Congress. We hope Mr. Lee, an ex-FBI man, and his staff will do a job that will help exercise his own independent judgment.

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Accountants, researchers and management engineers will supplement the permanent staff. The aim is to give Congressmen accurate data with which to corroborate or refute the claims of the executive branch.

The executive branch people go up to Capitol Hill each year, loaded with money, requests, backed by pounds of statistics compiled over a period of months by the Budget Bureau. Congress, heretofore ill-equipped to assess this information and weed out the inflated requests, slashed across the board, cutting down urgent appropriations along with the non-essentials. Else it accepted the requests of the administrators, and thus permitted sometimes wasteful expenditures.

During the 80th Congress Representative William C. Cramer of the House Appropriations Committee, started a similar budget analysis group, but it was short-lived. The new group, also created at his urging, can become a most effective instrument for intelligent pruning of the annual budget.

CLARK IS THE MAN

IN 1944 a Topeka, Kansas, grand jury returned an indictment against 11 individuals and two corporations, charging violations of the Securities Act of 1933 and the mail fraud statute. The jury alleged that the defendants schemed to defraud bondholders and the town of Panama City, Florida, using the mails to execute the scheme.

The case went to the Justice Department. There it was dropped, quickly and quietly, over six years ago.

This week it was dusted off. And the man who brought it out called it "perhaps one of the biggest mail fraud cases ever to be filed by the Government."

It was no Republican investigator who made that statement. Those are the words of Attorney General McGranery, a staunch Democrat who has established a solid reputation during his short tenure. He is turning the case over to the House Committee investigating the Justice Department.

Louis Graves in *The Chapel Hill Weekly*

ONE MAN'S BELOVED BUTTONS

MANY years ago Gertrude Stein wrote a book named *Tender Buttons*. All I remember about it is the title. I am borrowing from it for the title of this little piece.

The buttons I am writing about are not tender, but I have a very tender feeling for them. They are the buttons of a dress that I bought in 1933 and that I have worn for turning out and on and on the other for changing stations.

I use one of the buttons to good effect when I happen to tune in on the five-minute news that made several times a day from Raleigh on behalf of an oil company. It happens that the gasoline upon which the broadcaster bestows his lavish praises is the brand that I am in the habit of using. I became convinced of its merits several years ago and do not care to hear any more about them. I count it a great blessing that by a mere turn of a button I can get the gasoline off the air.

In a memorial recently the *Raleigh News & Observer* recalled that the former Senator who spoke at the memorial celebration at Gettysburg in November, 1863, took one hour and 57 minutes to deliver an address that is almost totally forgotten, and that Lincoln's immortal address took only a few minutes.

"Despite this shining example of pungent

It may be said, without too much cynicism, that McGranery is just cleaning the files, to bring out the smelly folders. Rejoice, however, my promptly disagree, but the central fact of this distasteful case is that here is another case that got buried during the time Tom Clark won of the Supreme Court, was running the Justice Department.

Clark was also the Attorney General when the Kansas City vote fraud case got "lost." According to the Chief Committee, "Clark transferred the files relating to several important cases directly to his own control."

Further, charged the committee, he withheld from T. Lamar Caudle, then Assistant Attorney General, files on cases over which Caudle had responsibility.

Once again we say: Tom Clark is the man who must take the stand, willing or not, if the full story on Justice Department irregularities is to come out.

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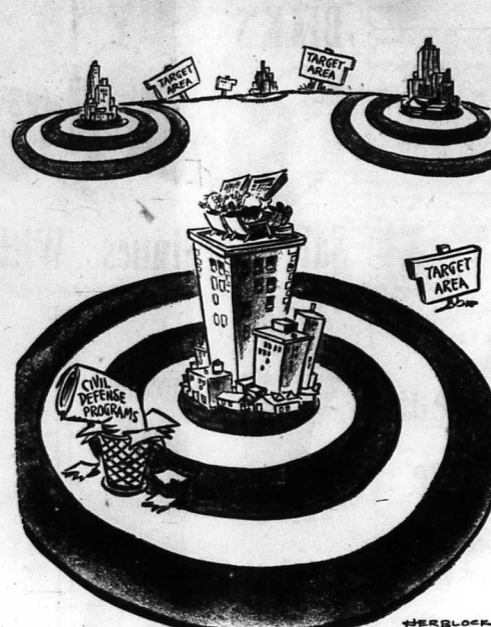
It is found to be that untold thousands of listeners are bored and irritated by the excessive length and repetitiveness of radio advertisements. Why don't advertisers realize that long-drawn-out stuff wears away instead of building up the good will of the public? Some of them do.

Some newspapers still are apogee with the question about whether Eisenhower—President or technically—the 34th President, or actually the 33rd, if they don't think Harry Truman is correct, why don't they say "No-Nakville Buzzer."

The Republicans' three-day inaugural celebration will give all those who have been hating Washington for years a chance to see — Memphis Press-Scimitar.

The path of civilization is also dotted with hamburger stands. —Rocky Mount Telegram.

'Gosh, Those New Atomic Weapons Are Fantastic'



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.

Disillusioned

CHARLOTTE
EDITORS: THE NEWS
I WAS very much elated over the fact that General Eisenhower had selected what seemed to be a fine set of men to help him run the nation.

But when I read the *Charlotte News* last Saturday evening and saw where our leaders were going to set up a bar within a stone throw of the Capitol, I was shocked. I was sure that our new group would at least give a good moral example.

Instead of building a place to drink and swear, they had better build a house to go to and pray. And to think that a man I thought was so fine, Mr. Dulles, would stoop so low as to donate \$500 to such a thing as a bar.

Lord help us to see the light before it is too late.
—A. B. MCCOLL.

Slosh Spending

CHARLOTTE
EDITORS: THE NEWS
NORTH CAROLINA'S new Governor Umstead is asking for Democratic form. His first move was to ask Governor Scott's \$200,000,000 bond issue has hardly gotten cold. It looks like our state could build a few schools and roads with the millions of dollars of interest they have to pay on all these bonds.

The unborn generation will be paying back the money the Democratic Party has spent and wasted for the past 20 years. Who will these children yet unborn think of their parents for placing this burden on them?

President Truman's last budget calls for \$78,000,000,000 which is at least \$40,000,000,000 too much. How long will the American people stand for it?
—PARKS A. YANDLE.

Doesn't Trust Winnie

HAMLET
EDITORS: THE NEWS
I AM an American. I think it was said "the American people are the most docile in the world." He must have known what he was talking about when he said that, for he never proceeded with eminent success on any matter.

The English people, I must admit, have every reason to admire Churchill because he has used the United States over and over again for his own purposes and the interests of England.

The evidence points to his master hand in the engineering of Pearl Harbor so we would have to enter the war. He thought up the so-called Marshall Plan so we'd have to foot the bills of devastation in Europe. He tried to incite the United States, in his Fulton, Mo. speech, into declaring war at once on Russia right after the close of World War II, and succeeded to the extent of involving us in the cold war. Heaven knows what he has hatched up now with Eisenhower, even before his inauguration.

Wonder if the ghosts of our forefathers, who warned against "entangling alliances," would not conclude that "decency" is too mild a term for their posterity.
—D. M. HARNELL.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
IT IS now possible to report the chief highlights of the Churchill-Eisenhower and the Churchill-Washington conversations. It is also possible to report on no conversation with the British Prime Minister is without its own drama.

During the New York talks when Churchill was urging Anglo-American cooperation of atomic energy, Eisenhower remarked that one of his problems was to keep the committee of Congress advised.

"Yes," granted Churchill, "I've had considerable experience in advising your committee. My friend Mr. Roosevelt had trouble advising the committee of Congress. And my friend Mr. Truman had the same trouble. And why I have come over here I have had to advise them myself."

During the dinner at the British Embassy in Washington on the day of the Anglo-American world leaders' meeting, Churchill was discussing such weighty matters as the American and British slang, how certain colloquialisms got started, and seemed especially intrigued over the origin of one of our terms, "barbecue" referring to a pain in a certain portion of the anatomy.

People's Platform

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EDITORS: THE NEWS
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What's Happening To Trees?

CHARLOTTE
EDITORS: THE NEWS
POSSIBLY some of the News readers may be able to tell me something I'm curious about. So many of our older trees are dying—on the pines, in the country as well as in town. Why?
—H. E. MARKS.

Good Times At Golden Years Club

CHARLOTTE
EDITORS: THE NEWS
HALLING from The Garden State of New Jersey, I have visited and enjoyed my abode in the Marshall Plan so we'd have to foot the bills of devastation in Europe. He tried to incite the United States, in his Fulton, Mo. speech, into declaring war at once on Russia right after the close of World War II, and succeeded to the extent of involving us in the cold war. Heaven knows what he has hatched up now with Eisenhower, even before his inauguration.

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Highlights Of Churchill's Talks

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Churchill said he was surprised if he showed up in London soon and the President played a couple of his favorite pieces on the Embassy's grand piano. The Prime Minister quipped: "I wonder if General Eisenhower can do it as well."

Meet With Stalin

THE Churchill-Eisenhower talks in New York were inconclusive but extremely helpful for future guidance. Here is a summary of their main points.

Big Three Meeting—Churchill virtually paraphrased Governor Stevenson's advice that the solution to the Korean War was in Moscow and deftly suggested that he not take his eye off Moscow. He urged that Churchill speak seriously about accepting Stalin's idea of a joint meeting, emphasizing that he would want to be present at such a meeting, said that even if nothing came of

Independence Doesn't Pay Off, As Senator Morse Found Out

BY FREDERICK C. OTHMAN

WASHINGTON
I GUESS we'll have to call this an afternoon in never-never. I understand seemed real there in a former gold-mining town of the U. S. Senate, where the gentlemen were arguing the future, if any, of an independent Idaho.

The one with the pulsating status was Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon who decided a while back that he was tired of being a Republican. He wasn't going to be a Democrat, either. So he passed he'd just been selected as a no-id friendship vote.

About a week ago he announced to his aghast brethren that he wanted no help from those Republicans either, when came down getting his place on a couple of important committees.

The Republicans took him at his word. They ignored him. And here was the Oregon ghost standing up there in flesh and blood, demanding that the Senate select the man on the Armed Services and Labor Committees. This is where the name of the committee is on — and on in my mouth more. For hours.

I sat there on my little stool in the press gallery until my knees got tired. Sen. Homer Capehart (R-Ind.) had a far more comfortable seat than I had. But when the talk of the afternoon he was growing weary, too. He arose a moment his shouting cohorts and in thunderous tones he announced that he had a parliamentary inquiry. Everything stopped for a moment.

"The gentlemen will state it," said the Veep.

FEEL ONE COMING ON
"Well," said Senator Capehart, with no hint of a smile, "I feel an independent streak coming on. It is an arm an independent streak whenever I want to?"

The Veep banged his gavel. Most of the furious gentlemen laughed. Even the ghost grinned. But the bitter Senator from Indiana was not through. "I think the whole thing is," he concluded, "that Morse on the Armed Services Committee. He didn't press for his old seat on the Labor Committee. "It would be a waste of the Senate's time," he said.

Rifles And .45s Are Standard Equipment In Mau Mau Country

BY ROBERT C. RUARK

THOMSON FALLS, Kenya
WHEN my friend Harry Selby, the youngster who hunts with me, came to collect me at the hotel in Nairobi for a trip to the Mau Mau violence, he was wearing a .45 strapped to his hip. This seemed an unusual show of bravado in a young man who would have sneered at a gun-packer as a Hollywood cowboy a few months back.

It was not until I got to Thomson Falls, a charming little farm in the heart of the Mau Mau area, that I understood the meaning of Harry's gun. The entire town goes armed to the teeth, and the color of their gun-bolsters to their frocks.

LIKE THE OLD WEST
Dinner is eaten with guns on hips and rifles slung against the table. When a person battles, the revolver is in the holster. Outside armed marksmen were on duty.

MAU MAU TARGET AREA
The area around the Falls, in the Aberdares, has been practically marked for Mau Mau atrocity, since the Mau Mau movement is still all Kikuyu, and this land was never originally Kikuyu property. It was Masai land, and became the property of the Masai when they settled on their own land to the south.

I saw some things and heard some things that day as I camped a couple of nights later, in the vicinity. I found myself wearing a gun on my hip like everybody else, and sleeping with it under my pillow.

It was not a foolish feeling, for when I went to the police radio for the news broadcast the following night, the announcer said that two farmers had been murdered while having dinner. It appears his servants had let in the mob, and the mob had killed them.

I remembered this as a dreamy, peaceful land. And now I sleep in a room with a gun under my pillow, and have Mau Mau nightmares.

Acheson's Last Plea

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