THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1957

Ike Should Resign Only As Last Resort

ALL the hints and demands for President Eisenhower's resignation in favor of Vice President Nixon are not so disinterested as they might appear.

The expressions thus far seem to have come from three distinct groups:

(1) Those who think the President owes it to himself to retire.

(2) Those who think the President owes it to the nation to make way for more vigorous leadership in a period of marked crisis.

(3) Those who think the President owes it to the future of the Republican Party and of Richard M. Nixon.

Although the judgment of the first two groups can be questioned, and we're inclined to question it, their sincerity cannot be. Certainly it can be argued reasonably that Mr. Eisenhower should not further imperil his life and that the nation's affairs are suffering as he is from his ailing health. But both the sincerity and the judgment of the third group can and ought to be questioned.

In the political sphere all debts owing run from the party and Mr. Nixon to the President. He owes them nothing. The party owes its control of the administration and the vice president owes his job to the popularity of Dwight D. Eisenhower and his willingness to run for a second term after suffering two severe illnesses.

The eagerness of some in this third group to clear the tracks for the vice president lacks much in grace and gratitude. It should be noted that Mr. Nixon himself has been publicly a model of restraint, a fact which speaks well for his own manners and his sense of the amenities. Nothing would be more fatal to his career than evidence of eagerness to take advantage of the present situation. Nothing would be more helpful to him, it is equally true, than to enter 1960 as the incumbent president. But to be helpful, the job must come to him.

Our own view is that while the President might find it necessary to delegate some of his responsibilities to the vice president he should not resign in any situation in which there is fair hope for recovery.

He has had three severe illnesses now, to be sure, but he had had two of them before he was reelected in 1956. That was fair warning for him and for the people. And it cannot be over-emphasized that it was he and not the Republican Party which won the landslide vote last November.

To resign the job except as a last resort would be to treat too lightly the responsibilities entrusted to him. Futher, it would set a poor precedent for the future. The presidency should never be undertaken with the view that if it becomes burdensome or even perilous to the occupant's health it can be turned over to the vice president. The only pertinent question in presidential illness ought to be whether or not it will keep the President from adequate performance of his duties.

Until it becomes clear that the President cannot continue to function he ought to stay on the job. He has promised to report to the people any feeling on his part that the job is beyond his capacity. Americans relied on that promise last November and they must rely on it now.

Challenging New Task For Dr. Warren

DR. C. C. Warren's decision to resign as pastor of First Baptist Church to direct the Southern Baptist Convention's "30,000 Movement" leaves a certain sadness in its wake. He will be sorely missed by a church he served with distinction for 14 years. The pastoral relationships he established during that period are strong. Surely they cannot be severed so suddenly without sincere regret on both sides.

But the new task Dr. Warren has set for himself is a challenging one. It will require the talents of a man of his rare gifts.

It was Dr. Warren himself who inspired the "30,000 Movement" in 1956 while serving his second term as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. As its director he will coordinate and supervise Baptist efforts to establish 30,000 new churches and missions by 1964.

During an active ministry that has spanned 30 years, Dr. Warren has been instrumental in the establishments of 31 chapels and churches in three states. First Baptist currently sponsors full-time chapels in a half dozen different locations within the Charlotte area.

The much-loved and respected minister has been an outstanding Southern Baptist leader for years. In addition to serving as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, he has served as president of the North Carolina Baptist Convention, a trustee of Wake Forest College and president of the North Carolina Baptist General Board. He was chairman of the committee that raised $1.5 million for the removal of Wake Forest to Winston-Salem and was first president of the board of trustees of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. In all of these posts, and others, he has demonstrated the kind of organizational and executive ability that will stand him in good stead in his new job. Fortunately, he will be able to maintain his home in Charlotte.

We feel confident that Dr. Warren's latest undertaking will be marked by great success. The entire community will wish him well.

Politicalese

WE HAVE a thoughtful New Jersey Republican to thank for the month's most intriguing simile:

"It's not true that we don't have a government with a heart," said he. "We do have a government with a heart—but it's a heart that stands on its own two feet."

Many a Democrat believes that kind of talk should go in one ear and out the other like water off a duck's back.

Explain All Outrages In Advance, Please

INTERNAL Revenue Service efforts to tighten its rules for reporting expense accounts on 1957 income tax returns were apparently just so much bluff and bluster. It now appears that detailed records of reimbursed business expenses will not be required until the 1958 return is filed—the one that is due in April, 1959.

If the earlier order was designed simply to throw a scare into the "swindle sheet" artists it accomplished its purpose. But it also put the fear of bureaucracy into honest businessmen who play fair and square with Uncle Sam on the matter of reimbursed expenses. Many would simply have been unable to obtain the specific information the regulations suddenly required. They had not been notified of any change until late in the year.

The annual wrestling match with Form 1040 is oppressive enough without any last-minute rule changes, sudden afterthoughts on the part of IRS men or practical jokes. American taxpayers are curiously passive people and will submit without whimpering to all sorts of outrages. But it helps if the outrage is patiently explained in advance.

From The New York Times

THE LANTERN

THIS used to be the season when the farmer did his chores by lantern light, morning and evening. Nowadays electricity lights the barn and the barnyard in all but the most remote rural areas, but almost any farmer with gray in his hair can recall the days of the kerosene lantern. And so can his wife.

The lantern smelled of kerosene, it gave only a feeble light by modern standards, and it was a constant fire hazard among the livestock. But it was as much of a necessity on the farm as the milk pail or the farmer's winter boots. It was a portable lamp, a fuel can with a wick and a glass globe to enclose the flame, and a ball to carry it by. Farm work couldn't be done without it.

The farm wife knew it well. She saw that its tank was kept filled with kerosene, that its wick was trimmed or renewed, that its globe was clean. She hated it, but respected it, because it smelled of kerosene and sometimes leaked; and kerosene was not only a fire hazard, it polluted every scrap of food it reached. But it had to be kept in working order. Without the lantern, farm work could not be done.

The lantern lighted the way to the barn, the corn crib, the hen house, the woodshed. It hung on its peg in the barn while the milking was done. When a trip had to be made after dark the lantern sometimes hung from the end of the wagon tongue to light the way feebly. More often it sat at the driver's feet, under the robe, to help fend off chilblains. It was better than an open torch or a candle. But nobody regetted its passing. And nobody who ever did the chores by lantern light has forgotten. Particularly in short-dayed November.

Last year many died from gas . . . a few inhaled it . . . some touched a match to it . . . but most just stepped on it.—MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR.

A new folding gag card has this phrase over the cover "How to Win at Golf . . ." Inside it says "CHEAT." — MATTOON (ILL.) JOURNAL-GAZETTE.

In America the poor people enjoy the same luxuries as the rich. The only difference is that they need more time to pay for them. — CARLSBAD CURRENT-ARGUS.

Distrust Of Nixon Still Runs Deep Among Democrats

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

IT HAS escaped no one, and certainly not the Democrats who are being called upon to support the administration in the crisis of the Western alliance, that President Eisenhower's illness has been the occasion for a great acceleration in the buildup of Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

There are at least two reasons why this should be so. One is the obvious need to restore confidence in the nation and the world that effective controls are being maintained at a critical moment, with no drift permitted during an uncertain interregnum. The vice president has in this respect performed with his customary poise, assurance and precision of touch.

But when it comes to the second reason some serious doubts arise. Part of the acclaim is for Nixon, the heir apparent, who will wear the Republican colors in the 1960 race. Powerful voices, including those of the influential Republican publishers, have long since been engaged in the buildup of Nixon as statesman and responsible world leader.

ADLAI STEVENSON
Couldn't Say No

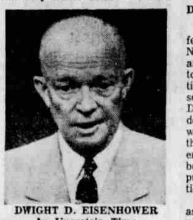
TWO PRESIDENTS?

This is accentuated by the vice president's role in the aftermath of the President's third major illness in two years. We are being told that we are fortunate enough at this difficult time to have two Presidents — Eisenhower and Nixon — instead of one. If Nixon goes to Paris for the NATO heads of government meeting, and the White House has confused this question by suggesting that the President may still be able to attend, the Nixon image as leader will emerge with even greater forcefulness.

But among Democrats the antagonism toward Nixon is still great. This goes pretty far across the political spectrum from conservative to liberal. What Democratic leaders are now asking themselves is whether in helping to sustain the administration in a crisis of great gravity they are also contributing to the buildup of a very ambitious and determined candidate for the presidency three years from now.

Before the President's mild stroke Adlai Stevenson had been brought in by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to help draft the American position at the NATO meeting. He did this because he believed he had an obligation to contribute what he could to overcome the crisis of confidence in the Atlantic community. Some of his most devoted followers counseled him against participating, arguing that he would do little more than provide a convenient "me too" for policies already pre-determined by events and by Dulles' inflexibility.

Believing that he could under no circumstances say no he came to Washington, and the mail from across the country that still comes to him in greater volume shows overwhelming support for his course of action. But if he should now be asked to go to Paris with Nixon in a show of solidarity he would be faced with a difficult decision in view of the strong feeling he has about the tactics which Nixon used in his headlong drive for power. While the question may never arise — Stevenson had not been asked to accompany the President — it illustrates the uncertainty of the Democratic position.



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
An Uncertain Time

RICHARD M. NIXON
President No. 2?

DEEP FEELINGS

Democratic leaders in Congress feel just as strongly about the Nixon personality and the Nixon ambition. It is scarcely necessary to add that some very human motivations such as jealousy and resentment enter in here. Southern Democrats, for example, are deeply resentful of the way in which Nixon and his close ally in the administration, Attorney General William P. Rogers, worked both in private and in public to push the cause of school integration.

But they are being asked to put aside partisanship on issues on which feeling runs very deep. It is vitally important, for example, to reach agreement on amendment of the atomic secrecy law so that information can be exchanged with our allies, and perhaps the law must also be changed clarifying the availability of atomic weapons for our NATO allies. If the American delegation cannot take some assurance to the Paris meeting, that meeting, in the view of responsible administration officials, will be futile.

GREAT DOUBTS

Yet Sen. Clinton Anderson of New Mexico, the key Democrat on the Senate-House atomic energy committee, has great doubts about any change in the law. These doubts stem, in part, from his long feud with Chairman Lewis Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission. Almost as controversial a figure as Dulles or Nixon, Strauss insists he has been deeply wronged and that he has been actively working in recent months for a proper exchange of atomic information. But the cloud of suspicion nevertheless darkens the present atmosphere.

Vice presidents in the past have harbored ambitions to the President. Harry A. Wallace was Roosevelt's next to last vice president, deserted his own party and ran as the third party candidate of a weird coalition of fellow-travelers in 1948. But Nixon seems more likely than any vice president in memory to succeed in at least getting the nomination of his party. And success is hard to forgive.

People's Platform — Conviction Underlies Furor Over Dancing

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

IN ALL of the hecklings, laughter and clamor of some of the general public's response to our recent State Baptist Convention one of the most polished and learned-sounding criticisms came from Mr. Philip Mahone Griffith (The News, Nov. 23) of Chapel Hill whose conclusion was that "they brought down their convention and its issue like a house of cards" and that "this entirely pathetic convention . . . admits that their issue is a dead one and that their contest is ultimately and inexorably lost."

It seems to me that one thing has been overlooked by many who are freely volunteering analyses of the recent Raleigh convention: That is that religious groups and individuals still, even in our day, are motivated by conviction.

Nearly every religious group in America can—and does—proudly tie itself to a Zwingli or a Savanerola or a Calvin or a Roger Williams or a Luther; and yet when, on the contemporary scene, a religious group out of deep fervor and conviction refuses to lower the staudards of its schools to meet the specifications of the public, it "admits that the issue is a dead one" and "brings its convention down like a house of cards."

I doubt if the issue has ever been more alive, or the denomination more quickened. It is surely not that "Baptists are against fun" but that ours is still the fervent desire to exercise a lifting influence on the world; and when an issue which formerly in all religious groups was somewhat questionable is forced upon us for a reconfirmation, we would admit weakness not to reconfirm.

It could be that this line of action is somehow associated with the fact that our denomination is the most rapidly growing of all major American denominations. I state that factually and quite humbly.

—H. GORDON WEEKLEY
Pastor
Providence Baptist Church.

Gov. Clements' Error Was Same As Ike's

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

THERE'S an old saying, "The pot should never throw up black to the kettle." I think this saying should apply very much to Gov. Frank Clement of Tennessee who recently made the statement at the Hotel Charlotte "that federal troops will never march through the streets of Tennessee."

No doubt Gov. Clement was making reference to President Eixenhower's ordering federal troops into Little Rock to enforce a federal court order. However, Gov. Clement has had set a precedent by ordering state troops to march in the streets of Clinton, Tenn., to enforce not a state court order but a federal court order issued by Judge Taylor at Knoxville in 1956.

As long as troops have to be used to enforce federal court orders, why not let Uncle Sam use his troops to do it? It certainly is no less distasteful to freedom loving people to have the federal bayonets in their streets than to have state militia bayonets enforcing federal court orders in the same manner, only under a different heading.

Gov. Clement's effort to "whitewash" himself of aiding the federal government in its integration efforts would not stand up during an election year in the South if he were running for president or vice president.

— RALPH CONNELLY

Raleigh Papers Show Favoritism

Raleigh

Editors, The News:

I AM writing to you from a town which has only a single newspaper unit . . . And biased? The Raleigh newspapers have been biased against North Carolina State College for 89 years. Any opinion-forming organization as a newspaper must be unbiased.

What is the majority opinion of our present "Howdy Doody" state government? No one will ever know because of the opinion-forming local newspapers who have pushed Howdy Doody all the way from the University of North Carolina to his present position of Howdy Doody performances.

The only hope of the local majority college subscribers to our existing newspapers is the day Durham, or even Rocky Mount or Greensboro newspapers start a house-to-house local delivery and after that the coming of an independent unbiased newspaper group to Raleigh, preferably an unbiased state-wide newspaper. This will not happen in my day but it is letters such as the enclosed (charging favoritism to UNC at Chapel Hill in reporting of student disorders at football games) which are dismissed with what is thought to be a curt technicality by local editors, that will eventually terminate biased and improperly supervised reporting such as we have been subject to for generations. No town is ever grown until it has more than one newspaper organization.

— SMYTH VAN SMITH

'Infallibility' In Focus As Great Blade Falls

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I HAVE sinned academically; I have dared to be a free-wheeling individualist; I have incurred, therefore, the perverted wrath of the Liberal Establishment (in the person of one R. Schalasny) for rendering a definition of an "intellectual."

For my sin I'm prepared to face the Establishment's guillotine, but hear one last request: No headhood, please — I wants be looking "infallibility" directly in the eye as the great blade descends.

—J. R. CHERRY JR.

'Excellent Coverage' Given Miller's Visit

Indianapolis, Ind.

Editors, The News:

ON BEHALF of the national headquarters of the American Legion I wish to thank you for the excellent news coverage which was given the visit of National Vice Commander Harry W. Miller of the American Legion during his visit to Charlotte on Nov. 12. As you know, Vice Commander Miller was substituting for National Commander John S. Gleason Jr., who was prevented from making his official visit to North Carolina by illness.

We are deeply appreciative of the courtesies extended to Mr. Miller as the commander's substitute, and especially of the excellent news story written by Emery Wister.

—CHARLES W. GEILE
Chief, Press Section
American Legion

Are Children People?

I HAVE no patience with the growing tendency among psychologists to insist that children are really people, little adults—just like the rest of us only smaller. Really, the impression you get in some quarters is that the only difference between children and grown-ups is that children don't drink, smoke or play bridge.

Come, come, men. We all know better than that. Children are different—mentally, physically, spiritually, quantitatively, qualitatively and furthermore they're all a little bit nuts. — Jean Kerr in "Please Don't Pick The Daisies."

ONE-MAN SHOW

By Jeep Hunter

(One Of A Series Of Camera Studies by A Charlotte News Photographer)

II—The Winner

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round — Palace Guard Imperils Ike's Health

WASHINGTON

WHEN you watch what's going on at the White House today you can't escape comparing it to the heroic stand of a great, over-age boxing champ, egged on by his managers to go in there and slug it out. It's nearing the last round. The Champ has taken three bad falls. But each time the managers are in there splashing water on his face, rubbing his arms, massaging the biceps, telling him he has to get back in the ring.

Out Of Luck

The box-office receipts depend on it. They are out of luck, out of jobs if he doesn't perform . . . He goes back slugging. He knows that the life insurance tables are against him, that his wife has implored him to retire from the ring, that his son wants him to live the rest of his life in peace . . . But the box office, the managers—their position and prestige, the Grand Old Party demand another round. Game to the end, he fights on.

Jim Hagerty, chief coach of the management team, rushes back from Paris. Before he takes over, his assistant, Mrs. Anne Wheaton, omits the Madison Avenue pep talk, the adjectives, lets the doctors' bulletins speak for themselves. . . . But Jim is an old hand with the megaphone. Twice before he got the Champ up from the mat, helped persuade him he was better than before, in one case sent him off to Panama from a sickbed to prove it. It made no difference that the Champ, at Panama, told the President of Brazil, himself a doctor: "I feel sick and tired all the time."

No Difference

The wobbly knees, the tired feeling made no difference. The managers were in there to win. Jim Hagerty had the megaphone. He knew how to drown out the murmurs of protest from the Champ. . . . He even drowned out the news story of veteran United Press newsman Merriman Smith when Smith quoted the Champ: "I had to say yes because they told me they didn't have time to build up another candidate." . . . They had also told him he wouldn't have to do much work, they would handle things for him. But he had found out different.

Fight Goes On

On the third fall, the managers had known the history of strokes, known the likelihood of recurrence when a champ is old, when he's under stress and strain, when he has to sweat over tough decisions. But the managers threw water in his face, massaged the muscles, told him to get back in there and fight just the same . . . Jim Hagerty knew all too well how difficult it was to get the Champ to tackle major problems. He'd been with him at Newport when the Champ didn't want to tackle Little Rock, almost had to be hauled off the golf course to tackle it . . . Jim will deny this, of course. And he has the megaphone.

But it's true . . . The managers also knew how the Champ was finding it difficult to concentrate. They knew the medical history of older people when less blood flows to the brain; how their mental functions decline, how it's difficult for an older man to make decisions under stress and strain—which is why the military service insists on retiring men shortly after 60 . . . The managers knew how the Champ wanted all reports brought him in capsule form, how he seldom wanted to study problems more than 20 or 30 minutes.

Champ Turns Cheek

Finally, the Champ's managers knew how distressed he had been over the headaches and heartaches of the past year—over Little Rock, the missile failures, and the bickering inside his own Cabinet . . . He had been accustomed to tough body-blows in wartime, but he, writhed in surprise and inward hurt when his good friend and secretary of the Treasury, George Humphrey, publicly lambasted his budget.