THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1957

City Must Survey A Vast Opportunity

As we advised you on August 5, 1953 the members of the Redevelopment Commission believe that it is no longer desirable to carry out an urban redevelopment program under the existing state legislation . . . We hereby submit for the disposition of Mayor and City Council our resignations as members of the Redevelopment Commission of Charlotte.

THE resignations were accepted. Charlotte's urban redevelopment program failed because the General Assembly refused to permit cities to meet requirements for federal aid. But almost four years and a few hurricanes later, it is possible not only to revive the program but to broaden it into a major effort at municipal face-lifting.

As enabling legislation passed the General Assembly this week, one Capitol observer quipped that it took an act of God to change the Assembly's attitude on urban redevelopment. He referred to coastal hurricane damage which made federal aid a matter of self-interest to rural legislators and thus greased the way for overwhelming passage of the legislation. Be that as it may, effective use of the face-lifting tools now provided Charlotte and other cities will require some acts of municipalities—namely detailed study and analysis of a changed situation.

Although Charlotte's slums have changed little since 1953, the redevelopment program has changed a great deal. Actually it is now an urban *renewal* program and the difference between the two programs, as summarized neatly by the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, is this:

"Picture a city skyline of shabby rookeries. A massive hand (that's the city government with United States aid) sweeps away the whole thing and new buildings rise. That's urban redevelopment. Picture another skyline with buildings good, bad, and indifferent. Instead of the hatchet treatment, a pair of manicure scissors snips neatly here and there, cutting out the bad, trimming up the indifferent and leaving the good. That, in its simplest terms, is urban renewal."

In sum, what was once a federal-municipal program for slum clearance is now enlarged to slum prevention and slum rehabilitation. Federal aid may be extended under the program to planning, eliminating congestion, restoring buildings, adding parks, playgrounds and other public improvements. The cost ratio of two dollars in federal funds for one in city funds remains the same.

The opportunities for enriching urban life by means of this program are vast and exciting. No comparable program was ever fashioned for aiding cities to cut out their diseased parts and to stimulate healthy and orderly growth.

The requirements for participation, however, are stiff. The multiple conditions that must be met boil down to proof that a city is able and enthusiastically willing to undertake a face-lifting effort.

Certainly it is too early to know specific benefits Charlotte could or should seek from the program.

But it is not too early to find out.

Charlotte should address itself to that task right away.

Ike Should Fight For His Program

"ONE hesitates to attribute political adroitness to a man who has revealed as much political ineptitude as Eisenhower," wrote Richard H. Rovere in AFFAIRS OF STATE: THE EISENHOWER YEARS, "but it happens to be a fact that he has achieved, through luck or good management, a number of things that are commonly thought to be the product of skill."

At this critical moment in his political history, the President needs all of the luck and managerial finesse at his command.

The Eisenhower program is flailing helplessly in an ocean of apathy. His budget is being attacked on all sides. His monetary policy is unpopular. His foreign policy is drawing new fire. His farm policy has the Midwest growling disconsolately. His party is split.

Yesterday, Republican congressional leaders called at the White House. They were principally concerned about the budget and foreign aid. Senate GOP leader Knowland met newsmen later and told them that Mr. Eisenhower had been advised by his colleagues to "go to the people" for support.

"I think," said Sen. Knowland, "it would be very helpful on this issue and on other issues as they come along."

It was excellent advice.

The President must come out swinging, and at once. He cannot live in semi-retirement, remote from the political arena, and serve the best interests of his country or his party.

The budget and the question of foreign spending will require the best that is in him. It is perfectly obvious now that the original budget estimates were carelessly prepared and miserably presented. Congress took advantage of the leadership vacuum to hack away recklessly at essential programs—ignoring the expendable fat in rivers and harbors spending and other pork barrel items. Congress also found it convenient to ignore the manner in which U. S. foreign policy rests upon economic development aid (requiring less money in 1957 than one fully-equipped aircraft carrier) and launched a gleeful drive to kill it entirely.

The blame for congressional irresponsibility cannot be piled on the President's doorstep. But it is safe to say that some of this tomfoolery could have been avoided had the President demonstrated the kind of vigor and dauntlessness of which he is capable. It is not too late for that kind of leadership.

Warmed-Over Corn Pone Is Not Fittin'

APPARENTLY even his best friends won't tell him.

So Rep. Robert E. Jones Jr.—of the Jackson County, Ala., Joneses—continues to drool around Capitol Hill about that cold corn pone his mother airmails him from Alabama every week. Rep Jones heats it up, coveting every crumb of it, and, heaven have mercy, eats it.

To hear him tell it . . . well, hear him: "It's not just corn bread, but corn pone. And not just Alabama corn pone but Jackson County corn pone. Guess you don't know about hard dent corn grown in north Alabama? Makes the best corn pone in the United States."

Guess he doesn't know much about any kind of corn pone.

The kind of pone Congressman Jones gets cold off an airplane should have been disposed of in Jackson County, Ala. —either to the dogs or the chickens. The best corn pone in the United States is any corn pone two seconds out of the oven, already served, and busily soaking up a slab of butter. The only conceivable way to make cold corn pone fit for human consumption is to crumble it up in a glass of cold buttermilk.

But his practice of heating it up and then eating it suggests Rep. Jones is a fit subject for a Citizens Council investigation. He is doing violence to a fine southern tradition.

From The Montello (Wis.) Tribune

A SUPERCOLOSSAL CAST

HOW many times have we heard it said that someone "looks the part?" Based on the premise that every physical type is a natural for a certain role, let's cast a motion picture from the people whose names and pictures crop up frequently in the paper:

John Foster Dulles—Principal of a high school.

Nasser of Egypt—Suave but dangerous mob leader.

Richard Nixon—A go-getting insurance agent.

Harold Macmillan—Headmaster in a British boys school.

Queen Elizabeth—A nice young suburban housewife whose subscription to Vogue ran out several years ago.

The Duke of Edinburgh—A small time travel lecturer playing the ladies club circuit.

Winston Churchill—The wealthy owner of a cigar factory.

Prince Rainier—A hopeful movie extra hired to play the walk on part of a central European prince.

Anthony Eden—A floor walker in a swank department store.

Sen. Alexander Wiley—A country doctor who's just delivered his 2,000th baby.

Sen. McCarthy—A bartender in a tough neighborhood.

Henry Ford II—The clean cut young man just hired to coach high school basketball.

John L. Lewis—A cult leader in southern California (he'd look good in a toga).

Ex-King Farouk—A short order chef in a third class beanery.

Nikolai Bulganin—A quack doctor selling a patent cancer cure. (And isn't he?)

Mr. Khrushchev—Trigger man for the syndicate.

Joe Adcock—A taciturn cowboy.

A tired looking man walked into the employment office and applied for a job. He listed seven youngsters as dependents. The interviewer looked up in surprise. "That's a coincidence," he said. "I have seven children too. Three boys and four girls." "Oh, shucks," said the man, as he made an X for his signature, "if you count girls I got 13."—FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

The Alabama farmer irately refused to accept a federal subsidy. "I, suh," he proclaimed, "will have no part of a U. S. Grant!"—CARLSBAD CURRENT-ARGUS.

Jordan Sharply Jolts Nasser's Bold Dreams Of Empire

By JOSEPH ALSOP

AMMAN, Jordan

IN THE hollow calm that has been imposed on this little country by the forces under King Hussein's command, it is possible to begin to think a little about the real meaning of the drama that has been played out here.

The trappings of the drama have been story book stuff — the young King, beleagued and betrayed but riding out the storm with incomparable dash and courage; the plotters, at first so overwhelmingly confident and then so eagerly ready to flee in all directions; the picturesque Arab Legion, torn by intrigues and divided loyalties but rallying to the young King in the very nick of time. No news story in this reporter's sadly long experience has been quite like this.

REAL MEANING

But behind these splendid trappings, there is the drama's real meaning. It is an immensely important meaning. Indeed, as a turning point in Middle Eastern politics this wild drama in little Jordan may later be remembered as equal in significance to the Suez crisis itself. And in order to place the grimly practical inner meaning of the Jordan drama in its proper context, one must begin with the Suez crisis.

The Suez crisis was touched off —Egypt's President Nasser was moved to nationalize the canal— by the calculated humiliation so incomprehensively administered by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles in the matter of the Aswan Dam. But the Soviet role was vastly more important than the American role. Nasser gained the courage to nationalize the canal from the actuality of Soviet arms and the promise of Soviet support.

FINAL OUTCOME

Realistically regarded, the final outcome of the Suez crisis was the highwater mark to date of Soviet political success in the strategically vital Middle East. Soviet policy here, it must be understood, is not to promote communism for communism's sake. Soviet Middle Eastern policy is to use Nasser-style Arab nationalism as a dagger to strike at the oil-jugular of the Western alliance.

The final outcome of the Suez crisis was the transformation of Nasser's shameful military defeat in Sinai into a politicial victory of extreme brilliance. The political victory seemed to provide the ideal opportunity for the next move along the road charted by both Nasser and the Kremlin, for their very different reasons. And this next move was to be a coup in Jordan.

COMBINED COUP

Jordan's extreme Arab nationalists, who are controlled from Cairo; Jordan's small but well organized Communist party, controlled by the Kremlin but placed under Nasser's command, and the disloyal elements within King Hussein's government, were all to combine together. In combination, they were to hand over Jordan to Egypt.

The coup very nearly came off too. Nasser was within a hair's breadth of gathering up little Jordan as you might gather up a windfall in an autumn orchard.

If the coup in Jordan had come off, the way would have been ideally prepared for an attempt to subvert the Iraqi government of King Hussein's cousin, King Faisal. Thus the first of the oil producing Arab lands, where you find the real daggers the Soviets want the Arab nationalists to use against the West, would have come under Egyptian domination.

TIME RIPE

With Iraq lost, in turn, it would have been time for Nasser to think of the oil-rich Gulf Coast sheikdoms, dominated by the British and, last but not least, Saudi Arabia, allied with the United States. And with Egyptian dominated governments installed in all these vital regions, the time would have been ripe to drive the dagger straight home into the West's exposed jugular.

That was the delightful prospect until the failure of the coup in Jordan changed every calculation. It failed not only because of King Hussein's energy and verve. It also failed because King Saud of Saudi Arabia had noticed the important role being played by the Communists in Jordan, and had begun to be aware that his own fate was already being prepared.

RADICAL CHANGE

If a stable, independent government can finally be organized in Jordan, the change of calculations will be radical indeed. Instead of pro-Western Iraq being imperiled, the example of events in Jordan will seriously imperil Egypt's satellite government in Syria, with its heavy load of fellow travellers. Then the tide will have turned in deadly earnest. But it will be many months yet before anyone can say that young King Hussein, with all his verve, can possibly organize a stable, independent regime in this tormented, infiltrated little nation.

COL. NASSER
A Coup Collapsed

'Honestly, I Wonder If Somebody Up There Still Likes Me'

The Loyal Wife

All Washington Loves Jessie

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of Defense Charles E. Wilson will soon leave Washington and, thanks largely to his wife, he willl leave a winner.

With her famous defense of her husband against the President's criticism, Jessie Ann Wilson aimed at an elective king and killed the legend that he personally could do no wrong.

The cult of personality was never really congenial to the American political temper, but it had a long run here until Mrs. Wilson rattled the windows of the White House with no other broadside than the weapons available to every loyal wife: Her honest tongue and her sense of justice.

HEROINE FOUND

The public promptly cast itself in the image of the Wilsons. Jessie became a heroine and Charlie a lucky fellow. The President became a boss who didn't treat the help right.

The Women's National Press Club last week formalized these characterizations with a party in honor of "the spunkiest woman in Washington." The working press, distaff side, turned out en masse; Charlie accompanied Jessie and everybody burst out singing. It was the biggest assortment of flatted notes ever heard outside an Elks convention, but it was wonderful.

TALKED TURKEY

In what amounted to her valedictory to Washington, Mrs. Wilson proved that her triumph over political fantasy was no accident. She talked turkey which got lost amid the mutual compliments but contains much food for thought for all of this self-important and complacent capital.

The Wilson, she said, had hated to come to Washington, leaving their family and friends who loved and understood them. Now that they had found friends here so they could be themselves, she added, they would have unexpected regrets over leaving.

TOUCH OF NATURE

The story between the lines was plain. Washington and the Wilsons had been failing each other and their relationships was saved almost at the bell by that one touch of nature which makes the whole world kin.

There is nothing complicated or esoteric about what happened prior to their reconciliation. Both sides have been firmly in the grip of cliches they should have relegated to the campaign wastebaskets.

CHARLES E. WILSON
The Lucky Fellow

The Eisenhower administrators by and large arrived here dedicated to the proposition that nothing was wrong in American affairs that a good dose of business administration wouldn't cure. They were sure the woods were full of hostile Indians who had doted on the Democrats. They intimated they would fix things up in a jiffy and return to more important matters back home.

VIRTUE AND VICE

An annoyed city whose only business is government reacted sharply. Washington is a place of singularly mild political temper. It tends to pamper the "ins" but it never forgets that the "outs" were here yesterday and will probably be back tomorrow. Above all, it sees in all administrations the usual mixture of virtue and vice, the usual contest between passion and reason.

Confronted however with a harsh look, it reacted with cliches of its own about the millionaires and their indifference to the common lot. The formal parties have gone on as before, indeed there have been more of them, but there was little real heartiness until Mrs. Wilson took the field.

LITTLE MINGLING

The White House must share the blame. Even before the President's illness, it made little contribution to the friendly social understandings that grease the wheels of government. Except for formal affairs and the stag dinners, there has been very little mingling at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

It would still seem that Potomac fever is the disease least likely to occur to a prominent Eisenhower supporter, nor will Washington concede that government is an avocation instead of a vocation.

But as Mrs. Wilson has proved, the common ground is there, with much to be gained on all sides by achieving it. The Wilsons will leave behind a permanent and happy impression on the collective recollection of Washington.

People's Platform

Let's Save The Daylight

Rock Hill, S. C.

Editors, The News:

WE Carolinians are robbed of 160 God-given daylight hours because the legislative solons refuse to pass daylight savings legislation. My addition may be bad but I figure five months at one hour a day. That good hour of sitting in the daylight or working on the lawn goes down the drain because, heaven forbid, we should enjoy the same daylight benefits our northern damyankee brethren evidently relish or they wouldn't have the daylight statutes on their books.

I have heard several arguments offered against adding the extra daylight to our daily spring and summer living but none make sense to me.

Are we moles or men? Could we but work up some enthusiasms by the scriveners to get the small hand on our watches set ahead we might get a little more daylight living.

To the ball points, men! Let's frighten the lawmakers into action.

— MICHAEL J. O'SHEAN

Tax Blues Singers Should Recall '56

Cheraw, S. C.

Editors, The News:

WE the people should note the statements of some of the industrial leaders who in the election supported the administration in money and in their influence over some people to vote for these leaders and elect them to office. They now complain of the giveaway program and high taxes and other matters of the Republican program. They're the same big wholesale houses that have gone out of business here of late claiming they were losing money. Yet these same people of our fair southland spoke in behalf of the Republican Party in 1952 and 1956. At that time, everything was just fine. But now, four years later, it's a different story, and continues to grow worse for all.

We must remember also the remarks made by the former secretary of the Army in an address in Greensboro on April 18. He remarked, as quoted in the newspapers, that the American people were spending too much on houses, cars, appliances, etc., and were going around sloppily dressed, claiming it was not right and just to the textile field, as if they would spend money for clothing they could operate. That is probably true to some extent.

Does this gentleman feel that we the people should not spend our earnings as we see fit, as he does with his company's money? We are in need of things as much so as his clothing. The people deserve homes, cars and other things for their homes as much so as anyone else, be he the industrial leader or butcher, although we know that we have with us today, as always, some who want it all, and the other people nothing, but just enough to exist on in life.

But I wish to warn all that this policy is on the way out as our people are learning fast to think for themselves instead of letting others do it for them.

If the people begin to cast their vote how they wish, the sooner the better. We have tried the other way long enough. Then why not use our own votes for our benefit and for all the people and not for the few who would fool us into doing everything for their benefit. Our big industrial and large firms have no one to blame for their state of affairs, if it's bad, but themselves and the party that they've supported so well to operate the government.

Everything is higher in price now than ever. Our national debt larger than any time in peace. Our national budget is higher than ever. Yet you have installed all kinds of labor saving devices and machines to save cost of operation. That's fine in time of war, but no good when we have people out of work who need jobs to buy your products from the markets. Those machines can't buy said goods. Therefore, your operations of production will soon come to a halt, and your taxes be raised to take care of those you put out of work, who the federal and state governments are going to have to take care of.

So why cry on the people's shoulders?

— J. A. GRAHAM

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Stock Tips Linked To Senate Office

Editors' Note: While Drew Pearson is on a newsgathering trip outside Washington, his associate, Jack Anderson, writes the Merry-Go-Round.

WASHINGTON

SENATE probe of the Northeast Airlines stock scandal has uncovered tracks pointing to Sen. Styles Bridges' office (R-NH), yet the chief investigator now following these tracks is Bridges' political appointee.

He is able, amiable Don O'Donnell of Manchester, N. H., who was brought to Washington by the man he is now supposed to be investigating. He has already let one key figure in the investigation, whose testimony might embarrass Bridges, take off for South America on the eve of the Senate hearings.

O'Donnell's job is to find who leaked word prematurely last August that the Civil Aeronautics Board had granted Northeast the profitable New York-Miami route. The morning after the secret CAB vote, insiders made a killing in Northeast stock.

Among those who rushed out to buy stock before it jumped from $9.15 to $12.50 a share were three of Bridges' aides — Chester Wiggin, Tom Shannon and Dick Eddy. They made modest purchases through the Paine, Webber, Jackson and Curtis brokerage firm.

Free Ride

Bigger windfalls went to two other Bridges henchmen, Lowell Mayberry of Boston and Milt Shapiro of Concord, N. H., who got a free ride on the stock market the same morning. Shapiro reportedly bought 500 shares early in the morning while the price was still rock bottom.

How Bridges' office got the advance tip hasn't been positively proved. It may be significant, however, that another Bridges man was present when the CAB reached its secret decision. He is the CAB's chief investigator, Jimmy Anton, who formerly worked for Bridges on Capitol Hill.

Skips Country

Though Anton's testimony is considered important, O'Donnell gave him permission to take a two-week junket to South America while the hearings are going on. Anton was careful to get O'Donnell's okay before leaving the country.

Sources close to the investigation charge that O'Donnell is trying to swing the spotlight away from Bridges and focus on others who may also have had inside information. For example, Larry Henderson represented a New England combine that was trying to buy millionaire Floyd Odlum's controlling interest in Northeast. The morning of the stockmarket leak, Henderson made three long-distance calls to New England. One who was called, Forrester Clark of Boston, bought stock.

Robert Oliver, an attorney for Delta Airlines, also made several phone calls to Georgia. At least six Atlanta, Ga., speculators cashed in on Northeast stock, including Georgia's GOP boss, Robert Snodgrass.

O'Donnell denied to this column that he was trying to protect anyone. It will be interesting to see, however, how deep he delves into Bridges' office.