



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1959

The Bitter Fruit Of 25 Years Of Neglect

MECKLENBURG'S United Community Services reacted to the plight of its poorly housed social agencies with commendable speed and determination.
The \$850,000 capital funds drive approved Tuesday by UCS directors is a necessary answer to a depressing problem.

A general awareness of the inadequacy of certain facilities is new. But the shortcomings did not develop overnight. They have existed a long time. Charlotte still has to learn that civic progress requires a continuous, unrelenting struggle against decay.

It is fairly obvious today that Mecklenburg is suffering the consequences of 25 years of neglect in providing its social agencies with proper quarters. This is the reason so much money must be raised so quickly.

The public's realization that something was very, very wrong came quite suddenly—within the past seven years. The lamentable condition of the Charlotte Day Nursery shocked Mecklenburgers first. Some 48 hours later The News gave readers a revealing look at the "terrible old house" that is the Salvation Army's transient men's shelter.

Ike Serves Up A Spot Of Weak Tea

PRESIDENT Eisenhower's latest prescription for a education's ailment is no stronger than Grandma's sassafras tea. It is certainly a far cry from the comprehensive federal aid program the administration recommended to Congress three years ago.

Under the new proposal, the federal government would put down a maximum of \$85 million annually for the debt service of "needy" school districts—but this would be available only on a matching basis. Unfortunately, the nation is full of school districts currently so needy that they can't match anything more substantial than the time of day. Furthermore, the scheme to have local districts repay Uncle Sam's advance, if possible, over a ten-year period after the debt has been retired sounds mighty peculiar.

The Plot Unfolds For Another Follies

ONE of our ace undercover men reported strange stirrings these nights at a local television studio. Further digging uncovered another edition of the Junior Chamber of Commerce's annual follies underway. Now in fledgling rehearsal, the show will blossom in late March with new format.

Last year's efforts brought one real concern to its producers, as bad weather and a promotional lag hurt at the box office. It appeared at one time to be a loser, but "On The Square" finished in the black.

Because of the performers involved, all local talent, and the causes which profit, we hope this year's show will be

From The Manchester Guardian

ODD, AND OUT OF Y' WAY

IN one way and another we are still a very clubbable lot in mid-twentieth century. But our efforts at organized sociability can hardly be compared with the genius of the eighteenth century for this sort of thing.

A friend in Liverpool recently came across a private published account of one of the more surprising ways of eighteenth-century clubbing, which includes a verbatim reprint from the minute books of the Uxley Free Club of Liverpool for 1743-53. This club's rules laid down that "no person whatever shall be admitted a member... that is not a Bachelor, a Man of Honour, a facetious disposition." Even then, a nominee had no hope of election unless he could show "something odd, or remarkable, or out of the way in his Phiz." All or any of a large Mouth, thin Jaws, Blubber Lips, little zoggling, or Squinting Eyes would help considerably, and particular regard was paid to a candidate's nose and the length of his ears.

The terrified citizen assured the poet-leastman he had been felled in the dark outside his book, floor by an unknown assailant. A rookie cop was dispatched to the scene, returned in due course with a big lump on forehead and a wee-begone look on his face. "I solved the case," he reported. "Quite work," commented the lieutenant. "How did you accomplish it?" The rookie cop explained, "I stepped on the rake top." LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.

needs of other UCS agencies came quickly to light. A pattern of inadequacy was established. Many buildings were found to be in an advanced stage of deterioration. Others were too small for the great volume of services dispensed. In addition, there was the problem of mounting mortgage debts.

By the beginning of the week it was absolutely clear to community leaders that something had to be done and done quickly. The UCS board of directors met Tuesday to consider the problem. It lost no time in authorizing the emergency capital funds drive.

If the campaign is successful, both the Charlotte Day Nursery and the Salvation Army will be afforded the funds they need so badly. Other money will be used for a central office building to house a number of UCS member services. A share has also been earmarked for mortgage debts and for a fourth floor dormitory in the new YMCA building.

The problem is unique and formidable; but so are the resources that can be summoned to meet it. We urge Mecklenburgers, when called upon, to respond generously.

Later, when the immediate problem is licked, we hope the community can find some way to take care of these capital needs as they appear rather than waiting for the inevitable crisis. Crisis planning is never quite as satisfactory as constant, continuous attention to civic needs.

That was only the beginning. The

The Pathfinders

IN Spartanburg, S. C., a pair of newspaper employees were avidly discussing the merits of their paper's anti-junk walk campaign, became so engrossed that they stepped out against the light and became two of the first warning summons victims.

Ike, Dulles Works Down The Drain

The effort to produce this show is considerable. The mere loss of time by performers, original music from Louis Mc-Glothin, the script is again in the capable hands of director Norman Preattave. One other note: From experience, these productions have improved each year. We hope this is the season the customers see a solid wower.

By design on the light side, the show will be worth seeing for its barbed shots at sundry Charlotte institutions and the better, original music from Louis McGlothin. The script is again in the capable hands of director Norman Preattave. One other note: From experience, these productions have improved each year. We hope this is the season the customers see a solid wower.

Faith In God Will Carry Us In Space

WHY should America, a Christian nation, become alarmed over the possibility that a godless Rocket will blast its way into space or land a group of explorers on the moon before we plant the Stars and Stripes atop some lunar peak?

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Humphrey Forces Ponder Movement To Stop Kennedy

By JOSEPH ALSTON

THE forces of Sen. Hubert Humphrey are rather hoping to start a Midwestern stop-Kennedy movement, which might also become a promote-Humphrey movement, at the Midwestern Democratic conference in Milwaukee, Wis., on March 3 through 7.

The conference comprises the past and present state chairmen and other Democratic Party officials of 13 Midwestern states. Sen. Kennedy, who addressed the conference last fall, will be absent this time. Sen. Humphrey will be vigorously present, to address the main dinner meeting. Gov. Soapy Williams of Michigan, who is not a strong candidate himself but just might help in stopping Kennedy, will also turn up to make a speech. In addition, the Humphrey forces look for help from Wisconsin's new Democratic governor, Gaylord Nelson.

It is many months too early, of course, for anything like solid pre-convention alliances to be formed, either for any candidate or against any candidate. Sen. Humphrey, who is one of the cleverest and most effective men in the business, will probably per-



SEN. JOHN KENNEDY Ready For Primaries

sue some of the Midwesterners of his own political strength. He may also succeed in planting seeds, which will blossom into a stop-Kennedy movement later on. That is the kind of start Sen. Humphrey hopes to make.

One should not exaggerate the thing, in short. Yet it is still significant that the Humphrey forces

are already, even at this unprecedentedly early date, letting the stop-Kennedy idea influence their planning. It is a proof, if you like, of the length of the lead that Sen. Kennedy enjoys at present, in a Democratic pre-convention contest which is already almost as hot as in a normal convention year.

IMAGE IS KEY

From the standpoint of his competitors, the annoying and dangerous point about the lead enjoyed by Sen. Kennedy is its grass roots origin. By some means or other—perhaps because they just like his picture on national magazine covers—an astonishingly high number of voters all over this country have acquired what the Madison Avenue analysts call a "positive image" of the young Massachusetts senator.

As anyone knows who has done any doorbell-ringing, this positive image is by no means limited to the Roman Catholics and members of other religious groups who naturally wish to see the end of the rule that presidents must always be white, Protestant Americans.

Wisconsin, where the Midwest-



SEN. HUBERT HUMPHREY To Battle Kennedy?

ern Democratic conference is to convene, is an interesting case in point. In this state with its heavy farm population, other Democrats logically ought to do a lot better than Kennedy. Pollsters this reporter has found to be afraid any odds have made tests.

All candidates were run against Vice President Richard Nixon. In the outcome, this Wisconsin poll showed Kennedy beating Nixon by a hair—50 1/2 to 49 1/2. But the same poll showed Nixon beating Sen. Humphrey rather badly, and defeating Sen. Stuart Symington by a margin just above 60 to 40.

For precisely this reason, while Gov. Nelson is reportedly leaning to Humphrey, the Wisconsin state chairman, Pat Lacey, is said to be leaning rather strongly to Kennedy. As long as Kennedy has

such strong popular support, in fact, he is in the situation of a super-Edward Kefauver with none, or at least very few, of the handicaps that proved fatal to the Kefauver candidacy.

LITTLE POWER

Kefauver also had mass support, but he could not translate his mass support into support by convention-delegates, because he had done something or other to earn the bitter enmity of just about every Democratic leader all over the country. Kennedy has even more mass support, yet a minimum of powerful party enemies and so he can attract backers like the Wisconsin state chairman.

That does not mean for one moment that Kennedy is a sure thing, or even an odd-on bet to get the Democratic nomination. The Democratic party has seldom enjoyed such almost embarrassing riches in the candidate-stables. If Kennedy's popularity should fade, or if he or other candidates project themselves successfully in the months to come, the odds will actually be better because of his youth, his limited experience, and his religion.

But more important, he has not more flexible than he is himself. If he refuses the contest, if he challenges them to primaries on theoretically neutral ground—in Oregon, especially. And if he wins those primaries, as he would probably win today, the Kennedy-stoppers will have a job on their hands.

'It's Not The Principle—It's The Money'



People's Platform

Ike, Dulles Works Down The Drain

Clinton, S. C. THE trip to England, France and Germany, didn't go so hot so Foster is in the hospital. He is an old soldier, he too knows how to take sick leave. It's not the Berlin crisis, it's the whole international situation. Any time that Ike and Foster have had anything to do with, he goes, or is fixing to go, down the drain.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON I HAVE sometimes wondered, what Abraham Lincoln would do or say today about the fact that 84 schools and places of worship have been dynamited in two years over the same issue he fought for.

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'Flexibility' Fashionable Word In West's Diplomacy

By WALTER LIPPMANN

WASHINGTON THE new word in Western diplomacy is "flexibility." It has become fashionable because of the real issue that is going on in Washington, in London, and in Berlin—a reappraisal of the German problem.

It is a wholly false picture of what is going on to suppose that East Germany and the West have been surrendering and standing firm, between appeasement and principle, between being soft and being strong.

The real issue, to which the reappraisal is addressed, is whether to stand pat on positions that have become untenable or to move to new positions from which the Western Allies can recover the political initiative.

A FOCAL POINT

Let us take Berlin for a concrete example, remembering, of course, that it is only the focal point of the whole larger German problem.

At present there are two streams of traffic between West Berlin and West Germany. One, which is much the larger, is civilian traffic. This traffic is regulated by an agreement between West Berlin and West Germany.

The other traffic is military. It is between the British, French, and American forces in West Berlin and their garrisons in West Berlin. This traffic is regulated by Allied agreement with the Soviet Union.

TRAFFIC CHANGE

Moscow has now said that if there is no other negotiation about the status of Berlin, it will on May 27 turn over to the East German government its authority over the military traffic. This is done, it will mean that all the check points on the highways and railroads and canals Allied military traffic will be met by East German rather than by Soviet officials.

The immediate and specific questions about Berlin are: (1) what will we do when we meet these East German officials; and (2) what will the East German officials do about our military traffic?

KEY DIFFERENCE

This is where the difference between "inflexible" and a "flexible" policy shows itself. The inflexibles say that we do not recognize the East German government and that we cannot, therefore, allow them to have anything to do with our traffic to Berlin. The flexibles reply that as long as no one interferes with our traffic to Berlin, it does not make any difference whether the official who stamps the papers wears an East German or a Soviet uniform.

They add that if Dr. Adenauer can allow East German officials to stamp his papers for the civilian-

an traffic, he is in no position to insist that President Eisenhower be more inflexible than he is himself.

USE FORCE?

In speculating about the use of force to keep open access to Berlin, the first question to be decided is whether we ought to be ready to go to war if we meet an East German official at the check points on the highways. Do we fight because the official who wants to see the papers carried by our trucks wears an East German uniform, or do we fight if he closes the highway? The flexibles say that a blockade of West Berlin is a fighting matter, but that whether the official is East German or Soviet is not a fighting matter.

The flexibles say, moreover, that to announce you will fight about the official at the check point is not a strong policy but a foolish one, and because it is foolish it is weak. It is weak because the people of the Western world cannot conceivably be united to fight a world war on such an idiotic issue.

BRANDT FLEXIBLE

As we know, the mayor of West Berlin, the highly esteemed Willy Brandt, can be counted among the flexibles. He has suggested that the East German officials might be recognized as "agents of the Soviet Union. An easier and as good a way, to accomplish the same result would be to ask a guarantee of access to West Berlin until a new status can be arranged by negotiations covering the two Germanys and the two Berlins.

What we want is that West Berlin should not be blockaded and strangled, and that Berlin should be the capital of a reunited Germany.

This flexible position is a strong one. We stand firm on the substance, which is that West Berlin should not be blockaded. We are indifferent to the formalities which do not matter as long as West Berlin is open. We keep alive our real objective, which is not to maintain West Berlin as an island within East Germany but to restore its status as the capital city to which all parts of Germany must have equal access.

It may well be that the Soviet Union will refuse to guarantee access during the period, which may be a long one, when the Berlin problem is being negotiated. If that is what happens, the Soviet Union will end itself in a dangerous position.

It will have given the East Germans a free hand to impose a blockade which would be expected to come to the defense of the East Germans if they provoke a war.

This is a much bigger gamble than Moscow has ever taken before. It is a gamble that jumps to the conclusion that it will take the gamble now.

Way Of Reason

"Probably it is to be my lot, Lincoln once said, 'to go on in a twilight, feeling and reasoning my way through life, as a question mark.' Thomas did. But in my poor, maimed, withered way, I bear with me as I go on, a seeking, a groping, a groping, a groping, with him of the olden time, who in his need, as I in mine, exclaimed, 'Help thy neighbor.'"

But though Lincoln belonged to no church, he would have looked with approval upon the churchmen of today who have taken a courageous stand for better understanding in the South. He would have approved, heartily, of Billy Graham's sermon at Clinton, Tenn., commending the raising of money for the new high school.

Love In Heart

I recognize that love of mankind cannot be enforced by bayonet alone. Graham told those whose schoolhouse had been bombed, "The law in itself is powerless to jump to his human heart. Only love can do that and only Christ can bring that love."

Some Thoughts For Lincoln's Birthday

I doubt the possibility or propriety of setting the religion of Jesus Christ in the model of man-made creeds and dogmas," he once said. "It was a spirit in the life He laid stress on and taught, if I read aright."

Simple Faith

And again, "I cannot without mental reservations assent to long and complicated creeds and catechisms. The church would ask simply for assent to the Savior's statement of the substance of the law. Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind and thy neighbor as thyself, that church would I regard as well."

The kind of person Lincoln be-