



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Textile Leadership Can Point The Way

PER capita income will continue to be a major, calling concern in North Carolina for many years.

The current General Assembly has heard from Gov. Hodges. His biennial message included a proposal for a minimum wage law, one however, which faces an obstacle-filled course.

Behind this maneuver for 75 cents per hour minimum, which excludes great clumps of people, is a bootstrap-lifting plan for a better economy.

But some floundering on the lower level of income averages will be too restricted to move the state swiftly toward the "unlimited opportunity" mentioned by the governor.

The first strides of positive wage action can bypass the cautious thinking of state legislators.

That action must come from industry itself.

For while still strong in voice, this state's agricultural interests are in a massive, decade-long period of transition from tenant farming to mechanization. The concentration of the economic power buildup is away from the land.

Little help should be expected, dollars-wise from North Carolina's farms.

What then, can be expected of industry to help this region unrim itself, and, more pointedly, which enterprise should take the lead.

The answer is textiles. Of course, just to mention the word is to bring a reaction. To the layman it appears that every time the President hooks a golf ball into the rough the textile industry prices drop two cents.

As a basic industry, textiles are sensitive to many forces. Domestic policy change causes quiverings, and a governmental hand raised in friendship to Japanese trade brings anguish only duplicated by wretches caught in an abdominal stretch.

To point an editorial finger at textiles and say, "You lead us out of the woods" is a dangerous thing. The writer must be prepared to hide under the desk for days.

But, the No. 1 employer in the Carolinas is textiles.

If the looms ground to a halt tomorrow the effect would be staggering. To look the other way, if a \$2 hourly wage minimum were declared we would have a purchasing-power boom.

These, of course, are extreme suppositions.

One recent fact, however, has been the reported rise in wage minimums to \$1.25 per hour on a scattered textile front. And statisticians have estimated a raise of 13 cents an hour for Carolinas textile production workers produces a weekly wage increase of \$2 million.

One tarnishing note in the \$1.25 minimum story, while some workers will jump 12 to 25 cents on an hourly basis, the man who receives \$2.25 today may find his rate remaining static. And while the minimum pay might rise, the present average of \$1.45 would have a purchasing-power boom.

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But Tar Heels must have more income before additional state taxes can be levied. If the \$1.25 minimum in textiles be comes statewide, a huzzah is in order. But average wages must rise too.

Naturally enough, increased payroll costs are going for higher prices for finished products. But the trend has been for the consumer to pay that price. Automobiles are a good example. And with the population spiraling upward at a dizzy pace, more customers are available every year.

The need is North Carolina's. Industry in general and textiles in particular can lead if they are willing to invest in their people. And North Carolinians are their people worthy of investment.

A Solution To Save Basketball Players

CHILLED winter blood turned hot the other night at Winston-Salem with the outbreak of a free-will forum during a college basketball game.

Many opinions were delivered with the closed hand. Moderators had some five minutes of difficulty separating panel members. They had become quite enthused with the prospects of croaking some unsuspecting athletes from behind before the discussion period was ended. Coaching staffs must be agonized when actual fighting erupts as it did during the UNC-Wake Forest contest.

Out there on the floor runs a pack of young men worth, conservatively, a million dollars. Figure it on the total gate in games for three years of any young man's varsity life.

Something ought to be done to protect this investment.

One solution might be the employment of a cargo net, such as freighters use. At the first sign of trouble, players should be drilled into instant assembly.

net lowered and his gangling passenger tossed aboard.

The teams, each in their separate nets, could be swung aloft, far above the milling fans, and would be left alone to joyfully pummel each other.

The solid gold cargos would be out of harm's way, and could let off enthusiasm of their own by dropping a few basketballs on the heads of spectators.

How to meet the Soviet challenge in education: During 1957-58 a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) at Teachers College, Columbia University, submitted his dissertation on the following subject: "The Development of A Functional Approach to the Teaching of Sports in The Pre-Service Education of Physical Education Majors at the University of North Carolina With Special Reference To Football."

Do We Need This Last-Minute Rush?

THE annual mob scene at the Carolina Motor Club is underway.

It happens every year about this time. This year it will be one working day longer.

Since February 15 falls on Sunday, motorists have until midnight Monday to attach their license plates.

All this has been carefully explained many times by the daily press. But every year at deadline time the plate dealers face a crowd that looks like the last great buffalo stampede.

A motor club official admitted it was bad public relations when people were

herded into a long line. The public doesn't like the jam of its own creation, either.

Why should there be this deadline and rushing about?

One workable plan would be to have plates bought in alphabetical sequence. It would eliminate the last minute jam, and the sales force would not have its idle period of more than a month.

More time, in which to buy plates is not needed. People just won't buy too far in advance. But if personal deadlines occurred each week, that last great rush would be another bit of history.

From The Daily Oklahoman

LOW CARS AND HIGH PRICES

IN a country motorized to the present extreme degree the dreamboat of the future is naturally a never-falling subject of public interest.

Therefore speculation is always rife concerning possible innovations of the future. There's talk of porous fabrics in seat cushions for individual air conditioning. There's talk of automatic magnetic guidance systems built into superhighways to permit "no hands" driving. Rear mounted aluminum hook "pancake" engines are envisaged for the near future. Rear mounted gas turbine engines using low grade gasoline or diesel fuel are envisaged for the distant future. Sometimes discussed is a single " joystick" lever to control steering, braking and acceleration.

This is naturally all quite interesting. But increasingly dismayed present-day customers may nevertheless feel that what the future holds is hardly as urgent as what the present holds. Certainly it's not as uncomfortable. It's no exaggeration to say that a six-foot occupant trying to emerge from the back seat of nearly any 1956 model American car will literally have to crawl on hands

and knees if the car happens to be parked alongside a 10-inch curb.

What a lot of motorist would prefer to a magnetic system would be an ordinary running board and a body frame far enough off the ground to make a running board feasible. Optional equipment might also include a saddle for the ever growing transmission hump down the middle. That's where the spraddled man in the middle perches.

Side saddles might be offered the ladies, besides "em. These are minor suggested amenities. What the American auto obviously needs above all is a higher frame and a lower price.

The man patient in the insane asylum had his ear plastered to the wall and was listening very intently. As a nurse approached he continued to her to do likewise. So the nurse glued her ear to the wall, and the too, listened very hard. Then she said:

"Don't hear a thing."

And the nut said: "Neither do I and it's been that way all day!" —FOOT MYERS (PLA) NEWS-PRESS

'Don't Look Now But I Think We're Being Followed'



People's Platform

What's City 'Copter Role?

Raleigh, N.C.

READ with interest your editorial of February 11 concerning my opposition to the operation of a helicopter service by the City of Charlotte.

I certainly plead guilty to holding very firmly the belief which your editorial writer considers so out of date — that government should not do that which private enterprise can do as well or better. Count me, then as one with many of similar expressed views such as Adlai Stevenson and Dwight D. Eisenhower, to be non-partisan about it.

Perhaps your journalistic talents might be better used—and the public better served—if, instead of lambasting such naive ideas as mine, you examined this proposal a little more closely.

Council has already spent \$5,000 of our citizens money for expenses in connection with this project. So far I have been unable to find any legal authority for the expenditure of public funds for this purpose.

If operation of a helicopter service from Charlotte is a sound business proposition, why is not private capital willing to risk the expense incident to obtaining a franchise?

Could it be that the eager potential operators see in a city-owned certificate a way to avoid paying developmental costs which they could not write off rapidly for tax purposes?

Mr. Yancey says that the city does not intend to operate the service. I believe him. Why, then, does the proposed bill which, incidentally was not drawn by the city attorney as requested by council, have to contain authority for the city, or a corporation owned by it, to operate the service?

If the city is to be the franchisee, then should not competitive bidding be required? Surely even your enlightened editorial writer would admit that this is a sound principle of public administration.

Or is there only one operator interested in leasing these rights? If that be the case, then I can understand why he wants the city to go to the expense of obtaining the license.

Your editorial made much of "obstructionism." And a quaint, old-fashioned belief which I hold is that an elected representative is supposed to study each matter which comes before him and form his own judgment as to its merits or lack thereof. I am afraid that

not even your editorial sarcasm can rid me of this silly idea.

—FRANK W. SNEPP

'Hand-Me-Downs' For Negro Cops?

Charlotte, N.C.

I HAVE for some time been wanting to ask this question. Do the Negroes who have been sworn in as policemen have the same privileges as white policemen when it comes to recreational activities? If not, why? They belong to the same law enforcement body. They have the same experience. They have the same qualifications. They face the same danger—or should I say more danger? The white policemen, of course, face danger, too, but they don't have to face the people the colored policemen do every day. Brother, I know. I live with these people.

And another thing. Why is it when the city can get new cars the Negro policemen never get any? I think that puts them in a very embarrassing position. Like everybody else they get tired of hand-me-downs.

Like I have always said, we have a self-correcting municipal government. Now, let's see how wrong I am.

—JAMES K. ALEXANDER

Full Disarmament Is Only Answer

Elkhart, Ind.

MR. DULLES brand of foreign policy has once more "road blocked" the partial disarmament road to peace.

By insisting that the Russians block the road via the "veto" to partial disarmament, is it not true that were it not for the veto, we would not be in the U.N.?

And I seriously doubt if we would allow inspection team of Russians to have a "look-see" into the innermost rooms of our military arsenal under a partial disarmament agreement. It would be foolhardy for us to do so.

But under "universal disarmament" we and they would have nothing to hide, militarily, then. It would be safe, and proper for an inspection and enforcement commission to do so.

A commission composed of, say five, from the east and five from the west, and they select an eleventh agreeable to both sides.

Peace, like eternal salvation, cannot be achieved "piece-meal." It must be "whole hog" or none. We should now press for the whole hog, which are the most lives we have lost since we were naked as they were born, with the exception of ornaments,

Fear Of Revolt Can Be Forcing Russia's Hand

By WALTER LIPPMANN

WASHINGTON THERE is no reason to doubt that John Foster Dulles will once again come out on top, carried through his ordeal not only by his stamina, which is fabulous, but also by the knowledge that he is at this moment the indispensable man.

There have been times in the past when things were at the end of a chapter, and he could with grace and dignity have made way for a younger man. But not just now. This is a period when things are moving toward a climax, after which the world may be very different, and he himself is at the climax of his career.

TOP FIGURE

There is no one else in the Western world who has authority, comparable with his, to lead the enormously complex negotiations about Germany and about Europe which in one way or another are now unavoidable and impossible to avoid.

If the West moves, as it must, from a policy of standing pat to one of negotiation and compromise, his personal leadership will be the best guarantee that flexibility is not flabbiness and that a strong and tough hand is in charge. The Russians will make no dangerous mistakes while he is there, and our allies will be much less apprehensive.

FIRST QUESTION

There is one question which, if we knew the answer to it, would light the whole situation. Why is it that Moscow has opened up the Berlin and the German question now rather than, let us say, two years hence? The Russians know quite well that German opinion is evolving, and that Dr. Adenauer's refusal to negotiate on a realistic basis will not be held by his successor.

In two years, Mr. Dulles will be out of office, and until very recently there was no difference between his position and Dr. Adenauer's. In two years, moreover, there will be—if the Russians believe what Sen. Bricker and others say—a marked shift in the balance of power.

TOUCHY AREA

Why then are they in such a hurry now? My own guess, which rests only on hints and inferences, is that they are in the position in Eastern Germany and perhaps also in Eastern Europe as precarious, and potentially explosive, as they are deeply concerned.

My guess is that they have no illusions about the discontent of the East Germans and that what they fear is that the East Germans, when they see a strong West German army less than two hours away, may be sorely tempted to start an uprising in the fire and both the U. S. A. and the U. S. S. R. would be involved.

KEY TO FEAR

Something of this sort, is I feel sure, the crux of the German problem today. There is an ever present and growing danger of revolution in Eastern Europe which would entail Soviet intervention in the Hungarian manner, and would unavoidably bring about a great war.

The Russians are undoubtedly worried about this, and truly responsible men in all the West-in capitals are equally worried about it. Only those who have imagination and foresight take the view that in Eastern Europe an uprising would be wonderful, and just what the free world wants.

It is the impending danger in Eastern Europe which makes it imperative to move toward Germany. For the best and perhaps the only way to avert the danger is to move towards the beginning of the re-unification of the two Germans. We should make the Kremlin understand that we approach the re-unification of Germany not with intent to provoke an uprising in Eastern Europe but in order to find an alternative to it.

African Notes

Who Is This Nasser?

By ROBERT C. RUARK

MOROCCO, UGANDA I HAVE been out on this way about a month now. We have just come down from the north, from the highlands of the Lake Rudolph, the Elmalo, which numbers only a hundred people and is dying rapidly because a disease has been spreading.

The other day a friend of mine pumped one of this tribe's sick citizens full of antibiotics, maybe two million volts of penicillin.

HIFFO CHARM

The old gentleman had been dying and to ward off the evil spirits his relatives had killed a baby hippo and had packed a great many of its bones and horns into a bag. He could look on the prospective corpse. The prospective corpse responded to modern scientific treatment and was cured.

FEW CLOTHES

Apart from the Somalis, who have gained their independence in Somalia and will exercise it soon, these people go naked or seminaked.

A great many of them never heard of Jomo Kenyatta, the old rabid ruler, let alone Nasser, President Eisenhower, Cape Cod, naval, ports, guided missiles, the late President Roosevelt, the late Adolph Hitler, Social Security, or even a post office. A great majority do not even speak Swahili, the trade language on which Africa depends for communication, and certainly they never heard of Kwame Nkrumah and Ghana. What they know about is goats, how to make multiple wives work, and where water might be scratched from a dry river bed called a luga.

Here in this part of Uganda we are only the second safari since the old foot safari days of the late 19th century. The natives we have just seen go so naked as they were born, with the exception of ornaments,

an extremely embarrassing position. He had just left at his press conference that Wenzell was called in or asked about a single thing about the Yates-Dixon contract.

Then suddenly it was shown by the record of the Yates-Dixon contract, that Wenzell not only had conferred with Adm. Strauss about the Dixon-Yates contract, but had been planted inside the Bureau for months for the express purpose of putting across the Dixon-Yates deal.

Jail Possible

This is against the law, punishable by a jail sentence, though convicted felonies cases have been prosecuted by the Eisenhower administration.



Rep. Frank W. Snepp in Pondering Pose

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATIC senators are gingerly discussing in capitol cloakrooms whether they should stage a fight against the confirmation of one of the most important members of the President's cabinet.

Alert Watchman

If it hadn't been for an alert night watchman in the Atomic Energy Commission probably there would be no thought of investigating Adm. Strauss and his qualifications for secretary of commerce.

Still Sleeping

The battle over Adm. Strauss hasn't hit the headlines. It's a sleeper. And it has more sleeping dynamite than almost anything the Eisenhower administration has laid in three years.

Senators Ponder Blocking Strauss' Post

administration deliberately deceived the public over the biggest electric power contract in American history.

"Mr. Wenzell" was Adolph Wenzell of the First Boston City, which helped to underwrite the famed Dixon-Yates Power Co. as a private utility to offset the Tennessee Valley Authority. And the fact that the alert AEC guard recalled Wenzell's secret nocturnal conference with Adm. Strauss lies dead of the AEC, gave the tipoff to one of the worst cut-of-interest cases faced by Eisenhower.

Strauss Tagged

It blew up the entire Dixon-Yates deal, forced the cancellation of the contract and as chairman of the Senate Atomic Energy Commission, had given Dixon-Yates, and caused a suit in the federal courts for several million dollars. It also put President Eisenhower in