



## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Bredie S. Griffith ..... Editor and General Manager  
Cecil Prince ..... Associate Editor  
R. L. Young Jr. .... Managing Editor

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### Textbooks: All Rant And Little Reason

The efforts of a group of self-appointed intellectuals vary to "rid" the schools of their socialist textbooks. It reminds us of a political yarn that is currently making the rounds in Charlotte. It seems that a dyed-in-the-wool Dixiecrat was attending a meeting at which several speakers were outlining their views about the Supreme Court, northern Democrats and the NAACP.

When all the oratory was over and done with, a friend asked, "Well, what do you think now, Lem?"

"Think?" roared the Dixiecrat. "I didn't come here to think. I came here to holler."

We have heard a great deal of hollering about "socialistic" textbooks and the manner in which they are selected but we have encountered very little thoughtfulness.

Take, for example, the legislation sponsored by Senator Rep. R. H. Davis to place laymen on the State Textbook Commission. An innocent and constructive proposal? Not quite. Implicit in the measure was censorship — a censorship nonetheless real because it was covert and oblique. Its legislative journey was accompanied by the widest collection of passionately irrational fears about socialism, communism and things that go bump in the night encountered hereabouts since Joe McCarthy's heyday. The bill was merely put to sleep in the House Education Committee yesterday.

Textbook selection is properly a chore for experts. Who knows better than the teacher what is needed for a particular classroom in a particular grade? Nevertheless, we would concede that the layman, too, has a legitimate interest in the adequacy and suitability of instructional

materials. Furthermore, the extent of the layman's responsibility in this field is a legitimate subject for public discussion — if the disagreements are argued in intelligent and temperate fashion, using restrained language, avoiding misstatements, overstatements or simplifications, and endeavoring to define issues in the light of the relevant principles or facts.

This has not been the pattern in the current wrangle. Somebody finds, or thinks he finds, a passage in a textbook which could be made the basis of dispute. On the basis of that passage aroused opponents would condemn the whole textbook, then broaden the attack to all textbooks within the school system, then to the school system itself.

When a social change is involved, the textbook is frequently accused of advocating the change. As often as not, on further examination, it is found that the book is merely recording a change that has already taken place.

The State of North Carolina long ago worked out a workable and completely reasonable system for selecting textbooks. It is a partnership between trained professional and interested laymen. The recommendations are made by a 12-member State Textbook Commission, composed solely of professional educators. But the responsibility for selection of the textbooks rests solely in the hands of the State Board of Education, a public body made up almost entirely of laymen.

The efforts of the would-be censors are not only impertinent but downright insulting. Nothing could be more damaging to public education than a lack of rationality on this subject. A little more reason and a little less rant is clearly in order.

### People's Platform

Editors, The News:

We would like to comment on certain statements in your editorial of May 21 entitled: "Is There A Place For Carver College?"

1 — "In the past, Carver College has been able to answer many special needs of local Negroes and it should continue to do so."

It is true that in the past Carver has been providing for special needs of local Negroes, but these special needs came about for two reasons: (1) Charlotte College was closed to Negroes; and (2) Negroes received inferior training in their "separate but equal" schools. When Charlotte College is in fact open to all qualified students, and when all public schools give adequate training, there will be no "special needs" of Negroes.

2 — "There is no more reason for closing Carver's doors now than there is for closing the doors of North Carolina College in Durham or of A & T College in Greensboro."

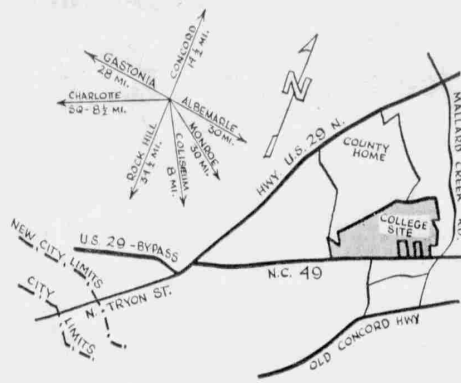
The two colleges named above were built many years ago; this is 1959. Both North Carolina College and A & T College are located in communities where there is no other public college for local students to attend. This is not true in Charlotte. In any case, it is not a question of closing Carver College NOW.

The question is: In the year 1959, should we plan to build and equip a new Carver College when the trend is definitely away from segregated education, and when there is not enough money to build one first-rate institution?

3 — "It would be cruelly disruptive of highly sensitive social and educational processes to wipe out Carver College overnight and expect a previously all-white institution to serve the same needs."

No one that we know of is suggesting that Carver College be wiped out overnight. What we are suggesting is that with the new building program, it would be a

## Does Charlotte Really Need A 'Negro' College?



Site Selected For Charlotte College: Is One Institution Enough?

good time to make a change of policy in favor of non-discrimination in education. Carver College would necessarily be continued in the transition period.

4 — "The community needs both Charlotte and Carver Colleges."

We don't think this enlightened community needs, a "white" college and a "Negro" college. The community, we believe, ought to provide first-rate educational opportunities for all of its young people. The college curriculum will need to be varied to meet the needs of individuals who have different talents and aspirations. But there are no special needs of Negroes as such; nor of white people as such.

5 — "Executive Committee Charlotte-Mecklenburg Council Human Relations Harry S. Jones Executive Secretary"

Editors' Note: In quoting out

of context from The News' editorial, commentaries eliminated a pertinent sentence: "There are no racial bars at either Charlotte or Carver Colleges."

If there are no special needs of Negroes or whites, as such, there are special needs of individuals, as such, which can be best served in special ways.

### Peace Is Possible, But On God's Terms

Springfield, Mass.

Editors, The News:

Recently a magazine editor expressed concern over a possible "explosion" if the world's population keeps increasing at the present rate.

And a few weeks ago, M. C. Chapin, India's ambassador to this country, told a convocation of Boston University students that if the population keeps increasing, "I do not know whether in 15 years there

will be enough food to go around."

We might overlook Mr. Chapin's anxiety about a food shortage, as today millions in his country are hungry. But they need not be if there were irrigation and intense cultivation of the land and brotherly cooperation between Modern and Hindu to utilize all the natural resources of that country. And, too, if tens of millions did not regard the eating of beef as akin to cannibalism.

It is rather ironic here to speak of food shortage when at present we are plagued by overabundance as a result of an unwise farm price support policy.

If only part of the tens of billions now expended in preparation for war and destruction of life and property were used to benefit mankind, there would be but few ill-fed, ill-clothed,

and ill-housed throughout the world.

Our coins bear the inscription, "In God We Trust." Do we, as a nation, really believe in Him, trust in Him, and obey Him? If we did, I don't think we would be paying out one-fourth of our income for vast material armaments and boasting of our military and economic might.

We can have peace, but only on God's terms.

—RICHARD LENZI

### He's Overcoming His 'Handicap'

Salisbury

Editors, The News:

At the present time, it looks like Sen. Kennedy will be the Democratic nominee for President next year. He seems to be overcoming the handicap of being a Roman Catholic. His running mate should be a man from a large and diverse area. The Republican opposition will be terrific if the present prosperity continues. Of course, it would be much better if the Republicans nominate Rockefeller which it does not seem likely that they will do.

—J. W. JEWELL

### A Check List For New Chiefs

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I see where Charlotte is getting ready to name a new police chief. Why don't the members of the City Council hire somebody good enough to hold this job? I have a few suggestions for the next time:

1. Edgar Hoover, Field Marshal Montgomery, Vice President Nixon, J. Lee Rankin, Adlai Stevenson, Eddie Arcaro, Kenard Mensauer, Herbert Baxter, Cathulic Cole, Drew Pearson.

—HY SCHERTZER

### Foreign Aid: Napoleons Aren't Enough

Numerous "backward" nations now subsidized by Uncle Sam totter under military establishments which would have dazzled Napoleon when all continental Europe lay at his feet.

Yet, beneath countless little Napoleons and their armies, are economies so brittle that they may surely crack under the next strong wind from Moscow. Iran provides a good example.

It reminds us in a comic (and tragic) way of the shanties we all see occasionally, gray and weatherbeaten, yet boasting a Cadillac in the front yard. Friends of the foreign aid people are led to arch their eyebrows over the ludicrous top-heaviness of the program. The House Foreign Affairs Committee arched its collective eyebrows over it Tuesday and proceeded to slice some \$250 million from the 1959 foreign aid bill, \$150 million of it from military aid. Fortunately, the committee added \$100 million to development loans.

The House committee vote echoes the growing suspicion, as voiced by internationalists of impeccable credentials like Sen. Mansfield, that American foreign aid misses the mark.

Foreign aid ought to be vastly increased, but not as it is constituted at present. To still the objections of those who cannot, or will not, own the necessity for economic aid, we embraced a military emphasis some five years ago which grew larger every time Congress voted a foreign aid bill. Two arguments became familiar. One was that the building of military establishments among those countries of Asia, Africa, and La-

tin America who would have them would raise the standard of life of the people by a sort of "trickle-down" effect. Another was that we could halt the Communist advance by armed encirclement.

Neither proved to be the case. The surrender of total economic development for military development, advertised as so hard-headed, proves to be an illusion.

The perimeter of the free world should be kept in arms, but that, like the threat of the nuclear deterrent, is only a short-term expedient. Without economic development on a scale equal to that of the Marshall Plan in Europe, no plethora of little Asian and South American Napoleons will do us much long-range good. So long as the "undeveloped" countries lean for their meager livelihood on the sale of raw materials to the industrial West, every economic shock here will deal them a blow which seriously jeopardizes our interest. When raw material markets suffer, little economies plummet — giving place to the social and political whirlwinds which Communist propagandists find so helpful.

We have come, so it seems, to a point where in the field of foreign aid being humanitarian is the best way of being hard-headed. Americans are surely morally imaginative enough to strike out against the frontier poverty that binds two thirds of the globe. But we like to be able to show something, still, for foreign aid expenditure. The well-fitted-out armies and Napoleons we have bought so far amount to little, when one looks back to the bleak, lost and political uncertainty of the people.

### Chief Selvey: What Is The Verdict?

In fairness to the man and to the public, City Councilmen should come to an early decision about Chief of Police Ernest C. Selvey.

The Council's well-publicized uncertainty about his reappointment has already damaged morale in the municipal law enforcement agency. A lack of confidence in the present chief has been implied if not actually stated. A long delay, accompanied by the inevitable public speculation, can only worsen an already unfortunate situation.

The great care and prudence with which the new Council is considering its appointments are admirable. This is not

a matter which can be handled hastily. As humorist James Thurber has written, he who hesitates is sometimes saved. At the same time, it should not take a group of perceptive and intelligent men several weeks or several months to decide whether it thinks a chief of police is worth his salt. And, having decided, it should not allow any longer to notify the chief and the public of its decision.

### Life In America

It's happened. A baby was born the other day in Wheeling, W. Va., already suffering from an active stomach ulcer.

From The Washington Post

### STAMPED OUT

The Lucky Strike green went to war, smoke began to pass through filter tips before it got into your eyes and the flip top box became almost as important as its contents, but for 80 years DeWitt Clinton has been the constant if seldom observed companion of smokers. Now he too is to disappear as unceremoniously as a worn-out advertising gimmick.

We shall miss him. Not only did the rather firm confidence in the former governor of New York on the blue tobacco tax stamp serve to reassure the chain smoker that all was right with his fresh pack, but Mr. Clinton's four expressions appeared to represent the youth of the perils tobacco might hold for it. It almost seemed that he had tried one of the tastier brands and, contrary to the reassurances, was dissatisfied.

The disappearance of Mr. Clinton and the tax stamp itself seems, like so many

other changes today, from an unemotional dollars and cents decision. Tobacco companies have had to tie up substantial amounts of working capital in stock piles of stamps. After June 24, the companies will simply pay the 3-cent-a-pack federal tax on cigarettes and other tobacco levies twice a month to the Treasury. The liquor industry will also be able to dispense with some of its tax stamps.

As for Mr. Clinton, he will probably disappear into the labyrinth of history books, where he will always have a place as the man whom James Madison defeated for the presidency in 1812. The 19th century governor of New York who helped to make the Erie Canal a reality and as the man for whom an early American locomotive was named. Picture for picture, we prefer the locomotive.

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

Sen. Dick Russell of Georgia, a chivalrous gentleman of the Old South, wants to take a good look at the recommended promotion of Lt. Gen. Emmet "Rosy" O'Donnell in deference to a lady.

The lady is Sen. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine, a quiet, conscientious member of the Senate Armed Services Committee who put up an effective fight against having certain headlined Air Force reservists who promote without doing their required training. Specifically, Mrs. Smith objected to the promotion of acting Brig. Gen. Stewart Air Force, and other brigades who had failed to fulfill the training standards required of other less-published reservists.

In opposing them, Sen. Smith came into a head-on collision with Gen. O'Donnell and won.

### Answers Deleted

O'Donnell had boasted that as chief of Air Force personnel he had kicked 40,000 men out of the reserves because their training wasn't good enough.

"In view of this severity," queried Mrs. Smith, "why are you promoting Brig. Gen. Robert L. Smith, whose record isn't good enough either?"

She referred to the promotion of

### Lady Senator Tangles With General

After Sen. Smith finished cross-examining Rosy O'Donnell, he changed 43 out of 49 pages of his answers to her, plus five to six pages in answer to Sen. Stennis (Miss.) and three out of three pages in answer to Sen. Barrett (Wyo.). Mrs. Smith considered this deceptive.

Sen. Smith also suspected that O'Donnell was responsible for news leaks from the Pentagon implying that she was peeved because she was not made commander of the WAF's in time of war.

Now Lt. Gen. O'Donnell is up for promotion before Sen. Smith's committee to be a full general and top air commander in the Pacific. Mrs. Smith is a quiet lady who isn't likely to stage any forensics. However, some other senators are interested in O'Donnell's erratic statements regarding the use of the A-bomb.

On Jan. 19, 1951, at the height of the Korean War, O'Donnell was asked whether he favored the use of the A-bomb. He replied, as quoted in the New York Times: "I personally believe we should have cracked down and cracked down hard as soon as it was determined it was the Chinese Communist army attacking us from across the border."

He then referred to the fact that the strategic bomber command was "designed to deliver the atomic offensive to the heart of the enemy."

### Officers Warned

O'Donnell's statement came after American officers had been cautioned about talking out of turn, and after Prime Minister Attlee of England had made a similar warning in Washington to confer with President Truman about irresponsible statements on use of the atomic bomb.

A British American officers had been warned that the war in Korea was not the United Nations and they were not to sound off.

General Rebuked

As a result of O'Donnell's sound-off he was summoned to Washington and cautioned by Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg, Air Force chief of staff, against sounding off again. "Obviously he does not speak for the Air Force," said Vandenberg.

Since O'Donnell is now to be put in full command of the Air Force in the Pacific, where a single bombing of the Chinese mainland near Quemoy and Matsu could lead to world war, some senators are apprehensive over O'Donnell's tendency to shoot from the hip.

drive is also the daddy of them all, the famous St. Andrew's Course.

There is very little nourishment for Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in the Lloyd suggestion, as he has been to England and has no known interest in golf. Khrushchev had eagerly accepted the idea that San Francisco, birthplace of the United Nations, would be perfect for the summit. But his hopes of a triumphal trek across the United States were dashed by Gen. Charles de Gaulle, who jolly said that since the summit was to deal with Europe's problems, it should be held in Europe.

De Gaulle's real objection, it is said here, was to the proposition that Khrushchev exercise in public relations, Moscow style.

Should the Russians prove adamant about a meeting in the United States, Lloyd has pointed the way to a solution. The United States has a number of isolated but luxurious resort hotels large enough to contain the whole official panoply of an international conference. Among them are the Greenbrier, the Homestead and Sun Valley.

The greater seclusion of such sites would tend to remove one of the biggest problems attached to Khrushchev's presence in the United States — security for himself and his party. Whether he realizes it or not, this factor is as important in him as in his hosts.

Since there can be no show without an audience, nobody, including Khrushchev, would want it. A fact which should commend itself to his fellow-countrymen in the summit drama.