THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1959

If The Doors Are Locked In Raleigh Urban Areas Will Turn To Washington

Animosities as old as Davie Poplar stood between the 1959 General Assembly and greatness.

When the chips were down in the debate over constitutional changes, the small county representatives of the east closed ranks to do battle with the populous Piedmont.

'Twas ever thus.

Sectionalism has imposed an unnatural and undesirable limitation on North Carolina's political progress since the 1760s. It is a senseless waste of time and effort for the same pugnacities to be re-enacted every time important political or social reforms are proposed. But the condition will not be corrected until eastern counties produce leaders of sufficient vision and statesmanship to reconcile their special interests with the general good.

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The problem has deep roots in North Carolina history. It was only natural that the state's early leadership should come from the coastal country where the first settlements were located. Even after pioneer families poured into the upper Cape Fear Valley, settled the Piedmont and penetrated westward into the Blue Ridge Mountains, power remained in the hands of the planters, big landholders and wealthy merchants of the east. Whenever a new county was created in the west another was formed in the east to maintain the imbalance of power.

The west complained bitterly but it was not until the constitutional convention of 1835 that some reapportionment of representation and political authority was won. This action, together with later constitutional reforms, bolstered the west's power and triggered a remarkable era of progress in North Carolina.

Sectionalism, however, was not stamped out. Deep resentments and jealousies remained and easterners had the political cunning to more than hold their own. The population moved west but the power did not. The east has continued to dominate the General Assembly down through the years.

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The resulting rivalry has produced peculiar compromises — such as the unwritten law that the governorship shall alternate between the east and west and the rule that one U.S. senator shall come from each section. Furthermore, political opinions have frequently been divided along a fall line that separates the Piedmont from the coastal plain — a diagonal line running from Northampton to Anson Counties. The heaviest opposition to the calling of a secession convention came from the west in 1861. The west showed less enthusiasm for Negro disfranchisement in 1900 and for prohibition in 1908.

Sectionalism is reflected today in the efforts of an eastern-dominated legislature to deny the large Piedmont counties fair representation in Raleigh. The legislature has not only refused to follow the mandate of the present constitution and redistrict the state after each census but has also attempted to amend the constitution to limit each county to one senator regardless of its size.

Stymied By Ancient Animosities?

This continuing struggle was responsible for the death of court reform in the 1959 General Assembly and it is the reason North Carolina is still hamstrung with an obsolete 1868 state constitution. All hope of progress on both fronts this year was dashed Tuesday.

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Unfortunately, this is no longer merely a conflict between the east and the west or between urban and rural interests. The interests of the state as a whole are at stake. For an equitable system of representation will strengthen state government in such a way that it will be better able to serve the needs of the whole population. This long-range benefit is obviously more important to the state and its people than any temporary advantage to an area enjoying over-representation.

Furthermore, if urban areas such as Mecklenburg continue to be denied their fair share of representation, the result will inevitably be more direct federal-municipal dealings. As the cities grow, the power and influence of the state government will inevitably diminish.

A trend in this direction is already discernible. Broad areas of federal-municipal partnerships have already been opened in urban renewal, public housing, community planning, airports, civil defense and financing plans for public works. Others are sure to come.

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If the statehouses continue to ignore urban problems and deny the large municipalities a fair shake at every opportunity, cities such as Charlotte will be compelled to look more and more to Washington. There will be nowhere else for them to go.

The Blind Alleys Of Berlin: A Dangerous Insecurity

By WALTER LIPPMANN

WASHINGTON

Although, as this is written, the Geneva conference is not yet concluded, it is in a stalemate with little prospect that the stalemate will be broken. This is not much. But it is something. And it is about all that there has ever been any reason to expect. As early as March it had become plain enough that, on the one hand, Russia would not attempt to expel the Western garrisons by force and that, on the other hand, the West would not use force if East German officials replaced the Soviet officials.

Berlin Airlift of 1948-49 Broke First Soviet Blockade

STALEMATE

This is the shape of the stalemate, which leaves the situation in statu quo. What Geneva has been unable to do is to build upon it to reach an agreement on how long the existing situation is to be maintained. For neither side has felt any immediate compulsion to work for such an agreement.

Moreover, it has begun to look as if a stalemate includes more than Berlin, more than the two Germanys, and that for some reason Mr. Khrushchev is less urgent than he was to bring about a summit meeting. Certainly he has not been willing to pay any substantial price for such a meeting. If this is the fact, it must mean that he thinks that he can wait because his position in Germany is improving and that time is on his side.

As respects West Berlin, this is unhappily only too true. The Western allies who, on this issue have accepted the leadership of Adenauer and de Gaulle, have successfully and unitedly stood pat and have stood firm. They have stood pat and they have stood firm not only on their right to be in West Berlin but also on the whole juridical and political basis of their rights. But they have failed to provide West Berlin with any kind of promise, much less a contractual guarantee, of its future as part of the capital of Germany. And if West Berlin does not have that promise, it has a very uncertain future indeed. Even if there is no blockade or overt act against West Berlin, this uncertainty, this being in a blind alley, given the horrible geography of the city, is a dangerous form of insecurity. In a Western capitalistic economy, such as that of West Berlin, confidence is indispensable and a belief in the future a necessity.

STANDING PAT

At Geneva, the Western allies, being committed to the policy of standing pat and standing firm, have left the initiative for the future to the Soviet Union. Geneva is not, however, the end of the story. Whether or not it leads to a summit meeting, it will surely be followed by negotiations in one form or another at the highest level.

Mr. Kozlov, first deputy chairman of the U. S. S. R. Council of Ministers, is coming here early in July. The vice president and Dr. Milton Eisenhower are going to Moscow. What they all might be doing is to work out ways by which the heads of governments can exchange views and negotiate without bombarding each other with public tirades or setting up an international circus.

If it is true, as it appears to be, that Mr. Khrushchev is not impatient and urgent about a face-to-face meeting, it might be much better if a meeting at the summit were posponed while discussions and negotiations at the highest level were carried on.

Cats Can Keep Stomping In The Beds Of Flowers

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain

Oh, man, I am on a scientific jag this week, and I feel finally like Dr. Frankenstein must have felt when his homemade monster got up and inquired about the dinner hours in the household. I quit.

You know what they've come up with now, apart from seamless stockings and Italian hairdos? Hangover-proof booze.

TOO DAMN' NOSY

No wonder the world's going to blow up. People are just too damn' nosy. A couple of pointed-head gnomes with nothing better to do have discovered that acetaldehyde and isomyl alcohol produce the furred tongue, the bleared eye, shaking fingers, and the oh, God, I-wish-I-was-dead brand of ague. People got no business looking into the cup that cheers and coming out with names that are that hard to spell.

McCOY

I don't trust these alchemists a moment when they say you can produce synthetic liquor that tastes just like the hand-set whisky that Grandpa used to make out in — excuse me, the kind of stuff you used to be able to buy when I was a boy. In a world which is shockingly short of fusel oil, where would you really get enough of the McCoy to do a first-class job of tongue coating?

Remorse On The Morrow?

Anyhow, these two would-be modern cutters of high-proof stuff with all that scientific jive, when water used to be good enough if you put a little formaldehyde in it to pep up the flavor a bit, would have me believe that they can build a synthetic whisky which will have bark but no bite, taste but no remorse on the morrow. I don't want to believe it.

PIPER WILL COLLECT

What would be the fun of sitting up playing a lot of Louis Armstrong until five a.m. if you didn't know that the piper would be around too early on, clamoring to be paid? The guilt complex would be gone, and everybody knows that when you lose your guilt complex you turn into Boris Pasternak.

And think about the kinds of classifiable hangovers that would go down the drain with this new non-vicious potable. The lovely Sunday, mildly melancholy one, which leads to reading the funnies, double features and sometimes twins. Think about losing the remarkable bounce of a Bloody Mary, which nobody drinks except for medicine, on one of those oh-my-gosh-what-did-I-say-to-the-hostess bad consciences. Think of never knowing again that if the waiter doesn't bring you that first whisky sour you'll have a fit and cut your wrists on his best rug.

REAL BEANO

Think of how hard you can work the day after a real beano, when you feel so bad you might as well write or mow the lawn anyhow, as you figure to be dead by sundown. Think of the first six glasses of cold water, when your lips are dry and your tongue is firmly grafted to the roof of your mouth. Think of the nervous hangover, when you pace the floor and have ideas: a management firm would charge you a fortune for.

Think of the crashing noises as the cat stomps through flower beds, the screeching of the wrens, the roar that the sun makes coming up, and the oppressive weight of your mother-in-law dropping in just as you are heading for the second beer. Think of the awful desensitivity of the nerves, when you can hear somebody flipping through a Sunday paper without shuddering, when the sudden ring of the phone does not cause you to leap off the divan, proving that you are out of touch with the times.

I say okay to ICBMs and thinking machines, but when the boys dip their nasty little noses into auld lang syne in the grog league, I cry, "Hold! Enough!" Out of the lab and back to the charred keg is my motto, and damned be he who deprives me of the luxury of saying: Never again.

'If We Put In A Light Bulb, Some Spy Might Be Able To See What You're Doing'

Dowager Queen Of The Royal Family

Some of the brightness went out of Broadway yesterday.

The queen is dead.

No one who ever saw Ethel Barrymore perform could ever quite forget her. There was a certain aura of majesty about her — a "great lady" appeal, if you will — that was absolutely unforgettable. She was more than an actress; she was an institution. To millions of play-goers, she represented the American theater at its glittering best.

There were movies—many of them—and in the mid-forties she was belatedly honored with an Academy Award. But it was to the stage that she belonged by heritage and preference.

For her younger admirers, it is difficult to realize that she first became a star in 1901 when "Madame Trentoni" opened in the old Garrick Theater in New York. Years later, she recalled that occasion. "I remember walking over from the boarding house one night to the Garrick where we were playing," she said. "It looked much brighter than usual. Then I saw my name in lights."

It never really came down.

The success of her famous brothers—John and Lionel—never diminished her own private share of fame. One success followed another—"The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," "School For Scandal," "The Constant Wife," "The Kingdom Of God," "Hamlet" (with Walter Hampden), "Lady Of the Camelias," "Declassee," "Sunday," "The Corn Is Green."

It was for "Sunday" that she thought up her famous line— "That's all there is . . . there isn't any more." It was the signal for the final curtain. There was always sadness mingled with the applause. The sadness remains.

The 'Interview'

"Diplomatic row, in the nation's capital, feels some reassurance about Vice President Nixon's scheduled trip to Moscow this summer . . . Nixon — they learn — will not (like Sen. Humphrey) just get an interview with Khrushchev. Instead, he will, in effect, grant Khrushchev an "interview' and he will give the Soviet dictator some blunt, straight talk." — **Human Events.**

Uh-huh.

People's Platform

Pay Negroes A Living Wage

Salisbury

Editors, The News:

I wonder if the white people of North Carolina know how poor the average Negro in North Carolina is. I am a white man teaching in a colored college. These Negro men and women have more money than the average Negro. Yet most of them do not have a penny in their pockets half of the time. What can the people of North Carolina do about it?

Pay the Negroes a living wage and then make the Negroes earn this wage. Do not allow them to loaf around and pay them half enough to live on. Half pay causes the Negro to do half work and to be lazy. Pay what they should receive and make them earn it. Laziness is the worst fault that Negroes have and I believe half pay is the cause of at least part of it.

—J. W. JEWELL

Columnist Uses A Worn Gimmick

Laurinburg

Editors, The News:

The length that some people will go to uphold a false theory, and the cleverness with which they will distort facts, is simply amazing. The southern white man and those who believe in Dixiecratology are past masters of this art. An example was in an article by a nationally-syndicated columnist recently.

The bit of deception he used in his attempt to fool the public wasn't anything new. It was an old gimick with a new twist. As a boy I recall how they used to find an old slave and in newspaper and radio interviews get him to praise the "Good Old Days" of slavery. The columnist gave the old trick a new twist. Instead of getting an ex-slave to praise slavery he interviewed a group of uneducated and uninstructed Negro women and got them to speak a good word for segregation.

He attempts to use their statements as proof that the southern Negro does not want his economic, educational and political rights — which is just about as senseless as the older ones saying "the Negro did not want his freedom." It just goes to show how far some people will go to uphold a false theory.

—REV. W. T. SHERMAN

Quote, Unquote

"It is easier to appear worthy of the office one does not hold than of that which one does."—**Duc de la Rochefoucauld.**

"What most people relish is hardly music; it is rather drowsy reverie, relieved by nervous thrills."—**George Santayana.**

From The Asheville Citizen

THE WISDOM OF OLD WIVES

Publicity releases find their way by the bushel into cavernous wastebaskets.

Occasionally though there's something of interest worth passing along.

Cheesebrough-Pond's Inc. has a yarn dealing with the proverbial old wives and their alleged wisdom.

Instances:

1—Baldness is a sign of intelligence. This is a sort of "grass never grows on a busy street belief." The IQ may be here, but isn't it smarter to keep your hair?

2—A handstand cures an upset stomach. This ancient idea stems from the belief your insides somersaulted and made you sick. To right them: Turn upside down. This is recommended today for acrobats and aerialists whose stomachs won't churn if they try this trick.

3—Wearing a clove of garlic wards off a cold. This works like magic in keeping nosey neighbors away.

4—Buttering a burn will heal it. Butter's for bread; on burns it can lead to infection.

5—Rose leaves, tossed in a salad, insure good health. This is an ancient Roman idea. Well, a rose, though it won't cure an ill, may "doctor up" a romance if wired by the dozen to a lovely Miss.

6—A potato in your pocket wards off arthritis. Anyway, if it grows you've got a conversation piece.

7—To cure warts, bury a toad by the light of a full moon. There's no guarantee that the warts will go, but surely you know the moon inspires madness — lunacy, is the word.

The greatest hazards on the road today are the urban, suburban and bourbon drivers.—Greenville Piedmont.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Senator Hugh Scott Plays 'I Accuse'

WASHINGTON

Sen. Hugh Scott of Philadelphia made the formal charge on the Senate floor recently that anti-Semitism was behind the confirmation fight against Adm. Lewis L. Strauss. He claimed this was a modern Dreyfus case.

Dreyfus was the French army officer court-martialed and convicted because he was a Jew, and to compare this with the Strauss confirmation battle is one of the most serious charges Scott could have made on the Senate floor. If true, it impugns every senator who has opposed Adm. Strauss and every newspaperman who has reported the admiral's operations. It is especially serious because Sen. Scott was formerly chairman of the Republican National Committee and campaign manager for Gov. Tom Dewey.

Anti-Scott Reaction

Sen. Scott lives in a Philadelphia suburban district which is largely Jewish, and during the early part of the Strauss hearings he received mail from Jewish voters highly critical of the persecution tactics he used against Dr. David Inglis, an atomic scientist who had the courage to testify against Strauss.

Hiss Recalled

Scott had branded Inglis as guilty of "McCarthyism," then proceeded to use "McCarthyism" against Inglis. He sent surreptitiously for the Un-American Activities Committee file on Inglis through his GOP colleague, Congressman Gordon Scherer of Ohio, then cross-examined the scientist as to whether he had ever defended Alger Hiss and whether he was ever a member of the Citizens Independent Committee of Arts and Sciences.

Sen. Scott seemed quite upset when it leaked out that he had dipped into the files of the Un-American Activities Committee, and reaction in his home town of Philadelphia was not good. This may be why he is swinging in the other direction and calling the debate on Adm. Strauss another Dreyfus case. The charge goes to the root of American fair play and deserves careful examination.

Sen. Scott's charge is that Strauss is being persecuted. Other senators charge that Strauss himself is guilty of persecution, therefore should not be in a position of important government power.

In this connection they have not dwelt on Strauss's loyalty trial of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, in which the scientist who built the first atom bomb was scrutinized and dissected and made to suffer public humiliation such as few public men have experienced in this century.

Wilson Case

Instead, the senators critical of Strauss have cited less-known cases of Strauss' persecution. One was that of Carroll Wilson, former manager of the Atomic Energy Commission.

When the admiral was questioned about this by the Senate Commerce Committee he was evasive. He said this was only hearsay and the Senate should get its information direct from Wilson. Sen. Gale McGee of Wyoming did.

Vanishing Clearance

Wilson wrote back: "Mr. Strauss deeply resented my insistence while I was general manager of the commission in carrying out the will of the majority of the commission and my unwillingness to modify or change by executive action the policies adopted by the majority of the commission."

Wilson then told in detail how, after he went to work for Climax Molybdenum, FBI agents had been sent to investigate him. Subsequently his Q-clearance was removed. After considerable effort, it was finally restored.

"It is entirely clear to me," wrote Wilson, "that the initiative and responsibility for both actions came from Mr. Strauss, whose vindictiveness I had seen demonstrated before."