



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Sing Us No Sad Songs For Dixie

The epitaph for southern political prestige prepared by Look magazine this week is, if anything, premature.

The power of Dixie, once a mighty force in the political life of the nation, is on the wane," writes Look's Fletcher Knebel. "Its strength is flickering out. . . . This is one of the biggest political developments of our time. It means that the so-called Solid South, held together on the single issue of preserving the supremacy and prerogatives of the white man, can no longer speak with a commanding voice in national politics."

The words are painfully familiar. They are repeated every year or so by some Washington correspondents. Southerners briefly slip black armbands over their seersuckers — and politicians from Georgia, Alabama, Texas, North Carolina, Arkansas and Tennessee go right on running the Congress and the country about as they have before.

The South is indeed changing, and so are its politics. But if dead as a political power, it won't lie down.

Nor is southern power "held together on the single issue of preserving the supremacy and prerogatives of the white man." Of course, there is a measure of unity on civil rights. But there is also much agreement in other fields. They include such basic questions as foreign policy, the domestic economy and the proper limits of the authority of the federal government. Alliances with conservatives from other parts of the nation on these issues still place great power in the hands of southern Democrats.

Nor have southerners lost substantial ground in the committee chairmanships they have held for generations. In the Senate alone, southerners have a headlock on the Finance, Armed Services, Foreign Relations, Judiciary, Labor and Public Welfare, Government Operations, Banking and Currency, Agriculture, Aeronautics and Space Sciences, Post Office and Civil Service, and Small Business Committees.

Crisis Planning Is Bad For Charlotte

Charlotte approved bonds for the expansion of Memorial Hospital on May 7, 1957.

It took more than two years to prepare plans and receive bids on the gigantic addition.

It will be another two years before construction will be completed.

There is a lesson for other planners in this painfully slow timetable.

If anything, Charlotte waited too long to answer its No. 1 community need. The need for adequate hospital facilities was felt in 1957 — particularly for Negroes. It is greater today. Conditions could get dangerously bad before the 250 new beds will actually be made available.

Even when the new addition at Memorial is ready, Charlotte will be barely abreast with the problem. It will certainly not be far ahead of the game.

It suggests that planning to meet important civic needs ought to be on a long-range basis rather than on a crisis-to-crisis basis.

It's Dangerous To Be Soft On Indians

Two Pennsylvania state legislators, who are dangerously soft on the Indians, came to proud Philadelphia last weekend looking for a good time. They found they could only ride the subway to and fro. It was no way to spend Saturday night.

Disgruntled, they introduced a bill at Harrisburg to give Philadelphia back to the Indians.

Honestly, this recurrent demand of the American conscience will do us in yet — for everyone knows what would happen.

If we give America back to the Indians, it will not be long before some war arises in the House of Commons to demand that Britain give Britain back to the Angles. After all, they had it long before the Danes or the Normans (Frenchmen) came to take it away.

From The New York Herald Tribune

A BIRD IS HEALTHY, WEALTHY AND WISE

A bird is getting up earlier these mornings. One has only to look and listen. An awaking bird has no objection to the season's 15-hour day. Silent or vocal, he is busy every minute between sun-up and sunset, and he doesn't mind putting in a little twilight-overtime. A countryman has his 15-hour days, too. But he doesn't whistle, sing or even chirp softly when he starts for the barn and morning milking. Like robin, catbird or starling he each day meets the sun a bit sooner. He will be keeping up this stretch of long days for several weeks to come. He lets the sun have its way and throw in a shower now and then.

A bird goes to bed early, of course. He really deserves less credit than a man for being on the job promptly. The feathered dweller on the land stays up later than when Benjamin Franklin gave his famous non-sluggard advice: "Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise." The doctrine used to be rural gospel, and the early rising part of it is still observed on a farm. But few men nowadays get to bed as early as a bird. A bird has no TV hooked up in a treep. A bird doesn't run in ten miles to town to take in a sec-

as well as the Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor-Management Field.

In the House, southerners hold the chairmanships in the Rules, Ways and Means, Agriculture, Armed Services, Banking and Currency, Education and Labor, Interstate and Foreign Commerce, House Administration, District of Columbia, Merchant Marine and Fisheries, Post Office and Civil Service, Veterans Affairs, Science and Astronautics and Select Small Business Committees.

In addition, southerners head four joint committees.

It is unfortunately true that many southern politicians tend to look back rather than ahead. But this is not the whole story at all. There are southerners of enormous influence and power — who are in tune with the times and will undoubtedly lead Dixie into a happier, healthier future. They are men like Johnson and Yarborough of Texas, Huddleston of North Carolina, Collins of Florida, Hill and Sparkman of Alabama, Gore and Kefauver of Tennessee, Fulbright of Arkansas. There are many others — far too numerous to list here — who are rising in stature and prestige while demonstrating more flexibility than their predecessors in the halls of government. They will undoubtedly take their places with other southerners in positions of leadership for many years to come.

Southern politicians may not always be right in the eyes of the pundits who view the political scene from the banks of the Potomac. But they have not yet lost their sense of political ingenuity, their flair for thoughtful statesmanship, their parliamentary skill.

In fact, Dixie's answer to Look might well be the eight-word snapper Mark Twain coined to the Associated Press from Europe during the last century:

"The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated."

The crash program, conducted under emergency conditions, has a certain emotional appeal where bond issues are concerned but it risks too much. For instance, a major disaster or a major epidemic would have an appalling effect on the community today when normal needs cannot even be met satisfactorily.

Naturally, we pray for and expect the best. But wise men — and wise communities — ought also to be prepared for the worst.

Models Of Moderation

The Nashville Banner notes wryly that "North Carolina, which a certain magazine hailed as a model of 'moderation' . . . has less integration than Arkansas."

Okay, Charlotte will surrender its share of the title to Little Rock.

The reaction would sweep on to Paris. A member of the National Assembly would want France and Germany given back to the Franks, who dwelt in Gaul long before Julius Caesar and the other Romans conquered them.

Of course the Italians would be next, handing over the key to Rome to the Minoans (now, unfortunately, extinct) or Phoenicians, or whoever first laid hold of their land.

On and on the wave would sweep. By 3 p.m. of the third day of renunciation, it would have stopped in a perfectly natural place. Mr. Khrushchev would emerge gratefully from his office in the Kremlin to say that Russia will be glad to accept it all. A Russian originally owned the world anyway.

and show at the movies. Things have changed a lot in the country and there are many reasons on a farm why a man stays up later than the least sleepy robin.

There is no doubt that in town and country men are getting less shuttled than when Franklin's generation were around and were reading him as a best-seller. Whether the present situation works to decrease health and wealth might be argued two ways. That goes for the wisdom part, also. Some citizens get along with little sleep, acquire considerable wealth and often think themselves as wise as a Poor Richard. But birds in May woodlots and above old ploughlands stay unaffected by a world of longer wakefulness. A bird sticks to the sleeping habits that were always his. What to him are forests of aerial, numbered channels or even the sight of a shaggy dog on a screen? Wealth will never change his food problems or alter his income tax. If the poet was right who said that the days which make us happy make us wise, a bird would appear to be putting his 15-hour days to the best of uses. Browning, remember, said something about a wise thrust.

Political Attacks On Art Blacken Democracy's Name

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

What is so profoundly disturbing about the attack of the House Un-American Activities Committee on the artists whose paintings have been chosen for the American exhibit in Moscow is that it blurs over the distinction between a closed society and a free society.

Chairman Francis Walter (D-Pa.) seems to want to have the government determine the kind of art that will be displayed in accord with a politician's view of what art should be. He should go to the Soviet exhibit in New York if he really wants to see what happens when government dictates the kind of art the people should see.

SOCIALIST REALISM

The art section of the exhibit in New York's Coliseum follows a Soviet line laid down as rigidly as that which dictates the political thinking in Russia. It is "socialist realism," which means that the painter or sculptor must serve the purposes of socialism and represent all workers as happy, happy people building a great, happy socialist state. The result is almost always sentimental and mawkish and, above all, unconvincing.

The concept behind the American art in Moscow was that it should be interesting to us at home and a better job of defending the freedom of the artist to paint life as he sees it. Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, chairman of the Republican Policy Committee of the Senate and an ultra-conservative, had come with a number of photographs of pictures to be included in the show. Was this,

The President at his press conference failed to make this distinction as he more or less disavowed the jury that had chosen the art for Moscow. He fell back on that ancient cliché about not knowing very much



BORIS PASTERNAK
Triumph Nullified?

about art but knowing what he liked.

Those present at the meeting with Republican leaders in the White House this week say, however, that there he did a better job of defending the freedom of the artist to paint life as he sees it. Sen. Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, chairman of the Republican Policy Committee of the Senate and an ultra-conservative, had come with a number of photographs of pictures to be included in the show. Was this,

Bridges demanded, what the United States proposed to show as American art?

The President championed the way in which the pictures had been selected. He turned the discussion back to Bridges by asking him whether he would like to see the same thing happen to American artists as happened to the novelist, Boris Pasternak, in the Soviet Union.

This gets to the heart of the matter. There was a cry of protest in this country and throughout the free world when Pasternak was rebuked and threatened with serious disciplinary action because his novel, "Dr. Zhivago," which won the Nobel Prize, failed to follow the canons of socialist realism.

PROPAGANDA DEFEAT

The novelist who is also perhaps Russia's greatest contemporary poet was made a martyr in the eyes of the world. In short, the Soviets took a disastrous propaganda defeat. A little later Premier Khrushchev, taking cognizance of this fact, tried to soften the criticism of Pasternak for having had published in the West a magnificent and moving account of the human spirit under the onslaught of the horrors of the Bolshevik revolution.

What Rep. Walter and his committee are doing is to seem to put the United States in the same role as the Kremlin in dictating what artists shall paint and how they shall think. This is to nullify in part at least the triumph that "Dr. Zhivago" represented for the West.

If we are to have a free society then we must understand that with its triumph goes the often-painful necessity of living



THE PAINTER

up to truths no matter how unpleasant they may be. There was an outcry of indignation when a Soviet newspaper reported that 1,000,000 people in New York City live in squalor. Yet on the day the Soviet exhibit opened the Journal-American, a Hearst newspaper, printed a story about the 9,000,000 rats infesting New York's slums. Previously a three-month old baby had been bitten to death by rats. The idea in a

free society is that when evils are exposed they will be corrected by public demand.

A closed society, such as the Soviet Union, can admit no errors whatsoever. It must maintain the false front of perfection—no crime, no slums, no poverty. The way of a free society puts a much greater burden on the individual and his conscience. On the right of conscience, painfully won, the West has come to greatness.

People's Platform

Watts Hill's Articles Had Stimulating Effect

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I want to congratulate Charlotte News for the series of articles by Rep. Watts Hill Jr.

This young man has a sincere interest in the whole State of North Carolina. He thinks with a keen, matured mind and has the nerve to come to grips with the fundamental issues facing this state. His articles have already stirred some favorable thinking among several of my friends.

As contrasted with the na-

tionally known columnists, he writes about things that are vitally interesting to us at home and I do hope that you will be able to get additional articles from him in the future.

—OLIVER ROWE

Is Charles Morris Jealous Of Negroes?

Huntersville

Editors, The News: Mr. Charles L. Morris has me thinking he is jealous of the Negro because he has done much talking about a white

rape making the front page when a Negro one didn't.

The newspaper writers are not "nitwits," as Mr. Morris said. Maybe the writers want the public to know what white men have turned out to be and that they're not what they think . . .

Why fret over something like this? It makes no difference what's where, as long as it's on the pages. Front page or not, it's still news.

What will it take to make Mr. Morris understand that he is

not what he thinks he is? If it weren't for people like him, I think the Negroes and the whites could get along in this world.

—VONETTA ALEXANDER

After Two Years, A Happy Ending

Charlotte

Editors, The News: The two years of study and work on consolidation of the city and county school systems received the approval of the people on June 30. Of course, we who have worked together on this program are pleased.

There are many that contributed to the success of this election. The Charlotte News played a major part, informing the people and stimulating the work.

May I thank you for the fine editorials and your reporters for their excellent articles.

—G. D. AITKEN

Editors' Note: Mr. Aitken is chairman of the consolidation committee for the two school boards. He is a member of the city board.

Republican Party Is Sectional, Too

Charlotte

Editors, The News: As the national Republican Party gets nothing from the solid Democratic South, the southern Republicans get nothing from the national Republican Party. There has not been a bona fide Republican from the South in the President's Cabinet, or as ambassador to

—HOYT EAVES

A Fishing Note

The Value Of Latin

"Millions of people get through life without Latin, or in fact, without a knowledge of much of anything else. It all depends upon how much you want life to hold for you. You can fish in shallow waters, or you can fish for bigger game in deeper waters. If you don't have Latin, with all the additional understanding of life and people and literature and the past that the study of Latin has to offer, eventually then, your fishline is that much shorter. You are a benthic fisherman, using a yard or so of cotton twine to fish with, and you can't expect to catch much. If you do have Latin, your line of communication is infinitely lengthened. It's a long

stout cord wound up on your reel, and it will go down where the big game-fish lurk — by which I mean the great things that a great civilization full of great men set down for us to read." —Carlos Baker, Department of English, Princeton University, in The Classical Journal.

Quote, Unquote

"One grandmother will spoil a baby. Two working together will bring him up in the way he should go, for each will sustain a great civil reason: 'Moscow has the military strength' and will check it." —William Allen White.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

It's now possible to give some evaluation of the hectic, highly important visit of Deputy Premier Frol Kozlov to Washington.

Actually the State Department had not expected too much achievement from his trip. They knew him as a technocrat who had concentrated on building Soviet industrial power with little experience in foreign policy.

Not A Mere Lackey

However, Ambassador Menshikov had hinted during several trips to the State Department that Kozlov was not a mere lackey of Premier Khrushchev but had important independent standing in the Kremlin.

brutally belligerent mood, that he was convinced he had the West on the run, and would offer no concessions regarding Berlin.

Following this warning, both Eisenhower and Nixon were cautioned by Secretary of State Herter to take a tough position in talking to Kozlov. Herter advised that the administration go out of its way to be polite and gracious in entertaining the Russian visitor, but remain unyielding on policies. This was one reason why Eisenhower decided on the spur of the moment to fly to New York to see the Soviet exhibit.

'That's Nonsense!'

Later, during confidential talks in Washington, Eisenhower did some tough talking to Kozlov. When the deputy premier told the President that 14 years after the end of a war was time to end

an allied occupation, Eisenhower snapped back: "That's nonsense and Premier Khrushchev knows it."

The President then proceeded to recall the wartime facts about Berlin. In brief, he said:

Nixon Takes Over

The Allies are in Berlin because of their rights as wartime conquerors of Berlin, and Khrushchev had better not forget it. If Khrushchev wants to trifle with the agreements dividing Berlin, the Russians might find the Allies challenging Russia's legal right to occupy large sections of East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Later, Vice President Nixon continued the tough policy advised by Secretary Herter.

Kozlov kept his good humor despite this tough talk, and afterward made an eloquent Press Club plea for abolition

of suspicion and distrust between the United States and Russia.

While these conversations were taking place, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, worried over increasing clouds over Berlin, once again considered reinforcing American ground and air forces in West Germany and Europe.

Soviet Strength

But his military advisers point out that Khrushchev won't back down at Berlin for a very simple reason: Moscow has the military strength. Tough talk, they caution, is no substitute for strength, and the United States had better increase its strength if it's going to talk tough.

