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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1957

Perimeter Area Needs Urban Facilities

IN WET weather, some of Charlotte's prettiest suburbs have sewage in the streets. To say that surely will not add offense to the fact that the fault is not in suburbanites, but in stubborn clay that absorbs water about as quickly as a steel pipe.

Because of this clay in portions of the perimeter area, septic tanks are an uncertain means of sewage disposal. The problem that exists in some suburbs today existed in others that joined the city in 1949. The only remedy then was a sewer carrying waste to a treatment and disposal plant. That is the only remedy now for these neighborhoods built on non-absorbent soil.

This is not a pleasant argument for city limits extension, but it should be a potent one for suburban and city residents alike. Health is a common problem of an urban area. Germs do not recognize city limits line. And while the inadequacy of septic tanks cannot be said to constitute a health problem of major proportions, it is a problem that should not be tolerated for long.

The simple fact is that an urban area, such as Charlotte is asking to come into the city, needs services that only a municipality can provide. Thomasboro, for example, needs city water. It has potable water now only as a result of emergency action by the County Commission in taking over and operating an antiquated water system. Where such needed services are not provided by a city, or are not accepted by a perimeter area, the perimeter eventually is forced to furnish its own government in order to supply those services. This Charlotte has reason to fear that it might someday be encircled by an iron ring of smaller incorporated areas, and its growth stopped.

Fear, however, should not be the best argument for anything. Hope builds the future. And Charlotte has a right to hope that perimeter residents whose health and prosperity are tied inextricably to the city's will recognize that unity of interest and vote "yes" Monday on the city limits extension question.

Sims Mustn't Be Hung By Headlines

BEFORE the headlines hoist Frank Sims any closer to infamy, it might be profitable to remember the man's record.

During the decade Sims has presided over the Mecklenburg ABC system, there has never been the slightest hint of any irregularity or scandal in that system. The sale of intoxicants has been subjected to rigid and realistic control. Much of the credit for eliminating the bootlegging trade in pre-ABC days belongs to Sims. He has administered the ABC system efficiently and strictly. Mecklenburg is the better for his efforts.

The headlines resulting from a Wake County grand jury's indictment of Sims have rather obscured that record. They also have ballooned what seems at most an indiscretion on Sims' part into the appearance of a dark and devious doer. Aside from the fact that as a peace offi-

cer Sims may have had the right to register at a Raleigh hotel under the name of "A. B. Carter," there is a real question as to whether the 1921 law under which he was indicted was drawn to cover the circumstances of this case. That is for a judge and jury to decide, however.

We are not interested in trying the case. We are interested in seeing a good public official get a fair shake.

Frank Sims is open to criticism for putting himself into a position in which his own ABC system's integrity could be called into question. Both the system and its officials must be above suspicion if it is to continue its good record and continue to merit the public's confidence.

But criticism is one thing and condemnation is another. We've seen no grounds for condemnation.

New Laurels For A Man Of Spirit

The chiefest action for a man of great spirit is never to be out of action. —JOHN WEBSTER.

JUST possibly Jimmy Dean may have taken Webster's words for a text in his long struggle to master a paralyzing physical disability. It seems to fit the Charlottean who has been named North Carolina's "handicapped person of the year." He is a man of great spirit who has been in enough action to win him plenty of prior laurels. It's probably, however, that Jimmy Dean wrote his own maxims.

The effort to overcome physical handicap is intensely personal. Normal people can hurt or help a handicapped person, depending on their understanding. But

only the sufferer can conquer his handicap. The battle has to be waged with his own spirit.

Jimmy Dean won the battle long ago. He's been piling up honors for public service in a wide range of activities ever since. While the state award presented to him by Gov. Hodges this week adds nothing to the substance of Dean's community contributions, it served as a wholesome reminder of the valiant human struggle that is being carried on everywhere against the pain and isolation of affliction.

The winners, like Jimmy Dean, are people of proved value.

There are others who could be winners with a little more human understanding of their plight.

Crabgrass Is Better Than Corn Tassel

THE Senate is considering—although as yet not very seriously—making the corn tassel the official floral symbol of the U. S.

The corn tassel will not do. Crabgrass might. Poison ivy has some merits. But the corn tassel, while having its beauty, is entirely too delicate and insubstantial to be granted national honors in preference to hardier and more heroic plants.

We have read what Illinois Sen. Paul Douglas had to say about the corn tassel. "Those who have seen endless rows of corn in the field with the pale green tassel waving in the early summer breeze, as an emblem of the fruitfulness of the earth over the despair of hunger, know how beautiful that phrase is." We have read what Sen. Douglas had to say, and it was corny.

A letter in the WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES-HERALD, however, makes a good case for poison ivy. "Poison ivy belongs to no faction, area, industry or political

allegiance. It requires no price supports, storage and paraphernalia to assure its perpetuation."

True. But anything true of poison ivy is truer of crabgrass.

Crabgrass is eminently democratic. It cleaves to the poor man and the rich man alike. It is a good example for democracy. It spreads and spreads and spreads.

Crabgrass has made America strong. Thousands of tired, flabby men have become like unto lithe athletes fighting in flood.

In a very real sense, crabgrass is America's last frontier. Almost everything else has been conquered.

Eventually, it will conquer the cornfields.

If the Senate must fiddle around with choosing a national floral symbol, let it bet on—and honor—the champ.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal

AUTOMATION AND EASE

THERE'S TALK everywhere these days about automation, but we really got a solid shot of it in Ed Murrow's television show over CBS. And a helpful and hopeful thing it was.

Automation means broadly automatic control of manufacturing processes—the use of machines to run machines, machines to make in a flash calculations and precise fittings that now call for drawn-out labor by hands and brains. Already, before the word itself has entered even the newest dictionaries, automation has begun shaping lives and raising human fears.

Workers see it as taking their jobs. But there is enough in the record as it is already written to show that automation the call will be less for jobs than for skills. If fewer hands will be needed to run the machines, more hands will be needed to make the machines. The

sharper point is that the hands henceforth must be better trained, guided by brains better informed.

There were two flashes that still linger with us. There was the pretzel binder, hands darting in a monotonous flutter of quick, unthinking motions to shape dough brought to him on an endless belt. There was the woman whose working life might have begun and conceivably wind up with steady thrust after thrust of a wrench to twist caps on valves as the assembly line brought them by.

There was no instant's pause in these cases to lift up one's eyes. Automation will mean less of this, more of time to see what life really holds beyond the machines. It will mean more and better education as a vital element of existence, but education broadened to the necessities of living in the leisure after the machines are stilled.

Macabre Note Turns Up At The Truman Love Feast

By DORIS FLEESON

INDEPENDENCE. THE cheerful crowds were, on the whole, oblivious of two of the most striking aspects of the love feast which was the dedication of the Truman Library here last weekend.

One was the manner in which President Eisenhower had carefully distilled every ounce of feeling from his terse message of greeting. That is not easy to manage on an occasion of such quality which found major political figures of both parties, including only living former Presidents and the Chief Justice of the United States, joining to press in fraternity and high purpose. But the Eisenhower telegram achieved complete and chilling impersonality.

On even fewer sentences was raised the ghost of historic controversy involving most of the notable members of the treasury of the Grand Lodge of Missouri Masons was reading the contents of the cornerstone when these words leaked out from his prosaic text:

ACHESON'S JAW

"By special request of former President Truman, a copy of the May 3 issue of the Milwaukee Journal with the headline: 'Scholar Prepares Rites for McCarthy.'" The dignified aplomb of former Secretary of State Dean Acheson was marred by his dropped jaw. A former Truman secretary

opened his eyes wide and chuckled. Mr. Truman, who was following every word and motion of the ancient Masonic rite to which he is deeply attached, did not appear to notice Mr. Truman did not change expression.

In the press stands were reporters who have heard the former President say of his enemies: "I'll outlive them all." One suggested this was his way of saying to posterity:

It is now explained here that a misunderstanding between Mr. Truman and his secretary, Eugene Bailey, was responsible for the incident.

When the two men were in Milwaukee last month they ex-

pressed admiration for the Journal to its editors, and Mr. Truman said he would like to put a copy in the cornerstone of his library. To a Journal reporter they also said they had not seen the issue in which the newspaper had published an exceptionally comprehensive account of the life and times of the late Sen. Joseph P. McCarthy with editorial comment.

The reporter forwarded that issue to Independence and Bailey wrote the Journal it would be suitable for their purpose. The McCarthy editorial concluded:

"Future generations are likely to find this period as fantastic and as harmful to the American spirit as the Salem witch hunts. The post-Civil War Reconstruction of the Ku Klux Klan, McCarthy was not directly responsible for the hysteria that seemed to sweep the nation but he was the man who nurtured the imagination of those who were susceptible to such an emotional appeal."

Later, Bailey said, Mr. Truman and the trustee agreed to include only local newspapers. But in the haste and bustle Bailey was left with the impression that the Journal was to be an exception to the rule and it remained on the list handed to Masonic officials.

Mr. Truman himself was insisting on Sunday that "I didn't know anything about it. That paper won't go in the box. I was just as surprised as you or anyone else. Someone just didn't know what he was doing. Only local papers will go in that box."

People's Platform

Locate Health Center On Existing Streets

Charlotte. The readers' helpers are under a classification that calls for a change in the way they drive their own cars all over Charlotte every day don't need a raise?

The readers' helpers are under a classification that calls for a change in the way they drive their own cars all over Charlotte every day don't need a raise?

After Friday's letter on this subject, you won't see any boys reading your paper. They probably will have all been fired. That's all a certain party can think of anyway.

It's getting about time to take up the Community Chest fund. Those who don't think they now will get it then. They either have to give a day-and-a-half pay raise or else they make it that you're out of a job.

How in the world can they give them when they can't even pay their bills on what they make? If they have children in school they'll never get it.

I'll never forget how I felt when I heard what the meter readers' helpers make. I think it's a disgrace to the Queen City of Charlotte.

I don't believe the Council is at fault. It's someone else. We need to do a bit of housecleaning at City Hall. And the sooner, the better.

—ERIC D. HOUSER

Quote, Unquote

Liberty is so much latitude as the powerful choose to accord the weak. —Judge Learned Hand.

Costly Project

The construction project, benefiting one private company, was quietly pushed through the House Appropriations Committee by chairman Clarence Cannon (D-Mo.). It is now being considered by

and that won't be for or against anyone."

Very probably no questions would have been raised about inclusion of the Journal, which is a newspaper of high standing, greatly respected by the trade, had not the headline it contained been read. Possibly that was the real error.

This his former aides do know. While Mr. Truman likes to boast of his high political

hide, he has his vulnerable places where he is without armor or prudence. That Mr. Truman and Margaret are two of them is well known; when he thinks they are handled roughly, he explodes.

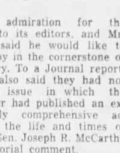
He is also deeply sensitive to attacks on him not as a politician but as a patriot. Conscious that he has held the nation's highest office and history will render a verdict on him, he can-

not endure that the question of his loyalty and love of country should be impugned as McCarthy so carelessly and jauntily impugned it.

That he should have been tempted by what seemed to him a particularly persuasive and impressive refutation of the charge, that he should work to warn future generations against their McCarthyism would not surprise those who know him best.

JOSEPH P. MCCARTHY

A Big Heart



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'Haven't You Put On A Little Weight, Dear?'



Whither Gruenther?

A Dark Horse For 1960

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON. Before World War II such ambition by a professional military man would have been unthinkable. But today there is a general in the White House who won a second term by carrying all but five states of the Union. Something like this happened in the aftermath of the Civil War when Ulysses S. Grant became President and, after him, a succession of men who, while they were not professional soldiers, had won their claim to national attention by the part they played in the four years of the War Between the States.

LARGE PATTERN

This is, in a sense, a worldwide phenomenon. As a consequence of the shakeup in Moscow, the local of the army, President Eisenhower's old comrade in arms, Marshal Georgi Zhukov, stands second in the Soviet hierarchy in France still another government is given only the slenderest chance to solve what has long seemed insoluble and the undercurrent of rumors that Gen. Charles de Gaulle will be called to form a "strong" government.

A number of America's generals and admirals have taken positions at the top of industry and finance. Gen. Lucius B. Clay, the President's close friend and adviser, is chairman of the board of the Continental Can Company.

Admiral Alan Kirk, one of General Eisenhower's close wartime associates, is president and chairman of the board of the Mercantile Corporation. The list is a long one.

In the months before he resigned as supreme commander at SIAPE and retired from the military service at the age of 53, Gruenther had offers from industry that topped what most of his former associates were getting. They ran to \$100,000 a year and above, with stock options, generous pension provisions and other perquisites.

But Gruenther chose the Red Cross job at \$30,000 a year with the recent addition of an official residence. There was speculation

at the time as to why he had turned down certain security for a difficult and perhaps a thankless public task. One reason given was that out of his dedication to his friend, Mr. Eisenhower—possibly at the President's request—he had agreed to take a position which would make him available in Washington for help and advice. He would be on hand if his friend should want him to be secretary of defense or secretary of state.

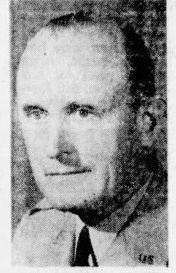
CONSTANT COMPANION

There can be no doubt of Gruenther's dedication to President Eisenhower both as a constant companion and bridge partner—be rivals most professional brigades expect—and as an efficient and never-failing chief of staff.

One report is that the political strategists around the President looking toward 1960 think of Gruenther the same as a general going into battle would think of an army in reserve. If the conflict between the Eisenhower wing of the party, as represented by Vice President Richard M. Nixon, and the coeservative wing, as represented by Sen. William F. Knowland should become self-destructive, then Gruenther would emerge as an appealing figure.

This is the theory of those who consider him a potential candidate. But by 1960 the country may not want "another general." He is a Roman Catholic and in the past this has been considered in some parts of the country as a handicap. Some observers have felt that behind Gruenther's disciplined exterior is the ruthless, driving ambition of a man with the cold efficiency of an IBM mind.

Striving to put the finances of the Red Cross in order to meet the succession of disasters of recent months, Gruenther demonstrates his able speculation. The big task he has taken on absorbs him. If he succeeds, he will have performed a notable public service in civilian life and in so doing he may have staked out for himself a major political claim.



GEN. ALFRED GRUENTHER Has Lightning Struck?

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WHILE U. S. Steel was touching off a chain reaction of initiation which will hit everything from bobby pins to automobiles, it was simultaneously pulling wires for a 40-foot channel in the Delaware River so bigger ore ships can reach its giant Fairless Works at Morrisville, Pa.

Opening the channel will cost taxpayers an estimated \$91,738,000—a free gift to U. S. Steel because it is the company planning to use super ore carriers on the upper Delaware.

Thumbed Nose

The White House is incensed over the way U. S. Steel thumbed its nose at President Eisenhower by hiking the price of steel one day after his appeal against it. It remains to be seen, however, whether the White House will oppose

U. S. Steel Asks Gift From Uncle Sam

A Senate Appropriations Subcommittee headed by Sen. Allen Ellender (D-La.), "property owners along the Delaware claim a deeper channel will increase the flood menace. They point out that the last damaging flood in August, 1955, was caused by hurricane-driven water forced up the Delaware. A 40-foot channel would permit more flood water to be driven up the river. If the taxpayers have \$91,738,000 to spare, they say, it should be spent on flood control for the benefit of all the property owners.

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spending \$91,738,000 to dredge a private, dead-end passageway up the Delaware River for the same U. S. Steel. Observers note that in the past Ike has frequently rewarded his opponents in the field of big business, even appointed Ben Fairless, a backstage power in U. S. Steel, to a high advisory post in his administration.

Steel Dividends

Here's what a tough time U. S. Steel has had during the past ten years. If you invested \$10,000 in U. S. Steel in 1947, you will find its value today has shot up to \$61,500. During that same ten-year period, it paid dividends of \$12,774.

Thus the income and the value added together total \$74,248. If you deduct your original investment of \$10,000, you re-

Caught Off Base

Last week's crucial Kremlin crisis caught the State Department completely unprepared. Its star ambassador Chip Bohlen, had been transferred to the Philippines through pure whim, and the new ambassador, Llewellyn J. Thompson, was still "winding up affairs" in Austria. Ike was golfing at Gettysburg. The Secretary of State was vacationing at Duck Island.

The new American counselor, Richard Davis, had arrived in Moscow only a few weeks before. He's a good man, but was in no position to begin reporting on the most difficult and secret government operations in the world.