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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1959

The Hot Air That Leaves Us Cold

ALONG with the stifling zephyrs, March has ushered in a great deal of hot air about a special session of the North Carolina General Assembly. It has been suggested that legislators are currently "too busy" to worry with the intricacies of constitutional revision and court reform and so act upon these matters ought to be put off until some time in the fall. It is a pleasant notion but wholly false. The General Assembly can find the time if it wants to find the time. Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays could be put to better use. The Saturday sessions, for instance, is nothing but a bad joke. Somebody shows up to convene and adjourn both houses for purposes of the record. Most committees hold their meetings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays rather than make use of the entire legislative week. Furthermore, the legislature could organize its work load for greater efficiency. After six weeks, the current session is still on its shakedown cruise. Leadership is lacking. So is significant progress. If the honorables get down to work,

they can handle their regular chores and a little streamlining to boot. An enormous amount of homework and basic research has already been done on constitutional revision and court reform. The honorables will not be working from scratch on either of these matters. In fact, they are already better informed on the principles and details involved than is normal in the case with matters that come before them. Clearly, the Assembly ought to be made now when the problems are fresh in everyone's mind and solutions are as handy as the average legislator's briefcase. It is difficult to imagine one vote or point of view being changed between January and the first blust of autumn anyway. There is the matter of expense as well. Special sessions cost the taxpayers money—big money. They should be reserved for emergency legislation only. It is not appropriate that they be called to decide questions that can be handled as well or better during the regular sessions required by law. What is being proposed is a costly hoax. Legislators ought to resist the temptation.

Mr. Eisenhower Laid It On The Line

ANY lingering doubts about how the United States stands on the Berlin question have been deftly removed by President Eisenhower. It was all that we had hoped for and more. The President made it plain to Premier Khrushchev and the world that America will fight rather than yield to the Soviet Union's demand that allied troops leave West Berlin to the tender mercies of the Communists. At the same time, Mr. Eisenhower properly left the door open to "meaningful," serious and "sincere" negotiations. All in all, the presidential address on Monday evening was a remarkable exer-

cise in candor and fortitude. It is also to acquaint the American people with the seriousness of the situation and the broad plan for the constructive use of U. S. power in a profoundly troubled world. In this context, Mr. Eisenhower can be excused for attempting to explain away some "chance" occurrences in U. S. military strength in the latter moments of his address. But the business of repairing these deficiencies, whatever the cost, still remains the big challenge of the day. A state of the world conference we cannot—no must not—fail.

The Burden Of The Absentee Ballot

THE one lost sheep has been saved, but the 50 and nine others in this case have been left to wander again. Unlike the Biblical parable, the House Committee on Elections and Election Law could have brought home all the 100 counties. As it is, only Graham has been freed of the inherent evil of the citizen absentee ballot. A statewide bill to abolish those ballots has been killed, as in past legislatures. The Graham County case is a sterling example of what can happen County Rep. Leonard W. Lloyd reported there were 732 absentee ballots cast in one election and at least 500 were purchased votes. He estimated the election cost both parties about \$500,000. "We've had a terrible experience," he said, "and it's completely out of control. It's also corrupting our country and is going to lead to some terrible trouble if we don't do something about it."

A handful of people use the general election citizen absentee vote—people out of town on election day or those bedridden, for example. It is lamentable that the ballot could be denied these people. It is the specter of the Graham case remains. The ballot itself is nothing new. A potent weapon it can control a tight race for the office. To do this type of political exists is downright futile. For at least another two years, the state and counties have left political machinery wide open to attack. Any election loser can cry of fraud. Even if the case is cleared, the public confidence will have been shaken. A pity the state had no champion like Rep. Lloyd. Graham County stands to profit from his outcry. The rest of us can only pray that nothing will happen.

That Teamsters Unit Will Rite The Day

FOR once we feel sorry for the Teamsters. Specifically, a San Francisco local of the labor giant. They'll learn. Seems they don't like the Girl Scouts for buying sale cookies from a Tulsa distributor. They should buy them from local bakeries, said a Teamster spokesman. The Girl Scouts being a United-Cruity agency, the Teamsters decided they'd just withhold their \$40,000 contribution. The unionist added, "...when our men assess themselves for a charity, they have a right to say the money

should be spent here in this area." They also have a right to the eye that the Golden Gate Bridge. It could amount to the same thing. The Teamster's man was brave. Well, too. He appended his case. "We are pitiful. The letter is from a woman, not a man, like fighting home and mother. Nobody can do that." How true. He should have thought about that first. The fact remains that the Teamsters local protest, if not the Girl Scouts, could be a real test of the union's loyalty to mothers. Angry mothers. Hoo boy!

From The Greensboro Daily News

GUILFORD POETS: MAJOR AND MINOR

THE esteemed CHARLOTTE NEWS makes a first of Greensboro's and Guilford Rep. Hugh Humphrey's recourse to the Muse after he had joined in the legislature's inspection of a "real metropolitan" and bigtime entertainment done to a Queen City's taste. Of Rep. Humphrey's "Ode to a Legislator's Skyline," The News notes that the legislator turned poet is suffering from a bad case of primary-grade dangle-lambic foot and meter disease. Adds our Charlotte contemporary, "To simplify the diagnosis, if this type of big ditch were made for the New York Yankees, the burler would finish the season with Salami S. D. of the Four-Eye League." Frankly we don't know where that would be, but we surmise that it's about where Charlie's Clippers finished in the Eastern Hockey League. But here's how The News really let the hornet out of the bag: "It's explainable, though. "Rep. Humphrey himself said he 'was seized with a poetic fever as I reposed in my native village of Greensboro over the weekend.' "We just wish they'd get that swamp cleaned up."

Our Charlotte contemporary has lost its sense of perspective. After all the honorable Hugh versifies on the site, he's strictly an amateur and as a lawyer more familiar with gas than lyrical meter. The ode he turned out on Friday, must have had it as he has for weeks if The News makes a habit of it. To be honest, to tell the truth, Rep. Humphrey is admittedly one of Greensboro's and Guilford's minor poets to whom memorialization of such subjects as Charlotte visits is left. When it's real poetry we wish, on a subject worthy of the same, we will in our two major poets, James Earle Pearson North Carolina's post-literate, from Guilford County or Randall Jarrell, back from his library of Congaree stint, out at Woman's College. Greensboro may be the "swamp" to which our Queen City contemporary refers in its caustic mimicry, but somebody in the Charlotte environs is certainly bogged down in evaluation of poets. Minor poets, we say, for minor assignments.

The South And West Form A New Political Empire

By MARQUIS CHILDS



THE sons of the wild jackasses... strength of one who intends in the years ahead to wield, as he has done in recent months, nearly as much power and authority as a President. GRAND ALLIANCE As majority leader the senator from Texas named as his deputy Sen. Mike Mansfield of Montana. These two men symbolize the grand alliance. Mansfield is an architect who put together the western conference on its present format basis and he was instrumental in uniting the southwestern states to come in. Mansfield saw it that the new elected senators from the West and the committee chairmanships they wanted - Interior, Public Works, Agriculture. He had an important ally in former Sen. Earle Clements of Kentucky, now chairman of the Senate Democratic campaign committee. Clements, a Johnson idolater, had helped many of the new senators get elected. In some instances he had guided them into gaining.

What, above all, the South and the West has in common is a deep-seated distrust of the populous East. It goes back to the earliest days of American politics - to the tariff and the protection of wool and the drawers of water in the South and the West were forced to sell their raw materials for a low price in an unprotected market. What this means for today in common purpose is evident in the tariff, the export, and freight rates, more dams, more power development, more irrigation projects, subsidies for high cost cotton, sugar, and other crops. In short, these men speak on publications completely and utterly false.

DEEP DISTRUST

Without mentioning Fidel Castro's name, the Mansfield letter glorified him. Without mentioning the name of Europe, Clements, former Cuban dictator, the Mansfield letter vilified him. I know of only one group capable of creating such a picture of the world as expertly as was done in the Mansfield letter - and that is trained Communist propagandists.

People's Platform

Bell For Governor

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I suggest there's a sound procedure to test the objectivity and reliability of the Mansfield view of the present Cuban situation. I'd begin with two questions which immediately come to mind: (1) Can Mr. Mansfield justify and condone Castro's reversal of his own policies? (2) Can he justify and condone the recent death sentence by Castro on Emilio de la Cruz, a staunch Latin American anti-Communist? If the answer to either is "no," I should like to suggest you not "trust" Mansfield's letter.

Mansfield's boasts and informed answers to the above questions would include pretty quick answers to "our frustration" might be summed into one of those denational and Daval affairs.

We've Been Cheated With Foreign Aid

Sixty-billion-dollar buying on friends. It has been costly business for taxpayers. The tragedy is that most of the purchases we have been cheated. Of this amount Communist Yugoslavia got \$11 billion while the rest went to other countries. It is a monstrous waste which every citizen of this country who is not a Communist should be ashamed to let give them more. Why should Americans give anything to these traitors and enemies of America? Eastern Europe made up of Russia's satellites got more than a billion dollars. The question is, are we really or just always being cheated, and what we can do to stop it. The answer is, we can do nothing. The only way to stop it is to stop giving them money.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors Note: While Drew Pearson is out of Washington on a special assignment his column is being written by his associate, Jack Anderson. DAZZLING blonde Zsa Zsa Gabor, the Hollywood glamour queen, has been buying her multimillion dollar, Las Vegas, home. She has been buying the bureaucrats who hand out military housing contracts. She has been buying her million more than the government call. Fishing her long lashes in a manner calculated to melt contact resistance. "Voice President" "I want you to meet the vice president of my company," Hayes announced on one of his radio appearances. Zsa, all wrapped in furs, sparkling with diamonds and exuding Parisian fragrance, later asked the housing people to get a cup of coffee. The housing people returned to the kitchen and returned triumphantly.

for underdeveloped areas and they believe that their common objectives will submerge their differences over such matters as civil rights. It seems to be working that way in the challenge to Johnson's leadership. The Western senators have come warmly to his defense. He has the support of the South as a matter of course. Yet in this challenge first forced by Sen. William Frawley

of Wisconsin there is a potential danger for the Democratic Party. Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois brought out some chilling statistics to show that the Democratic policy committee in the Senate represented states with only 80 electoral votes, whereas 15 other states with Democratic senators and without representation on the committee had 255 electoral votes. In other words, the West and the South, with the relatively small population that the Constitution gave the states equally in the Senate and plainly they meant to be just as equal as anybody else. These are not the sons of the wild jackasses in the old opportunistic sense. They are not wild-eyed radicals. They are shrewd, astute men and they mean to exercise the power they have put together.

'Gosh, No—It's Not Mine'



Dr. Bunche's Clinker

Will The Non-Whites Rule?

Dr. Ralph Bunche, undersecretary of the United Nations and 1951 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, recently in a Newsweek magazine article, said that he had overestimated the number of non-white people in the world. He said that today, "it is a world in which the power and authority of white men which has been the dominant force even as recently as a generation ago, are rapidly declining. He used population statistics to bolster his argument. "There are, he said, "about two billion eight hundred million people in the world. Of these two billion eight hundred million, only 400 million are white." He said that today, "it is a world in which the power and authority of white men which has been the dominant force even as recently as a generation ago, are rapidly declining. He used population statistics to bolster his argument. "There are, he said, "about two billion eight hundred million people in the world. Of these two billion eight hundred million, only 400 million are white." 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