



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Third Parties: The Shore Dimly Seen

The acid violence of third party threats is enough to send sensitive southerners to the storm cellars a year early. Just as in 1948, the rebel yells are loudest in the Deep South.

But from Virginia to the Gulf, neo-Dixiecratic oratory is insistent and forbidding.

Occasionally, the words are accompanied by deeds of more than ordinary significance. Arkansas has just become the fifth state that will refuse to bind its Democratic presidential electoral slate to vote for the national party ticket. Others are Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Yet, all together, these unpledged Democratic organizations can only muster a maximum of 49 presidential electors. More will surely be added after Democratic leaders from both sides of the Mason-Dixon line have volleyed and thundered at each other for another year. But it is extremely unlikely that the strength of the dissidents will be great enough to make a third party anything but a nuisance in 1960.

Actually, the only hope of a third party is to cheat both regular parties of a majority and throw the election of a president into the House of Representatives. States rights, carrying five states, failed to influence the election in a close 1948 race. Unless the whole South could be mustered—and this implies wholesale desertion of the Democratic Party by such stalwarts as Sen. Lyndon Johnson, Speaker Sam Rayburn, Sen. Richard Russell and Gov. Luther Hodges—chances of a hung election are slim indeed.

Even if the election of a president could be thrown into the House by dissi-

dents who can exercise power disproportionate to their number, to whom would they turn? Since the divisive issue is civil rights it isn't likely that the Republican ticket and platform would be any more palatable than Democratic offerings.

The potential penalties would also be great in Congress where, despite liberal Democratic gains in 1959, southern conservatives still occupy positions of power and prestige. Democratic differences with 1948's party bolters were hastily reconciled for practical reasons. Internal insurrection could produce wholly different results in the future.

The fact remains, however, that the two-party system is still the best arrangement for all concerned. It represents, as James A. Farley once observed, "the genius of our representative democracy"—one party entrusted with power to carry out the will of the majority; the other, vigilant in criticism but always loyal in opposition. There are common grounds which must be sought in both great U. S. parties. This search involves temperance on divisive questions but it also gives time for public discussion to proceed, for information to be disseminated, for experience to accumulate and for the resolution of conflicts.

The alternative is a jumble of special interest groups, even in coalition are in disagreement, and in national crises are often too disinclined to act.

The United States has had frequent experiences with third parties—most of them unsatisfactory. They always seem to float on seas of discontent. These waters are plainly present in the South of 1959. But, as in 1948, the shore is dimly seen.

Baseball's Patriots Must Be Prepared

Is there a traitor among us who does not predict winning baseball for the Charlotte Hornets?

If so, let him be found out and patriots will hang him by the heels from the nearest foul line.

We want no summer soldiers. We want a crew of eager hands. We want a hidden corps of volunteers to defend Griffith Park against the enemy. Clearly, this is the year to charge the turnstiles, to burden the bleachers.

Why all this hula-whooping for the home team? Why, indeed? For the first time in many a turn at bat the rusting shackles of parent Washington have been cast away. Hornet management, in large measure, stands alone. To do this, king bee Phil Hower has turned to the community for help. Charlotte must answer or expect long, hot summers cheering for The Little Rascals or Perry Como's seasonal replacement.

This is planting time. It will take dedicated cultivation, but our view is that baseball deserves it.

It's not really a sport. It's hope in a cause, faith in a team and no love lost for the victors. It's emotion, joy and despair, seasoned with the scent of hot dogs.

Equality is part of it, too. The little man can star. The underdog's chance is good. Justice dusts home plate but errs like all of us.

Abner Doubleday was right. It is a sorry world indeed in which there's no baseball.

Charlotte's Hornets carry on a great tradition Thursday night, the first home game.

Win, lose or extra innings, there should be a thunder roll of applause to shake Magnolia Ave. by the roots.

Our team will take it from there.

The Second Battle Of Gettysburg

Historically, North Carolina has a very real heritage in the alien land at Gettysburg, Pa.

A quarter of the men who fell there were Tar Heels. The tales of their courage will live forever.

Now, with centennial years approaching, the second battle of Gettysburg has begun.

Where once men in gray ringed the North's positions, suburbia and commercial threaten to obliterate much of the national shrine.

At the grounds' entrance from the Washington, D. C., road, for example, souvenir stands, beer parlors and junkyards are firmly entrenched. An 85-acre tract where most of the first day's action took place will be for sale as a housing development July 1 if the National Park Service cannot capture the territory. The trouble is the money has run out of vital ammunition—money.

Right now the NPS has already lost an appropriations skirmish in the House. The Senate will hold hearings, probably this month, in subcommittee.

Commercialism has infiltrated the Yan-

kees' lines, too. Hard by Gen. George Meade's headquarters site a miniature golf course and fantasyland are planned.

Gen. George Pickett's men, if a reenactment of the famous charge is held, will have to clamber over signs and through roadside stands before they can engage the enemy. Only last year, the NPS failed in the nick of time to buy a motel site smack in the middle where Confederates rushed Cemetery Hill.

This fiscal year the park service had asked for \$750,000 to buy 350 strategic acres. It has a three-year plan which will cost \$24 million, with much of the money to clear the man-made obstructions ringing present national property. Expensive? Certainly, but consider this year's money request against \$90 million the executive branch has asked for new aircraft, \$15 million for it for three jet transports.

Gettysburg deserves better treatment. The grounds on which men of both armies battled so valiantly should escape a barrage of empty beer cans, discarded hot dogs and spit-level service stations. A public call to arms is in order. Sound "Assembly," bugler.

Harry Golden in The Carolina Israelite

THE SWEET SIXTEEN PARTY

In my last issue I wondered what had happened to the "Sweet Sixteen" party. I regretted the loss from the American scene of this romantic institution. Since then, several subscribers have written me to say that the "Sweet Sixteen" party is still with us. There are even special greeting cards, which I have received, that you can buy to send on to the girl who is having the party. Yes, indeed, the "Sweet Sixteen" party is still with us. It is still a "Sixteen" party, but it is no longer "Sweet."

Nowadays it has more awn. It is a punch-and-canapes affair usually held in the dining room of any expensive hotel. The boys and girls are not contemporaries. My correspondents to a man inform me that no sixteen-year-old girl will be found dead going out with a sixteen-year-old boy. She goes out with a "man"—college freshman. In fact, if the "sweet sixteen" girl can't get a Williams or a State University freshman, she will have to be any boys at all. At sixteen, the young girl has lost her sweetness. She knows about henna rinses, the uses of heavy

rouge and she's old enough now to chain smoke.

One of my correspondents told me she functions at these parties as an entertainer. She analyzes the girls' handwriting. She says she finds her best approach is to ask each girl what she wants to do when she gets out of college (oh, she must go to college). Ninety per cent of the girls write, "I want to be a child psychologist," but invariably they have to ask how to spell "psychologist."

After the entertainment come the presents. No more twenty-five cent bottles of cologne. No sir! Most of the young girls get a gift of jodhpurs and boots from a specialty shop, and sometimes jewelry. Along with the spontaneity, the kissing game has vanished from the party. In some ways it is a little sad to think these sweet sixteeners can no longer savor the joy of being young, despite Pat Boone.

Vanguard, Explorer, Discoverer, Pioneer—how long before they get down to really important matters like Dave Crockett and Dan'l Boone?—Memphis Press-Scimitar.

'Do You Have To Bring Up Technicalities?'



Wisconsin Forecast

Dark And Bloody Ground

By JOSEPH ALSOP

MADISON, Wisconsin—Barring unforeseen developments, Wisconsin is due to be the dark and bloody ground of the Democrats in 1960. Here the battle of the candidates will first be joined, long before the Democratic nominating convention.

After a Siberian winter, this little state capital looks weather-worn but outwardly tranquil. Yet here in Madison, as elsewhere in the state, you can already hear the advance rumblings of the conflict that lies ahead. For instance, the acute young Democratic governor, Gaylord Nelson, is already rather nervously proclaiming that his party's Wisconsin primary has got to be a free and fair fight, with all holds barred, and no unkindly feelings about the outcome.

GOOD REASON

Nelson has good reason to start talking early, too. The present front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination, Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, stormed into Milwaukee on Thursday, and he has been attracting capacity crowds ever since.

The principal contestants look eager for the fray, but they are not. Sen. Humphrey did not want to fight for Wisconsin because of the fairly strong possibility of defeat. Hence Humphrey's political partner, Gov. Orville Freeman of Minnesota, tried to wrap up Wisconsin by a farcical device, with the help of his friend, Gov. Nelson. That did not work, and now Humphrey has made up his mind to fight. But Sen. Kennedy is now having his second thoughts. Kennedy wonders whether he needs to risk his massive support in other states in a messy, chancy Wisconsin primary.

MUST TANGLE

All the same, the logic of the situation of the two active Democratic candidates makes them the fore-ordained victims of one another. The inactive candidates may remain inactive, but Humphrey and Kennedy are all but forced to fight it out.

Outside his home territory, Humphrey has almost no solid support anywhere. Further, more, his nomination will drive

large number of southerners out of the party. Hence he must decisively prove his magnetism by defeating the front-runner Kennedy in one or more primaries. If he shirks the test, Humphrey must finally give up his presidential aspirations.

TWO HANDICAPS

Kennedy, by the same token, has very widespread support, but still needs something extra to overcome his two handicaps, his Catholicism and his unattractively youthful appearance. The surest way for Kennedy to get that something

best imitation of the Gadsden swine since the day the swine themselves frothed at the mouth and ran over the cliff.

YOUTH'S HELP

Mainly, however, the Democratic triumph in Wisconsin has to be credited to able younger men of the type who have achieved the party's post-Truman rebirth in many other states besides Wisconsin. Gov. Nelson, Sen. Proxmire, State Chairman Pat Lucey and many more, have worked hard and long, beginning nowhere, their rewards have been the governorship, a majority in the lower house of the state legislature, half the Wisconsin congressional seats and one of the Senate seats. Thus Wisconsin is now a meaningful scene for a Democratic presidential test.

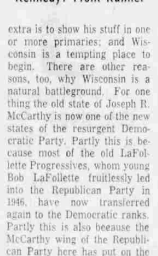
In addition, Wisconsin should afford a fair test between Kennedy and Humphrey. Specifically, to be sure, the locale of the duel would seem to favor Humphrey. The Wisconsin pattern of a union between the original Democrats and the LaFollette Progressives, is closely similar to the Minnesota pattern of a Democratic-army-labor alliance, which Humphrey helped to bring about. When both Wisconsin senators were Republicans, many local Democrats actually treated Humphrey of Minnesota as their own senator.

SOME HELP

Moreover, Humphrey has powerful support in the labor groups, in the farm co-operatives, and in the rural electrification associations. Rather surprisingly, however, Kennedy still quite clearly has the edge, at least as of now. A majority of the Wisconsin politicians are leaning his way. Even those who are for Humphrey tell you, "Yes, Kennedy's ahead today, but wait and see how it shapes up after Humphrey has done some of his old-fashioned, hard-sell campaigning in the state."

Part of Kennedy's edge derives from Wisconsin's high percentage of Roman Catholics. But in the main, according to the local politicians, the Kennedy edge has to be attributed to his remarkable general appeal to all groups in the voting rank and file. If the Kennedy edge does not weaken, that is a pretty useful sort of edge to have.

Kennedy: Front-Runner



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Mitchell Handicapped By Eisenhower

WASHINGTON

Pity the poor secretary of labor when the President went to agree with his policies. As a result Jim Mitchell tells labor leaders one thing, yet has to do exactly the opposite.

As a further result, Mitchell did not appear before the House Means Committee last week when it was considering the very important bill requiring federal standards for states to sue for labor compensation. Privately Mr. Mitchell was for the bill, but the White House had told him to oppose it.

Therefore, Undersecretary of Labor O'Connor appeared before the congressmen instead. "Where is Secretary Mitchell?" inquired Rep. Hale Boggs of Louisiana.

"Is he ill or indisposed—or what is the problem?"

"The secretary had a personal appointment out of town," replied the undersecretary of labor, "which he made every effort to adjust to the timing of the committee and found himself unable to do so."

Later investigation, however, showed that all day long the secretary of labor was in his own office just a few blocks away from the Capitol.

Hagerty's Slips

Jim Hagerty is a highly competent press secretary 90 per cent of the time. But he has his low moments. One was when he bluffed the Dan Schorr story on Dulles' resignation as "about as low a form of reporting

as I know of . . . about as irresponsible reporting as I know of."

The bias followed shortly after another low moment which Jim experienced in the Crescent Bar in Washington, when at 1:30 a.m. he demanded service at the bar against federal law in the District of Columbia. You must sit, not stand, while drinking in the nation's capital.

When the manager insisted on serving Jim at a table, as required by law, the White House spokesman went outside and came back with a police lieutenant, demanding that he make the manager enforce the law.

Since the manager was already enforcing the law, and since Jim has been in Washington six years—long enough to know the law—the officer finally persuaded him to calm down

California's Democrats Are Loaded For Bear

By DORIS FLEESON

LOS ANGELES

In a move of great potential significance to the policies of this vibrant state, Democratic businessmen are organizing to participate in the development of their party's issues and candidates.

In California, this is news. Former President Truman, persuaded to act as recruiting agent for the new endeavor, put it bluntly to a luncheon gathering of his leaders.

"I am glad to see Los Angeles Democrats out in the open," he said. "Before it's been a case here of Democrats Anonymous."

His audience acknowledged his point with their laughter. They explained later in their defense that they had all helped Gov. Edmund G. (Pat) Brown and expected to go on doing so. Their questioning of Truman indicated also that they are expecting to see another Democratic president in the White House in 1961.

PROMISE OFFERED

Truman promised to advise them on his choice well in advance of the convention here. He said he hoped that one candidate would by that time have a really commanding lead, as "I don't want to see another Madison Square Garden of 1924." He did not say who he feared a no-holds-barred struggle, but he has indicated before that he thinks one is possible.

Democratic Associates, as the new business group is called, is only a week old, small, and presently more than a little miscellaneous. It includes John Anson Ford, an old-time liberal, and oilman Ed Pauley, who has been loyal to Truman but to few, if any, Democratic candidates within the state. A grandson and namesake of Woodrow Wilson's secretary of the interior, Franklin Lane, speaks in it for the younger generation.

MOVE NEEDED

It is, however, a start and one that needs to be made for the greater health of a party whose business and professional supporters have long been excluded by pressures, both internal and external. This situation was of great profit in many ways to the California Republicans and they sedulously exploited it.

For that reason Gov. Brown



Truman: Recruiter

has approved formation of the group, even though it may give him fresh difficulties in his task of impartial umpire of the party's biases and factions.

It is hardly to be expected, for example, that the yeasty Council of Democratic Clubs, who did the footwork for the great victories of the recent past, will not want to share generously with business spokesmen who held aloof. Labor here has always divided its allegiance statewide, supporting Republican Gvs. Earl Warren and Goodwin Knight for example, but it has strong Democratic roots. It, too, may suspect the trecks now bringing gits such as Pauley.

REAL MODERATE

Yet the chance for reconciliation exists because Gov. Brown is a personal and political moderate and because all have so much to gain by fortifying their present hold on the state government.

If the clubs and labor put the light in the window for Democrats from the business community, it should help to solve their financial problems and the party issue. The businessmen will need to remember that they were largely self-satisfied and present triumphs were won without them.

People's Platform

It's Time To Cut U. S. Foreign Aid

Charlotte

Editors: The News:

I read in The News of April 1 a letter by Mrs. David Wallis, president of the League of Women Voters of Charlotte. Mrs. Wallis was beating the tom-tom for "long-term" foreign aid, but the letter, consisting largely of leftwing platitudes and abstractions, lacked much in the way of a realistic review of the foreign aid issue.

I offer some hard facts on America's nearly 15-year-old foreign aid extravaganza.

(1) Fifty dollars of American aid to every man, woman and child in Burma (total \$122 million) DID NOT prevent a violent anti-American demonstration last month in Rangoon. Neither has American aid for six years corrected the economic stupidity that has Bolivia in the course of bankruptcy at this moment.

(2) India and Indonesia, recipients of American aid, have moved closer to our enemy's ideology—not further away.

(3) Tremendous grants to our communist enemies, Yugoslavia and Poland, have done pitifully little to persuade them that the "American Way" is superior to the "Communist Way."

(4) The \$7 billion in direct or indirect aid to Britain was given at a time when a socialist government was in power and neither Americans realized it or not, it was our money

that greatly assisted in instituting socialized medicine, nationalizing the Bank of England, the gas, electric, railway, canal, and coal mining enterprises of the United Kingdom. Is it any wonder, then, that many self-respecting, liberty-loving British have little respect for the thoughtless, sloppily philanthropic of their American cousins.

Certainly, it's a fact that some foreign aid has served America and the free world interests—as in Turkey, Spain, Formosa and South Korea.

It's high time, however, that we think in terms of ceasing the greater part of foreign economic aid within the next few years—not expand it.

Furthermore, that minor portion which seems clearly in America's best interests to continue should be administered by frugal, honest and intelligent public servants who keep fully abreast of developments in the countries receiving the tax dollars of hard-working Americans.

All my thoughts and all the facts my organs are not by any means completely set forth here, but rather than consume too much space, I'll be silent.

—J. R. CHERRY JR.

Quote, Unquote

"My idea of an agreeable person is one who agrees with me." —Benjamin Disraeli.

"I don't think much of a dance step where the girl looks like she was being carried out of a burning building." —Kin Hubbard.

Nasser's Game

Unconscious reports from Egypt indicated that Col. Nasser is gnashing his teeth so vigorously over Iraq's exit from the Communists—this time for keeps.

Nasser has played Washington off against Moscow for six years, first getting a promise from one for the Aswan Dam, then a promise from the other, then economic aid, then arms. Latest development in this Near Eastern seesaw is a move by U. S. Ambassador Raymond Hare to increase U. S. economic aid to dictator Nasser in case Russia withdraws its support.