



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The 'Inner Conflict' Of Charlie Jonas Lights Signal Fires For Both Parties

Swearing off is a part of the congressman's litany which nobody takes too seriously.

Intoned half sepulchrally, half joyously, near the beginning of a term, it may tug briefly at the souls of the party faithful. It may even unleash a surge of hope in the opposition camp. But politics is a game and there are certain rules. The first of these is that an incumbent is granted broad poetic license when discussing either his retirement or his voting record.

Examined in this light, Rep. Charles Raper Jonas' declaration that he is thinking of winding up his congressional career would ordinarily be taken with a grain of salt.

We said, ordinarily.

But Mr. Jonas is no ordinary politician and he is certainly no student of the rulebook. He is a man of simple integrity and personal honor. For years, he has conducted his political business with the same openness of manner and the same stern Protestant morality that characterized his dealings with Lincolnton clients and neighbors. There is, goodness knows, not a Machiavellian bone in his body.

Consequently, when Mr. Jonas says he is thinking of quitting, he is thinking of quitting.

It would not be surprising to any of his friends if he stepped down voluntarily at the end of his present term. Much of the excitement of congressional service is gone. His influence in Washington has waned. As the lone Republican on the state's delegation, his lot was never easy. Since the 1958 national Democratic avalanche, his legislative role has become even more handicapped and necessarily obscure. He knows, too, that when North Carolina loses a congressman after the 1960 census, an attempt will be made to gerrymander him out of a job.

Finally, he does not enjoy campaigning—and in the last campaign he faced the most vigorous opposition of his political career. His opponent, David Clark, a Lincolnton neighbor, has already announced that he will be a candidate in 1960, subject to the will of the Democratic primary. This virtually assures another hard, grinding contest. It also is assur-

ance that Mr. Jonas' extremely tender sensibilities will be rather methodically bruised again.

Having owned up publicly to the tussle that is in progress within his own mind, Mr. Jonas should not hesitate to announce his decision the moment it is made. This is particularly important if he intends to quit. The shock will be good for the Republican Party in Mecklenburg and in the Tenth District as a whole. For, in seven years, the GOP has made no serious effort to groom a likely successor. It has been content to coast.

Mr. Jonas brought a certain vitality to the local political scene. But it is ridiculous to suggest that he built a serviceable two-party system here. He was always a personal triumph. Democrats provided his big Mecklenburg majorities—Democrats who for the most part have studiously refused to switch their registration to the Republican colors. They have certainly refused to go down the line for other Republicans who have cared, or dared, to enter other local races. What little organizing that has been done at the grass roots has been in terms of personal loyalties rather than party loyalties.

A genuine two-party system necessarily involves partisan competition at all, or certainly most, levels. This we do not have. This we will never have until those with Republican sympathies cease being merely spectators and become informed participants in the organizational rites of party politics.

If Mr. Jonas can spur such a movement then he will be making a lasting contribution. He has already offered some help. He has been instrumental in the formation of the district. The Democratic organization showed more life during the 1958 congressional campaign than the district has seen in years. With the young and vigorous David Clark as leader, it may well experience a soul-renewing rebirth of its own.

Local democracy is healthiest when two competing parties are operating at full steam with faith, know-how, initiative, courage and determination. It is an ideal toward which we all ought to work. The alternative is stagnation and, very possibly, bad government.

What In The World Is A 'Moderate'?

It is no longer possible to exclude the "southern moderate" from the dramatic personae of Dixie's inner tragedy. His delicate role is now, surprisingly, receiving worldwide attention. Max Freedman writes eloquently of his lonely and hazardous predicament in a report to Britain's Manchester Guardian carried on today's editorial page. He was pictured last week as the region's best hope by Virginia's Lenoir Chambers (News, April 10). He has been "discovered" (and announced) by several northern journalists who have recently paid visits to the South. Equally vehement recognition has come in the form of verbal brickbats from assorted racists above and below the Mason-Dixon line.

Obviously, the "moderate" has arrived. But who is he? What is he? And how did he come to be called a "moderate"? Is he moderately for civil order and obedience to law? Is he as moderate on the question of cannibalism as he is on

integration? If he lived during the Spanish Inquisition would his position be that people ought not to burn too many heretics, or none at all?

The nomenclature is absurd and it ought to reflect a great deal better the spirit and attitudes of southerners who are risking everything to save the South from chaos and destruction. These are the men and women whose purpose it is to attain unity, harmony and civilized relations between races and between regions within the framework of law. They oppose coercive federal action. They oppose violence in any form and for any reason. They know the South, its people and its traditions and they know that time, understanding and great patience will be required to effect social change. They know, too, that reason alone guides meaningful progress.

Truly, on these ideals, the "moderate" is an "extremist."

Of Spiked Heels And British Industry

We have been forced to notice with more than passing interest the spiked heels women have embraced.

Murderous-looking weapons, we're informed they conceal a metal core to keep them from breaking. As many times as we've seen women trapped in sidewalk ventilation grills, we suppose high tensile strength is necessary.

But we have definite word from England that industry is fighting this fashion trend. Lever Brothers for one has banned the stiletto footwear in its London office. That must have been a brave memo, considering more than 2,000 women are employed.

In fine British tradition the company made a thorough study of the case. It calculated that a 105-pound girl wearing

spike heels exerts a floor pressure of one ton per square inch. A 224-pound man (or 16-ton shoe), his weight spread over his entire shoe, puts down only 28 pounds per square inch.

As we hear it, London dance halls are considering a ban on the heels, too. A dance floor over there is supposed to last seven years. But those heels are stabbing that life expectancy in half.

We believe Charlotte industry and arenas of music should take note of this painstaking survey. We're backing it for personal reasons.

Only last week a sparrow-sized female reversed engines in a cafeteria line and spied down on a big toe of ours.

We've had a bad stabboard limp ever since.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal

ROMANCER

In a scholarly editorial treatise on tipping, the New York Herald Tribune touches upon a mystery which has also confounded us.

"... As for restaurant tipping, the vicious myth has grown up that 'because of inflation' the traditional 10 per cent is no longer an adequate tip. Any school-boy ought to be able to see that inflation inflates the size of the tip just as much as it does the price of the food, and that if 10 per cent was adequate in 1940, it ought to be just as adequate now—what was 15 cents on a \$3 meal now becomes 30 cents on a \$3 meal now. But does any customer try to buck the nonsensical expansion of tipping?

Apparently the average customer doesn't. Without complaint, he adds not only to the cost of his meal but also a

little bit to his problem in mental arithmetic when he pays his check. Possibly Scott's century ago:

"I like to pay positions and waiters rather more liberally than perhaps is right. I hate grumbling and sour faces; and the whole saving will not exceed a guinea or two for being cursed and damned from Dan to Beersheba."

Since a dirty look from a waiter—and the thought of being cursed and damned from Dan to Beersheba—rather obviously would have interfered with Scott's digestion, he probably saved himself more than a guinea or two in doctor's bills, and indeed in any way may have cleared a nice profit on every tip he bestowed.

Maybe the profit was as much as 15 per cent.

A BRITISH VIEW OF DIXIE'S DILEMMA— Southern Moderates Are The Nation's Newest Heroes

By MAX FREEDMAN

Editors' Note: This journalistic portrait of the American South was prepared for England's famed *Manchester Guardian*. Mr. Freedman, a native of Canada, is the *Guardian's* Washington correspondent.

WASHINGTON

The worst victim of the quarrel over segregation is the child whose education is in peril. Outside the South, this simple fact often is eclipsed by doctrine and dogma; in the South it is an enduring reality which can be forgotten by no one.

Negro children are unable to shelter themselves from the dispute which surrounds them. The parents of white children in four southern states are faced with the bleak and approaching hazard of having the public schools closed completely. The resources of private schools are inadequate and are already overburdened. Some buildings are being built up quickly, with unemployed or retired teachers as members of the staff, to accept pupils from hard-hit parents; but the debasement of standards in such conditions is inevitable and tragic.

GRIEVOUS SCAR

After a visit to the South one carries away mixed impressions, some encouraging, others not. The members of Little Rock and of Norfolk have left a grievous scar. The people of the South have not lost their sensitive pride, and they shrink from having their communities exposed to the rough judgment of outsiders, with their own problems exposed with garish emphasis to the distant places of the world.

Even those who have a rooted



The Legacy Of Little Rock: Misspelled Sign Tells Tragic Story

objection to mixed classes in public schools are eager to restrain an upsurge of prejudice they know that the one way to halt the North's concern is to have things remain quiet in the South. The local politicians, so long with racial mischief, and the White Citizens' Councils, so restless in their frightened acquiescence, are sources of embarrassment because of the rancorous vulgarity with which they conduct their campaign.

The mature judgment of their own communities goes against them. Business leaders know that industry will shun those states where racial unrest continues to fester; but their pleas for prudence are not strong enough to prevail, since they hesitate to enter the public debate.

All the same, the impulse of Virginia in making a start on mixed schools has been felt ev-

erywhere in the South, and resistant states like Georgia and Alabama, Mississippi and South Carolina can sense their entanglement in a lost cause.

In Georgia the omens are not all black and minority. A superb editor, Mr. Ralph McGill, who has just completed 20 years' service with the Atlanta Constitution, has quickened and inspired the liberal debate throughout the state. Most of Georgia's papers have met it with equal vigor. As a result there has been an important debate even when the verdict has finally been given against the liberal forces; and the existence of this opposition has kept silent all the more admiration, therefore, belongs to the minority that has opposed the lessons of judicial precedent to the embittered cries of political controversy.

Another disappointment has been the discovery of a hard-

ness to purge the public debate of the venom born of ignorance, many members of the profession seem to have defaulted on their obligations to state the legal issues with precision and without prejudice. The legend is now universal that the Supreme Court, without warning or cause, decided in 1954 to depart from the principle of separate but equal facilities, although that rule had been followed with continuity since 1896. This statement is an almost unbelievable caricature of the history of the Supreme Court, and no one except lawyers can find its absurdity in all its dimensions. But too many of them have kept silent. All the more admiration, therefore, belongs to the minority that has opposed the lessons of judicial precedent to the embittered cries of political controversy.

Another disappointment has been the discovery of a hard-

ness temper among Negro leaders. At the beginning of this dispute it was possible to find many leaders who expressed the view, in private, that some kind of voluntary segregation would be the best solution, after the shame of compulsory inferiority had been removed.

Once the constitutional right of equality had been conceded, Negro parents would be content to send their children to greatly improved segregated schools, with perhaps token integration in a few districts. But the controversy has grown too inflamed and challenging to allow these moderates to speak with authority. They, too, will now agree to a voluntary arrangement to defend the Supreme Court, to uphold the rule of law as the foundation of civilized society, and to work for a complete and practical enforcement of their rights only when those rights are no longer in the domain of controversy.

WHITE MODERATES

But the deepest and most vivid memory is of the white southern moderates who have stood bravely against the massed irritation of their neighbors to defend the Supreme Court, to uphold the rule of law as the foundation of civilized society, and to work for a complete and practical enforcement of their rights only when those rights are no longer in the domain of controversy.

If there is any hero in this whole tragic affair it is the southern moderate of both races, who has received such singular lack of encouragement and help from the White House in all these difficult years. It is the North that should extend the full tribute of its compassion and admiration.

'Ah, Yes—We're Thinking About Considering A Possible Inquiry'



Mayor Of Charlotte Should Be A Man

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
What does Charlotte need with a woman mayor? It seems to me that the mayor should be a man.
I think a woman looks out of

Queen City Needs Police Commissioner

Charlotte
Editors, The News:
There is a need for a police commissioner in the City of Charlotte and at least three police sub-stations...

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' Note: Another Pearson report from the Caribbean comes from one of our more stable neighbors, Mexico.

MEXICO CITY
President Adolfo Lopez Mateos is an ex-school teacher who likes to get up early. As a boy he had to walk seven miles to school and seven miles back but he got there on time. As President of Mexico he also believes in getting up early and he wants other bureaucrats to do the same.

Tariff Slashed

And when he found that a lot of his officials didn't arrive promptly at 8:30 a.m., he complained about it. Their reply: Traffic jams.
So, the other day, Lopez Mateos did

U. S. Cars Affected

Two American cars are afflicted: the Nash Rambler which has been cut \$756 in price; and the Studebaker Lark which has been cut \$705. Of the 14 European small cars which benefit, several will now cost less in Mexico than they do in the United States. These include the General Motors Opel, now being sold in Germany, and its British Vauxhall, as well as Ford's English Anglia.

On the other hand, a Cadillac El Do-

Catholic 'Revision'

Pope John XXIII confided in a leading Latin American, ex-president Galo Plaza of Ecuador, recently that he planned to effect a total revision of Catholic Church policies throughout Latin America.

Blunt Criticism

The Pope was quite blunt in criticizing church authorities in Latin Ameri-

A Guide To Rascality The Tip Sheet

By ROBERT C. RUARK

LONDON

I don't hardly know how I found my jazy, hip-type clothes were the talk of the drugstore-cowboy set. I seem to remember pants with 36-inch cuffs, a red felt turn-up-around hat, and a yell-slicker with mere jazy motes tattooed on the back, than were ever given into the brawny hands of my seagazing kinary. I may have been blackballed by the H-Y Club (a bunch of squares), but I never do no time.

The NEA — not to be confused with the Newspaper Enterprise Association, which once employed me when I was a young, semi-delinquent — says that another sign of delinquency around the corner is tattooing on a male relative of the possible jailbird. The NEA doesn't seem to mind if the kid himself is tattooed, but frowns on over-decorated male relatives. This seems a case of guilt by association, and I resent it.

SEAGUINO STOCK

I come from a long line of seagazing stock, and it was a poezy member of this salty family that didn't have a bird's-eye view of Sidney across the left kidney, like the song says. And, as a matter of fact, I believe I can trace kin to a female cousin who was so artistically emaciated that she raised a whole flock of doctors and lawyers from her earnings in a side show.

Moreover, there is a very fancy cigarette whose four-color adverbs appear in most of the better slick-paper journals, featuring a sterling crop of handsome men who are tattooed on the back of their smoking hand. These people are working it steady, and it don't hardly seem likely that their families are ridden with J.D.'s, since the cigarette boys' paw have proud insignia of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. Is the NEA going to visit the sins of patrician parents onto the second and third generations?

HIP-TYPE CLOTHES

The educational association goes on to say that kids who dress "jazy" or "hip," and who affect "offbeat" haircuts are also potential candidates for

the clink. Personally, I will differ again. My, when I was a kid, my jazy, hip-type clothes were the talk of the drugstore-cowboy set. I seem to remember pants with 36-inch cuffs, a red felt turn-up-around hat, and a yell-slicker with mere jazy motes tattooed on the back, than were ever given into the brawny hands of my seagazing kinary. I may have been blackballed by the H-Y Club (a bunch of squares), but I never do no time.

Touching on the offbeat haircut, the NEA is all out of line, because we have spawned a couple of generations of the puny crop, the crewcut. If what they call the "flat-top" ain't offbeat, I don't hardly ever remember seeing anything offbeat. Even if it is taken up by grown men for gray hair who generally seem to work on Madison Avenue in New York.

If you have all the stigma aforementioned, the NEA suggests that pupils should be placed in a "primary reference group," and I ain't hardly ever heard of nothing like that. I've certainly, we don't have any in Uganda, from which all the gentlemen and the ladies seem to be fearfully tattooed. The men especially — right arm for gentlemen slain in battle, left arm for ladies knocked off for interfering with a husband's beer party.

SECOND CHILDHOOD

I asked my crown of thorns if she had ever heard of a primary reference group, and she said no, not unless it was a polite word for cage. But she also said the NEA might have something in its prognosis. She said I had been practicing for a second childhood for years now, and she was awfully sure that when it finally hit I would be delinquent in my senility.

"If," she says, "you continue to follow the pattern you have traced during most of the adult years I've known you, I don't hardly see how you can miss."

Did you catch that "don't hardly, NEA"? If there's a sensible alarm about 1959, you can bet your bottom dollar that my lady fair will be in it with me.

Mexico's Example

The happiest and most fruitful relations between the Church and any Latin-American people, the Pontiff said, were in Mexico where there has been a right separation between church and state and where the Catholic clergy has kept strictly out of politics for 50 years.

Pope John expressed the hope that other Latin-American church leaders might follow Mexico's example.

How Mexico Solves Traffic Problem

cars for failing to join in the worldwide religious reform and "not maintaining true spiritual contact with the faithful."

He noted untold political activity by the Church—especially in Argentina, Colombia, Peru and Chile—had been responsible for loss of prestige and influence.

Pope John expressed the hope that other Latin-American church leaders might follow Mexico's example.