



# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## Here's A Reasonable Route To Reform

In the day-to-day pattern of progress for metropolitan Mecklenburg, there was one sweetly reasonable note today.

It is the plan prepared by Rep. Frank Snapp for an orderly transition to a county manager plan of government—if the voters want it.

The Snapp formula is not foolproof. It certainly has its share of loopholes and it would unfortunately make 1962 the earliest possible date when a change-over could be made. Nevertheless, it is vastly superior to any other idea offered.

The proposed legislation places the responsibility for action squarely on the shoulders of the Board of County Commissioners. At the same time it would allow the public at large a shining opportunity to express itself on the question.

In a nutshell, the plan works this way: County Commissioners would be authorized in 1961 or any later odd-numbered year to adopt a county manager plan. The new system would become effective in December of the following even-numbered year when a new board takes office. These newly elected commissioners would be empowered to name a county manager, set his salary and also elect a commissioner chairman from their own ranks. This timetable would provide an opportunity for 1960 candidates for the Board of County Commissioners to state their positions on a county manager plan and act accordingly after the election.

In this way, Mecklenburgers could themselves decide for or against the county manager plan.

A successful candidate could not be bound legally to his campaign platform but the moral obligation would be strong.

Of course, it is the natural assumption that the county manager plan will be the only campaign issue at stake. It's a risky assumption because it is not inconceivable that all candidates will be in favor of the new system. It has an outstanding history of success in Guilford and other counties and most experts agree that it is the most efficient and economical form of local administration.

It is also important to note that the Snapp plan would not automatically oust Sid Y. McAden from his job as chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. McAden, who has served Mecklenburg long and faithfully, could still run for the commission and, upon his election, could still be named chairman.

All in all, Rep. Snapp has rendered a reasonable solution to a difficult problem. It deserves the Mecklenburg delegation's favorable consideration.

## The Legislature Needs An Alarm Clock

After an opening round of cries, counter-cries, viewings—with alarm and fevered gesticulation, the General Assembly has pointedly ignored urgent court reform legislation.

The measures have rested in committee for weeks, virtually undisturbed, receiving not even so much as a good formal debate.

Yet this is one of the most important legislative packages the lawmakers have received in years. It has the enthusiastic support of distinguished lawyers and laymen alike. It is custom-tailored to fit the peculiar needs of a state judicial system that has suddenly outgrown its 19th century administrative breeches. Furthermore, it deserves all of the sensitive attention and critical study that the General Assembly can give it.

Taxpayers have waited too long for a comprehensive plan for a unified system of justice to allow it to die of political suffocation now. Nor should consideration be postponed until another session—even a special session. The need is immediate. The supporting evidence is abundantly available, gathered with enormous care

by a special North Carolina Bar Association committee headed by Mecklenburg's Sen. J. Spencer Bell. There is no logical reason to put off a consideration.

After the plunge is made, one big decision will have to be made rather early. That is whether the authority for judicial administration shall be vested in North Carolina's Supreme Court, as recommended by the Bell Committee, or in the General Assembly, as recommended by the State Constitutional Study Committee. Gov. Hodges made a rather plain a month ago that he favors the former. Logic supports his judgment.

The fitness of the high court to tackle the task, the need for it to have the final authority to carry out what is mainly a judicial chore and the fundamental philosophy of separation of powers are all important arguments in favor of the Bell Committee's formula. Clearly, it should be adopted.

But nothing is going to be adopted until the legislature is equipped with a sturdier sense of urgency on this momentous question. An alarm clock might do the trick.

## Ready The Computers, This Is T-Day

Just in case these bright days have mesmerized thinking into esoteric lines, let us intrude with our annual service.

This is T-Day.

That can mean but one thing: It is only a matter of hours now before the last mail train leaves for Nowhereville—the hideout of the Internal Revenue Service.

If tax reports have been filed, skip from this line to Item 13 (b)—See Page 10 of Instructions—which will tune in Drew Pearson and other worries in government.

This concerns those who have yet to count their many little decimals and be happy with their lot.

It is of interest that if one can claim to be 65 years of age one gains an extra \$600 exemption. One can inquire of the Little Theater makeup department for help in case a tax examiner calls to check this out. There is also the trouble of faking birth certificates and the like, which is a messy business. However, if this is done: (a) all others enter 10 percent of line 1, or \$1,000, whichever is smaller. Enter here and on line 12, page 1.

Another handy item for taxpayers came to light recently from an unlikely source—Congress. The use of the front and/or back porch, garage or woodshed has been explained as a keen source of income. The taxpayer can reverse this nepotistic

practice to his own ends and claim a "get lost through depreciation and repair."

When this is done, be careful to place the zeroes, if any, of line 4 over line 3, and, if tax table is used, transfer the amount shown on line 11, page 1, less 10 percent thereof, and less the deduction for exemptions.

This might even save off government action until the check can be covered at a local bank.

But to any others who are wearied to the nub with figures, we offer this last bit of advice. Be sure to use the explanation of deduction by the total of amounts on line 7, columns A or B.

Just remember dividends received credit from line 5 of Schedule K, and, uh, retirement income credit, uh... from line 12... and... uh... to line...

Figure it out yourself.

## Inland Waterways

"And a Senate committee on banks set a record for speed on a measure which would have required all banks to close creeks without charge. Introduced on Monday, the bill was killed in committee on Thursday."

And a good thing, too. That's a job for branch banks only.

From The Greensboro Daily News

## A COMPLETE POLITICAL GLOSSARY

SEN. Kenneth Keating of New York is a Republican with a sense of humor. And that's worth a good deal in these sad times for the Grand Old Party.

At a dinner given by the Women's National Press Club the other day in Washington, Sen. Keating provided his own glossary of Democratic presidential hopefuls:

Sen. Lyndon Johnson: "The first man to try to turn outer space into a congressional district. (He figures the best road to the White House is the Milky Way.)"

Adlai Stevenson: "His continued popularity in polls 'shows Democrats have no desire to turn the sport of the thing by any compulsive urge to win.'"

Sen. Hubert Humphrey: "The first man to run for President on the platform of spending eight hours to answer a simple question. 'We're really all indebted to Hubert for backing Khrushchev into a corner... That's the fellow think twice about ever visiting this country.'"

Sen. Stuart Symington: "If Stu's

elects, every back yard will have a Nike missile battalion and every closed school will have a B-58 to hold recess in."

Sen. Keating's glossary is one-sided. So let us make the following additions:

Vice President Richard Nixon: "The only candidate for President who favors more spending—but only when it's done by Republicans."

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller: "A kindly Democratic millionaire running under the Republican banner who won't solicit a single campaign contribution and may lend a helping hand to needy Democrats."

Our additions are short simply because there are no other Republican presidential hopefuls in view, but we will gladly assist Sen. Keating again when, and if, they appear.

"A 9-year-old girl who broke her left arm was taken to the hospital after a temporary splint was placed on her leg by ambulance attendants."—MOSTCOM-ERY (ALA.) ADVERTISER.

# 60-Megaton Bomb Study An Example Of Confusion

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON  
Members of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy have been told of a study going forward in the Pentagon looking to a 60-megaton hydrogen bomb.

The meaning of such a weapon in terms of destructiveness is almost impossible to convey. A megaton is the equivalent of a million tons of the conventional explosive TNT. The bomb that leveled Hiroshima, a city of 343,000 in 1945, was a 15-kiloton (15,000 tons) bomb.

Whether it is ever designed and built or not, the 60 million-ton giant signifies to some committee members that the policy of recent years is being pushed to its ultimate limits. This is the policy of massive retaliation, which in its vulgarized form as confirmed by former Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson was "a bigger bang for a buck."

SELF-DEFEATING  
More and more of the American military budget has gone into the nuclear deterrent—into one- and five-megaton bombs. As President Eisen-

hower said at a recent press conference, the United States cannot fight a ground war in Western Europe but, as he also said, the destructiveness of a nuclear war would be so vast that as a force to bring order and justice—a police force—it would be completely self-defeating. The destructiveness would be worldwide since the Russians also have in their arsenal a large number of million-ton bombs.

Yet the public, in the view of those who have given serious thought to these matters, has little awareness of what a nuclear war would mean. For this reason a frank public inquiry to appraise the consequences of the policy of massive retaliation is in the near future.

NO REALIZATION  
When he was a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, Thomas Murray pushed hard for such a study. He had been dismayed to discover that no effort had been made to spell out exactly what a nuclear war would mean in death and destruction. It came to his attention that if the concentration



Final Countdown Nearer Reality

was increasingly on massive retaliation with million-ton bombs, then the choice would be between suicide and seeing the Communists chip away at small wars at the non-Communist world.

Two years ago, shortly before his term on the AEC end-

ed, he wrote a courageous article in Life magazine seeking to make evident the appalling dangers of reliance on the hydrogen bomb. A ground war in small atomic weapons, he wrote, would be more costly than a nuclear war. The "bigger bang for a buck" view dominating the Eisenhower Administration.

REAL RUNAWAY  
What Murray said in the article, more valid today than when it was written, was that weapons technology had run away with policy. An ever-bigger bang in an ever-smaller package became the avenue of technological development and in the absence of any strategy other than massive retaliation the technicians had their way. Recounting the "conditions of unimaginable horror" in a war in which each side would explode about 3,000 megatons (3,000,000 tons) of bombs Murray wrote:

"The inherent absurdity of a multimegaton war sets limits to the military usefulness of immense thermonuclear weapons. In consequence limits are also set to the validity of the strategy based on these weapons. Deterrence—retaliation, if you wish, be called a strategy of survival—but only as long as the deterrence works, or as long as it sustains the nuclear stalemate."

GAVIN BLASTED

Few with official knowledge talk about these things publicly. Lt. Gen. Gavin, in testimony to Congress, spoke of "current planning" estimating casualties in an attack on Russia in hundreds of millions. This disclosure brought the Pentagon down on Gavin's head.

On May 4 Rep. Chet Holifield's subcommittee on the effects of radioactive fallout from bomb tests will begin hearings covering the fallout hazard of the past two years. These hearings could be expanded later on to cover the consequences of nuclear war.

And Murray, an adviser to the joint congressional committee, would have a part in furthering a study which he has long believed to be essential to an understanding to the fantastically peril of our time.

# Next Year's Politics: The Man Versus The Party

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON  
The 1960 crystal ball is still clouded with respect to the person of the next president, but some political realities stand out clearly in it. They are:

1. The Republican candidate for president must carry his party to victory next year.

2. His Democratic opposite number must depend on the demonstrated strength of his party to see him through.

3. In Vice President Nixon and Sen. Rockefeller of New York, Republicans unquestionably have the two best known political figures in the nation after President Eisenhower.

4. Democrats, in spite of 35

governors and top-heavy congressional majorities, have no such standouts.

MAN VERSUS PARTY  
There is nothing in sight today to interfere with the prospect that the next presidential contest will take place in actuality between a Republican personality and the Democratic party. These workings of the law of compensation are privately acknowledged by professionals in both parties and their actions reflect them, no matter what they say in public.

Republicans proved it last weekend when they chose as national chairman an agree-

able Kentuckian who had demonstrated in his border state his ability to win a majority of the voters while running under the minority party banner. He is Sen. Thurston Morton, a self-described moderate.

MIDDLE ROAD  
His congenial task as chairman is to so gentle the GOP factions that they can whop it up for either the more conservative Nixon or the more liberal Rockefeller, whichever seems indicated when the national convention gavel falls in Chicago next summer.

At the same time the hustlers practically everywhere were responding to the voices of Democratic hopefuls bent on winning friends in the party organizations and pleasing the people of key states. Sen. Humphrey and Kennedy are taking pre-primary swings around the country and Sen. Symington, the Missouri dark horse, came out of the stable in Kansas.

Senate Leader Johnson only a few days ago felt compelled to

plead with his fellow Texans to cooperate with his strategy of waiting for the front-runners to exhaust themselves. He is thinking, he told them, only of being a good legislator. An organization waiting for J-day is, however, building quietly.

This is all tacit admission that the greatly prized Democratic nomination could as of now land in one of many laps, including some just beginning to be discussed.

BATTLE LOOMS  
Democrats see no way to avoid the harsh family struggle this in prospect. They accept resignedly the grim prospect of bruising presidential preference primaries, though not without hope they may somehow be materialized.

Yet they know that their candidates must come forward and establish their public renown in whatever ways are open to them. Not only are Nixon and Rockefeller now well-known but for various reasons, including the Republican bias of major news media, they will become better known as inexorable time moves toward November, 1960.



SEN. THURSTON MORTON Gentle The Factions

## People's Platform

This Hemisphere

Is Under Attack

Cheraw, S. C.

Editors, The News:

The people of our country should face the facts of what is happening in the Western Hemisphere and act while we have the upper hand... I wish to call the attention of our people to the dangers of the Cuban, the Canal Zone and in Mexico. Are we going to be treated as the British and French were in the Suez Canal and have to give up to a Communist-inspired government?

What happened in Cuba was the start of trouble for us among the small nations of the Americas. We must inform all to keep their hands off the Panama Canal and that we will not tolerate interference in our agreements with other nations of the world... We should not lend aid to any nation that would do away with our way of life. I pray that some day our nation will refrain from letting satellite countries have our nation's tax dollars to destroy free nations...

—J. A. GRAHAM

World Will Miss  
Adenauer's Vision

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

Your editorial tribute to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of West Germany is commendable. However, it remains to be seen whether his stepping down as "top gun" will be as you think, "permit a greater degree of flexibility in negotiating with the Soviet Union..." Let's hope not.

The man who is to succeed Adenauer, Ludwig Erhard, is no fool and no doubt knows the evil, cunning Communist mind well. Like Adenauer, he will command the respect and admiration of free men if he doesn't contract the popular egotism disease of "flexibility" when dealing with Communists, murderers and crooks.

In the civilized world, those who can recognize and cherish

the true image of freedom will miss the stalwart German patriot, Adenauer, as chief of state. They will always share with him, though his grand and not improbable dream that the day will come when he believed Germany will again be united and free.

The views of columnist Walter "Flexible" Lippmann, notwithstanding, libertarians know that the dogged anti-Communist course which Adenauer charted for West Germany is a course more conducive to the ends of unity and freedom than any course Lippmann ever dreamt of—yes, even in his most Freudian moments.

But long-live Konrad Adenauer! A man with high and mature principles—and a will strong enough to give those principles meaning in an age which seems to spotlight, in all its ugliness, the moral, cultural, political, and economic decay of Western civilization.

—J. R. CHERRY JR.

Charles R. Jonas

Should Run Again

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I was very much surprised to hear our Rep. Charles R. Jonas was thinking of not entering the race of 1960.

Many of his supporters and loyal friends, both Democrat and Republican, will be very much disappointed. I don't believe that Mr. Jonas is going to let us down here in the 10th District. I think he should ask for reelection until he is defeated. If I make no mistake... when the new Congress reconvened in 1958 he was asked this question before he was assigned to the Appropriations Committee: Would he offer his services in 1960? His answer was yes.

As a loyal friend and supporter to Mr. Jonas I am asking him to fulfill that promise. For I see no defeat for him in 1960.

—L. L. CHILDRESS

Drew Pearson's

Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

The picking of a Republican national chairman sometimes begins a long way back. In the case of handsome, likable Sen. Thurston Morton of Louisville, it dated back to the 1956 election when he was staking out his battle against potent Sen. Earle Clements, an ex-governor of Kentucky.

Deal For Morton

Morton, a young congressman, was then about as much chance to defeat Clements as an unknown filly running against Tim Tam in the Kentucky Derby. However, Gov. Happy Chandler, nominal Democrat, made a deal with the Republicans to swing votes away from Clements, and by a slender margin of 6,000 votes, Morton won.

Happy Chandler hasn't hesitated to remind Kentucky Republicans of their debt. Once during a tight budget battle he appeared personally before a Re-

publican secret caucus and reminded them: "You've got to support me out of this caucus because I gave you two Republican senators. If it hadn't been for me Morton wouldn't be in the Senate."

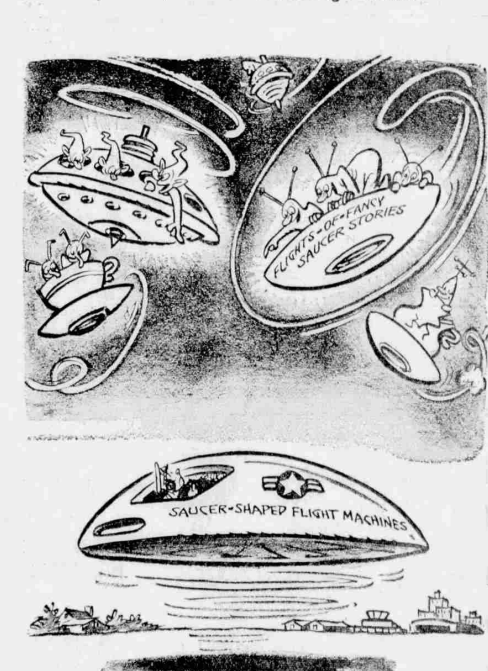
Vote For Happy

Reminded of their debt, Republicans marched out and voted right down the line for the "Democratic" governor of Kentucky. One of the most important parts of that debt, however, still remains unpaid. This will be denied, but it was agreed that when Happy Chandler finished his term as governor, the Republicans would open up a place for him in the Senate.

That's the inside reason for Sen. Morton's promotion to be chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Watch for Morton to resign from the

## 'Hey—Look, Fellows—A Parking Platform'



# Top GOP Job End Result Of Old Deal

Senate so Happy Chandler can have himself appointed.

Some of Adm. Lewis Strauss's business friends, plus Arthur Krock of The New York Times, have been needing newspapers to demand an early confirmation of the admiral as secretary of commerce.

However, members of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee have had a sad experience with quick confirmations of important Eisenhower appointees, only to have them backfire. They were:

Shove By Ike

Commissioner Richard Mack of the Federal Communications Commission—the White House urged an early confirmation of Mack, so Sen. Smathers and Holland of Florida obligingly went along.

Result: Mack is now under indi-

cation for accepting money in connection with the channel 10 case in Miami. This time Sen. Smathers, a member of the Commerce Committee, tells friends he wants the committee to look before it leaps.

Ringing For Bell

Commissioner George McConaughy of the FCC—worked for the Bell Telephone Co. in Ohio, yet was nominated to a commission where he had to regulate the telephone company. Sen. Mike Monroney of Oklahoma gave him a cursory cross-examination before confirmation but did not probe very deeply.

Later McConaughy was mixed up in various questionable TV cases, failed to get reappointed and has been under investigation ever since. This time Monroney wants to act more carefully regarding a cabinet member.