



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Brodie S. Griffith Editor and General Manager
Cecil Prince Associate Editor
R. L. Young Jr. Managing Editor

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Charlotte Needs Citizens Who Care

Charlotte's pre-primary warm-up has been the liveliest in years but a community's political vitality is not measured in rhetoric or emotion. It is measured in votes.

Citizens who care about Charlotte's future will visit the polls Monday. Citizens who don't care will get what they deserve.

It will not do for Charlotteans to skip the primary and wait for the general election. For one thing, the city's next mayor will be named on Monday. For another, the field in the City Council and City School Board races will be narrowed considerably. Good men cannot be elected unless they are nominated.

The one comforting theme that has dominated the 1959 campaign has been a concern for Charlotte's future. Most candidates seem to sense that the city is in an era of delicate transition, that it is standing on the threshold of an era of great expansion. They may have different ideas of how this growth should be guided and how the accompanying problems should be solved. But, fortunately, there are few who would turn back the

clock and battle blindly for an imperfect status quo.

The biggest problem before Charlotte's voters then is to select the people who can be trusted to handle the future's problems with vision, foresight, firmness, ingenuity and good common sense. We have already indicated our own preferences among candidates for mayor and City Council (News, April 20). We have suggested that, when nominating candidates for the Council, Charlotteans give thoughtful consideration to S. Herbert Hitt, Gibson L. Smith, Randolph Babcock and Brevard Myers. In the mayor's race, we have suggested that the incumbent, James S. Smith, offers the city its best hope for sound and constructive leadership during the two years immediately ahead.

Charlotte is fortunate, however, in having a number of worthy candidates from which to choose. This very fact will make Monday's choices more difficult.

Study the candidates. Look up their past records, what they stand for, whether they have a reputation for living up to their promises. Find out everything you can about them. Then, by all means, vote. The citizen who does not vote is relinquishing a voice in local government.

The Rear Rank Of U. S. Education

The National Education Association has released a scholarly study labeled "Rankings of the States," and as might be expected, North Carolina's place in many of its tables is wretched.

A selection of some of the gloomier statistics:

Only 20.5 per cent of the state's population 25 years old and older has completed at least four years of high school. Rank: 49th in the nation.

Only 5 per cent in the same age group has completed four or more years of college. Rank: 39th in the nation.

Median school years completed by Tar Heels 25 years old or older are 7.9. Rank: 47th in the nation.

A total of 21.1 per cent of the state's people in the same age group has had less than five years of schooling. Rank: 44th in the nation.

Furthermore, 32.4 per cent of North Carolina's selective service registrants were disqualified by the mental test in 1957 (including those who failed the physical as well as the mental test). Rank: 44th in the nation.

On the other hand, North Carolina ranks high in the nation in the amount of state and local aid allotted to public education—particularly when measured against the state's low per capita income.

Thus, North Carolina is giving generously to its schools but still it is not enough. Despite the sweet nothings of states' rights about the virtues of 100 per cent locally supported bad schools, poor states like North Carolina will have to make a crack at college after they graduate. In the latter field there are great opportunities for the development of community colleges such as the two Charlotte is now operating.

It is a big order and there will be no overnight miracles. But, said more and more progress pays big dividends in the boundless world of education.

The Built-In Risks Of Early Marriage

A recent survey of young people has caught our interest.

It showed that of 600 teen-agers questioned, 77 per cent favored divorce to end an unhappy marriage when there are no children involved. Even with children, 57 per cent said they'd still break the ties.

We believe that this, in part, is a reflection of youngsters' attitude toward marriage. It is also a reason why we think teenage marriages are a bad risk.

The survey is a sketchy sampling, to be sure. But we submit that the thinking would stand up locally or nationally. Answers given to the above questions, and to others, indicate rather plainly that the youngsters have few if any qualms about dissolving relationships which don't work out as planned, post-haste.

That is the crux of the problem. Call it advancing age or a stuffy attitude, we still think of teen-agers as children. When the dabble in marriage they are children playing an adult game.

Young people are still looking forward to the day when they will be accepted by society as adults. Thinking has yet to crystallize, teen-agers have not lived enough years to know responsibility. In general, they have been under parental influence most of their lives, and decisions have been based on this guidance.

Not long ago, Judge Willard Gatling appeared as a family relations panelist. The juvenile and Domestic Relations Court jurist told his adult audience he

did not believe marriage the institution it once was.

"People are getting divorced faster than they are married," he asserted. "Three out of every five marriages to date are ending in divorce." The judge did not quote a statistical source in this broad generalization, but from his official standpoint he made plain that teenage marriages were a major part of his thinking.

Admittedly, Judge Gatling sees very little of the bright side of marriage. The problem of homes already broken comes before his bench. But, he said, more and more of his cases involve teen-agers.

It must be true that some marriages of youngsters are sanctioned to get the children out from under foot. Certainly, the age of youth is a trying time for everyone involved. In other cases, both teen-agers involved feel, after long steady dating, they're ready to culminate their relationship with a wedding.

These partnerships come with two strikes built in. It is a rare teen-ager who knows where his future lies, plus the fact that an early marriage will hinder his reaching that goal once he is responsible for more than just himself.

We believe that parents must evaluate these points in individual situations. They should be able to tell if their child is mature enough to handle the daily living which is going to be incurred.

Only careful guidance by informed parents can provide the proper perspective through which youth can find its way.

Pace-Setters May Burn Themselves Out Before 1960

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
The degree to which all leading Democratic aspirants for the presidency are now forcing the pace gives rise to the question of whether they can sustain it until a convention still 13 months away.

Sen. John Kennedy was the pace-setter in order to hold what obviously appeared to him to be an early advantage. His extensive politicking and speaking flashed out Sen. Hubert Humphrey, whose campaign is drawing its knees from liberal suspicion of the Kennedy record on the McCarthy and farm issues.

Between them, they have now evoked a plain statement of his availability from Sen. Stuart Symington. The Symington trav-

All these aspirants are burning their candidates at both ends. All start with friends and goodwill within the party, but the pitfalls are many along the road any presidential candidate must travel.

CONTRADICTION

In expectation of the Lyndon Johnson candidacy also, the Texas Legislature has the wheels greased for a measure to secure Johnson's re-election to the Senate in case he fails to get the presidential nomination at Los Angeles. This is effective contradiction of reports that he is really not a candidate.

All these early runners must now expect that their every word and motion will be scrutinized by both their friends and foes. All of them are now talking a great deal on many subjects; it will be most remarkable if none of those remarks return to haunt them.

OBLIVIOUS DANGER

Even that indefatigable ground-coverer, Sen. Estes Kefauver, never began to campaign until about six months before the convention. He only seemed like longer because he was the champion cultivator of the bookends.

The most obvious danger to today's political travelers—and it is something for Vice President Richard Nixon to think about, too—is that they will have lost that freshness which now is so much a part of their appeal. It could count heavily against them in the faithful primaries of Wisconsin and Oregon which already are becoming well-trodden highways.

WAITING GAME

Conventions are often moved by emotions, a fresh idea and a fresh face. Behind the present vanguard are plenty of ambitious Democrats who are only waiting for the leaders to falter.

Another hazard to these leaders is the maneuvering of their supporters. For example, Symington is being blamed here for both of California's Ed Pauley to get control of so large a share of the spectator seats at the national convention. The story was news

to Symington; Pauley's claim is based on the need for rewarding the fat cats who put up funds for the convention. But Pauley is an intimate

friend of former President Truman, who is widely believed to be supporting Symington as the candidate upon whom all factions in the party can agree.

Whether this is true or not, Symington's friends quickly snuffed a plot to give him the advantage of galleries packed in his favor.

'You Know, I Don't Think The U. N. Ever Replied To Our Ultimatum Last Year'



Quarles On The Griddle

Meet 'Mister Missile Gap'

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON
For the past ten days, Washington has been preoccupied with the succession at the State Department. The preoccupation was needless. Christian A. Herter was the obvious and almost necessary choice to succeed John Foster Dulles; and he is also a man of proven stature, character, and courage, who ought to do a first rate job.

No one, meanwhile, seems to be at all preoccupied with the early departure of Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy. He will get the top job. Certainly the President will have the utmost difficulty in finding any other replacement for McElroy.

Yet the succession at the Defense Department really deserves more attention than the succession at the State Department, if only because the right name for Donald Quarles is "Mister Missile Gap."

Why, senator? Have you forgotten the 1952 Republican platform that you helped write? It says that "with foresight the Korean war would never have happened."

—JOE COSTELLO

Quarles has been a leading defense policy-maker during the whole of the last six years, when the world balance of military power has tilted so dangerously against us. He has had much authority over our missile programs, and the missile gap is the worst of our problems. He currently opposes the measures that might bridge the gap. And if he had his way in the past, there would be no more gap, but a vast, unbridgeable, inescapable abyss.

There are rather serious things to say about the fore-ordained next secretary of defense; but they are easily dismissed. In brief, when Quarles first entered the Department as assistant secretary for research and development, the American long range missile program was in a condition that was appalling to contemplate.

The cause of this condition was bad specifications. The development of compact, relatively light weight H-bomb war heads had not been foreseen or allowed for by the Air Staff. Missile designs were therefore required to carry warheads of impossible weight and size. Thus the missiles under development were then either doubtfully useful or actually impossible. In the first category were Snark and Navajo projects, both now terminated. In the impossible category

Talbot, were both needed to secure acceptance of the Von Neumann Committee report.

ATLAS REDESIGNED

The principal initial change was the complete redesign of Atlas, as a workable missile built around the new, much lighter weight warheads. The Atomic Energy Commission was perfecting. Somewhat later, the decision to add the Titan project also grew out of the Von Neumann report. Without Titan, this country would not even be in sight of having a long range ballistic missile capable of being placed in a fully hard pad. But once again, Donald Quarles sharply opposed the inauguration of the Titan project; and Talbot and Gardner had to fight tooth and claw to win the day.

Even the re-design of Atlas and the order for Titan would have been fruitless, however, without the establishment in Turkey of missile-launching radar. Nothing but the grim, undisputable intelligence derived from these radars could have driven the Eisenhower administration to spend the necessary sums for serious defense. The project was a disaster. But once again, Donald Quarles fought the whole plan for the missile-launching radar. The project was a disaster. But once again, Donald Quarles fought the whole plan for the missile-launching radar.

Such is the early Quarles record, in the formative period. The later record has been virtually consistent with the beginning. Indeed, the great tragedy of the hapless McElroy's service as defense secretary has been his choice of Quarles as his chief advisor. But with the missile gap growing more perilous with each passing month, "Mr. Missile Gap" will no doubt become defense secretary when McElroy goes.



MISSILEMAN AT WORK
Too Little Too Late?

People's Platform

Queen City Needs Mrs. Martha Evans

Charlotte
Editors, The News: The decision of Mrs. Martha Evans to run for mayor of Charlotte is a good omen for the Queen City. This office which has had no leadership for the past few years needs the guidance of such a person.

Her record on the City Council shows that she is a person with firm convictions regardless of the consequences. This in itself is enough for us to support her in the coming election.

—M. P. DE LEO

Study Candidates With Great Care

Charlotte
Editors, The News: There are a lot of people running for the City Council and I am sure we will all have a better city if we will study the candidates carefully. Don't vote for people who care nothing about honesty and clean lives. If we are to have a decent community we must elect decent people to office.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Ancient Greeks Given A Plug

Salisbury
Editors, The News: Modern civilization is greatly indebted to the ancient Greeks for many of the ideas and concepts that mean most to us. Through scientific archeology we know the story of the Greeks almost as well as if we had an account of it by modern historians.

Writers have taken advantage of these archeological facts to recreate through imagination the life that was lived in this ancient world. Most novels, ac-

counts in picture magazines and movies are authentic reflections where they were supposed to have happened. All of these modern depictions tend to enlighten the minds of modern men and show us how the Greeks accomplished so much.

—J. W. JEWELL

Oh, Well, We Can't All Have Foresight

Winston-Salem
Editors, The News: Phooey on Sen. Goldwater. He was reminded the other day that only a few months before the Korean War Dwight D. Eisenhower said that defense spending should not exceed \$15 billion. (How?) The senator's weak reply was: "Who could foresee Korea in 1948 or in 1949?"

Why, senator? Have you forgotten the 1952 Republican platform that you helped write? It says that "with foresight the Korean war would never have happened."

—JOE COSTELLO

A Senator Finds Politics Delicious

Rock Hill, S. C.
Editors, The News: An Associated Press dispatch quotes Sen. Frosch (D-Wis.) thusly: "Politics... I eat, drink and sleep it."

It must be tasty business.

—D. EMIS

Quote, Unquote

"If in your own judgment you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer."—Abraham Lincoln.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
Senate gumbushes swooped down on Washington's fashionable Woodner apartment-hotel early the other morning and confiscated the records of telephone calls placed through the switchboard since 1956, including those of America's well-known Catholic prelate, Cardinal Spellman.

Others whose private telephone records are now in the custody of the Senate are committee include congressman J. W. O'Brien of the Canadian Embassy, whose diplomatic immunity may have been violated; Sen. Dick Russell of Georgia, the southern statesman; and half a dozen congressmen.

Bellino Led Rode

The raid was led by Carmine Bellino, a Senate rackets investigator, who was armed with a subpoena signed by Arkansas' Sen. John McClellan. The

document demanded "all original records, including long-distance calls charged to the hotel telephone as well as all restaurant, valet, drugstore, and other charges made to all guests during the period from January 1, 1957."

Records Burned

Bellino apparently suspected that the Woodner Hotel, where Teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa also lives, has been burning its telephone records. At 1:30 a. m., the Senate sleuths barged into the switchboard room with Bellino in the van.

The door, an operator, started for the floor, but Bellino blocked her with a restraining hand.

"She's only going to the restroom," explained Sally Hucks, the chief operator. "If you want to go with her, go right ahead."

Wheeling around, Bellino barked into

her face: "You have been burning records, isn't that so?"

"No sir," protested Millie.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Hucks returned to the switchboard to search the hotel's records. E. R. Williamson, who dressed hastily and rushed to the scene.

The attorney explained to Bellino that the hotel had already started to comply with the committee's subpoena. He pointed out three boxes full of telephone-call slips which, he said, the switchboard girls had been collecting.

Grim Gumbush

But the grim gumbush triumphantly wheeled out the slips which he claimed had been plucked from the hotel incinerator. Neither call had been placed by Hoffa or his henchmen.

Bellino began searching the switchboard room, yanking out papers from the files. After he had gone through everything including the op-

erators' purses, he started to leave with the papers he had seized. He also instructed his men to pick up the boxes of telephone slips.

But Williamson stopped them with a warning.

'Totally Responsible'

"I am not turning anything over to you," he said. "You have entered the room without a search warrant. You have gone through every file I have. So, when you leave, you are not to come back and ask for any more records. We have tried to cooperate with you, and now you have gotten all you came in to get."

This little speech persuaded Bellino to leave the records at the hotel until morning. He ordered Williamson to keep them under lock and made him "totally responsible." Subsequently, the papers were turned over to the racketeers.

From The Mooresville Tribune

WEATHER SIGNS

Some of the prognostications made by the amateur weathermen seem to be based largely on superstition, such as the belief that a rainy Monday means a rainy week; and that a rain on the first Sunday of the month is certain to be followed by three successive "showery" Sundays.

It is claimed that Friday is usually "the fairest or the foulest day of the week."

The time-honored rhyme, "Rain before seven, shine before eleven," still finds strong believers among mountain dwellers.

It is also believed that if cows lie down in their pastures and begin chewing their cuds before 11 a.m. it foretells "a soon rain."

Mountain folk, as in most other parts of the world, believe that rain on her wedding day foretells an unhappy future for a bride.

A strange belief is that rain on the 20th of June will cause all wild and cultivated grapes to fall off the vines.

A storm is expected when ants stop their busy running about and retire to their "hills," when rabbits hide in protected places and when chickens go to roost earlier than usual or stand about in the yard with their tail feathers turned to the wind.

"A white Christmas means a lean graveyard" is a saying more sensible than it may sound offhand, because cold weather kills germs and thereby reduces the spread of disease.

Cardinal's Telephone Records Seized

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