



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Reapportionment: The 'Fix' Was On

THE populous Piedmont was victimized by the oldest shell game in Tar Heel political history this week.

For the fifth time in five sessions a legislative reapportionment bill was killed in the House of Representatives.

The chief argument against passage was painfully familiar: Why act now if another census is just around the corner of the calendar?

The constitution clearly states, however, that reapportionment must occur after each federal census. The General Assembly has refused to act on this mandate since 1941.

In 1951, when appropriate legislation was introduced, it was argued that 1950 census figures were not final and had not been certified. When the bill was reintroduced in 1953, its sponsors were told that they had waited too long and that action should be postponed until a new nose count could be taken.

The same mischievous reasoning was given in 1955, 1957 and 1959.

The contest was plainly rigged and it was embarrassing to watch good men do things that were beneath them.

The argument that the state should

wait until 1961 before redistricting is barren of any legal or moral validity. Because equal representation has been denied this year in defiance of the constitution, the same legislative imbalance in favor of the rural seat will exist in the General Assembly in 1961. Legislators who choose to ignore the constitution now will be just as apt to ignore it then.

Rep. Thomas Turner Jr. of Guilford spoke for the conscience of the state when he said: "The issue is simply the constitution of North Carolina. We are honorable people elected as state representatives. Everyone has taken a solemn oath on the Bible to uphold the constitution. . . I appeal to your sense of fairness, your sense of duty, your sense of patriotism."

The eloquence was in vain. Such fundamental concepts as constitutional government and majority rule were totally obscured by doubletalk and dusty alibis. The Piedmont must now cast its hopes for equal representation on a plan for semi-automatic reapportionment in a revised constitution now under consideration. Today these hopes are flimsy indeed.

Keep The Shrine, But Make It Safe

THE bulk of evidence indicated the Confederate Women's Home at Fayetteville contained fire hazards, but the Raleigh oratory in the home's defense clanged with southern rhetoric. The home, therefore, will remain where it is.

Applly labeled a "shrine" by at least one House speaker, it is perfectly all right to let the aged women's residence remain where it is—as long as safety standards are met and remain adequate.

The residents of this structure range in age from 67 to 95 years, and 25 of them are more than 80. That in itself

should be enough to point to the extra precautions which must be provided.

State officials reported open stairwells, narrow fire escapes and a kindling-dry interior as a few examples of substandard conditions. Sponsors for the home and protective measures will be provided, along with certain alterations.

All the inspiring speeches in the world can do nothing if this building should catch fire. That eventuality is no respecter of rhetoric. It will not be stayed no matter how well the shrine.

Preventive measures should be taken, and quickly.

Mower-Accident Season Is Just Ahead

YESTERDAY we noticed it. We've got grass coming up.

To most homeowners this is of little import and is to be expected. With it, is always a bright sign, for our grass has to shove aside the wild onions before it can make a start.

Having observed this phenomenon, we know once again the power mower would have to be whipped into combat readiness for the month-long fight ahead. And thereby dangles a story.

Last season, wearied at the end of an afternoon's worth of guidance at the blade, we grew careless. We trusted to luck instead of clearing the area first. The blade picked up a rock and clipped us like a rifle bullet. We've got a neat, 12-inch scar just below the knee to prove it.

However, we admit it should not have happened. Nobody was at fault but ourselves. As it turned out, we were the seventh mowing casualty that day visiting the hospital.

Which brings to mind that as in driving, most mower accidents are owner carelessness. It has gotten to the point where almost all property owners know of somebody who has gotten hit by a rock, whittled off the mower's blade or broken out a window with a flying object.

These are preventable things. A loose blade comes from lack of maintenance, blade-flinging objects shouldn't have been there in the first place.

They are lethal weapons. One thoughtless moment and that muscular servant of lawn care can turn into a crippling mauler.

The Handy Phrase For The Newspapers

KEEPING abreast of the news is difficult at times. The trouble is compounded for newspaper reporters when they run across certain phrases which come handy to their sources.

These phrases have become stock-in-trade with some people, and, like the famous Penitence, are deemed to confuse the uninitiated listener.

Here are some examples, followed by a realistic interpretation of what was meant:

"That's off the record"—But it might make a good rumor story.

"You can quote me"—He needs the publicity.

"We're working on that"—He mentioned it to his wife the other night while watching television.

"We're taking a survey"—He'll have the problem figured out in about six months.

"It's being expedited"—He's not quite sure, and his secretary is out to lunch.

"We're firming up plans"—He dimly recalled something mentioned it between dessert and coffee.

"It's in the mill"—His secretary still hasn't come back.

"Let me refer you to . . ."—He prefers somebody else's name in the story.

"Plans are finalized"—But he doesn't know any of the details.

"Off the top of my head"—He just remembered he gave his secretary the rest of the afternoon at the beauty parlor.

"Glad you called, 'buddy"—He's already forgotten your name.

From The Richmond News Leader

WHEAR IS THE BARE?

THE mysteries of the American language, we have about concluded, are nowhere more baffling than in the field of spelling. If our mother tongue confronts the earnest pupil with a sizeable number of irregular verbs, at least it permits him an easy view of the subjunctive. No treacheries of the ablative or the dative lie in the path of learning. We are not obsessed, like the Germans or French, with a peppering of disorienting marks.

But have you tried, lately, to teach spelling to a reluctant child?

It is a disconcerting experience. Consider, if you please, the "are" sound, as in care.

Let us form a few words, you say to the pupil, taking a roll of string and a fish hook away from him, and dutifully the pupil begins at the front of the alphabet: Aware, he says, bare, care,

care—

No, you say uneasily, that's chair, and the "bare" you're thinking of is like in bare skin.

Bear skin?

No, you say, like in bare facts. Go on.

So he goes on: Dare, fare, hare—

That's a bus fare, you remark, and the hare is like in rabbit.

I was thinking of State Fair, he says, and ordinary fair. Can I have my fish hook back?

Go on, you say.

Mare, pare, stare, he says, rare, rare, where—

Whose, you say. The pare is like when you pare an orange. Were you thinking of a pear tree?

No, he says, I was thinking of a pair of quons.

And as for "where," you say, that's where-s, not where-e, and the "stare" is like when you stare at somebody, not like going upstairs, and while there is such a word as tare, you mean tear like to tear your clothes . . .

Gimmie my fish hook, he says.

There are times, honestly, when a parent begins to despair—ah, despair, despair, despair—when a parent wants to give up.

Second offenders on parking violations are rare in Beirut, Lebanon. The police just let air out of the tires instead of writing tickets. —MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR

It's Too Late For Eisenhower To Renovate The GOP

By JOSEPH ALSOP

THE resignation of Meade ALCORN as chairman of the Republican National Committee will be lamented by the party's orthodox professional politicians.

The orthodox professionals have liked ALCORN precisely because this able, businesslike man was also completely orthodox and completely professional. The question remains, however, whether orthodox professionalism is really what the Republican Party needs.

The question is raised, for instance, by the story of Neil McElroy's bad beginning as secretary of defense. When first appointed, McElroy considered bringing in as an undersecretary one of the principal authors of the Galtier Report, William C. Foster. But Foster had been undersecretary of defense once already, at the end of the Truman administration. He was "tainted with Trumanism," as the orthodox professionals like to phrase it.

SAFE FORECAST

Yet it is a pretty safe forecast that this was not the safe thing to do for the long run. By election year, the unwisdom of tossing the Galtier Report into the scrapbasket will surely be apparent. The policy that Donald Quarles has stood for and sold to his chief will surely be discarded. The price for short-run party harmony will be paid, in the long run, in lost Republican votes at the polls.

One could cite other, similar cases, such as ALCORN's successful effort to block the appointment of Henry Labouisse as foreign aid administrator. But there is no need to accumulate further evidence in order to make the essential point, which really has to do with the President rather than Meade ALCORN. The point is that the President's drive to re-construct, or as he put it, to "modernize" the Republican Party has utterly failed in the end. Having been Republican

national chairman in the second Eisenhower administration, Meade ALCORN cannot justly be blamed for this failure. The party was really set in the first four Eisenhower years.

McCONE VETOED

The banishment of the "Truman-tainted" Republicans was one part of the pattern from the outset—although the President himself was Truman-tainted, too. For just that reason, the present chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, John J. McCONE, was vetoed for a major Defense Department job in 1953. McCONE got his present post because his predecessor, Lewis Strauss, got into such a fearful row with Congress.

Still another, even more important part of the pattern was the heavy preference given by Eisenhower to men "who had met a payroll"—to industrial executives, as opposed to lawyers, bankers, and men with academic backgrounds. Practical experience showed that industrialists commonly find it more difficult than almost any other group of men to adapt themselves to the peculiar ways of government.

Furthermore, the competition for promotion in the great industrial hierarchy makes it very dangerous for the able junior executives to shift to government work; so the second-raters are more easily available. All the while, the competence of the Charles E. Wilson years at the Defense Department.

It would take too long to an-

alyze all the other elements in the Eisenhower pattern, such as the very great behind-the-scenes influence of Robert A. Taft exercised over many of the earliest appointments. Many different forces have prevented this administration from setting the example for the Republican Party's renovation.

Since Harry Truman's time,

the Democratic Party has been largely renovated, by the kind of men who organized the California and other state victories in the last election. But the Republican Party will have to wait for renovation by Richard Nixon or Nelson Rockefeller. Both men have strong ideas about how to do the job, and both frankly admit that the job needs doing.



"Hello, Ike—Send Up Reinforcements!"

People's Platform

All Sterilization Laws Should Be Repealed

Editors, The News:

THE Jolly Sterilization Bill will probably be rejected because its evil nature is so obvious that even "liberal" newspapers oppose it.

Such bills will continue to be the able forward however, in my opinion, until the Sterilization Statute of 1933 is repealed.

The State has no right to mutilate the bodies of the innocent epileptic, feeble-minded or mentally diseased persons unfortunate enough to be under its care. Only those who have lost faith in God believe otherwise, in this opinion.

As long as the majority of states flaunt in the face of nature and nature's God, evil measures such as sterilization laws, the country will suffer. And it continues to gravitate to the support of the enemies of God, as it does now in Yugoslavia, as it does in Poland and as it attempted to do in Russia under the original Marshall Plan.

It is the hope of this individual that North Carolina will lead the parade of states in repealing the evil sterilization laws.

—PETER J. KING

Why Not Name It 'Garinger Central'?

Editors, The News:

AS students, we look forward to the new high school with high hopes and great expectations. We know that this new institution will be a great tribute not only to Charlotte, but also to North Carolina and to the entire South.

Almost singly responsible for this magnificent new school is Dr. Elmer H. Garinger, superintendent of the Charlotte City Schools. No one in our history has done so much for Charlotte and its school system as this fine educator. It is only fitting that this new school should be a tribute to Dr. Garinger. But why not make the tribute even greater?

MITCHELL ON TRIAL

Secretary of Labor James Mitchell will carry the burden for the administration in dealing with the problems of a strike. He is ambitious and, as the most moderate member of the cabinet, he has lately suffered a belittling process by Republican right-wingers. An able handling of his role, in such a domestic crisis as a steel strike would create, could bring Mitchell back strongly to public attention.

Last year President Eisenhower did not respond to pleas from Sen. Estes Kefauver to take measures to hold down a threatened steel price increase. The subsequent increase was felt almost immediately in an increase in the price of automobiles and other products containing steel.

This year the President has changed his position and has decided in advance any price-boosting solution.

Charlotte Central High School is recognized throughout the South for its scholastic standing and for its leadership in giving to the nation. Much of Central's greatness is attributed to its excellent facilities and principals over the years. Outstanding among these is Dr. Garinger. Many Charlotteans owe a great debt of gratitude to Central for the excellent preparation which they received there.

The growing, thriving city which Charlotte is today rests on the sturdy foundations laid by Central High School. Why must Charlotte lose this leader in her city? Why must she deny this school so steeped in tradition?

The present students feel urgently that Central must remain . . .

Why not keep Central's identity by incorporating its name into that of the new school, making it GARINGER CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, thus retaining Char-

lotte's most beloved Alma Mater?

We the present students have done all that we can. Now we are asking you the citizens, past graduates and students of tomorrow to actively voice your desires for a GARINGER CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL.

—PATSY BARNETTE, Senior
BETSY BRAUSA, Senior.

Forced Medication Erodes Our Liberty

Editors, The News:

IT is difficult for a layman to try to influence against the advice of a medical doctor in regard to the polio vaccination program, but I, for one, am against it.

We already have too much compulsory medication measures eating away at our individual liberty, the latest and most appalling proposition being forced sterilization for unwed mothers.

In every case, starting with water fluoridation and vaccines for communicable diseases, the final say should be with the individual.

Even if a small minority opposes such measures it is within their constitutional rights that they be respected; and even if the majority of medical doctors endorse this program some of them are strongly opposed.

If there is anything human history teaches it is that the authority of one generation has been most of the time proven wrong by the next generation. Medical authority has escaped this rule less of all.

There is a small but irrefragable percentage of medical as well as lay people who believe that true disease prevention begins with the restoration of our depleted soil and the use of "real" food grown in it rather than the artificial, worthless matter the population eats.

Many of us have read about such "backward" people as the Hunzas who do not know disease and whose sturdy health comes straight through superior crops grown in unexploited land.

In retrospect, this so-called "enlightened" age of wonder drugs and vaccines may well be regarded as the dark ages of medicine.

Shortcuts to health are always popular with most people but only when the study of medicine is busy chasing and isolating viruses over depleted bodies remain an ever increasing irritation for the next "bug" on the list.

—MRS. BOB LINDSEY

A Call To Defeat Coming Bond Issue

Editors, The News:

A MEET, stupes of Charlotte and the coming bond issue. Never in history have schools spent so much and taught so little.

—STYLER STOVALL

'Think We'd Better Lie Low For A While?'



Dark Prospects

Steel Strike Will Jolt The Economy

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

THE coming steel strike, which both labor and management seem to be inviting or possibly merely regard as inevitable, will have both economic and political repercussions that may have long-lasting effects.

The steel industry is now being hit by a new output record as buyers hedge against a long strike. This will boom steel profits in the current quarter and keep employment in the industry high. Yet so much advance stockpiling can only mean lessened production in the first quarters of the year, whether there is a strike or not.

KEY TO VITALITY

Economists have already been raising questions as to the outlook for the third and fourth quarters of the year and the prospect of a downturn in steel production is a key item in their forecasts. Along with automo-

biles and construction, steel production is one of the principal keys to the vitality of the economy.

The effects of last year's recession are not over in every part of the country. More than four million remain unemployed. Even where unemployment is not a major factor, business in some areas has not recovered its normal resiliency. So the prospects of a long steel strike in mid-summer remain discouraging.

A strike in such a major industry will have not only direct effects, but far-reaching indirect consequences. This will be true particularly if the end result is a wage-price package which could set off a sharp round of inflation. The success or failure of public officials in dealing with such a strike may well make or break many reputations.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THE Air Force hastily canceled a flight of top brass to Spain the other day after Oregon's crusading Congressman Charlie Porter, who went along as a reserve officer, threatened to confront American Ambassador John Davis Lodge and demand his resignation.

As a result, the plenipotentiary and colonels stopped at London, Paris, Wiesbaden, Rome and Naples—but admittedly stopped Madrid.

Foe Of Dictators

Congressman Porter and T. A. Thompson of Louisiana, both Air Force reservists, accompanied the military delegation which was commanded by Maj. Gen. R. A. Gruessendorf. Their purpose was to compare notes with European mili-

Air Force Pulled Fast One On Porter

tary leaders on military reserve programs.

An outspoken foe of dictators, Porter served notice that he would take advantage of their Madrid stopover to lambast Ambassador Lodge for his warm support of Dictator Franco. Porter pointed out that Lodge had called for a change from the policy of hands-off to the warm embrace in our dealings with Franco. This was just the reverse of what was happening in Washington where the administration had called for a cool attitude toward dictators.

Face To Face

Since Ambassador John Lodge in Spain is the brother of Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge at the United Nations, his statement carried weight. Therefore, Porter said he intended to tell Ambassa-

dor John Lodge to his face that he ought to quit pamparing dictators and resign.

But the outspoken congressman never got a chance to confront Lodge. The former Air Force quietly crossed Madrid off the itinerary. Gen. Gruessendorf showed Porter a letter from the U. S. air attaché in Madrid, explaining there was no reason to stop here since Spain has only 25 reserve air officers.

Lady Behind The Mail

Women sometimes have a lot to do with picking presidents. This applies to wives, also to secretaries.

Today in Albany, N. Y., mail is pouring into the office of Gov. Nelson Rockefeller from all over the nation asking if he wants to run, whether he's going to

run, and offering help to make him president.

Who is screening this mail? A lady who has let us do with the early days of picking Eisenhower—Eileen Slater. Miss Slater used to be boss girl for Sherman Adams, the man who engineered Eisenhower's early campaign in 1952.

Bobby's Future

Joe Kennedy, father of the handsome senator from Massachusetts, is planning to run his other boy, Bobby, for governor of Massachusetts. Joe burnt up the wires on Palm Beach the other day when Bobby pulled that booboo about having offers from the underworld to call off Senate dogs in return for presidential support for his brother.