



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1959

Jim Smith Is In Tune With The Times

Mayor James S. Smith has kindled a roaring blaze under Charlotte's new City Council.

The 12-point program of municipal goals he unveiled for News readers yesterday represents a direct challenge to the genius and resourcefulness of the seven gentlemen who took office Monday.

Perhaps there are no ready-made formulas that will guarantee spontaneous progress. Enthusiasm alone will not do the job, although enthusiasm is certainly needed. An adventurous spirit helps, but it must be tempered with prudence and common sense. Ideas are required, but they must be good ideas.

In the final analysis, the desired objective of a healthy, orderly, well-maintained and constantly renewing city can be achieved only by the wisdom to do the right thing at the right time and in the right way. It will take unremitting action on many fronts—municipal housekeeping, physical and financial planning, political reorganization, public improvements and the rest. It will take the fortitude to place the general welfare always first. Finally, it will take faith in ourselves and confidence in our destiny.

Mayor Smith, with a few broad strokes, has sketched the areas of special inter-

est. City-county consolidation in certain vital areas such as law enforcement, tax administration and recreation, a search for new sources of municipal revenue, extension of services to the perimeter, airport expansion, completion of revised heating and building codes, solution of drainage, garbage and sewage disposal problems, completion of the grade separation program, in midtown, improved physical facilities for municipal government and better personnel practices for city government employees.

It must not be assumed, however, that the mayor's check list covers all of the city's important goals. The traffic situation, prominently mentioned in a 14-point program released by Mr. Smith in January 1958, will still require careful attention during the next two years. In 1958 the mayor also urged support of the new Urban Redevelopment Commission and this field represents a continuing challenge to City Hall's ingenuity and dedication. In addition, there will be the search for a new city manager, the parking dilemma, the threatened decay of the central business district, the planning and zoning problems and numerous other areas of critical concern.

The task for Mayor Smith and the new City Council is tremendous. It cannot be diminished by trying to minimize the preparations which will be required or by seeking relief in panaceas. It will require sustained faith and perpetual effort. But it can be done. Charlotte will be what we make it—nothing more, nothing less.

Questioning The Easy Distinctions

A Phi Beta Kappa key never made the coed's heart flutter the way a monogram did. And Red Grange had more fans than Albert Einstein.

That is the way so many of us used to look at it. We drew the clear distinction between "brain" and "brawn" or between the bookish sort and the more earthy sort who could not only think but do. We didn't fret a great deal, either, about whether the distinction was as clear as that, or if it was, whether the fact itself was a very good one.

Now that we are all growing up a little, though still handing out both the keys and the monograms, we question easy distinctions. The News' selection of 29 All-Star scholars from Charlotte and Mecklenburg schools is itself a questioning. We extend our congratulations to over a score of young men and women who have stood out by fine marks and hard, often original, study. In so doing, we also question whether Charlotte, or North Carolina, or the whole country, can enjoy the rewards of cultivated intelligence unless we encourage and recognize it at the source. The source is, of course, young people, none of them content to be mediocre in school.

As we do not accept the old fancy

that excellence of mind does or should get less reward than other young attainments, so we don't accept the worn old distinction between brain and brawn. Or between the skill to excel with a mind and skill to excel in other ways.

Scanning the list of all-star scholars, we note uniform excellence in grades. But we also note that these "A" students are tennis players, student editors and jurists, journalists, radio hams, taxidermists, poets, musicians, artists, trackmen, football players, youth leaders in their churches, and actors. So intelligence is not a sign that other interests are lacking, but on the contrary, often a sign that gifts have been used in many ways.

It is interesting, as staff writer Ann Sawyer noted in her report, that these outstanding young people "know where they are going and what they're going to do." They know they want to be scientists, engineers, teachers, doctors and other things. We hope they keep their dreams alive. Yet the professions to which they will soon add their contribution almost demand that their energies be absorbed in fairly small specialties. We feel sure they will excel, but we hope they will keep their interests as broad as they seem to be at present.

Shine On, Shine On Diamond Pipes

Before the disastrous news of last week, we had a good time picturing the historians of 4050, wrestling themselves in the smoke from their pipes and in speculation about what made 20th Century man go to the moon.

The mystery would no doubt enthrall those antiquarians much as the mystery of what drove medieval knights to Crusade, or the Norse explorers into the icy Atlantic in their frail barbs, enthrall the antiquarians of today. To boot, the invasion of the moon would have so much more romance to it than to sojourn in the Holy Land or into lonely seas. Being after the moon, space explorers would be after a symbol linked to a thousand and any thing—most importantly, love, as in "th'constant moon" of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," and to madness, as in the women without shadows who inhabited moonlit Gothic gardens. It would be clear that there had been a mystique about the moon; and attempting to sort the motives for reaching it, these future historians would note for "psychological" insights that the

moon had been described by 20th Century engineers as a source for love, yellow for harvest and blue for the jilted. They would note that Carolina, indeed, claimed to have a superior view of it. They couldn't ignore the political implications. The moon might be a station from which we could spy on the Russians, or the Russians on us; or it could simply be a refuge for the survivors of a final, fiery holocaust on earth.

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People's Platform

Editors, The News:

President Eisenhower has the right idea. Let's look him up in a 100 per cent. He realizes that Russia is ahead of us in missile development and that our lead is increasing rapidly. Russia has a large population and is educating many more scientists than we are.

Since it appears war is inevitable, the sooner we fight Russia the better, since we will be proportionately stronger.

The mass of the American people are timid and not appreciative of this aim and action. Therefore, the task of getting the war started becomes more difficult.

Gen Eisenhower's astute approach is to remain silent himself but release information to newspapers. That we have been flying around the world in the air constantly ready to attack Russia. Some bombers, in fact, are said to head toward Russian bases and turn back regularly.

Meanwhile, our radar stations around the world are evaluating blips on a screen and upon this evaluation Gen. Eisenhower will order our bombers to strike before we have received the initial blow. It will therefore be easy for us to misinterpret a blip on the screen and we can fight Russia while we are still stronger. This will also avoid the burdensome problem of getting Congress to declare war.

—JAMES ALEXANDER

Editors, The News:

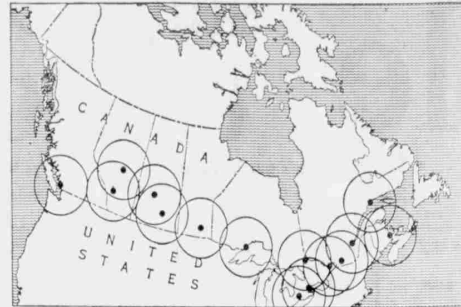
Here is a choice bit of news. A nonpartisan taxpayers' revolt that has mushroomed suddenly from the grass roots in the State of Washington may spark similar revolts all over the country. The revolt was started by big-name citizens. It all began on Feb. 11 with a salesman from Wenatchee who made a speech on government and taxes to members of the Lions Club in Ritzville, Wash., population 2,200.

Some of the listeners were so impressed they decided to discuss the matter further. They called the next morning. Twenty men showed up and soon were joined by another 40. Among them were Republicans, Democrats and independents. They raised \$300 to print form letters to be signed by citizens and sent to the governor and members of the legislature. Within two weeks legislators had received more than 10,000 of the letters and Gov. Albert D. Rosellini replied with a form letter of his own, saying that the revolts should be realistic enough to know that increased taxes are necessary to maintain a minimum of services already rendered. His letter just added fuel to the fire. The revolt started quickly in Spokane, where a goal of 75,000 letters was set. Anacortes, Aberdeen, Bellingham and other smaller towns joined the revolt. Plans were announced to carry the campaign into Seattle, the state's biggest city.

There are signs that the movement already is having its effects on legislators. The letter campaign has reached proportions which the senators do not ignore. The campaign also has alerted all citizens of the state to the tax situation. Even more important, it has provided a means by which average citizens can voice their protest. This is a grass roots democracy in action, the kind envisioned under our Republican form of government. It is the most effective way outside of defeating offenders at the polls, of forcing officials to heed the will of the people. American citizens are under no obligation to pay taxes to the government when billions of dollars are given to foreign nations who claim to be our friends. Friends who have to be bought are not friends but are gangsters of the worst kind.

Wait and see if the Cuban bandit who has shot down

A Blip On A Radar Screen Could Start War



How Radar Stations Guard Uncle Sam's Northern Border

more than 500 men doesn't turn out to be a Communist. But he has done a neat job of pulling the wool over the eyes of all the bigwigs in Washington who should have known better. They always fall for Communist traps.

In the United States would join together and sign a petition stating we would no longer buy these leading magazines unless they cut down on some of these "sexy articles" and if all of us would hand together and not patronize these sex

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movies at all, they would eventually stop.

We would have to make it known to the magazine and movie world that we mean business. Surely there isn't an adult in the world who wouldn't be willing to sacrifice that little to help our children from these brutal killings.

Of course, stopping so much of the wrong kind of sex material isn't the answer. We parents have got to substitute these wrong sex ideas with good ones. That, too, will be hard for many of us. But we can always get help from trained counselors and psychologists. They can guide us to the right way of teaching our children about sex. They have to have the answers and it should come from their parents in a proud, unshared way.

I'm only one person, and I can't do much, but I would certainly join with all the other parents to strike against the magazines and sex movies.

—Name Withheld By Request

'We Want To Protect You Against The Possibility That Criminals Might Hide In Here'

Saner Sex Views Needed In U. S.

Editors, The News:

The papers for the past several weeks have been literally filled with "rape-beating articles." I call particular interest to the case of the 15-year-old boy who was honor student and boy scout. I have small children of my own, and reading something like this just makes your heart sick when you think it could and might happen to one of your own.

How long is it going to take before adults of the world to realize that we are the only ones who can do anything about these situations? I believe something can be done to minimize these happenings. We have big officials working trying to cut down traffic hazards, which is wonderful, but these "rape-beatings and killings" have also become great hazards.

The whole world, children and adults, are more sex-conscious these days than anything. All of us are. It's nothing new, it's been happening for generations, but what better time is there to put a stop to it than now? The scientists and doctors of the world are wondering. They've found cures for some of the most dreaded diseases in the world. Right now, our social world has a dread disease, and that is our "abnormal views on sex."

Girls are brought up to believe that their bodies are to be displayed in revealing clothing that they have have to have a certain flicker. Why do they believe this? Just take a look at some of the nation's leading magazines. I'm not speaking of the so-called "sex magazines." I mean the leading magazines that are found in nearly every home and every doctor's office. These books have wonderful laws in them, but have you ever noticed the many articles complete with pictures of semi-nude choruses girls or movie stars who have on next-to-nothing?

And what do we adults do? We provide them with bosomy half-naked women who do nothing to teach them of what sex really means, only to arouse a need in the growing boy and make a teenage girl do exactly what she sees these sexy creatures do. Thus causing our teen-aged boys to do things they will never do otherwise.

How many "really fit" movies do we have for our teenagers? Most of them are accepted as a fact that the two German states cannot be united during these negotiations. Why can't we have more movies like "A Man Called Peter," or some of the light comedies, or movies that portray sex in the way God meant it to be?

I don't think we should hide the facts of sex and never allow our children to see any of the wrong things. That would only make them more curious. But if every man and woman



Background For Geneva

by WALTER LIPPMANN

WASHINGTON

The question of whether to confer at a round table, as the Soviet Union has proposed, is not in itself important. But it is very interesting. For it is an early sample of the kind of negotiations which are now being opened at Geneva and will go on to the summit, perhaps in San Francisco. It will be a negotiation not so much about what will be done as about how it shall be done.

Thus, in Bonn and in Paris, no less than in London, Washington, and Moscow, it is accepted as a fact that the two German states cannot be united during these negotiations. Why can't we have more movies like "A Man Called Peter," or some of the light comedies, or movies that portray sex in the way God meant it to be?

REAL PROBLEM

Equally, it is surely well understood in Moscow, as it is in Washington and the West, that West Berlin will not be abandoned.

by WALTER LIPPMANN

by the other hand, there is no recognition of the fact that there are two German states, and if the Soviet Union openly abandoned East Germany as a state, treating it as more occupied territory, there would be a strong incentive and much provocation for an East German revolt. When West Germany is rearmament, perhaps with nuclear weapons, an East German revolt would be a very great danger to the peace of the world.

FOOL OR KNAVE

The moral of this is that the real problems will require a high degree of statesmanship and that they cannot be solved by pounding the table and playing to the gallery.

The hard part of the negotiation, which will have to be carried on quietly and efficiently, will consist in devising juridical and political formulae which accommodate the political and psychological imperatives. This will not be easy to do, especially if it has to be done with constant stamping, whistling, and cat-calls from the gallery about who has won what, who is a fool or a knave.

From The Mottion (III.) Journal-Gazette

PHYSICAL EDUCATION? IT'S STUPID!

The Illinois General Assembly will shortly pass legislation saddling the people of Illinois with a staggering tax load. The legislators will tell us that they have no choice since the money is needed for education.

But they do have a choice, and now is the time for all of us to advise our representatives in Springfield that we have had a belly full.

One of the silliest laws ever passed in the General Assembly is the one concerning compulsory physical education in public schools.

This is the picture today: You load a group of healthy youngsters in a bus and haul them to school. As soon as they arrive at the school building you undress them and subject them to an hour of so-called physical education whether they need it or not. Then at the end of the day you load them on the bus again and haul them home. This costs a hell of a lot of money.

Particularly stupid is compulsory physical education for girls. Few parents are rearing their daughters to be lady warriors, or muscle girls with bumps on the backs of their legs and other places where girls shouldn't have bumps. Back in our day girls managed to develop without compulsory physical education. They developed pretty well. Why was such a silly bill passed? It was passed under pressure of various lobby groups to make jobs for college athletes taking physical education courses because they weren't smart enough to get passing grades in English and algebra and other subjects which a generation or two ago considered essential for an educated person. The Journal-Gazette has always advised that we should pay for teachers, and will continue to do so, but we will oppose any increase in the tax rate so long as boards of education and administrators refuse to give an inch in curtailing silly fluff.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

Over an early breakfast eaten behind closed doors, South Carolina's Dixiecrat Sen. Strom Thurmond drew Pearson's attention to the other day from the two great leaders of the Civil War—Robert E. Lee of the South and Abraham Lincoln of the North.

Thurmond spoke to a handful of senators who meet privately each Wednesday morning to worship together. What is said at their private prayer breakfast is kept between them and their Maker. No senator attends for the political good it might do him back home.

However, Thurmond's remarks so impressed his listeners that this writer would like to report the highlights.

"At Lincoln in the North would like to have been lived. Lee did his best to heal the wounds of war," said Sen. Thurmond. "On many occasions, unhappy, disillusioned southerners attempted to get fuel for bitterness from him."

"But Gen. Lee, did you never feel

Thurmond Praises Lee And Lincoln

any bitterness toward the North?" one such southerner asked him.

"His answer came in quiet tones: 'I believe I may say, looking into my own heart and speaking in the presence of God, that I have never known a moment of bitterness or resentment toward the North.'"

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great strategist. But, more important, he was humble. Humility enabled him to get the maximum effort from his men, and this humbleness made him a saint in the eyes of his men. As Lee rode by a campfire, a Confederate private remarked: 'Well, boys, the rest of us may have developed from monkeys, but I tell you only God Almighty could make a man like Marsie Robert!'

After Lee's sad surrender, Sen. Thurmond told how he accepted the presidency of small Washington college in the Shenandoah Valley.

"The salary was to be \$2,500 annually," reported Thurmond, "if funds were available. He accepted this position only after explaining to the trustees his serious doubts as to whether he could do full justice to the job."

In taking over the administration of the war-torn Washington College, Lee first built a chapel. "... He lived but five years after taking the oath of presidency yet his vigor, clarity of vision, and wisdom of policy in these few years earned for him and his college

a position in the history of American education."

Summarizing, Thurmond declared: "As the worshipped leader of a defeated people, Lee held his head high and set out to give an example to his people. ... It was his simple humility and his humility of character which set him apart, ahead and above his fellow men."

'A Great And Good Man'

Of Lincoln, the senator earlier said, "He was always a good man with the highest moral principles. Shortly before the death of his mother, he promised her that he would never drink liquor, and he kept that promise to his death. His strongest profruity, if you wish to call it that, was his one of the phrase, 'By Jingo.' His honesty was legendary. As was his kindness. He was a great and good man. ... He studied God's word and tried to apply it to his own life until, finally, it became the foundation for a strong and unshakable faith."