



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Hungry Children: Time Trundles On

Time has not lessened the plight of Charlotte's hungry school children one whit. Youngsters are still going lunchless. The community is still without a solution.

A special study committee of the Social Planning Council will issue an interim report on the problem tomorrow but Chairman William K. Van Allen says it is not yet ready to recommend a feeding plan.

When will a final report be ready? Probably not until fall, says Mr. Van Allen.

Fall is a long way off. Another school year will begin in the fall. Another pattern of need will be established and another cycle of neglect will be begun.

The problem is great and it is indescribably complex. But it is not unique. Other cities have experienced the same situation and many have done something about it.

In Charlotte, a measure of impatience is pardonable. Certainly, every reasonable effort ought to be made to work out a solution, establish a policy and put it in operation before fall.

The seriousness of local conditions has been known since early December 1958. It was then that Staff Writer Ann Sawyer began her series of articles in

The News. It was estimated that 2,000 pupils were going without lunches because their parents could not afford to pack sandwiches for their children or buy them hot food at school.

Charlotte's heart was deeply touched. Several private organizations and individuals responded immediately with contributions and the number of hungry children was reduced by several hundred. Meanwhile the Social Planning Council launched its special study.

The gifts represent palliatives, not cures. This temporary treatment was nevertheless welcome. It reflected the community's deep concern and the bigness of its heart. But it did not diminish the need for a comprehensive long-range solution.

We have great admiration for Mr. Van Allen and his colleagues. They are volunteering their time, good judgment and energy in the best tradition of enlightened citizenship. Some progress has been made in narrowing the limits of responsibility. But more is needed—and soon.

The plight of these unfortunate children hangs heavy on Charlotte's conscience. It will continue to afflict sensitive citizens until they can be sure that a comprehensive solution is on the way.

Who Says There's Going To Be Another Big War?

By MARQUIS CHILDS

GENEVA
In this extraordinary spring when supposedly the foreign ministers of Russia and the three Western powers are trying to find a way to check the draft toward a nuclear holocaust the face of Europe was never more brilliant, more gay, more outwardly peaceful. It is a paradox certain to puzzle historians of the future if the civil-

ized 40 million West Germans visited Italy last year and the total will be much larger this year. The tourist invasion from France and the low countries into Spain is already at peak.

MOOD'S EFFECT

In a curious way this determined holiday mood becomes a factor in international politics. It is an advertisement written large for all to see that Europe either does not believe in the possibility of war or is determined to go on one last, glorious spending spree before it all comes to an end.

For anyone who has been even briefly in Soviet Russia the contrast to this almost frantic prosperity could not be greater. The Soviet citizen lives in the austerity of what appears to the Westerner to be a garrison state. The impression is of every third person in military uniform.

WEST'S STRENGTH

It has often been argued in the past and particularly by John Foster Dulles as secretary of state that the strength of the West is inherent in a high consumer economy. In the number of automobiles, refrigerators and washing machines per person the West measures its power.

In terms of human satisfactions this may be undebatable. But in relation to the Communist challenge, both militarily and economically, it may not be a measure of strength and it was just this doubt that Prime Minister Harold Macmillan raised when he was sent from London to meet the Soviet Western capital to another following his reconnaissance mission to Moscow. If war actually is threatened over Berlin, he asked then, should we not begin to take some of the steps, such as stopping the tourist invasion and moving military dependents out of forward positions in Germany, that such a threat requires?

KEY ELEMENT

He found even in those countries talking the hardest line and intimating that nuclear war might come at the end of May a little interest in such suggestions. Tourists, and especially American tourists, are an important element in the balance of payments in many countries. And besides, he was told, if everyone is to be destroyed in a war of hydrogen bombs what does it matter whether the tourist is destroyed in Europe or at home?

Certainly the Geneva postal card setting of the picture is hard to believe that war, even the limited and relatively peaceful war of the past, is an imminent threat. With one international organization and one

big American corporation after another establishing headquarters here, this has become a boom town bursting out of the pretty confines of the past. As the symbol of a Europe that is bent on peace and prosperity, Geneva is the perfect

setting for this conference. It is possible that the Russians will interpret this symbol as meaning that the West is ready to make any concession rather than sacrifice the present well-being. That is the fear of the pessimists. But it

is also possible that Premier Khrushchev may mean it when he says he wants to give his own people an equally high standard of living and therefore he will come to a summit conference prepared to make some counter concessions.

"Look—I'm Ahead"



The One Race We KNOW We'll Win

"And where would the pearl industry be without irritating ingredients?"
—HERBERT BLOCK, 1955

Herblock is not the most popular fellow in the cartooning trade. He's just the best.

Toss up a target and WHAMMO! He'll nail it from any angle. No one can stuff a shirt or an idea any more skillfully than the artist who reigns supreme on The News editorial page.

This rare talent for savage political commentary—with a few swipes of his crayon—has won him two Pulitzer prizes and any number of other awards. It has also won him some enemies.

One has complained bitterly to us that Herblock is "pro-Russian" because he keeps picturing the Soviets as grinning on a complacent American in the arms race, the space race, and, last week, the economic race.

The suggestion is too absurd to consider seriously. Our boy has been taking the sacred hide off the present administration simply because it is not doing enough to beat the Russians.

But if this is the nipping season we have news for Herblock's critic—and maybe even for Herblock himself. Let's all of us together take another little look at last week's cartoon that brused



some feelings in high places. Look, especially, at the oarman in the boat captained by the Russian who looks mighty like Nikita Khrushchev himself. No Herblock's true-blue. Those Russians will never beat us. They're all rowing in the wrong direction.

Bringing Reckless Drivers To The Curb

Drivers who ignore traffic laws by habit threaten society as surely as a compulsive killer—with only one difference. The auto can be deadlier than pistol, knife, or bludgeon.

So driver's licenses extend privileges, not rights; and it is essential for the state to be able to retract those privileges by suspending licenses.

But because of a recent State Supreme Court decision, the Motor Vehicles Department lacks the necessary authority to act in this vital area of public concern. The court noted that no legal standards had been established for revocation. Consequently, many licenses picked up for multiple offenses were returned.

If passed, a new bill introduced in both houses of the legislature by Sen. Moore of Robeson County and Rep.

Womble of Wake County will restore this very necessary prerogative to the state.

The two legislators have evolved a highly sensible solution to the problem of suspending licenses *ex post facto*. Their law would set up a "point system," empowering traffic courts to give so many points for each offense. Instances: Passing a stopped school bus—5 points; reckless driving or speeding—4 points. If an habitual offender amasses 12 points in three years' time, his license may be taken.

No driver can complain. The penalties for lawlessness are clearly spelled out; and when the license is snatched, the errant motorist can only admit he saw it coming. The Moore-Womble bill ought to become law with all possible dispatch.

From The Baltimore Sun

THERE'S NO ESCAPE

The feeling of "being crowded" according to the annual report of the Twentieth Century Fund, can be considered "the almost universal experience of today's citizen." The crowding results not only from population growth but also from the impact of technological advance and the demands of modern living. The city has forced itself on the countryside; international crises have forced old sovereignties into new dependencies; missile have blasted the comforts of distance, and everywhere people are jostled by issues, demands, needs and other people, with time running out.

The pressure of bills, cost increases, a succession of appeals, requests to attend meetings, unanswered mail, untended chores and conflicting family and business demands leave modern man with too little time and too much to do in an age when labor-saving devices supposedly have created the greatest amount of leisure time ever known. Crowded out to the land, with one picture window staring at another picture window, crowded on the highways, along the beaches, in the theater lobby, at the cigarette counter and over the luncheon table, crowded by commercial announcements, truck noises, sirens, and everywhere, the crying of a child, the even beat, the honk of the car-pool—people are pushed from all sides until they have no time to call their own or a place to be alone.

The symbol of our age could be the ringing telephone, the unread book or the confinement implicit in the "No Turns" sign. Yet one hears far less talk than formerly of chucking it all and going to a deserted island. Possibly this only confirms that the world has become so crowded that nobody sees any likelihood of escape, or maybe we no longer have the time even to think about it.

A small town in where there is no modern day hustle—unless there is a fire.—Greensboro (Ga.) Herald-Journal.

Next to the telephone message relayed by the 6-year-old child, the biggest failure in communication lies in the field of international affairs.—Jacksonville Times-Union.

At the side of the road a woman looked helplessly at a flat tire. A passerby stopped to help her. After the tire was changed, the woman said, "Let the jack down easy. My husband is asleep in the back seat."—Memphis Press-Scimitar.

Motorists: "I just killed a hen. Would you please take care of it?" Farmer: "Better make it four. I have a rooster who was mighty fond of that hen and the shock might kill him, too."—Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.

People's Platform

Why Not Recognize Slavery Advocates?

Spartanburg, S. C. Editors, The News:

Heretofore we have had segregationists and the so-called moderates. Why not give recognition to a new and fast-growing group, both North and South. We go all the way and believe in slavery!

—HENRY STAPLES

Many Rehabilitated By Salvation Army

Charlotte Editors, The News:

As manager of the Salvation Army's Rehabilitation Center for unfortunate men, I would like to take this means of expressing my appreciation to you and those of your staff that might have had anything to do with the publicity you gave us on different occasions immediately preceding and during our spring salvage campaign. The work that was conducted last month. You will not doubt be interested to know that our telephone calls have more than doubled and there has been a tremendous increase in the number of people that have dropped packages of clothing and various items of bric-a-brac by the center.

All these wonderful efforts have meant a great deal in the work of helping to rehabilitate.

—JAS. W. CHILDS
Captain
Salvation Army

Let Uncle Sam Pay For Schools

Charlotte Editors, The News:

We are going to have another bond election soon. With a debt of \$85 or \$90 million owed by the City of Charlotte in past bond elections, it would seem to me that the citizens of Charlotte would approve this one.

If the federal government is going to run our schools, it should pay for them.

In a lot of our public schools children are being taught evolution, and religion and the Bible have been outlawed. I shall vote against any more bonds.

—PARKS A. YANDLE

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Secret Service are worried sick over the prospect of protecting Khrushchev from crackpots and assassins in the United States. This is a very real worry, which the President shares. But it gives him the shivers when he thinks of what might happen to the man of the world if Khrushchev were injured in the United States.

No Alternative

However, Secretary Herter convinced the President he had no alternative. Since Vice President Nixon is going to Moscow with complete freedom to tour all Russian cities and even return home via Siberia, Herter argued that we have to give Khrushchev the privilege of either opening the Soviet Trade Fair in New York or coming to a summit conference in the U.S.

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My man in Havana also (and he would know) says that the published murders of Castro's war criminals don't comprise a tenth of the backstreet assassinations and just plain cold exterminations.

It seems to me that we are big brother enough to tell this cigar-smoking gentleman with the low-combed whiskers to mind his manners or we will spank him considerably, economically, or, if necessary, force a few hundred thugs and knock over the island again. It is a nice island, too, but it is always seemed to be afflicted with gun-happy idiots.

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MOMENT OF TRUTH

My memory only goes back to President Gerardo Machado, who once built a fine airport at Rancho Boyeros just so he could have a plane handy to light out with the law when the crucial moment came. The moment of truth arrived, and Machado took off with his millions loaded. That he had murdered innocent and had to spend years of his life in a Florida man-grove swamp didn't lessen his grip on his grips.

Since that time I have known of no honest Cuban regime starting with the bouillabaisse and working up to the boss. They pulled one delightful swindle after another, and decided to print a whole new set of extra pesos, valued at the dollar rate, running into millions and millions, because they actually did need the currency to meet the demands of new post-war prosperity. But at the same time, the ruling powers delayed the plates and printed another new issue of completely legal

currency—but for their own personal use. It came into Miami by the bale and the customs said, "What's that?" "Money. Legal money."

And there isn't any law against bringing legal money into America. Imports in Miami are ready bombed that year. I think that was the year of Aleman. Not the Mexican Aleman. The Cuban Aleman.

The Latin-American is a strange and wonderful character, but he is also kind of like the Irish. All the brave bastards love to go, to scheme, and it is asking too much to trust a professional politician or any other character with an opportunity to steal not to shove his claws into the jam-pot.

BOBOS AND VIVOS

In Cuban slang, an honest man is called a "bobo," a dumb jerk. His opposite number, who likes the money, is called a "vivo," a live one. I have met very few "bobos" in Cuba, or in Mexico, or in Venezuela, Brazil, Peru, Chile or you name it. The Latin-American is as ingrained in the Latino as deeply as his love for sun and shade or his ability to play moving music without lessons. The bribe is as much a part of living as eating or configuring the lozera. Actually, bribery and corruption are considered a recognized right of office, not a sin or even a frivolity.

STANDING BY

My man in Havana tells me that there is a very steady fellow standing by, waiting for Castro to deplane himself, and then the real pros will be back into business, and all the old moonlight requisition business will be back in order again.

It could be sooner than you think. These boys love guns. So was O'Dwyer, a bribe on a par with Joseph Daniels, the former secretary of the Navy who ordered the U.S. Navy to fire on Tampico in 1917. Daniels was criticized before he came to Mexico, long after he came. So was O'Dwyer, a bribe on the other hand. Walter Thurston, a career diplomat, and Francis White, who spent much of his life in the career, were dogs in Mexico City. Bob Hill, a Republican political appointee, now ambassador to Mexico, is extremely popular.

A Fandango For Fidel

Castro Needs A Spanking

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain

I have just had some communications from Cuba by a—about 40 years of age and savvy and it seems to me it's about time that somebody bigger than Castro has slapped down this noisy boy with the beard. Certainly, he needs no more dignifying in the manner that we have dignified him.

The Communists have already moved in on him heavily, my man says, and Lyle Wilson of United Press International had a documented piece a bit back which named the Reds Castro brought to America with him on that ridiculous thing about us giving him America three billion bucks a year. Plus a Fandango for Fidel.

EXTERMINATIONS

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