

Who Is Responsible For Bilbo?

Two ancient theories are being employed by newspapers of the North as well as by critics of the Man were directly responsible for his triumph. According to this thesis, the sovereign people of Mississippi would have deposed him if only the PAC, P.M. and The Daily Worker had kept their mouths shut. Instead Mississippians, suffering from the usual Southern inferiority complex, sent Bilbo back to the Senate in order to demonstrate their God-given independence. Resentment of what Bilbo managed to represent as outside interference was certainly a factor in the primary. In all probability, however, but it is one cotillion only because Bilbo made it so: it was a bright red herring dragged across his devious path and it is certainly not to the credit of this constituents that they were deceived by it. Editors of the North, East and West have an obligation to decry the presence of such a thoroughly disreputable politician in the United States Senate. For the people of Mississippi to re-elect him to spite his critics is, at best, evidence of political immaturity. For responsible Southern editors to encourage the essential weakness of the Southern character is even worse.

Certainly the people of Mississippi deserve better than Theodore Bilbo. But they, the Southern people, generally get the sort of national representation they are willing to pay for. If they are unwilling to clean their own house, if they allow themselves to be swayed by a childlike resentment against "outside interference," if they are willing to treat a spurious appeal to their anti-Negro prejudice as a major campaign issue, they have no reason to feel innocent when the results of their folly become apparent. Indeed, we have heard no Mississippiian attempting to disclaim responsibility for Bilbo. No one has tried to rid the country of such a "monstrous prodigy." I wish the old boy were around today; he'd stare out an eye—and an earful.

The OPA Faces Death By Double-Talk

THE Congress is now debating OPA in segments, when it debates it at all. If we're going to take the ceiling off poultry and meat, says the Senator from Kansas, how can we keep it on grain? After all hogs eat grain, and chickens eat grain, and if you keep the lid on feed and take it off the finished product you can't maintain ceiling on either. The Senator from Kentucky, if we take ceilings off grain we won't be able to meet our commitments to the starving people of the world. That's quite true, says the Senator from Mississippi, but there's no reason to keep ceilings on cotton seed—we're not starving there.

Maybe this Alice in Wonderland approach to the tangled economics of price control is a fitting end for the OPA—death by double-talk. For ten months the great debate has been carried on in an interminable series of confusion, a series of deliberate charges and counter-charges, table vs. graph, prejudice concealed by prejudice—small wonder Representative Ervin used 3,000 words in The Congressional Record to inform his constituents that in his view it is impossible to maintain a price ceiling on anything but buy and take them off the things they sell. Perhaps Mr. Ervin is correct when he advances the opinion that it is too late now for a workable price control bill—the mood of the country will never sus-

What People, Mr. Durham?

The Greensboro Daily News notes with surprise that Representative Durham has recently handed down the opinion that the people of Piedmont North Carolina are opposed to the British loan. Mr. Durham was quoted as saying: "The folks seem to be scared. They don't want to pay the bill. I'd just as soon give it to them, I don't mind. But they'll pay it back either."

Carrollinas. The Raleigh News & Observer which is the voice of the East, not of the Piedmont. The other papers of the area are either actively supporting the loan, or, like most of the people, ignoring it. If the Piedmont has suddenly become anti-British, it would be a stirring spectacle indeed, for the cotton and tobacco farmers of the area have always understood that theirs is an export business, dependent upon the sort of foreign trade the British loan is designed to insure. Mr. Durham's information must have come from some obscurely situated sharp or pressed close to the ground. As The Daily News points out, he could hardly have plumbed public sentiment during his recent successful campaign for renomination. The matter wasn't mentioned in the district, so far as we can recall. It is most peculiar. Representatives Durham and Ervin seem so suddenly as a full-blown opponent of the loan (a unique position among his North Carolina colleagues, incidentally), and to justify his position by proclaiming that "the folks back home" don't believe in it.

Another Voice

DAVID CUSHMAN COYLE in a recent article in The Virginia Quarterly Review on a peculiar economy for the South refers to the Tennessee farmer who complained that "Ford ruined me." The old farmer, geared for a lifetime to a horse, mule and buggy economy, was persuaded to buy a Model T. The car enabled the farmer to get around faster. It took him to town and back much quicker than the horse and buggy could take him, and afforded him more leisure time. But the catch in the matter was that his farm resources, and his own capacities perhaps, provided no profitable use of the time which the Tennessee farmer saved. Instead, he was spending his time on repairs, etc., to keep the car running as heavily into his little farm savings. Ford "ruined" him. The case of the Tennessee farmer is no unusual exception. Many small-time farmers, who have been "ruined" by the automobile, could not afford, and by "im-

What To Do With Saved Labor

provements" which, while they added to home comforts or made productive operations easier, saved time, etc., did not fit into family, farm, sectional, or factory economy. We hear a great deal of talk about new devices, about new scientific devices which will save time and labor in the Great American Home of the future. But it appears more than just possible that there is a certain amount of time in each day which is in no desperate need of being saved, and that to save it, only add up to more restlessness and boredom, and runs up perhaps a high and needless expense for the household. It occurs to us that new improvements, devices, should be closely fitted to the individual's income and resources, household or regional economy. The farmer with a five-acre wheat crop would be foolish to buy a combine merely for his own use. The small tenant farmer may need a good horse. The farmer who needs a car—Winston-Salem Journal.



People's Platform

Worried Warren, Harassed Harry

Editors, THE NEWS: I wish the old boy were around today; he'd stare out an eye—and an earful.

REMEMBER the old Roman war correspondent R. Tacitus? Used to hail Boyle around Germany in the early decades of the first century A.D. Old Tac had a lot to say about our country, and he said "monstrous prodigy." I wish the old boy were around today; he'd stare out an eye—and an earful.

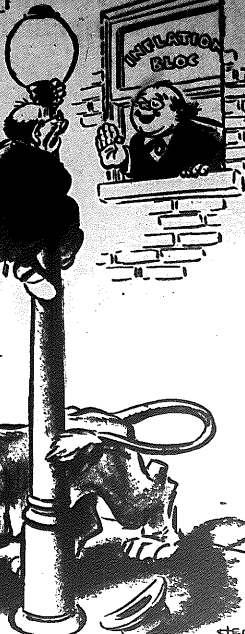
Do you know the more I see of the contemporary Washington scene the more certain I am that I saw it all before; back in the early twenties. Congress "boondoggled" then, Congress is "boondoggling" now. There was Worried Warren, here he is Harassed Harry. There was Mr. Donaghy, here he is Mr. Snyder. There was the Ohio Gang, here is The Gang. There was Teapot Dome and here comes Andy May to star in the first act of that phase of the show.

They had been good mixers; half fellows, well wot; they liked a ruck, a game of cards and a good (?) story. Then, suddenly, they discovered that their rights were being subjected to microscopic scrutiny. They were prodded and pestered and compassed about by an army of underlings, all asking questions and expecting their make decisions. They didn't like to make decisions. They weren't used to making decisions. They had gone months on end in the Senate without making a decision about anything. Why should they make up their minds about anything?—nobody else did.

Harding, when it all became unbearable, fled to France for some distance. B. Means said in the First Lady gave him a little white powder in Seattle. I don't know. Anyway he died. Mr. Truman was not so lucky. He was not so lucky as Mr. Truman was, so we may be assured that he will survive. But it won't be easy. Take this OPA thing. He didn't know the Teat amendment was fourth. He took it seriously. He wanted to understand it. So, when he started to study it and got in deeper and deeper, he became more and more confused. He saw red and blew his top. Why don't somebody tell him about those things? He probably wakes up now, "Yeh, now," and is gasping for a lungful of "good ole" Kansas City ozone.

Drew Pearson: Rep. May Asked About \$3,000 Over Phone Merry-Go-Round

THOSE who eat on the inside of the Erie Basin Metals Products office during the heyday of its "war" order racket say that some amazing telephone conversations took place. Usually the name of the company's Congressional godfather, Representative May of Kentucky, was mentioned over the phone—though his name was frequently mentioned in private talks around the office. Instead May's code name "Yechel" was used on the telephone, or at other times he was referred to as "our friend."



On Line-Hewing

Worried Warren, Harassed Harry

What I'm griping about is that we build ourselves such magnificent scenery, such a breathtaking backdrop—potential world leadership in almost any line you care to mention—and then the show turns out so nicely. Third rate actors stumbling through their lines.

Editors, THE NEWS: YOU have published "I CHOSE FREEDOM" by M. Kravchenko. Now there may be some truth in what he says, but I don't think it would be better, however, if you now published, "THE GREAT CONSPIRACY AGAINST RUSSIA," by Michael Sayers and Henry Kahn, authors of "Saboteurs." Their standing as authors is as high as Kravchenko's. Kravchenko is a Soviet clerk, who soured on his Government—maybe he is not telling the truth; the authors of "Saboteurs" are responsible people. Congressmen rallied at their first book and you know that if it were open to dispute, they would have been pilloried and discredited. And they have some of their book, "I Chose Freedom" does not have. They have some publisher's recommendations on the flycover of their book, and here the entire proposition enters upon another phase—because we are lucky folks get to see it in serial form—and then let us judge for ourselves.

(NOTE: Every dispatch carried in this, or any other newspaper under a Moscow dateline has been approved by the Erie Basin Metals company in positive or negative fashion, pro-Communist propaganda. We have frequently published the documented charges of Russian and domestic Communists that the western world has entered into a vast conspiracy against Mother Russia. This, in our judgment, has been balanced by Kravchenko's article which was clearly labeled for what it was—the testimony of an embittered expatriate dedicated to the destruction of Communism. He has offered to publish an objective account of life in Communist Russia—which the Kravchenko series obviously was not. We advise anyone else who knows of such a work—Eds., THE NEWS.)

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Stassen's Victory

THE overwhelming victory for the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate in the election of Harold Stassen in the running of the Republican ticket for the Senate in 1946, that is good political news no matter how you look at it. It opens the way for a more liberal program not only to this country but to the world that America is not reverting to isolationism.

Some Republican leaders had been to get the idea that they could win in 1946 with just anybody. The public, however, showed them otherwise. Elimination of Sen. Henry Shipstead from the Senate is a fitting and necessary result of a tired cipher whose only concern seems to be in serving special interests groups. Moreover, with his passing and with the death of Sen. Hiram Johnson of California, two of the men who voted against American participation in the United Nations are removed from the national scene.

During the course of the campaign Shipstead received the endorsement of Governor C. E. Johnson, the would-be Fascist whose efforts to get mass support have failed miserably thus far. These did not repudiate the Smith endorsement. In fact, he is said to have delivered a speech in support of the American population on the old isolationist bias.

It is easy to put too much stress on the internationalist aspect of the Three-Stassen victory. There has been an able Governor. He has developed an effective political machine. He has a good background to appeal to Minnesota's Scandinavian population. His Scandinavian popularity has been weighed in the balance no one can say. Often they over-zealous national and international

Samuel Grafton

Straw In The Wind

OUR thoughts are fixed on price control this week, but price control is only a straw in the wind. The fact that the Congress is dismantling as many of the Government's social and welfare activities as it dangles and price control is neither here nor there at the end of the matter.

The Fair Employment Practices Commission is being allowed to die quietly last week, with a few sticks of turf for its tombstone. The committee has asked for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission to protect members of minority groups in the job market. He had asked this at a time when the national conscience is extremely sore on this point; at a time when books on the Negro problem are national best-sellers, and when the public is being urged to give up jobs and take your pick—but by all means, you must heed to the line of fairness, and let us judge for ourselves.

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some. In the end, this victory for Stassen is several steps toward the end of the isolationist era. It is a step toward the end of the isolationist era. It is a step toward the end of the isolationist era. It is a step toward the end of the isolationist era.

LEFT TO RIGHT A local situation seems, however, to have played an important part in his defeat. He was elected in an unexpired term of the late John Moses. In the same primary Sen. Stassen was re-elected to a full Senate term. Langer has opposed most of the moves of the Roosevelt-Truman administration to take the United States into a world organization. In Montana, Sen. Burton Wheeler is seeking renomination in the Democratic primary. His evolution from left to right more of late has been pronounced. At one time, Wheeler was the bitter foe of the "interests" in his state. He was a powerful speaker and power—no longer upon him Wheeler in his campaign rarely referred to his local constituents. He opposed the proposed Missouri Valley Authority which is championed by his chief opponent, Senator Nelson, an associate justice of the Montana Supreme Court. Wheeler, 62 years of age, is given considerable edge over Erickson.

It is this feeling which has become the chief cause of the Three-Stassen victory. The propaganda spread during the past 10 days that the Three-Stassen was a close and that they were in real danger of defeat. This was taken advantage of by the Three-Stassen campaign. The results bear out the advance polls taken by the Minneapolis Star-Journal.

LOS ANGELES something up without reading it. And in that case you could be felt all of Congress' hostility toward the Administrative side of Government. It is a level of passion that is no longer light in terms of arguments, but in terms of ideological war. It is this feeling which has become the chief cause of the Three-Stassen victory. The propaganda spread during the past 10 days that the Three-Stassen was a close and that they were in real danger of defeat. This was taken advantage of by the Three-Stassen campaign. The results bear out the advance polls taken by the Minneapolis Star-Journal.

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