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The Veto Was Really Conservative

There is little doubt that political considerations weighed heavily with the Congress when it decided to send the tax reduction bill to Mr. Truman in the face of his stated objections. There is also little doubt that political considerations figured in Mr. Truman's decision to veto it. But it must be noted that the President is taking the more unpopular course, which might be regarded as primarily egotistical, in that the politicians against the veto was a minor consideration.

At least three of the reasons offered by Mr. Truman for his veto may be called essentially economic. Most important would be the fact that a blanket income tax reduction now would be inflationary, further complicating an already dangerous condition. A large body of conservative opinion also supports the President's position. The House Government's first obligation during this period of record income is to reduce the public debt. And some of the most conservative members of Congress—men like Senators Byrd and Clegg—have already pointed out that sound fiscal policy demands re-

The Un-American Committee Looks South

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare is a good-hearted, ineffective organization dedicated to improving social and economic conditions in the region. It is proud liberal—no leftist, if you prefer—and it pretends to be a force for many Southern New Dealers who are now politically displaced persons.

Records to the Committee was refused. The specific smear of President Frank Graham of the University of North Carolina was provided as evidence of the Committee's methods and its intent. Dr. Graham, the report concedes, "is not a Communist and no doubt on occasion has had some differences with the Communist Party." But Dr. Graham, the report adds, is a Communist and no doubt on occasion has had some differences with the Communist Party.

People's Platform

THESE citizens of Charlotte who attended Criminal Court on the 14th, saw a man who was an alleged rapist escape with his life. The sordid details brought out in the testimony of the trial show that the night was given a half a tumbler of whiskey and a tumbler of "home brew" and was subsequently raped by a twenty-seven year-old white male. All this was said to have happened in a room house in which three or more adults were present.

Why did such a sensational case attract so little attention? The reason is plain, it is because both the accused rapist and his victim were Negroes. This leads me to ask a few questions of the man who raped the girl? If not, why not the guilty person apprehended? If a white man had been accused of such a thing involving a white child would the State have been so lenient? If a Negro had been accused of such a crime upon a white child would the State have accepted a lesser plea?

Rebecca West Returns A Verdict

ALMOST half the current edition of The New Yorker is given over to the account of Greenville's lynching trial. The magazine assigned Rebecca West, the distinguished British novelist, to the story. It could not have made a happier choice. Her report is so good, so penetrating, so free from errors in general—may a wince under the impact of Miss West's incisive prose, but they will find little to question in her thoughtful and compassionate conclusions.

Miss West says that all of these were caught up involuntarily in a bewildering rushing tide of events; their sin, if there was one, was weakness, not malice. She returned the full weight of her wrath for two principals in the case—the defense attorneys who, in her judgment, deliberately sacrificed the standards of human decency when they were under no compulsion to do so. They alone had a free choice, she insists, and they chose to betray their neighbors.

Drew Pearson's Wall St. Lobby Helps Write Tax Laws

WHEN it comes to taxes, the big-business lobby never changes. A peek behind-the-scenes with the House Ways & Means Committee shows that the same group of big-money interests has been at work in the past as more in the saddle than ever today.

St. Louis damage suit, over a couple of broken teeth, alleged that there was a penny in a dish of restaurant spinach. Good heavens, are they giving premiums with the stuff?



A Doubled Standard?

the hot-eyed hordes of our citizens rushing to the polls to grapple with the liquor question I unfolded your good paper and stumbled upon your editorial about Mayor Albright, our next candidate for Governor. I had expected more of you, much more.

Why should The News, as the leading liberal newspaper of our section, treat a young progressive and such cavalier fashion when it dares to challenge the uninterrupted procession of political hacks and "safe" conservators who perennially rise from obscure public service and income candidates? Why is the duty of The News to point out and point up the obstacles in the path of a liberal candidate in North Carolina? Wouldn't it be more in keeping with your policy and tradition to give him a short cheer, at least?

Samuel Grafton In Outer Darkness

ONE of the subjects you wrote about today (in the unlikely event that you have run short of subjects) is the CHANGING POLITICAL POLARIZATION of American politics. We almost remember talking about it in the vast glit, almost a social glit, which today divides those who are moving to the right and those who are moving to the left. And they have pulled closer together, like the two major parties, which today have almost merged into a single loose federation of the right and the left.

Why are you so certain that North Carolinians will damn any progressive program? It hasn't been so long since they were screaming for the passage of our extensive and expensive health program. That looked like progressivism to me, and it got by without being tagged as a Communist plot, except in the confines of a few gold-plated officials. The people consented, at least to our unique system of paying all teachers equally—white and Negro. That costs them at least an extra \$10,000,000 a year.

Ad & Comfort

THE People's Platform is available to any reader who will mount it, Communications should be less than a month if possible, and on only one side of the paper. It is a document which should be signed by anything goes. Each letter must be signed, though, in exceptional cases, and upon request, will withhold the writer's name.—Editor.

When Sam Charles Johnson threw his hat into the ring did you pull out the stans and warn him in sepulchral tones that the aims of big money class are after so many years as a measure and that the remote farm country would shun him? You sound as if you're trying to tell the people that the North Carolina Old Guard cannot be broken. Do you remember when Ralph McDougall almost did it in a suspiciously close primary, despite the tag of "Red Radical"? How many voters in North Carolina voters cannot see the issues that are being fought and they finally see the health program as an issue?

Happy Chandler

BARRELL Commissioner Happy Chandler, once a versatile Senate debater, has been on a lot of hot spots in his day. But it took the nine-year-old son of Broadway columnist Leonard Lyons to knock him down.

When the two Landis bills before Republican Congressman Max Schwabe of Missouri, chairman of a labor and industry committee, and Senator Charles McNary of Oregon, both in identical support for Kilgore's mine-safety bill. However, one interesting political question mark has arisen since the bill was introduced by Senator Kilgore, the man who has done most for mine safety—ask some Republicans, "What is the use of going down the hill?"

ONE commodity that cannot be bought with all the dollars in the world is time. And time is running out very rapidly for Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, who as much as any single individual is responsible for the passage of present foreign policy, says we need an inventory of our resources. We must determine the amount of aid toward restoring peace and security to a broken world. It is impossible to do this at the present time with a series of "unanticipated contingencies."

There has been talk of a special session of Congress and the President so far this seems to be chiefly newspaper talk. When you put it up to the President, he says that he and they look vague and reply that they one has discussed with them the necessity of such a session.

There is no time enough. That is the reality which no one is quite facing up to. We have already agreed to accept a major obstacle in persuading able men to take responsible positions, as was proposed in the Greek recovery program.

Brass Hats' Bellows

It is a kind of raked paper that one does not really listen to arguments any longer, one counts on the number of friends and enemies, and the number of enemies.

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