

Senator Taft Hurls A Boomerang

A somewhat embittered critic of Robert A. Taft once remarked that he has the best mind in the United States Senate until he makes up. Certainly it is remarkable that the man who gives every appearance of being conscientious and well-informed so often finds himself backed into a corner where he can only abandon his original position or the rules of logic.

The latest exchange between Senator Taft and President Truman is a case point. Few Presidents have been more vulnerable to criticism on economic grounds than the incumbent, and in his original blast Senator Taft made several telling points—including the familiar one that Mr. Truman's decision to take the lid off wages while trying to keep a ceiling on prices was the beginning of our inflationary troubles. But then the Senator went on to indict Mr. Truman for wrecking OPA, and the destruction of the price control "apparatus" the President and the Administration are abandoning talk of keeping prices down in favor of heavy spending abroad that will keep them up.

All Mr. Truman needed to do was turn to the record to show that Senator Taft himself led the assault on OPA, cannily abating the entire price control structure and making enforcement impossible. And at the same time the Senator freely predicted that abandonment of price control would result in no more than a flurry of inflation, after which prices would return to normal levels. Mr. Truman did not need to remind his audience that a false prophet is rarely a competent critic.

All of this could have been no more than an honest difference of opinion. It is difficult, however, to be quite so charitable in regard to the Senator's implication that the Truman Doctrine is really part of a Democratic conspiracy to maintain inflationary price levels at home. A great deal may be said in criticism of our new bipartisan foreign policy, but the facts will hardly bolster any such sinister suspicion as this.

The charge, indeed, echoes the bitter, dead-end isolationism that once was a part of Republicanism. It's in keeping with the argument that Franklin Roosevelt deliberately engineered World War II in order to fend off economic collapse and guarantee his re-election. Like that earlier libel is ignored, the hard facts of the world situation which the Truman Doctrine, rightly or wrongly, tries to meet. And it makes even less sense for certainly so astute a politician as Senator Taft does not believe that maintaining high prices is good politics.

Perhaps the exchange between Senator Taft and President Truman has no particular significance, except as another reminder that 1948 is drawing near and now-gauge politics is the order of the day. But if the Senator is thus embarking upon a deliberate campaign to discredit Mr. Truman he has displayed a remarkable stupidity. He has succeeded only in casting Mr. Truman in the role of statesman and himself in the role of tarping and irresponsible critic. That's hardly the way to obtain a Presidential nomination—even from the GOP.

'Vision Of A New Hope ...'

"WAKE FOREST has had a long and honorable career, and whether it knolls in a forest of Wake or stands on a knoll in Forsyth, its mission will remain the same: truth and a crusade for simple right," wrote Chief Justice Stacy. "We would not deny to this great institution and those whose faith and good works have made it possible this vista of a new dawn, this vision of a new hope."

Thus the North Carolina Supreme Court put down the last of the way to the creation of a great new university at Winston-Salem. Its decision permits immediate acceptance of the handsome Reynolds estate as a new campus for Wake Forest, one of an annual endowment of at least \$350,000 from the Reynolds Foundation. North Carolina Baptists have already signified their willingness to transfer the college, and their determination to create a new university, a denominational university system centering around the new campus.

Generous as the Reynolds gift is, it will not alone sustain the new Wake Forest. The Baptists will have to raise a large sum, perhaps millions, for their help. And it is the university they envision is to be

created there they will also have to increase the original endowment. Much of this burden the denomination will assume, and the individual Baptist churches of the state will be called upon for assistance in a fund-raising campaign.

However, the Baptists have acquired an intangible asset of great value through their decision to move Wake Forest to Forsyth. Winston-Salem has more than its share of very wealthy citizens, and they are, for the most part, public-spirited. They will take pride in their town's new university, and the individuals who have a variety of other civic and cultural enterprises. If the new university succeeds, as the Baptists have every reason to hope it will, Winston-Salem can be depended upon to see that it has ways and means of carrying on "its quest for truth and crusade for simple right."

North Carolina, counting its own University and Duke among its major blessings, has already received another great institution of higher learning is in the making. The state's traditional economic and social leadership rests squarely upon its leadership in the field of education. And Wake Forest will be possible another great forward step.

The Retirement Of Boss Hague

IN MANY ways Boss Hague was the most remarkable of them all; his perversion of the democratic process was more than a mere curiosity, it was a spectacle. Bosses Crump and Kelly and Pendergast may have been, in fact, the law, but a sense of delicacy always restrained them from saying so publicly. But, even on the day of his retirement, Mayor of Jersey City, Boss Hague flouted tradition by calmly announcing that his nephew would succeed him without reference to the voters.

His methods were standard. He used public funds to build a personal organization of employees who would vote for him. It is a costly process, of course; Boss Hague set an all-time record in 1930 when he managed to spend \$334,498 for the municipal administration of the city and the poorer citizens of Jersey City by plowing some of the proceeds into a spectacular \$500,000 charity hospital.

What did the boss get out of it himself? Power, for one thing, great deal of it. He ran Jersey City without interference or check, and from time to time he extended his control to the whole of New Jersey, electing governors and dictating legislation

in the Huey Long manner. And, as Vice-Chairman of the Democratic National Committee (a title he still retains, incidentally) he became a formidable figure in national politics.

The Boss also did pretty well financially. His job as mayor was full-time, and by his own admission he drew his salary from it. Yet his poor boy who had spent all his life in politics and never earned more than \$8,500 a year, he managed to pay \$125,000 for a beach estate. And, wherever he went, he traveled in style. Nothing was too good for Jersey City.

It would have been hard for Jersey City to rid itself of The Boss. He controlled the political machinery and fraud was not unknown in his principality. The police were his shock troops, and the methods of the Gestapo were familiar to them. But it would not have been impossible for Jersey City to have de-throned him. Outside help was available from at least one outraged Governor, and the facts of his fantastic administration were known to all. But the record shows that Jersey City never really tried to kick Boss Hague out of City Hall. Knowledge of his methods, the beauty of any boss's success, in Jersey City no less than in Nazi Germany. The blame ultimately falls upon the average citizen for it is his apathy upon which every Caesar feeds and grows strong.

Another Voice

The Shining Sacrifice

CHIC SHAHEEN and Thomas Upchurch, both seventeen, went fishing on a lake near Raleigh. In some unexplained manner, young Upchurch fell overboard and was killed. The police were called for help "without hesitation," according to a news account. "Shaheen, fully dressed, dived in and swam" to the side of the struggling youth.

The story ends, of course, in one of those happy conclusions so common to the water between non-swimmers and those who would rescue them. Upchurch grabbed frantically at Shaheen and fastened about his neck. The two boys sank quickly out of sight. The surface was reached minutes later, both were dead and could not be revived.

This little tale of heroism has a curious twist for our times. Thomas Upchurch was a Negro. His companion in death was a white youth. Young Chic Shaheen gave his

Mr. Shaheen let it be known the Vice-Presidency would not be beneath his dignity, and if Harold put himself down for Congress too he'll be playing it across the board.



People's Platform

Snakes And Lizards

CHARLOTTE
Editors, The News:
I HEAR so much about the ABC stores. What do you care about the bootlegger selling whiskey? We enforce the law and put the bootlegger out of business if every man and woman will do his duty. Would you sell your soul for a few cents tax? Can you give your wife or child a drink of whiskey and tell them it is legal drink? The only reason you are asked to vote for it is to make it more plentiful. Let us vote dry.

I have seen families separated and poor children in rage because of drink. I have seen people who have been killed and children and run them away from home. I have seen where they did not have a change of clothes.

Would you take a drink of whiskey and pray? Even if we have good, clean whiskey dealers, it is the same old whiskey. It will make you drunk, make you abuse your loved ones. I know of people who drank so much before they died they were snakes and lizards. And that is the same old whiskey they're wanting back in Charlotte.

Let every man and woman pray and before he goes to the polls, pray the Lord to protect him in the way he should vote and we will have a dry county. We will not need to pray. Help us, blessed Saviour, that we may shun evil by voting dry.
—J. R. THOMAS

Respectable

Editors, The News:
TODAY in your editorial, "Prohibition is a Two-Sided Question," you properly state that it is considered to be a moral question whereas it is merely a practical one.

There was a time in North Carolina when the prohibitionists insisted that church people take part in selling liquor legally on the ground, of course, that it was then a practical question. It was when dispensaries were being established. The prohibitionists insisted that the best standing because the possible good church people to be the selling agents. This view is elaborately written up by Josephus Danaher in where he tells of the Baptist Convention, accepted after much persuasion, the chairmanship of the dispensary board and controlled the sales of liquor as long as the dispensary lasted. The dispensary was then considered the lesser of two evils in the matter of dispensing liquor. But as time went on, the dispensary grew the greater of two evils has his skin taken off.

—OLD TIMER.

The Boulevard

Editors, The News:
YOUR editorial headed "Round Three On the Boulevard" in your issue of the 24th of May has been read and noted.

You divide the opponents of the proposed boulevard into two camps, the "right" and "left" along the route of the new boulevard would be affected by its construction and those who have

direct interest but regard the boulevard as either unnecessary or improperly placed.

I believe every one in the City of Charlotte has a direct interest in this proposition; if not, they should, if they are interested in their city, because a boulevard is a construction which the people of the city are entitled to have. It is a boulevard which the people of Charlotte I refer to the Rose Garden, the play field across from the City of Charlotte, the two daily-used bird fields in Independence Park. A considerable amount of usable property of our city, now profitably small, would be destroyed without compensation in any wise. In this respect it is certainly improperly placed.

With income-tax rates at the level at which the proposed boulevard would originate, terminate or pause in the down town area, why snake this highway across several arterial streets running straight into town pasting one door and skipping another when the same amount of money spent existing highways would accomplish vastly more good and cause no destruction?

—CHARLES H. STONE

'Ignoble Experiment'

Editors, The News:
WELL-INFORMED citizens who have the best interests of their community at heart will vote against ABC stores. The people of the city have no doubt it is bad enough now, but it would be like jumping from the frying pan into the fire to vote for liquor stores.

There are some individuals who are going to drink some alcoholic drink, legal or otherwise, but so long as it is illegal the young people of the community cannot say that the older folks set it before them and they are going to do it. I have seen many experiments tried regarding liquor, and the only reason prohibition did fail, or would fail, was because of the failure of the people to resist the violation of the prohibition laws.

There will be more drinking among young people and among women, if they believe that liquor is placed before them. A person can watch the line-up before opening time at many ABC stores and see a disgusting sight of very young men (mostly teenagers) and of women, who have been made to place the leaders of the community have approved the ABC stores. The ABC stores are not for the control of liquor, but for the control of the community. The ABC stores are not for the control of liquor, but for the control of the community. The ABC stores are not for the control of liquor, but for the control of the community.

—J. A. BAUCOM.

Drew Pearson's Argentina Has 5-Year Plan For Expansion

THE final decision to sell arms to President Peron of Argentina and to Peron's enemy, Spurrill Braden, as Assistant Secretary of State, probably will go down in history as one of the most monstrous of the United States has been made in many years. It was attended by some soul-searching conference in which the Argentine Army and Navy lined up on one side and various military advisers on the other.

Because the decision was so important, it may be well to review some of the backstage arguments put forward by both sides. The point which big, burly Spurrill Braden made to Secretary Marshall was that the United States and Argentina enjoyed perfectly normal relations in every possible way except one—the United States declined to sell Peron arms. We exchange ambassadors. We buy all the goods Argentina will sell and the United States has no unfriendly Argentine credits in the United States. However, argued Braden, Argentina is a dictatorship supported by Latin-American neighbors of having leaders on the territory. Therefore, the United States should not increase her power by selling arms.

Others of Marshall's advisers, especially his old friends in the War Department, maintained that if the United States is to build up an anti-Soviet bloc in the Western Hemisphere it must operate with the Argentine Army and Navy. Braden, in turn, brought out a copy of the Argentine five-year plan, which he said was a blueprint for a time when President Peron planned to set up a vigorous fascist state right under the nose of the Pan American Union. Braden also pointed out that the Argentine five-year plan was a time when Roberto Frasnasi, Secretary General of the Italian Fascist Party, and that two of his chief supporters

were Ludwig Pruder, a German Nazi, and Heinrich Doerg, former adviser to Hjalmar Schacht.

Peron's 5-Year Plan

THE Peron five-year plan, which Braden condemned for General Marshall's study, is a sweeping blueprint to build up Argentina as the most powerful military nation in South America. It calls for the construction of a powerful navy, control of all raw materials in South America, dispersal of Argentine industry as a protection against bombing, intensification of education in atomic laboratories, control of the judicial and other repressive measures.

Braden also pointed out that the five-year plan was not merely a document, but actually was being put into effect. Here are some of the five-year steps Peron already has taken:

1. Control of education—Peron has already fired 700 professors from Argentine universities. He has also placed a ban on the teaching of history and geography in the schools, under the control of six especially selected pro-Peron rectors. Finally, he has established his own National Council of Education with authority to run all primary and secondary schools. This is the pattern followed by Hitler and Mussolini.
2. Control of labor—The Confederacion Argentina de Trabajadores, largest labor union in Argentina, has been taken over by Peron. The union is now a tool of Peron, and not even Argentina's unions are so firmly fixed, in some cases jailed.

Foundations & Taxes

WASHINGTON

THE Bureau of Internal Revenue is looking into both ways to make a loophole in our antiquated, overgrown Federal tax structure. It is said that the Treasury wants to know whether the tax-exempt foundations are actually doing for educational, charitable purposes or whether the foundations are a cloak for private ownership and profit.

Several foundations operate large manufacturing concerns. Most of them are in the line of the law. They were by the late Henry Ford to a foundation.

The provision in the law granting tax exemption to educational and charitable foundations says the money should not be used for "any other purpose." At least that is what the lawmakers intended to say. But the language is so broad that it can mean what a given court interprets it to mean.

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