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A Battle We Are Losing

It is one of history's more unfortunate lessons that leaders are seldom chosen. More often the leader chooses his followers. A strong man will declare undeviating devotion to the plight of the oppressed of the common man; he will cite as a major goal the provision of bread for the poor. These professions of selfless devotion to the common cause (Hitler, Mussolini, Franco, Peron) quite often turn the trick. The common man, not exactly selfless himself, will be so concerned with immediate glorification of his beheading woe that he will not probe beneath the surface of the self-appointed leader; he will not trace this leader's motivation to its source.

Such is the case in France today. French coal miners in both northern and southern France have allowed Communist leaders to take control of their unions and, in so doing, have made themselves instruments of a Cominform plot. As soon as Communist control over miners was solidified, the trigger was pulled. A wave of general strikes that have (1) jeopardized the success of the European Recovery Program, (2) strengthened and tightened Communist cells in France by united action and (3) have caused a serious loss of faith in the almost helpless before Russian military expansion to the west.

Millions of tons of coal have been lost since the coal strike began Oct. 4. Miners demand \$35,000 a month for the strike. The people of France have, through this concerted action, been given a greatly magnified impression of Communist strength and sympathy in France. The Communist Party of France needs no exaggeration to loom strong and important in the nation's affairs. The esteemed Dr. Gallup, international pollster, has pointed out only recently that 80 per cent of any French vote in the immediate future would be Communist—and these Communists are nearly all men like 335,000 miners, like the auto-workers who struck a few months ago, like the French government who have threatened the French Government often—they're the manpower of France. They might be defeated in a vote by women, by the aged, by the combined strength of the weakening center and the growing right in France, but these men would not be defeated by the French people (if or when) the Cominform gives the signal for a full scale revolt.

A Creditable Chairman

MEMBERS of the hard-working little band of Democratic Party officials who have been moving about North Carolina attending the various political rallies humorously call themselves everything from a vaudeville troupe to "Capus Wayne's flea circus." They have participated in one of the most gruelling campaigns in many years and like their national leader, Harry S. Truman, they have sometimes been amazed at the interest manifested in their gyrations.

Everywhere—in all districts of North Carolina they have attracted large crowds that they have captivated. The musty Courtrooms have been packed to capacity, and the audiences have been enthusiastic. Much of this renewed party vigor, many observers feel, stems directly from the new party chairman, Capus Wayne, one-time newspaper editor and master strategist of the sensationously successful gubernatorial campaign of W. Kerr Scott.

William Wayne, who would make an able public official himself (as he did while chairman of the State Highway Commission), has been labeled the philosopher of

the party by Senator-nominee J. Melville Broughton. In his various platform appearances, Mr. Wayne has brought to the campaign a profundity of thought and a clarity of expression seldom found in any political show. In a season often marked on the state and national scene by platitudinous hollow-sounding oratory, the Tar Heel party chairman consistently speaks with refreshing vigor and logic.

Last week in a state-wide radio address he was again appealing to the electorate to stick by the party "which has placed the dignity and the well-being of the man ahead of security and profit for the dollar." And as usual the state Democratic chairman has the sound of an intelligent man speaking with conviction about matters close to his heart.

Although Tar News has endorsed the candidacy of Governor Dewey in the national election, it has never felt any inclination to stray away from the state Democratic ticket. And the feeling that state party affairs rest in competent hands is immeasurably increased by the presence of Capus Wayne in the inner court of the up-coming administration.

Politics And Barbecue

Send me, gods, a whole hog barbecued!
Alexander Pope

POPE, England's 18th century poet, moralist and pork fancier would have been better than taking votes at the dem of a gun.

Some parts of the country have television and some do not, and which is the better off is a question.—Kingston (Tenn.) Times.

Tons of cold slow, thousands of gallons of cold drinks and a hoghead or two of head-ly liquid spiced the proceedings as candidates sought to prove the political truth that the way to a man's ballot is through his stomach. Displaying enough ivory to equip a dozen Steinways with keyboards, then like Kerr Scott, Ham Jones, Capus Wayne, Melville Broughton, Sam Delaport, and Brophy and George Fritchard shook hands with the masses, clomped "old friends" (What's his name, Sam?) on the back, reminded us all of what a "great guy" we're living in and intimated that if friend Voter didn't cast his ballot the only way, ruin was around the corner.

Despite the political addresses (barbecues have learned that ham is the price they have to pay for pork), everyone seemed to have had a good time. The farmers who better than had the good old days in the 'twenties when everything was better. The farmer's wife met the old boy's wife and traded recipes for preserving watermelon rinds. Honey, that's

what it was. And, if you have an ear for the profound, it was democracy.

Some may object to politicians buying votes with barbecued hog but it's a dem of a gun.

Some parts of the country have television and some do not, and which is the better off is a question.—Kingston (Tenn.) Times.

The chief peculiarity about the Hyderabad war was that—lasting less than a week—it was over before a "cause" in its behalf could be organized in this country, or a loan floated for either participant.—Nashville (Tenn.) Banner.

A sound truck is a marvelous contraption that permits a candidate to say practically nothing much louder than he would have otherwise.—Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal.

Pome Advancing Against Double-Dealing in Contacts With Your Fellow Man: Practice deceit.

And your ruin is complete.—Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.

Oldtimers could tell when a bad cold "broke." All at once they could smell the grose, kane, turpentine, etc., they were smeared with.—Richmond (Va.) News-Leader.

Through Everything I Have Remained On A High Level



People's Platform The Case Of Mrs. Vicki Thiem

CHARLOTTE
Editors, Tar News:
WHILE we are in the midst of the annual charity drive the purpose of which is to help those who cannot for various reasons help themselves, I note in last night's (Oct. 28) issue of The Charlotte News that Mrs. Vicki Thiem has died at her mother's home near Supply, N.C.

To refresh the memory of any interested, this young lady according to the newspapers was injured in May in an automobile collision at Fayetteville. She was hospitalized at Fayetteville until some time in October when she was sent to Memorial Hospital because of the fact that Cumberland County found that she was from Mecklenburg and her care should be the responsibility of this County.

Her injuries were such that she had been unconscious and helpless. If Mecklenburg accepted this responsibility how did it happen that she was sent to Supply, N.C., a rural community where no doubt the mother had no facilities for giving her the care necessary to return to normal? Is it the responsibility of the county to shift the burden to another? Evidently the cost of keeping her here was the reason for her transfer. If so, are we not all concerned since most of us not only contribute to the charities but also pay taxes to Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte, part of which I assume is intended for such purposes as helping those in the condition that this incident left her in.

I have read that the responsibility for this young lady being sent here was assumed by the County. However, if our County Commissioners were involved in shifting the responsibility to the young lady's mother, I am sure they would be taking no part in this, under their authority?

It is plain that so long as this helpless person has exerted care, the lived, and within two weeks after being denied this care she died.

I have always understood that a helpless person is subject to pneumonia if that person proper care. According to last night's issue of The News she died of pneumonia.

I make no charges against anyone but I would like to be advised as to who took it upon themselves to fail this lady.

We are expected to help every needy European in Europe and every needy Asiatic and then through someone's penny pinching let one of our own citizens apparently Memorial Hospital could not stand the expense of her care.

I wonder if either of our other hospitals would have sent her away because there was no one to foot the bill.

In this case someone has failed and I think that all of us are the least bit charity-minded and I wish to know why the money which we pay in taxes and the funds which we contribute to charity was misused in this case.

In this case the exception or it is the rule which makes someone responsible in this case are left to make the decision?

I hope that I might be enlightened on this matter through the People's Platform.

—JOHN J. WELLS
(NOTE)—Welfare Dept. officials explain that members of her family obtained removal of Mrs. Thiem from Memorial Hospital to her home after extensive examinations by neurosurgeons indicated that nothing could be done to relieve the condition.

Mrs. George Arnold, Los Angeles, Calif.
Dr. Daugherty.

It is difficult, even for an old and seasoned political hand to give your father, to advise one who will vote for the first time.

Sometimes a seasoned political observer tends to size up a situation the same way a couple of days before an important surgical operation. They become so immersed in the technicalities that they forget the patients are human beings, and that elections are a clash between several million human beings to pick another human being as their leader.

As a technician I would say that Governor Dewey had conducted one of the most astute and skillful campaigns recent years. He made nobody mad. He called no names; he showed no class; he showed no mercy. He had a keen sense of what was certain to win if he made no mistakes and aroused no tempers. So his whole campaign was carefully geared to that end.

Dewey even managed to escape answering a question every election the same way a couple of days before an important surgical operation. They become so immersed in the technicalities that they forget the patients are human beings, and that elections are a clash between several million human beings to pick another human being as their leader.

Marquis Childs

Campaign Postscript

WASHINGTON
An exchange of letters was made a public here the other day that will serve as postscript to the Presidential campaign. The Republican plan to have chemical plants in the thousands of words to say nothing. Seldom, to paraphrase Winston Churchill, the very word was used so little around the country. Gov. Earl Warren of California wrote the Secretary of Interior, James H. Eastman. He said he was writing in accord with a resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California calling for a report on why a power plant situated in its history, where the most drastic economies to keep essential services going.

In September, as he was starting out on his campaign, Earl Warren of California wrote the Secretary of Interior, James H. Eastman. He said he was writing in accord with a resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California calling for a report on why a power plant situated in its history, where the most drastic economies to keep essential services going.

The resolution sought information on a particular standby generating plant that had been projected by the Bureau of Reclamation to cover emergencies. For nearly a year California has been suffering the most acute power shortage in its history, and the plan to build the most drastic economies to keep essential services going.

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