THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Charlotte's Protest Vote

IN THE Presidential poll being conducted by THE NEWS, we have a daily reminder in Charlotte that the popularity of Henry A. Wallace, the leftist Third Party candidate, isn't entirely confined to the Bronx and other outlandish parts of the United States.

Of course, our poll does not pretend to be a scientific cross-section sampling of opinion. However, when all the necessary allowances are made for incompleteness, vote repeating, etc., it still tells us something about the public mind on the Presidential candidates. It is notable that this poll contains only one surprise—the vote for Wallace—and that it seems to be running along the lines that follow the main trends in the nation and are justified by recent developments in the news.

Wallace, who surprised everyone with the thumping indorsement he received in the victory of the American Labor Party candidate in the Bronx special Congressional election, has been holding a spot near the top in the Charlotte poll. He comes just behind Eisenhower, who outdistanced all candidates in the Gallup Poll and the Fortune Survey. He contends for second place with Dewey, who has run consistently next to Eisenhower among the Republican candidates in the Gallup and Fortune samplings.

President Truman, who now is under heavy fire in the South because of his civil rights program, is well down the list in THE NEWS poll. The angry tone of the remarks on many ballots, denouncing Truman for advocacy of anti-segregation and other proposed Federal laws which the South long has opposed, punctuates the emphatic character of the President's decline in popular favor.

Confusion over the issues and candidates is glaringly revealed in two of the ballots carrying indignant remarks against Truman's civil rights program but giving their votes to Wallace, who goes beyond Truman in crusading for racial and social equality. It seems that these two citizens were playing a joke on the poll editor. If not that, then their knowledge of Wallace is limited to the fact that he is opposed to Truman.

The odd turn that a protest vote can take is illustrated by these two ballots. It is likely that the Third Party candidate will draw quite a few votes from citizens who know little more than this about the candidates and issues. They are the people who haven't the opportunity or the inclination to study the men and the issues. All they can tell is that their own situation is distressful and the world is going to pot, and neither the Republican Congress nor the Democratic Administration has delivered on their promises for the common man. Wallace serves as a convenient outlet for their dissatisfaction.

No matter how we explain Wallace's showing in the Charlotte poll, it grows increasingly plain that the protest vote over the country will be large, for reasons well stated by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who says: "Two things worry the American people, inflation and the fear of war. The Republicans and Democrats had better bestir themselves to remove the people's two great anxieties, or the course of our Government in the next few years may be surprising to both parties."

Thanks To The Red Cross

VIRTUALLY all Americans know they are making one of their best investments when they contribute to the Red Cross but very few have more than a slight idea of just how much they are getting for their money. A book would be required to tell the stirring story of this organization which serves the cause of mercy throughout the nation and around the world, but we do not need to go outside our own community for a timely and heartening illustration of the Red Cross' service to humanity.

A brief glance at the record is enough to convince anyone that the benefits to Charlotte in this cause are out of all proportion to our contribution. Our quota in the 1948 fund-raising campaign, which begins today, is $99,500. The national quota is $75 million.

First of all, we are receiving—at no cost—the efficient and devoted services of the citizens who enlist for this campaign work, at the sacrifice of their private affairs. Under the direction of Hugh Lobdell, campaign chairman, and Claude A. Cochran, chapter chairman, the leaders have spent weeks in preparing for this drive. They and the other workers will be busy from now until March 10 calling on the people for support.

During the past year, Charlotte was benefited in countless ways by the work of 350 volunteers in the local chapter, who gave more than 5,000 hours of their time as motor corps workers, production workers, knitters, headquarters staff workers, etc.

Several thousand cases were handled by the home department, many of the calls coming from veterans and servicemen. Classes were conducted in water safety, first aid and life saving. Classes in home nursing were conducted in the schools and at the chapter house. Mothers and daughters were instructed in home nursing and first aid. Many nurses' aides, all volunteers, were trained for hospital work.

A service that is increasingly useful is performed by the motor corps. It transports crippled children to clinics and runs various emergency errands, which numbered in the hundreds last year.

The Gray Ladies also gave of their time, wherever needed.

The Junior Red Cross, which includes more than 30,000 members in the City and County Schools, packaged thousands of favors for veterans in hospitals and filled boxes for destitute children overseas.

An important new service is the blood donor center which is being established here by the Red Cross to serve the hospitals in forty counties. This project, which marks a long forward stride in medical treatment, is being financed and set up entirely by the Red Cross.

In addition to its work for health and welfare in local communities the year around, the Red Cross is first on the scene of disaster everywhere. It allocated $11 million for relief and rehabilitation in the more than 300 disasters of 1947. In war and peace, it truly is the great servant of the American citizen.

Judges Webb And Warlick

THE RETIREMENT of Judge E. Yates Webb from active duty as presiding jurist in the Western North Carolina Federal Judicial District climaxes a long and distinguished career of public service which has few equals in this or any other state.

Judge Webb was appointed to the Federal bench 29 years ago from his seat in the U. S. Congress where he had authored the famed Webb-Kenyon anti-liquor bill, the Webb export act, and had helped write the 18th Amendment. Throughout his whole career he was a vigorous and unrelenting foe of liquor in any form and under any circumstances—a stand which often led to spirited but friendly jousts with this and other newspapers. He was a credit to the Federal Court system, presiding always with dignity, a touch of dry humor, and a warm feeling for mankind which led him to temper justice with mercy more often than not.

His decision to resign was not unexpected; it had been talked for months. And his letter of resignation gave no hint of the immediate underlying reason. Whatever it was, the retirement at this time will afford President Truman an opportunity to appoint a successor who is a Democrat, a chance which the party might not have after the November elections.

Recommended for President Truman's consideration by Senators Hoey and Umstead with the agreement of National Committeeman Joe Blythe is Superior Court Judge Wilson Warlick of Newton. The recommendation will find strong approval throughout the state.

Judge Warlick was elected to his post in 1930, and was renominated in 1938 and 1946 without opposition. A Presbyterian elder, a Mason, a member of the Junior Order, Kiwanis, and the American Legion, Judge Warlick has been a good citizen as well as a good judge. He has a calm, clear, analytical legal mind which will stand him in good stead as he moves up to the Federal court system, a promotion he justly merits.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal

Mr. Young And 9,999 Others

ROBERT R. YOUNG, the heretic of American railroad operation and finance, lets it out that he is willing to be President. Probably he said so just to send a chill down the spines of some of his brethren in his field. They'd sooner see That Man back in the White House again than to see Mr. Young there. But their shudders, if any, could only have been momentary. No one could think seriously of Mr. Young as a Presidential contender—not even if he got all the trains to running on time, modernized all of their equipment and made all the passengers sleep like kittens.

As a matter of fact, whatever else may be said about him, Mr. Young is almost certainly ill-qualified for the Presidency. This is indicated by a remark he made in connection with that office. He said: "There are 10,000 business men who would be a better President than any of the men now considered." That is nonsense. The assumption that a man who could successfully run a big corporation could therefore successfully run the country is a prime example of the political naivete one sometimes finds among business men.

Mr. Young is so untypical of his class and, in its opinion, so much of a traitor to it, that he might have been expected to know more than he evidently does about the exactions of the Presidency. He apparently thinks, for instance, that dealing with Congress is no harder than dealing with a board of directors. The truth is, dealing with Congress is far harder and requires far different techniques. For much of this know-how, the average successful corporation executive would be a miserable failure in the White House. Almost any national politician you could name would do better. Scorn the politician as you will, he has acquired a kind of skill which a man immersed in business cannot acquire.

We expect and hope that Mr. Young will confine his present ambitions to being elected a director of the New York Central.

'Get Down—It's Not Over Yet'

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Foundations Crumble

WASHINGTON

FOR the first time, practical Southern politicians are talking seriously about the end of the one-party system in the South. This is, of course, the result of the Southern rebellion against President Truman, and more particularly the rebellion's bi-product, the Virginia bill allowing the state's representatives in the electoral college to cast their ballots as they choose.

The resurrection of this antiquated Confederate device will allow Southerners to express both sides of their politically split personalities. They will be able to continue to vote as Democrats, yet to avoid assisting in the election of the Democratic Party's national candidate.

The trick is simple, and it is already appealing to conservative Southerners outside Virginia. South Carolina and Mississippi are definitely expected to pass bills of their own on the Virginia model. This holds out the pretty definite likelihood that Truman will lose the 28 electoral college votes represented by Virginia. The number is not great, compared to the 531 vote total of the electoral college. Yet it is quite enough to decide a close election. And it is also possible that other Southern States will follow the Virginian road."

OTHER DANGERS

Furthermore, even if the present movement is headed off, and the Southern electoral votes are in the end all stacked up for Truman, there are still other dangers to overcome. It has already been published that Senator Harry F. Byrd, after first expressing distaste, has now become inclined to let his name be presented as a Presidential candidate. Besides Byrd, moreover, there is Senator Walter F. George, who would command even wider Southern support. He is also giving signs of willingness to let himself be proposed to the Democratic convention.

As far as the convention is concerned, the Southern strategy will be to send uncommitted delegations, and to fight initially for a weasel-worded civil rights plank. The President's political representatives were at first inclined to concede such a plank in order to pacify the Southern rebels. But Truman balked at swallowing every word he had said on the subject of civil rights. The Southern governors were turned away empty handed when they called on the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Senator J. Howard McGrath. Now, therefore, the Southerners are more likely to be driven to the second stage of their convention plan, which is to nominate George or Byrd or both as rivals to Truman. Events are almost certain to intensify the South's itch to make trouble at the convention, and to go through, thereafter, with the Virginia scheme for depriving Truman of Southern electoral votes. The fair employment practices, anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills will all shortly come up for Senate votes. They will pass if the Senate applies cloture to halt filibusters. On the last test, on the FEPC, cloture was defeated in the Senate by a vote of only 39 to 33, with six Republicans, Senators Bridges, Guerney, Millikin, Moore, White and Young voting against, and Hawkes and Bushfield paired against.

SWITCHES EXPECTED

This year, the election and the temptation to make trouble for Truman are powerful persuaders to induce these anti-cloture Republican Senators to change their votes. Enough switches are expected among them to pass at least the anti-poll tax bill, probably the FEPC, and possibly the anti-lynching bill.

As to the long-range significance of the Southern rebellion, that is also pretty obvious. The new violence of the white supremacy shouters has in it a note of fear. Industrialization, agricultural diversification and the mechanical cotton picker are, in fact, already threatening the old Southern order which produced the Georges and McKellars, Byrds and Overtons. In the House, especially, a sprinkling of progressive Southerners has already appeared.

The Virginia bill returning to the state's Presidential electors the right of free choice which the Constitution originally intended for them may differently hurt Truman at first. But it will also have the long-range effect of separating the forward looking and backward looking Southerners into two different political parties. This is really almost inevitable at last.

Chapel Hill Weekly Is 25

Birthday Greetings From Editor

(THE NEWS reprints below an editorial appearing in the last issue of the Chapel Hill Weekly, owned and edited by Louis Graves. Mr. Graves' newspaper has a unique flavor which has earned it a reputation as one of the nation's outstanding small-town weekly newspapers; this characteristic can be noted in the anniversary editorial, in which Editor Graves reverses the procedure by offering the greetings of the Weekly on its birthday to all its constituents. THE NEWS extends its congratulations to Louis Graves and the Chapel Hill Weekly, with the hope that this Chapel Hill institution may continue its service to the University community for many years to come.—Eds., THE NEWS.)

THIS issue makes the Chapel Hill Weekly 25 years old. Birthday greetings are ordinarily directed toward the person or institution having the birthday, but that procedure cannot be followed in the present case because nobody but me knows that the Weekly is having one. The only way I know to keep the anniversary from being totally neglected is to reverse the usual procedure. Since other people are not greeting me, I have decided to celebrate the birthday by greeting other people.

Accordingly, I offer my greetings:

To the faithful and hard-working men who give such good service at our homes, day after day, year in and year out, in all kinds of weather: the milkman, the newspaper deliverer, and the town crew who come to take away the trash and garbage.

To the police force and the fire company, who protect our lives and property; and the district health department, the town government, and the court.

To the men who keep in operation the water and electric lines, and those who work on the streets, and the carpenters and bricklayers and all other persons who have to do with building and repairing houses.

To the clergymen and their assistants, and the men and women who conduct the town's religious, charitable, educational, and civic organizations.

To the printers who get out this newspaper.

To the post office force, inside and outside, and the telephone and telegraph operators, and the expressmen.

To the authors, artists, and musicians, the booksellers, and the people who provide for us athletic spectacles, plays and concerts, and moving pictures.

To the gardeners who beautify the village with flowers and shrubs.

To the physicians, the lawyers, the architects, and other professional men and women.

To the business community—which means not only the people in the bank and the stores and the textile and lumber mills but also those engaged in the various services such as feeding us and taking care of our cars and clothes and shoes.

To the teachers—in the public schools, and to everybody in the University.

To the many citizens serving as volunteer reporters, who send me news by mail or telephone or tell it to me on the street.

And to everybody else in Chapel Hill and Carrboro and the suburbs whom I have not mentioned hereabove.

I do not feel that I have anything of value to offer in the way of a review of, or comments upon, the 25 years of the Weekly. Mr. Boeing about the whole business is well expressed in an editorial in the La Plata (Md.) Times-Crescent, reprinted in the New Yorker. The inquiry propounded by the Maryland editor, which caused the New Yorker to remark "Do you should stumble on the answer, would you call us and reverse the charge?", was as follows:

"The Times-Crescent is 102 years old today . . . Sometimes the pressure of getting a press out time and the long tedious hours required to compose and get into type information which our readers can consume at a glance, and probably already knew anyway, makes us wonder if it's worth while to go through with the same irksome routine again next week."

—LOUIS GRAVES.

People's Platform

Wallace's Appeal

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

ALL those who think that Henry Wallace will only hurt the Democratic Party, due to his running on the Third Party ticket, will find themselves sadly disappointed.

Of course Mr. Wallace will take many votes from the Democratic Party, but those votes will be of the liberal-minded or progressive Democrats and of those Democrats who feel that the present Administration let the people down, but he will also hurt the Republican Party by taking many votes away from them. They will not vote for him because they feel he is the real standard bearer of the liberal movement, as he is definitely not, but only because he is more dependable and reliable to carry out the promises to the people than any of the prospective other candidates. If he had a chance to be elected he would at least put up an honest fight for the people and their rights.

In the 1946 election the Republican success was not due to a strict Republican vote. The majority was due to the confusion of very many people who believed the Republican promise in that prices would come down and the housing situation would be relieved, and all in a very short time, and that the price control was the only thing that prevented conditions from returning to normal. Well, the people really did not know what to do and risked the chance by voting Republican and how they were double-crossed could be best answered by the fact that prices are sky high and in some instances higher, and the housing situation as intolerable as before. The average people still cannot find apartments to live in with a rental to match their income and these are the people who will not entrust their vote to the present regime of Republicans or Democrats and will vote for Henry Wallace as a protest vote.

There is a positive fact that of late years the voter has shown that he is not as dependable to the district leader of any of the two major parties as he used to be years ago. The voter does think a little better in election time—not always right but at least independently Democrat or Republican. So now is the time for the politicians to get serious-minded for once and decide before convention time that unless they pick candidates such as the people will have confidence in, a surprising number of votes will go to Mr. Henry Wallace.

—HENRY KALKSTEIN.

Samuel Grafton

'Getting Started'

NEW YORK

MARGARET enjoyed spending Saturday afternoon alone in the flat. Her friend Ann would drop in later for a dish of tea, but until then it would be a good hour, too, filled with fine small things.

She straightened the flatware in the kitchen drawer. Then, as she picked up a teaspoon, and looked at it, she had a shudder.

It was worn. It was definitely worn. They'd had the plated ware only two years, and here was a teaspoon worn, with something showing unpleasantly through the silver.

We've been married long enough to wear out a spoon, she thought. They hadn't rotated them, they'd used the same two at the end of the compartment over and over, that was the trouble.

* * *

She dropped the spoon and walked, rather quickly, into the living room. It was a troubling thought, that they'd been married long enough to wear out a spoon. They had not intended to wear out their silver in this little flat. It was one of the things they had meant to take with them, "later," when Harry finished his studies, and when they had more money, and could get a bigger apartment, or a house.

She almost scurried to the mahogany secretary that Uncle James had given them. Was it worn? That was one of the things they were going to take with them, "later," too. She looked at it anxiously. A scratch, at the bottom of the left door?

Was it impossible, then, to carry things, unhurt, through the hard years of getting started?

And what about themselves, getting older? Maybe they, she and Harry, would be rather damaged, too, by the time the good years came, if ever. Margaret ran to the bathroom mirror, and looked at herself. No, she didn't look older; the face wasn't any different from the face she had seen in the mirrors of three and four and five years ago. Except, maybe for the look of apprehension that there had been lately, sometimes.

The doorbell rang.

* * *

It was Ann. She hadn't seen Ann for three or four months. Ann was a year older, but they had been school friends once, at school. Margaret helped her off with her coat and, as she noticed Ann's careful hair-do, it did not escape her that Ann was carefully noticing the flat, and its things.

"Joe wants us to get married," said Ann, first thing, as they sat down.

"Well?"

"I don't know. Then we have to start that business about finding a place to live. And getting furniture, at a time like this. And this talk about a recession. I'm a little scared."

Margaret looked at her curiously. Ann really was scared; there was something in her eyes.

Funny, she had always been very aware that Ann was older than herself; not now, for the first time she seemed the younger.

"It isn't so hard," said Margaret. "You do think of it a lot, at first, and the problems don't look so tough when you're close up to them. You think of get used to problems, then it's all right."

"It gives me butterflies," said Ann. She put her hand to her middle, with a little-girl gesture.

* * *

Margaret went to the kitchen for the tea. She reached back into the drawer for two of the unworn spoons. As she dropped them on the tray, something made her stare at them. They seemed too aggressively new. She put them back, and took out the pair that showed the marks of use. They seemed too aggressively new. She put them back, and took out the pair that showed the marks of use. They seemed familiar and good, somehow, as if their oldness was not a damage but a badge of many good teas and days accomplished. She put them on the tray, and smiled, as she went into the living room to the trembling girl on the sofa.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Army Sends Secret Mission To Arabia

WASHINGTON

AN ULTRA hush-hush military mission is leaving for Saudi-Arabia this week. Just what this group of about 200 American officers and technical sergeants will do in Arabia is supposed to be a closely guarded secret, but you are to train an Arab air force and re-equip abandoned U. S. air fields.

Why this secret mission is leaving at this time is not known, but behind their trip is an agreement with King Ibn Saud by which he gives a pipeline concession to the Arabian-American Oil Co.

Members of the military mission were selected after elaborate screening tests, then given instruction in the Arabic language, weapons and demolition work. The group will leave from Washington, New York and Miami, all wearing civilian clothes. In order not to attract attention, they will proceed in small details and by round-about routes.

For instance, the detail will go to Paris, then Germany, then Greece and finally to the Arabian-Iranian border.

The Lesson Benes Learned

SHORTLY after World War I, when Czechoslovakia was a thriving young republic and I was a struggling young newspaper man, I interviewed Eduard Benes, the man who now sits almost alone in Prague's Presidential Palace.

Prague was a glamorous place in those days and Czechoslovakia was considered the bright star of Europe. It was one of the new republics born of the war of which great things were expected.

Benes and Thomas Masaryk, exiles in the United States from Austro-Hungarian rule, had sat down in Pittsburgh with copies of Woodrow Wilson's speeches and on the basis of those speeches they had written the Magna Charta of their new country. When they took it to Wilson, naturally he gave his enthusiastic blessing.

But Benes and Masaryk meant what they said. And during those first years after World War I, their vigorous republic lived up to their hopes and dreams. Masaryk is dead now and his son, the present foreign minister of Czechoslovakia, is a virtual prisoner in Prague.

Benes now is old, but when I saw him in Prague 25 years ago, he was young and full of hope. His hope was for a United States of Europe—an idea which, if then carried out, might have prevented World War II and the backwash of Communism that followed.

But what I remember most about that talk with Benes was his reference to Russia. His country, he said, was next door to Russia and had to work with Russia. They were cooperating well together.

In the years that followed, Benes continued to try to work with Russia. But as he sits almost alone in his Presidential Palace, he must now realize how impossible that is.

For co-operation has to be a two-way street. And the biggest thing Henry Wallace and the other well-meaning people around him have to learn is that working with Russia leads down a one-way, non-co-operative street sure to end in a blind-alley dogfight.

Mississippi Terror

TRAGIC unpublicized fact about the President's civil rights program is that it is creating just what it was aimed to prevent—a new reign of terror against Negroes in some parts of the South.

Specially in Mississippi, resentment against Truman has been taken out against Negroes. And while the visit of Southern governors to Washington has made headlines, the race incidents haven't. However, here is what has happened in Mississippi:

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 21.—J. V. Williams, a young Negro veteran, was arrested in a Negro cafe on a charge of drunkenness. Pushed out into the street by the arresting officer, the officer shot him in the hip on the pretext that Williams was trying to escape. After Williams was lying in the street, the arresting officer and, several others beat him brutally. His pleas for mercy attracted a large crowd, which blocked all traffic. A police car arrived, William was thrown in and driven off.

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 13.—Lerow McGowan, a one-arm Negro veteran, started to run when called by a police officer for drunkenness. Overtaken, he was beaten by several uniformed policemen until unconscious and lay for some time in a pool of blood at the corner of Amite and N. Parish sts.

Kosciusko, Miss., Feb. 2.—George Thomas, a young Negro, was shot to death by a policeman who reported that he arrested him for attempting to break into a white's home. The officer said that en route to the jail, Thomas tried to overpower him, and he shot him. The autopsy showed that Thomas was shot three times, once through the arm, once through the lower body and once through the heart.

Incident No. 2 at Kosciusko occurred on the same day, when Lucey Futch, a young Negroe veteran driving a truck for a Jackson wholesale firm, was reported the victim of a mob. On hearing this report, Futch's mother and wife went from Jackson to Kosciusko to find out what happened to the run-around by police. Four days later he escaped and was able to return home, bearing evidence of a brutal beating.

FBI Promotion

THE Senate hearings on Edward Tamm, No. 3 G-Man, now elevated to a judgeship, illustrate the difficulty J. Edgar Hoover has had in building good men in the FBI.

After spending years training good men, they frequently go to more lucrative private business. Tamm's promotion to a judgeship was an effort to show that reward comes to those who remain faithful to Government service.

Trained as a lawyer, Tamm rose to one of the highest spots in the FBI. Not only as a reward but also for the good of the service, FBI men, Attorney General Tom Clark recommended Tamm's appointment as judge in the District of Columbia.

Now some senators protest.

Under The Dome

THE Italian Government has asked for an immediate $70,000,000 loan from United States to see it through April. That's Italy's election month. . . . The French Cabinet has voted to ask $300,000,000 more from the United States for March and April to keep the Schuman Government's head above water. . . . The Greek Government, with the advice of the U. S. mission in Greece, is issuing orders that all pro-Communist rebels are to be killed. No more prisoners are to be taken. In the words of one official, the situation in Greece is desperate. . . . Mrs. Chase Going Woodhouse, of the women's division of the Democratic National Committee and former congresswoman from Connecticut, will soon join the Wallace third-party movement. . . . It was Democratic members of the Foreign Affairs Committee who led the newsreel-radio ban against Henry Wallace when he testified on the Marshall Plan. . . . Most of the Republicans were in favor of letting Wallace get all the publicity he wanted, but Democratic Congressmen John Kee of West Virginia and James Richards of South Carolina urged that newsreels, radio and television be barred.