

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

90th Anniversary Year

THOMAS L. ROBINSON Publisher
J. A. DOWD General Manager
B. A. GRIFFITH Executive Editor

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SENATOR JOSEPH L. BLYTHE

THE passing of State Senator Joseph L. Blythe at the very moment he seemed ready to move into a larger realm of public service is a tremendous loss to his family, his friends, his state, and his nation. But the man's considerable accomplishments and contributions in his 38 years will leave him a lasting position in the esteem of the people.

Perhaps his outstanding characteristics were simplicity and humility, and they showed themselves in virtually every activity in which he participated.

Mr. Blythe was an outstanding success in business and public affairs, and for both he had relatively simple formulas. He believed that hard work was essential to business success, but recognized that the primary test of a good businessman was his ability to employ capable assistants, pay them well, and delegate authority to them. In the field of public affairs, he conducted himself with loyalty, and caution and praiseworthy to success.

The test of any formula is the result thereof.

In partnership with his brother, Mr. Blythe built one of the nation's outstanding paving and construction companies, which operated on a large scale over wide territory, with profit to the owners and the employees.

On his own initiative, he had become perhaps the most influential businessman in North Carolina State Senate, a leader of the state and national Democratic Party, and a friend and consultant of President Truman and high U. S. officials. There had been no immediate publicity prior to his death, that he was in line for a major diplomatic assignment as a recognition of his ability and reward for his effective service. Somehow, he managed to find time away

from business and politics to participate in many other worthwhile enterprises. He was a faithful member of the First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, of which he was an elder for many years. He was deeply interested in the Boy Scouts, and was a leader of that organization. A veteran of World War I, he gave faithful service to his local post of the American Legion and to the state and national Legion club.

Mr. Blythe was also president of the First Federal Savings & Loan Association, president of the Mecklenburg Historical Society, a director of the Chamber of Commerce, and an organizer of the new City Club.

His record as national treasurer of the Democratic Party was probably the climax of his public life. He accepted the position before the Philadelphia convention last Summer, at a time when the Democratic tide was running low, refusing to go along with some Southerners in a bolt from the party because he believed that loyalty to the party and its candidate would serve the South's interests better. The fact that his party wound up the election with a respectable cash balance is adequate proof of his financial wisdom.

Mr. Blythe was not a typical politician. He had neither the stage personality, the oratorical savvy, nor the flair for the dramatic that one expects in a successful politician. Yet his native reserve, his ability to avoid mistakes, his loyalty to party and friends, his knack at compromise, and his genuine concern for the welfare of the people were tremendous assets which would be opponents did not dare challenge.

Mecklenburg has produced many outstanding men, but few of larger accomplishment and service than Joe L. Blythe.

NECESSITIES VS. LUXURIES

WHETHER it is done consciously or not, most of us budget our money between necessities and luxuries, giving priority in that order. In normal times, the division is fairly rigid, with clothes, food, housing, medicine, transportation and the like getting the major share, and the rest going for the fluffier things of life.

There are times in the life of every person when the necessities will demand an even larger portion of his income. It may be an extended illness. Perhaps he needs to buy a new furnace, or enlarge his house. Maybe he has two children in college at the same time. In such cases, if he has good sense, he will cut his expenditures for luxuries to the absolute minimum, and thus avoid, insofar as possible, going into debt.

And is there any reason why the same practice wouldn't be wise for the Federal Government?

There are not normal times. We're still paying, and dearly, for World War II. On top of that, we're locked in a desperate world-wide struggle against Communism. The Government is faced with a big, alert military machine as well as an inconvertible funds for bolstering the economy of other nations who are potential allies if the cold war gets hot. It would seem that

discretion would prevail in such a period and that the luxuries of our Government would be limited, or eliminated entirely. The Government was soundly summarized by Robert M. Hanes, president of the Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., in an address at the annual meeting of stockholders recently.

"Despite the fact that we have the greatest debt ever accumulated by any government, despite the fact that we have assumed responsibility for the recovery and rehabilitation of Western Europe, and made tremendous commitments to the world, and despite the fact that we must maintain the greatest armed force our nation has ever known, and in peacetime at a cost of less than \$1 billion a year, we are asked to expend billions more for all sorts of pet projects which are home."

"It is unbelievable that any nation, which has assumed the leadership of the world on a program of expanded spending in almost every phase of its domestic economy while at the same time it is asked to spend billions more for all sorts of pet projects which are home."

"There is a wide gulf between desirability and necessity. The desirability of the moment demands that the great national debate over the desirability of some phases of the Truman Plan Deal be delayed until it would be advisable to carry them out."

MERITORIOUS PROJECT

WHEN Charlotte's ex-fire chief, Hendry Palmer, and a group of Shrineurs dreamed up the first Shrine All-Star football team twelve years ago, they had an idea that the project would grow to such tremendous proportions and be such an overwhelming success.

They hoped for a profit of a few thousand dollars so that the splendid work of the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children in Greenville, S. C., could be expanded. But the game's popularity surpassed their fondest expectations, and through the years the cumulative profit piled up, with the whopping returns from the 1948 game, the grand total reached the quarter-million dollar mark.

That's a lot of money, and it is perhaps indicative of the classic continued hold of the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children, the greater portion of this money has come in the last three years—\$50,000 in 1946, \$60,000 in 1947, and the record \$52,000 in 1948.

It is a fine project in every respect. It

recognizes, first of all, the outstanding gridiron accomplishments of the best young athletes in North and South Carolina, by giving them a chance to play against each other before many thousands of people, not the least important of whom are the college coaches and scouts who do the picking.

It's a good deal for the fans. They always see a first rate exhibition of good football, played with the zest of youth and for the sheer love of playing.

But it is chiefly important because of the charitable work it makes possible. There is no way to measure how much happiness that \$50,000 has meant to children who otherwise would go through life hopelessly crippled. Many a handicapped child has been made into a contented, well-adjusted, productive member of society by the Shrine.

The four tuples of the Shrine which sponsor the event, and all of the individual members who have contributed their time and energy to the Shrine classic, are deserving of the most generous praise.

From The Asheville Citizen

MORE FUNDS FOR THE PARKS

IN HIS budget message President Truman asked Congress to double last year's appropriation for the National Park Service. This may sound like profligacy. Actually, it is not. The last year's appropriation for the Park Service only \$15 million to operate 26 national parks and 154 other national monuments and recreational areas which draw millions of visitors in a year.

Some of these parks were maintained in the merest stand-by condition during and after the war. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of them. Though it is the most popular park in the country, it has been starved for improvement and development funds. Its personnel is inadequate for the handling of large crowds and its wonders are inaccessible in considerable

part to those who would explore them. The sum of \$20 million for the National Park Service seems scarcely more than a token payment for America's recreational resources, and for the conservation of these priceless resources.

With so much rain of late farmers believe they would need much snow and cold weather this winter to freeze the bill weevil. The pest has most likely drowned by now, they think. — Greenville (Misc.) Courier.

Somebody said that to marry a woman because of her beauty is like buying a house because of its paint. — Greensboro (Misc.) Weekly.

'Rah Rah! H-A-A-R-R-Y'

Joseph Alsop

Interim Report

PARIS
THE best way to measure the Marshall plan in Europe is by what has not happened. Inflation, stagnation, economic paralysis and political inactivity have not got Western Europe out of the doldrums. France, Italy and the other nations of Western Europe have not succumbed to dictatorship. The Right or the Left, the Kremlin has not believed in the Marshall aid. Since all these developments would have been inevitable without the Marshall aid, the program may be considered a form of political life insurance.

This crucially important fact must now be emphasized because whether the Marshall Plan can attain its full objective of putting Europe on a self-sustaining basis by 1952, The doubt is underlined by the recent report of the Organization for European Economic Co-Operation, the central commission of all the Marshall aid countries, showing a three billion dollar deficit in the European balance of payments at the end of the present program.

The first reason for the difficulty is a psychological situation which can hardly be avoided. The process of restoring any national economy after so great a catastrophe as the last war inevitably involves a change in the social order. Whether they take the form of higher taxes or lower privileges, the adjustments are inevitable. Opposed by the groups called on to make sacrifices. While the Marshall aid has not been infected by the microcosm of totalitarian politics of the drive for large sums of the vote into the arms of the Communists, the line of "full speed ahead and damn the torpedoes" as they have much as all the storm, the society is threatened from in front by economic decay and from behind by the Communist Party as a true hero in France, the society is threatened from the rear by the danger of driving large groups of the vote into the arms of the Communists.

On the other hand, the very fact that the process has been eased by Marshall aid immeasurably reduces the pressure on the European political leaders to do all the unpleasant things that would be done to put their affairs in good order. Congress said this danger, the pressure to guard against it, attaching certain conditions, such as the requirement that Marshall aid must not be used for military purposes.

Marquis Childs

Blue-Pencil Speech

WASHINGTON
ONE of the earlier drafts of President Truman's inaugural address called for a "blue pencil" to be put through their own organization, to assume greater responsibility. Mr. Hoffman is confident this will come.

But even if there is 100 per cent cooperation, there will be a deficit in Western Europe. In 1952 when the Marshall Plan expires, the deficit will be \$20,000,000,000. Yet, the American people were told that a four-year plan or a five-year plan would restore Europe and start the Western countries on a path to economic recovery.

Capital, he suggested in his address, is the key to the recovery. The principle that benefits must flow mutually to the American investor and the people of the country where the money is invested. This sentence deleted from the inaugural message, in effect, deleted the principle that the American investor should be the one to take up where the Marshall Plan leaves off.

The reason the blue pencil crossed this out was because the President did not want to let the world know he was talking only about the Marshall Plan countries. He was talking about the world, not merely to Western Europe but to the world.

It was also the fear that such a reference to the Marshall Plan would be misinterpreted as a reference to the Marshall Plan administrator, who is a man of the world, not merely to Western Europe but to the world.

The most careful and detailed study is going into presentation of the Marshall Plan.

Mr. Hoffman and his staff are making a strenuous effort to get more co-ordination. In all his talks with heads of state and cabinet ministers during his recent visit to Europe, the boss of ECA stressed the urgent need for co-ordination through their own organization, to assume greater responsibility. Mr. Hoffman is confident this will come.

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A Regime Collapses

Rise And Fall Of Chiang Kai-Shek

By HAROLD K. MILKS
Associated Press Writer

THE hasty exit of President Chiang Kai-Shek from his National Government may close a glittering era of Chinese history.

As he stepped offstage, after 22 years of strong rule, Chiang Kai-Shek, known as the "Sun Yat-sen of China," was leaving behind him a regime that had driven so confidently into the northwest fourteen years ago.

And in China's great cities, war-born inflation was stealing the livelihood of millions.

The decision of the 68-year-old warrior came in the first year of his six-year term as China's first constitutional president.

It came after his last remaining supporters—many of whom marched with him in the October 1948 election—were being driven from the Central Asia. And soldiers' mutiny was creating a new crisis.

When Chiang was elected constitutional president by the National Assembly last Spring, there were warnings that the government he controlled was being led by the military and the economic war. Eleven days before his April 18 election, he conceded to the National Assembly that he was not going to leave China until it was solved.

REDS were the main enemy. Communist armies were taking the offense then, after driving Nationalist troops in Manchuria into isolated strongholds. They were pushing into the Central Asia. And soldiers' mutiny was creating a new crisis.

During the last few months it has been a case of losing more and more territory. Government troops in all parts of the country are being driven from their strongholds. The "autumn offensive" of the Reds cost President Chiang the original base of the support of many of his followers.

A leading reason for collapse was President Chiang Kai-Shek's refusal to delegate authority to his subordinates.

Chiang surrounded himself with trusted but frequently incompetent military, economic and political leaders. Young and well-trained generals were promoted to high positions. The old command jobs were turned over to older generals whose only attributes were personal loyalty.

During the last few months, Chiang personally assumed direction of the war against the Communists. He was not a military man.

Defense Minister Ho Ying-chin once admitted openly that he was not a military man. He was in Peiping trying to run military operations in Manchuria and North China.

Disorganization also became general in Nanking and Shanghai. Only U. S. forces in the east China provinces of Chekiang. He was one of the many military leaders trained in Japan who joined the Yai-Sen Kuomintang revolution against the Imperial Peiping Government.

Chiang became the strong right arm of Sun, was commander-in-chief of the revolutionary forces, and

subdued the warlords who retained Sun's Nationalist Government.

After Sun's death in 1925 he became in fact the Nationalist leader of China, a post which he maintained either as military leader, as head of the Kuomintang, as chairman of the National Government, or as its president.

In 1928, he became the famous northern punitive expedition against the warlords of South China. This was to bring China its greatest measure of unification in 1928. That year he became president.

In 1927, however, Chiang broke with the Communists when he reached the Yangtze. He drove them out of the Yangtze valley and set up his new government.

Once again the Generalissimo held the whiphand over the Reds. That was in 1934 when he drove the Reds into the bleak northwest province of Shensi.

And it was from there that they slowly, at first, and then with a mighty rush came back...

People's Platform

In Defense Of The Bagpipe

Editors, The News:

NOTICED recently that some one was lowering the Highland Bagpipes as a musical instrument. There are more than a thousand pipers in all parts of the world. There is no doubt that what most people believe, this musical instrument is the source of the Scottish character.

There are many pipers in the United States. There is more made in this instrument when played by a real musician than in any other instrument. The instrument is a very simple one, but the pressure is kept on it with the left arm. It is not hard to play as other instruments, as you keep a steady supply of air in the bag.

The reason the Scotch, and Scotch-Irish in this country, are so fond of the bagpipe is that the one section, gill piping, which is the first and best, is kept in the bag. The rest of the pipe is made of wood, and the source of supply is kept in the bag.

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Highland pipes are still made in Glasgow, Scotland. Necessity in this country is in New York City. The pipes help to develop strong lungs in the young men of the country. The bagpipe is a source of pride and honor to the Scottish people.

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Drew Pearson's

Merry-Go-Round

FOR some time, Government scientists at Washington Dept.'s experimental station at Beltsville, Md. have been trying to determine if the same atomic forces that take place in the sun can be used to produce energy.

So far no increase in energy has been produced. But Agriculture Secretary Charles Brannan has instructed his scientists to keep trying.

It is the hope of atomic farm research, however, has been highly successful. By measuring the radioactivity of phosphorus in corn and other crops, the scientists have been able to tell how much of the crop's phosphorus came from the soil and how much from the fertilizer.

This means that farmers of the future will be able to ascertain, almost to the pound, how much fertilizer they need to give to each crop year. Beltsville scientists are using a "tracer" technique, since they can trace the course of radioactive phosphorus through a plant's life cycle in a "batter field."

As one scientist observed: "It's like finding another way for agriculture research that we never had before."

Rayburn's Real Friends

RACHELOR Speaker Sam Rayburn, having no children, gets a great kick out of playing with them. Whenever he is in the city, he is always surrounded by a group of his friends under 10.

That's how Rayburn secretly celebrated his 75th birthday earlier this month. Officially he was guest of honor at a round of distinguished parties attended by the great and the good of the country. But the party which Rayburn enjoyed most was played by thirteen youngsters.

His hostess was four-year-old Lucy, though her eight-month-old sister, Lucy, turned out to be the life of the party by climbing on Rayburn's knee and trying to

Atomic Farming

is Government Project

has egg-bald head. Rayburn's knees were loaded with kids all afternoon, with his grandsons Tom Bartlett and Sam Rayburn Worley—

netting him. The party was a success. The party which Rayburn enjoyed most was played by thirteen youngsters.

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Silent John Rankin

HOUSE members can't believe their eyes—or maybe it's their ears—but the most unrepresented rebel in Congress is now a subdued member of the House of Representatives.

Temporarily, at least, rooster-tooth John Rankin of Mississippi has quit his noisy, bawling, and bawling ways and is being booted off the Un-American Activities Committee.

Rankin, who has been a member of the committee since 1947, has been asked to resign. Rankin, who has been a member of the committee since 1947, has been asked to resign.

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