# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## CRUCIAL VOTE ON LABOR BILL

If the Senate follows its order of business for today, we will know by sundown what that body has done about what has been called "the very heart" of the new labor bill—the use of Government power to halt strikes endangering the national welfare.

The Senate was scheduled to vote this afternoon on three vital amendments which were debated at length last week. Indications were that the vote will be close, reflecting the almost half-and-half division in the Senate on the question.

Here is the background of the amendments up for consideration today.

The Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 restored to the Federal Government the authority to issue injunctions against labor unions (1) to halt such labor practices as secondary boycotts and jurisdictional strikes and (2) to stop for 80 days strikes which "imperil the national health of safety."

This provision of the Taft-Hartley Act has been bitterly denounced by labor which has feared, with some reason, a return to the free and unprincipled use of injunctions in the years before the Norris-La Guardia Act of 1932.

The Administration's new labor bill provides for emergency strikes by authorizing the President to "call upon" both parties to accept a 30-day truce while a fact-finding board would investigate and make recommendations. The recommendations would not be binding.

The three amendments to this provision:

1. One by Senator Taft which would give the President the choice of using either plant seizure or 80-day injunctions in such disputes.

2. An amendment by Senator Lucas to the Taft amendment which would eliminate the injunction section of the Taft amendment and retain only plant seizure.

3. One by Senator Holland of Florida which would eliminate the plant seizure section and retain the injunction.

The amendments will be voted on in reverse order, Holland, Lucas, and Taft. There will be no debate.

This is a crucial day in American labor-management relations. The injunction powers of the Taft-Hartley Act have not always proved successful, and it may well be that this is not the final answer to the problem. Most of the thinking about labor relations has been concentrated on protecting the rights of labor or management, and not enough has been devoted to protecting the rights of the public. Someone eventually will come through with a completely satisfactory way of avoiding strikes which imperil the national welfare, but until that day comes the people will be better protected by the plant seizure and injunction authority of the Taft amendment than by the Administration's weak and meaningless fact-finding board method.

## TWO BERLIN EVENTS

It was sheer coincidence that the Berlin Air Lift celebrated its first birthday and Western Berlin's striking railroad workers agreed to go back to work on the same day. The coincidence, however, serves to emphasize the long-range implications of the two events.

When a big C-54 "flying boxcar" put its wheels down on Tempelhof Airport at exactly noon Sunday, ready to dump five tons of steel wool and textiles, the first year's operation of the daring, dramatic Air Lift was ended. It was the 235,314th flight in the series which has cost 51 lives and an estimated $250,000,000 in a successful effort to keep West Berliners from starving and to beat down a calculated Russian effort to force the Western Allies out of Berlin.

It was about seven weeks ago that Russia, as a preliminary to the recent Paris conference of Foreign Ministers, agreed to lift the rail blockade. Two weeks later, 15,000 railroad workers went out on strike against the Soviet operators. Their chief grievance: although they lived in Western Berlin, they were paid in East marks, worth only 25 pfennigs.

Now Russia has agreed to pay their wages in West marks, and the Allied military commanders have guaranteed the workers protection against reprisals from the Soviet operators for their strike. Barring some further hitch, the railroads should be operating at full capacity by the end of this week.

It is not likely that the Western nations will abandon the Air Lift, or even reduce its 8,200-ton-a-day average considerably, for several weeks. In the first place, something else might happen to interrupt ground transportation; in the second place, the Allies need the extra capacity to add to their supplies of food, fuel, clothing, and raw materials.

The agreement of the Soviet operators to settle the strike, following by several weeks the lifting of the ground blockade, is an indication that Moscow may attempt seriously to try to carry on the spirit of the "live and let live" understanding reached by the Foreign Ministers at the Paris conference. In view of past Russian failures to live up to their agreements, it is much too early to say for sure that they will this time; yet we can always hope.

If they do, the implications of that double-event in Berlin Sunday will indeed be far-reaching.

## WISE APPOINTMENT

The County Commissioners made a logical choice in appointing Nash D. McKee, former City Councilman, as veterans service officer. As establishment of the veterans service office is a joint City-County undertaking it is regarded as a foregone conclusion that the Council will ratify the appointment at its meeting this week.

Mr. McKee is exceptionally well qualified for the position by background and training. He is a veteran of World War II and lost an arm in the Battle of the Bulge in December, 1944. Upon discharge from the service he spent six months in taking a special course at Washington in veterans rights and benefits and thereafter served for some time as a full-time service officer for the Disabled American Veterans.

He served one term as a member of the Charlotte City Council but did not offer for re-election this Spring after his appointment as adjutant of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion which made it necessary for him to move to Raleigh.

The service office will take over the work that had been handled here by the Veterans Information Center which is being discontinued. Establishment of service offices was authorized by the last session of the Legislature and the City and County Governments are setting up the office under the provisions of that legislation.

The service office is explained by its name. A veteran is likely to be lost in the maze of laws relating to the service men's benefits and rights and the purpose of the office is to advise veterans about their entitlements and the means by which they may be obtained.

The office is, perhaps, of greatest value in the help that it can render to the widows and orphans of service men as well as to veterans incapacitated by war injuries.

Mr. McKee is familiar with law and procedure in matters affecting veterans and his office will be of real service to the veterans of Mecklenburg.

From The New York Times

## 'CAN SHE BAKE A CHERRY PIE?'

Cherries are ripening, the red pie cherries which have color and tang and personality. Now is the time to make cherry jam and cherry pie, if you really know how. Cherry jam happens to be one of the best of all confections, but because it requires a cook who is also a connoisseur not a great many people make it. No such good fortune prevails with cherry pie. The notion seems to be abroad that anyone with a pie pan and a bowl of cherries can make a cherry pie; and nothing could be further from the truth.

It takes an artist to make a cherry pie worth the name. A person able, willing and patient enough to pit the cherries, and discriminating enough to choose the right cherries, dead-ripe for the most part but with just the right number still tanged with acid. Pitted and oozing their own undiluted juice, they should have just the right amount of sugar, not too much or too little. Then a dash, the most careful dash, of nutmeg. Then a bit of flour. Not cornstarch, but honest flour; too much flour and the pie will congeal, too little and it will flow, either of which is fatal.

There are the ingredients. Build a bottom crust which will flake in your mouth; and, as you will, make a full top crust or a lattice. Dab the cherries with butter before they go in, dab crust or lattice with butter, sprinkle judiciously with sugar, and bake.

It sounds so simple. And it is simple, when the right person does it. The result, depending on the maker, can be magnificent, or dismal. As we said, it is essentially a matter of art. And, unfortunately, there are too few artists around when cherries ripen.

"The Horse and Buggy Age," we are answering a lady inquirer, "was that period in American history when a citizen or a puppy could cross a street without serious inconvenience, not to say danger." — *Charleston (S. C.) News & Courier.*

We feel that the GCW is getting mature, as we have an order to insert 666 medicine ads for twelve weeks. We will know we are of age when they begin sending up Black Draught ads. — *Grenada County (Miss.) Weekly.*

We know a fellow who got rich so quick he still spits on his hands before swinging a golf club.—*Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.*

### An Old American Custom

### People's Platform

## Open Letter To The Editor

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

As a comparative newcomer in Charlotte, it has been my pleasure to know the warmth and charm of "real Southern hospitality". I feel right at home, and delighted to be here. However, your editorial of June 21, entitled "Separation of Church and State", is a grievious shock to me, as it is an outburst of religious intolerance under the guise of "democracy"!

You criticize Francis Cardinal Spellman's blistering attack on Rep. Graham Barden's Federal Aid to Education bill, and offer such confused reasoning as "How far shall we go in breaking down the traditional separation of church and state in our democracy?" in support of your criticism. Your logic is at fault, and you are confusing the issue. May I suggest that the Barden Bill itself is the point of Cardinal Spellman's objections, and rightly so! Kindly consider the following facts, of which you evidently are unaware:

1. Public schools are financed by the taxes of the public. Since we—Catholics comprise approximately one-third of the population of the United States, are we not a considerable part of that "public"?

2. In addition to our taxes which help support our public schools, we build, maintain and staff our parochial schools at our expense.

3. In North Carolina alone, 3,500 Catholic students in parochial schools save the State each year (at the state's own figure of $103.44 per child) more than $362,000.

4. If we Catholics discontinued our parochial schools, the burden of educating approximately 2,800,000 Catholic children would fall on the States.

5. In North Carolina, because of our 3,500 Catholic students, the State is entitled to about $300,000.00 more of Federal aid. Yet, when Federal funds are available, Catholic schools would be ignored and left out of that aid by the Barden bill.

6. By maintaining our parochial schools, we Catholics are lightening the burden of our fellow Americans. Our Catholic institutions of learning conform to all state scholastic requirements, and are a credit to our nation. Consider Notre Dame University, the Catholic University of Washington, St. Genevieve of the Pines, Belmont Abbey here in North Carolina, to mention only a few of the thousands!

The Barden Bill, H.R. 4643, stipulates that all Federal funds shall be used entirely for public elementary and secondary school expenditures. It excludes transportation from among the purposes for which Federal funds might be used, (hence no bus rides for our children). It excludes health services from among the expenditures which Federal funds might be used, (hence no health service for parochial children). It authorizes any taxpayer in any school district in the U. S. to get an injunction against a local board which is suspected of spending any Federal money for non-public school children. This is an outright injustice to over 50,000,000 tax paying Catholics. And the injustice is indicated in "counting in" Catholic pupils in appropriation of funds, but "counting out" of Catholic pupils in distribution of funds. Do you not see, therefore, the logic of Cardinal Spellman's objections to the Barden bill? Incidentally, the Honorable Mr. Barden is from New Bern, North Carolina!

As a Catholic, who attended Catholic schools from the elementary grades through college, I learned the three R's, together with a love of God, and it certainly has done me no harm! We Catholics have a record of citizenship and patriotism of which we are justly proud. Our Priests and Sisters are an inspiration to sincere, thinking people. If teaching a love of God to our children at an early age, is a threat to democracy, then Heaven help that democracy. And if informing our children of God's laws, along with their education, is an infringement on the State, then God help that State! "In God We Trust" is imprinted on our coins, in court we take our oath to God or the truth we swear to uphold, yet we Catholics, who love our faith, are accused hereby of "gradually whittling away at one of the basic foundations of American democracy". How untrue! How ill-informed! What your editorial "Separation of Church and State" expresses is not democracy, but simply religious intolerance, prejudice and ignorance. Certainly, the fine people of Charlotte and throughout the United States, do not share your views.

At St. Patrick's, in Charlotte, we hold a class every Wednesday at 8:00 P. M. called the Inquirer's Class, the purpose of which in discussion form, is to explain Catholicism to interested non-Catholics and to further enlighten Catholics. May I kindly, and in all sincerity, extend an invitation to you, and to any of your readers, to be our guests any Wednesday evening, and avail yourself of the opportunity of promoting tolerance, understanding and goodwill among our people.

I request, in the spirit of truth and fairness to which the press of our nation is dedicated, that you kindly publish my letter in full in the next edition of The Charlotte News.

—MRS. GENEVIEVE RANDALL HIRSCH.

## Congratulations To Scott

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

I was so favorably impressed with an article that appeared, in your People's Platform, June. 21, by Mr. Hoyt H. Eaves, titled "Hoeyism and Scottism" that I am herewith enclosing you a copy of my letter of congratulations to Governor Scott that you may publish.

—J. L. WILLIAMSON.

(Copy) June 6, 1949.

Hon. W. Kerr Scott,
Governor of North Carolina,
Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Governor Scott:

Congratulations Governor, on your victory. To quote the late President,—"You have done it again, again and again"—Senator Frank P. Graham, 200 million road bonds and 25 million school bonds,—is a fine start on your "Go Forward" program. Keep it up and State history will record you as the greatest governor we have had, since the "Hon. Charles B. Aycock."

The people who know you are for you one hundred per cent; because we believe you have the State's interest at heart and are doing what you think is constructive and best for all the people.

Kind regards and every good wish for you in the progress you are making for our "Great State".

—J. L. WILLIAMSON.

### Hoover Commission

## Overseas Functions

(The 14th in a series of articles explaining the reports of the Hoover Commission on reorganizing the Federal Government).

Aside from traditional diplomacy and commerce, almost the only overseas activity of the U. S. Government before World War II was the governing of its territories. The war and Soviet aggression have added huge and hugely expensive new activities. The Government is spending $1.25 billion a year to promote economic recovery in nineteen other countries. Because these and other overseas programs had to be launched in a hurry, they have been characterized by "confusion, inconsistencies and uncertainty of policy and program, with the inefficiencies which inevitably follow as a result of improvisation and lack of over-all planning."

There has been serious friction between the State Department, which is supposed to make occupation policy, and the Army, which administers it. Now the Army wants out, rightly holding that it is not equipped for such major occupation activities as establishing representative governments, civil liberties, etc. Responsibility for the European Recovery Program is divided between the Economic Cooperation Administration and the State Department, with inevitable disagreements.

In violation of the American principle that civilians should not remain long under military control, Guam and Samoa have been governed by the Navy for half a century. The Navy also now governs the former Japanese mandated islands for which the U. S. has accepted trusteeship. The principal government functions in these islands—education, public health, social welfare, agriculture, and economic development—have little to do with running a Navy.

The Department of the Interior lacks both proper organization and authority for its task of administering the territories of Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and several small Pacific Islands.

The Hoover Commission arrived at no firm solution for these problems. Its best tentative suggestion is that all of the programs might be consolidated in a new Administration of Overseas Affairs. This step, the Commission says, would simplify the problem of unified policy control, make possible the development of a corps of career men trained for foreign administration, reduce the number of government agencies and the number reporting to the President.

**FEDERAL RESEARCH**

For its multitudinous research projects, the Federal Government in 1947 spent $625 million — not counting the cost of atomic-energy research. The Commission made no independent study of this field, but on the basis of the recent report of the President's Scientific Research Board it recommends that: (1) the President be authorized to coordinate all Federal research; (2) a National Science Foundation be established to advise him.

**STATISTICS**

The Commission found many faults with the gathering and reporting of government statistics, which in fiscal 1947 occupied some 10,500 workers in fifty different civilian agencies at a cost of about $43 million a year. Prime faults: poorly trained personnel, incomplete coordination, overlapping functions, jurisdictional conflicts, lack of comparability, lack of standard concepts, definitions, and classifications, conflicts between reports, faulty coverage in certain areas, excessive detail in reporting, delay in publications.

Recommendation: let the Office of the Budget's Division of Statistical Standards be empowered to coordinate all Government statistical services.

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### Joseph Alsop

## Hope In The Air

BATAVIA, Dutch East Indies

BATAVIA is an utterly characterless colonial town of unimaginable stuffiness, which boasts the most inedible food, the most outrageous prices and the most tireless mosquitoes in the Orient. Yet there are two things here which, to the weary traveller from other parts of Asia, make all the difference. The first of these unexpected phenomena is an actual, solid, understandable, constructive American policy. The second is simply hope in the air.

There is hope here — good, solid hope—of a final settlement between the Dutch and the Indonesians. This settlement, would transform a huge area in Southeast Asia, probably the world's richest area in natural resources, into a great, sovereign, non-Communist state. It is almost impossible to exaggerate the importance of such an event to the whole future of Asia, and indeed of the world.

The drama which is being played out here may yet end in tragedy. But a happy ending is ultimately far more likely. To understand why, it is necessary to know something of three of the principal actors in the drama—a Dutchman, an Indonesian and an American.

The Dutchman is H. J. Van Royen, a thoughtful, fair-minded, highly intelligent diplomat who has spent much of his life in the United States. Before he arrived a few weeks ago, Dutch policy here was largely in the hands of the high commissioner, Louis Beel, a conservative who looks a good deal like Sen. Robert A. Taft.

**POLITICAL INSANITY**

Beel was mainly responsible for the "second police action" last Winter, when the Dutch tried to crush Indonesian resistance once and for all. This was a brilliant military operation. But it was political insanity. It confirmed the Indonesians' worst fears. And, perhaps more important, it forced the United States to make up its mind. Beel has now resigned, in protest against the new Dutch policy which Van Royen has brought with him from Holland.

The Indonesian actor in the drama is Mohammed Hatta, the leader of the independence movement with whom Van Royen has been negotiating. He is a small, shy, brilliant man, with a game leg (he was shot during the early fighting) and the jug ears, the pointed face and the sharp brown eyes of a particularly shrewd mouse. The third actor is the American, H. Merle Cochran, of the United Nations Commission, large, pink, clever man who suffers the tropical heat uncomplainingly despite his vast bulk.

These three men, the Dutch diplomat, the small Indonesian, and the large American, have only one thing in common. All three—and the governments they represent—now want the same thing. They want a settlement in Indonesia which, while safeguarding Dutch economic interests, will lead to a transfer of sovereignty from Holland to a new state—the United States of Indonesia. This is the new policy which Van Royen has brought with him from Holland (although the Dutch, with more, or less straight faces, deny that it is new). And this new policy springs very largely from the fact that the United States, which for a very long time really had no policy in Indonesia, at last has decided that a free Indonesia is in the interests of the United States and of the whole Western World.

Van Royen and Hatta, tactfully but tirelessly prodded by Cochran, have accordingly reached a preliminary agreement. This provides that the Indonesian leaders will return to their former capital, Jogjakarta; that Dutch troops will cease fire, and that the Indonesians will then fly to The Hague to work out with the Dutch the terms of the transfer of sovereignty to the new Indonesian state.

Clearly this is no more than an agreement to try to agree. Similar agreements have been reached by the Dutch and the Indonesians before, and they have always ended in a bloody shambles. There are still great dangers, which will be considered in a forthcoming report in this series. Nothing is certain until there is a final settlement.

Yet there is one new element in the Indonesian situation. This is the quick, decisive, effective way which the United States is now effectively bringing to bear on both sides. Without this pressure, the accumulated bitterness of the postwar years would have made it impossible for the Dutch and Indonesians ever to start toward settlement. The American pressure will continue. And this is the basic reason why a final settlement here appears ultimately inevitable, although a good deal of blood may be shed on the way.

A free, non-communist Indonesia is the best, and perhaps the last hope in Southeast Asia.

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

## Joint Chiefs Question Arms To Europe

WASHINGTON

The joint Chiefs of Staff held one of their most significant meetings last week with Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson.

Johnson was about to testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee and, before he did so, the heads of the Army, Navy and Air Force told him that they seriously questioned the advisability of sending large amounts of arms to Europe under the North Atlantic Pact.

The joint Chiefs of Staff were cautious in making their statement, pointed out that they were making no recommendation, that the final decision was up to the State Dept. Nevertheless, from a military viewpoint they said they could not justify the expense of arming 25 European divisions. They also expressed doubt as to what would become of these arms in the hands of Western European armies, if Russia invaded.

NOTE 1—Private comment of Senators who heard about the joint Chiefs of Staff recommendation was: "Why tell us so late? Without arms the North Atlantic Pact becomes an empty shell."

NOTE 2—While details weren't discussed at the above meeting, it's understood that the nub of the problem is tanks. The U. S. Army could send rifles, machine guns, some artillery with no loss. But it has no tanks to spare. European military, especially the French, point out that a modern army without tanks is like an army with pitchforks.

It couldn't last a week against the Red Army's Stalin tanks—considered the most powerful in the world. Russia has eight tank divisions between the Vistula and Oder Rivers alone.

NOTE 3—The joint Chiefs of Staff include Army Chief Gen. Omar Bradley, Navy Chief Adm. Louis Denfeld, and Air Chief Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg.

### Dime Novel Character

The State Dept.'s Dr. Philip Jessup, trailing homeward after the failure of the Big Four Conference in Paris, was reflecting on the high hopes which preceded that conference.

Jessup had been in on the discussions with Gromyko before the conference, and he remembered May 3 particularly. That was the day when the final Russian note was delivered to him in New York, the day when all the world wondered what was in that note. Would the Russians say yes or no?

The note reached Jessup's office, No. 2 Park Ave., in the morning, and he knew it was the fatal document that would tell whether the blockade of Berlin was to be lifted. He knew it was the climax of his weeks of secret negotiation and hidden meetings with Malik and Gromyko.

But nobody in his office could read Russian . . . Frantic search for a translator . . . an hour passed . . . Jessup hid the secret document under his desk blotter . . . another hour passed . . . headlines in the press: "No Reply From Moscow."

Finally, after three hours—a translator. Jessup hurried to his desk, took the fatal document from under the blotter, and said: "Here, translate this quickly. I'm tired of acting like a character in a dime novel!"

### Blind Joan Of Arc

There would be no question, said Chairman Percy Priest of Tennessee when pretty, 28-year-old Mildred Wiesenfeld of New York finished testimony last week before a Congressional subcommittee.

"You have made one of the finest and best-documented presentations I have ever heard," said the Congressman. "No questions are necessary."

The witness could not see the Congressmen. She was blind. She had come to urge Government funds for research into diseases causing blindness, which is increasing every year, with little being done to find out why. Every year 20,000 are stricken with polio, whereas 30,000 lose their vision.

Miss Wiesenfeld's story began three years ago when she founded the National Council to Combat Blindness with a capital of eight dollars and no office. Now she is the "Joan of Arc" of the blind and near-blind people all over the country.

Among the things she told the Congressmen: "There are 260,000 blind in this country. Relief and welfare for them costs the Government $30,000,000 in a single year. Yet only $400,000 is spent annually for research into the reasons for blindness. In most cases of fading vision, the doctors must sit helplessly by doing nothing.

"But I have never lost faith in the heart of America," concluded Miss Wiesenfeld. "It is too late to help me, but there's still time to save the sight of thousands of Americans who are gradually going blind, many without knowing it."

### Capital News Capsules

Three senatorial scalps — President Truman has ordered the Democratic National Committee to get the scalps of three Republican Senators at the next election at any cost! Taft of Ohio, author of Taft-Hartley; Hickenlooper of Iowa, for smearing Atomic Energy Commission, and Donnell of Missouri—because H.S.T. doesn't relish GOP Senators from his home state.

MESSENGER-BOY VISHINSKY—The Foreign Ministers' Conference convinced Secretary Acheson of one thing: Molotov is still boss of Russia's foreign policy, not Vishinsky. The Paris conference took twice as long as it should, because Vishinsky couldn't make even the most minor decision without sending to Moscow for instructions. When Molotov was foreign minister, he had much more authority.

COMMUNIZING ASIA—Intelligence sources have learned that the Soviet has sent 362 key Comintern agents to Siam to set up a base in Bangkok to win over southeast Asia. The Russian agents arrived with printing presses, paper supplies, and short-wave radio. They even have their own air force—private planes for the Russian diplomats. The Red agents are concentrating their fire on the whole southeast Asia perimeter, all the way to Manila.