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WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 1948

THE CLARK APPOINTMENT

PRESIDENT TRUMAN has shown on many occasions his faithful political loyalty and service to the No. 1 asset for appointment to the Federal office. His selection of Tom Clark to the U. S. Supreme Court is the latest example of that policy.

Mr. Clark got the job because (1) he is a suave and adroit politician, and (2) he stood by President Truman during the dark days of pre-November 1948.

This does not necessarily mean that he will not be a satisfactory Justice. We have every hope that he will be.

The point is that demonstrated ability and unshakable personal integrity should be the main considerations for appointment to the highest tribune in the land. If Mr. Clark excels in either category, it has not come to our attention.

A Texan by birth, Mr. Clark has spent the last twelve years in Coast Guard service. During that time, he has held the following Federal jobs:

Special Attorney, Bureau of War Risk Legislation, Dept. of Justice, 1937.
Assistant Attorney-General for appointments to anti-trust division, Dept. of Justice, 1938.

JUDGE SUSIE

WED like to make our manners to Judge Susie Sharp after her first major case as a Superior Court jurist.

In Rockingham this week, she found herself in the middle of a case that would have given pause to many a white-haired veteran of the bench. It was a mess: a prison camp superintendent, acting in accord with the regulations of the Prison Department, handcuffed a prisoner to the cell bars and kept him there without food from Wednesday afternoon until Saturday morning.

The court was to decide whether or not the prison official was guilty of assault. Judge Sharp was to sentence him if he was found guilty.

He was, and Judge Susie (the appellation, no offense against her judicial dignity intended, seems to be catching on) sentenced him to nine months on the road and then suspended the sentence because he had acted with the approval of higher authority. She fined him \$200 and said his hours

DECEPTIVE FIGURES

ANOTHER example of the deceptive use of figures in the Prohibition forces of North Carolina is the repeated assertion that the Mecklenburg County liquor trade is a "ten million dollar a year enterprise."

In total volume of sales, yes. But the retail sales figure includes a good deal more than the amount Mecklenburgs (and patrons from nearby dry areas) actually spend for whisky in this county's ABC stores.

The total sales in the seven local ABC stores from the day they were opened, Sept. 25, 1947, through June 30, 1948, were \$18,432,199.50. But here's where most of that money went:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Federal Taxes: \$3,300,214.58; State Taxes: 1,567,713.55; Res. For Law Enforcement: 1,427,471.82; Net Profits: 7,706,810.52.

Total: \$12,003,210.87. Thus 69 per cent of the retail sales total went to Federal, State, and local taxes, and to the operating of the special law enforcement brigade which relieves the other law enforcement agencies of this duty.

Actually, the big distillers that we hear so much about received only \$5,853,660.55 in that 21-month period, or about \$4,835,897 per year.

Now \$3,236,587 a year is a big business, all right, and the Prohibitionists would have just as good a point if they used that figure rather than "ten million dollars a year."

But it doesn't seem to us that it is quite fair and honest to count what a man pays in taxes on any item to measure the volume of trade in that item. It is money out of his pocket, true, but 69 per cent of it is returned to him in one form or another. Government services which would have to be paid for in some other fashion if it were not for the beverage taxes.

NOISE IN THE NIGHT

THE retirement of some citizens of the eastern portion of the city, occasioned by the catterwauling of the choo-choo train in the hours before dawn, seems to us quite natural.

While, to some, the mournful shriek of the train whistle conjures up the old-fashioned pajamas means naught to us save competition for the unspoken lullaby of Morpheus.

But the train whistle is not the sole violator of the night. There are cats with almost operatic volume who squawk a couple below our window.

There are dogs who seem to have dropped their last fragment of bone on our loose-lidded garbage cans.

ONE-THIRD OF A PAJAMA

ONE hears that a meeting of pajama manufacturers will be called shortly to discuss the serious slump in pajama production and sales. In 1948 pajamas hit an all time low, the makers say, and this low keeps lowering. Pajamas have reached a point where consumption is only "one-third pajama a year a man."

The manufacturers plan to launch a campaign "to encourage the use of at least a larger fraction."

At present time and temperatures, of course, even one-third a pajama would seem to man an excess of covering for his dormant hours. But all-year conditions in the pajama trade are equally dreary. The pajama is in its flowering line. It never was a tailored thing of lapels, pockets and monograms. It is said to think that a gentleman of men has arisen who in a Manhattan of jungle hats and Malay midnights is supposed to put on coat and pants before going to bed.

Chief, West Coast offices, 1940-42.
Co-ordinator of alien enemy control Western Defense Command and chief of civilian staff division, Dept. of Justice, 1943-45.

Chief, war fraud unit, and first assistant to Assistant Attorney-General in charge anti-trust division, Dept. of Justice, August 1943-June 1945.

Assistant Attorney-General in charge anti-trust division, Dept. of Justice, August 1943-June 1945.

There is nothing in that record, to indicate that Mr. Clark has a great judicial mind. He has been more spectacular than efficient.

Mr. Clark is a liberal. It was a foregone conclusion that Mr. Truman would name a liberal to the post, since the 5-4 split on many recent decisions was too close a margin for comfort.

The President did not have jeopardized that margin by replacing the liberal Justice Murphy with a conservative.

Mr. Clark is only 49 years old. He has many more years to demonstrate to the people of this country that behind a winning smile and laughing eyes there lies a mind capable of grappling with some of the great legal problems facing our nation.

People's Platform

Editorial: I HAVE been impressed by the momentous speech delivered in the United States Senate by Sen. Frank P. Graham, on July 29, 1948, in support of the ratification of the North Atlantic Pact, which was finally adopted by a vote of 82 to 13.

This great address is reflected in the comments of Ben Charles N. Tobey, leading Republican from New Hampshire, as reported in the Congressional Record of July 29, 1948, at page 9068. Mr. President, I have sat here for the last hour and, in my opinion, I have heard one of the finest addresses I've ever my privilege to hear on the Senate floor.

The jurist called the handcuffing punishment "medieval" and reminded the prison official that a prison camp sentence is the duty of a man from further crime and to prevent others in the state from committing crime. . . . not for revenge."

Here's a sensible viewpoint. So long as she keeps that principle in mind, she will serve the State well.

But her humanity before the tremendous power of the bench is also encouraging. She said: "I am appalled at the power of a judge, and at the responsibility a judge has upon the lives of others. I hope I never lose sight of that responsibility."

It is our opinion, based on what we have heard of the judge to date, that she won't.

Trucks and Safety

Editorial: LAST Saturday's page 12A, carried an item under the heading: "What! Me Learn Manners From A Truck Driver?" It smells very much like trucking propaganda and once the statements made appear quite short of the truth.

The campaign in the interest of highway safety is a laudable one, but it would have stretched the truth to the breaking point to say that trucks are making any more of the very unsafe practice on the highways. . . . since it is a little hard to understand why many of the Charlotte trucking companies excepted should appear to be endorsing the statements evidently made by trucking interests.

For instance, the assertion that "They keep on their side of the road, sure they do until they get around another vehicle making 50 or 60 miles an hour (disturbing truck speed limits) 45 miles per hour." And "They do not go on at fantastic speeds." Burely whoever wrote that statement hasn't his 400 patrolmen to "crack down on trucking speed" on the North Carolina highways much. Else, who has "giving the other fellow a break" either. Many, yes, very many, truck drivers are not so much as they are heavily armed and destroying many roads by their excess weight.

This is not intended as a blanket charge against all truck drivers, many of whom are thorough gentlemen. Neither is it a defense of all motorists, some of whom are not so much as they are heavily armed and destroying many roads by their excess weight.

School Controversy

Editorial: WE saw there was an article in your paper by some Catholic lay in connection with the proposed Catholic school in Charlotte. It should be noted that the money of the taxpayers in that should be contributed to Catholic schools. Along with many others, I disagree with each and every one who favors any such move, though, or consideration.

We, the taxpayers, contribute to the schools of the state of North Carolina quite a fabulous sum. That is, our free schools, which are plenty good for

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WHAT may have been a significant comment was scheduled in New York this week between Cardinal Mooney of Detroit, and Cardinal Stritch of Chicago, who called on Cardinal Spellman.

What they planned to talk about is not known. But it is known that on the preceding evening, when the distinguished prelate from Chicago was invited out for a preview of the hot topic, "Come To The Stable," they both were happy over Cardinal Spellman's attack on Mr. Roosevelt.

That brings up a highly important point not only asked in both political and denominational circles—Did Cardinal Spellman speak for the Catholic Church or only for himself when he wrote his letter to Mr. Roosevelt?

The answer, according to lay Catholic leaders and to Catholic newspapermen, may lie in the fact that Cardinal Spellman is not popular with various of the Catholic hierarchy. Catholic leaders interviewed this week pointed out that Spellman has jurisdiction only over the New York metropolitan area, excluding Brooklyn which is under the jurisdiction of Cardinal McGarry.

They also pointed out that, despite this, the New York Cardinal is known great deference in placed in his own friends in certain key spots where they can influence church policy. Recently, he appointed one of his protégés, Thomas Spellman, to be chief of the national Catholic Welfare Conference International Bureau which distributes news.

One of Spellman's programs, J. Francis McIntyre, was appointed Archbishop of Los Angeles, an appointment resented by many Southern California Catholics where the population is largely Italian and Mexican and not appreciative of an Irish clergyman all the way from New York. This is the first time an archbishop has been appointed to that area who could not speak Spanish.



Graham's Speech Praised

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and the Protestants and all others who feel that their children are all an equal footing as far as school operation is concerned in the State of North Carolina. All private schools and institutions that are carried on in the State of North Carolina under Protestant operation are taken care of liberally, and when anyone feels that children are superior or inferior to be taught in the public schools of North Carolina, then let them choose the private school which they prefer.

It is too ridiculous for any group with American privileges to think or request that said private schools or institutions be supported from funds out of State taxes or Federal taxes. I hope that Mrs. Roosevelt will fight to a finish the idea which is being challenged at this time, because we are in need of someone who will stand up and tell any group of groups that the very unjust practice which they are seeking at this time that there is no place for the argument and it is due time for such politics to be erased from our Constitution.

—S. C. VAUGHN.

Emotion Vs. Reason

Editorial: TO ENABLE Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia to make his application for entry to the Soviet Union is a major objective of the United Nations and Great Britain in Eastern Europe. So long as Tito is off the Communist map, the United Nations and Great Britain with the Cominform is growing hopes to enable Tito to make his application for entry to the Soviet Union is a major objective of the United Nations and Great Britain in Eastern Europe.

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Joseph Alsop The Breakdown

THIS country is now squarely confronted with the question of the desirability of a development often reported in this week. Bi-partisanship in American foreign policy, which saved the Western world in the post-war years, is now being abandoned since the last election. The results are the open opposition of the Administration to Mr. Vandenberg and John Foster Dulles, the Administration's foreign policy to arm Europe, plus the ever more alarming squabble over international relations.

The way bi-partisanship has broken down is simple indeed. The foundation stone of the whole system was continuous exchange of information, and continuous consultation on policy, between the leaders of the Administration and the leaders of the Republican party in Congress. . . . because the Republican could not be expected to go along blindly with public opinion as to them at the last minute, as an accomplished fact.

The most important exchange of information and ideas was always between the Chief of the State Dept. and Sen. Vandenberg, then commanding foreign affairs expert of the Republican party in the Senate. Since his return from Paris, Secretary of State Acheson has had only seen Sen. Vandenberg at least until a few days ago, at two general conferences. This starting fact is the real reason why bi-partisanship is at an end.

The excuse given for the avoidance of the man who was formerly the State Dept.'s chief collaborator is formal in nature. . . . Previously, it is said, Sen. Vandenberg was chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, which has provided a foundation for collaboration with the Administration. . . . The alternative is the extension to the State Dept. of the same method of domestic politics, by which the President presents a series of great initiatives to Congress, and then tries to make possible capital out of his program. Such a barren way of making foreign policy would be nothing less than playing mumble-peg with the fate of this country.

Fortunately, there is still no reason to believe that the system had not endeared itself to President Truman. . . . The Republicans with too much credit for the great achievements in the field of foreign affairs. The system was tolerated however, although with a certain degree of uneasiness in the election crisis. Then, when Lovett, Secretary of State, proposed a new consultation on foreign policy through the months of September.

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