THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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FACT OR FANTASY?

CONSIDERING the number of persons who feel that war with Russia is inevitable, it is remarkable how little has been done to prepare for the inevitable attack.

History tells us that no nation has ever made adequate defensive preparations for a major war. Perhaps there is no adequate defense against the war that threatens today. Perhaps the tremendous destructive power of atomic weapons is what has kept the U. S. from launching a large-scale civilian defense program.

Or, perhaps too many of us believe war is impossible, unthinkable. War unthinkable? To you, yes. To us, yes. But we aren't the individuals who make war. One group that can make war sits in the Kremlin. Is war unthinkable to Stalin and the Politburo?

It is probably the blind faith of the American people that it can't happen here which has kept us believing that, if or when war comes, it will remain in Europe and Asia as it did last time.

Doubtless, Russia is just as determined to keep American troops outside her borders and American planes out of her skies.

* * *

RUSSIA is no longer the semi-primitive land it was when it was defeated in World War I. It is not even the same shapeless land it was when it contributed so much to the destruction of Germany in World War II. It is at least the second most formidable nation in the world. We hope it isn't the first.

Whatever the case, we must assume that—if war comes—Russia can bring a part of it to our own back yards.

At the moment, our back yards are far from safe.

There have been a lot of ideas about defense—decentralization of industry, the coming of a new suburban age to escape the atomic threat—that sound downright fantastic when you first hear them. But after you think them over they simmer down to sanity. Some solid citizens have been talking about them.

Gen. George C. Kenny, commanding officer of the Air Force University and wartime air commander in the Pacific, is not an alarmist. We believe he was being realistic when he said:

"There is no such thing as an airtight radar defense. A never, far more devastating Pearl Harbor could smash a dozen major cities and give us a casualty list of millions in a single attack. We must visualize the possibility that we could be knocked out by such a blow, that the people would be unwilling to endure further punishment and would demand a cessation of hostilities."

This week the sober *U. S. News & World Report* revealed that not only Gen. Kenney but the National Security Resources Board is more than mildly concerned about atomic defense.

Says the weekly magazine:

"Plans now being drawn up for the defense of U. S. civilians are on a scale that would have seemed fantastic in World War II. They include Government outlays for public works that could cost 100 billion dollars. And, in addition, they call for other billions in private funds to be spent for the defense of factories and families . . . .

"In the event of a business slump," it adds, "the planners will have a pump-priming ready that will far exceed anything ever conceived in the days of 'big' New Deal projects, a program geared to defense in the atomic age."

That program will call for an astounding amount of construction work, much of it subsidized by the Government. The unique feature of the program is that it will concentrate on works which will be useful in peacetime as well as in war: underground parking lots usable as bomb shelters, suburban hospitals for which there is a definite peacetime need, express highways for rapid evacuation of cities, perimeter-area fire departments which we need now, public buildings so constructed as to be usable as emergency control centers, expanded waterworks for fire-fighting.

The NSRB is also concerned with decentralization of factories and construction of protective structures for individuals in their own neighborhoods.

* * *

IT'S a broad program. An unthinking public might oppose it at first, but we're convinced that the NSRB should continue its atomic defense program and put into effect as much of it as possible.

One foreign observer, News columnist Joseph Alsop, says that we should now begin our defense program in earnest. He says the Russians will not be ready for aggression for at least four years. We can welcome the time granted us, but we mustn't count on it.

And, of course, we must ever hope that peace can be obtained.

THE CHURCH AND THE CHEST

AT A MEETING some years ago in Indianapolis, one of the leaders of the Community Chest said: "The churches' representatives are here today; they are working on every team and they are coming to realize that they must give and must desire to give to this great movement the full force of their moral and spiritual power. They are coming to see that these social service organizations in their affiliation with what we call 'The Community Chest', are really sub-committees of the church, doing for the churches the work that the churches want done and would have to do themselves if it were not for the Chest and its member organizations. The care of the needy people of the community, the concern for the conditions of community life which affect every single one of us, the things which help to make or mar the Church, are the things in which the Church is deeply concerned."

And this week, in Charlotte, local ministers agreed that the Chest was, indeed, doing much to help the Church and that it would be only fair for the Church to help the Chest.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Ministerial Association voted unanimous support to the Charlotte Community Chest and set Oct. 8 as "Church for Chest Sunday". The vote came as a result of talks by Stowe Moody, president of the Community Chest, and Gorman E. Mattison, executive director of the Chest.

They explained the close connection between the work of the Chest agencies and the aims of the Church and that the source of the inspiration for the community services given by the Red Feather agencies of the Chest is religion.

We believe that the aims of the Chest and the ideals of the Church will be furthered by the close co-operation promised by the action.

THE HARD-WORKING POLICEMAN

AMERICAN newspapers are not noted for a sympathetic attitude toward the lot of policemen. It just isn't fashionable, perhaps; the habit of viewing with alarm the occasional failings of officers far outweighs the custom of denoting worry over their hardships.

However, if we may be allowed to veer from the usual path, we'd like to take more than passing notice of the condition pointed out in a story by our Mr. Fesperman. The policemen work long hours.

Actually they are on duty only eight hours per shift, certainly a reasonable length of time. But in those eight hours an earnest and energetic patrolman will invariably show up at headquarters with prisoners who have done wrong in the sight of the law. The more the patrolman arrests in his on-duty time, the more of his off-duty time he must spend in courtrooms, waiting for his cases to be called and then giving his testimony on the witness stand. There is no extra compensation for it.

In the light of all the complexities of administering the business of a City or County Government, the problem may seem little more than a minor nuisance. But it points directly to a situation studied by the Institute of Government in its consolidation survey here. The Institute, pondering the possibility of merging the City and County Recorder's Courts, with morning and afternoon sessions, submitted the fact that the officers would then have a better opportunity of doing their courtroom work while on duty.

This, among other advantages of one full-time court over two separate courts, certainly should be enough to attract the serious consideration of the City Council and County Commissioners.

IT DIDN'T WORK

THE MAGINOT Line failed. Indeed, it was probably the most costly (to the French) failure in the late war. It failed so completely to stop the Germans that its name has been applied to a state of mind: the Maginot psychology. The United States has shown alarming tendencies in recent years toward adopting that psychology as its own.

The latest example of Maginot Line thinking is the enthusiasm the journalistic military pundits have worked up over what they're calling "the Baby A-Bomb". The "Baby" is a light atomic bomb which can be delivered in small jet-propelled airplanes. The same principle is used in the new atomic warheads which can be used by artillery.

Combined with their big brother, the babies would make quite a formidable weapon. They could be used against troop and armored vehicle concentrations. They are, in truth, nothing to sneeze at.

But we must not make the mistake of assuming that new weapons will win another war for us. They may well win it for the other side.

We erred once in assuming that Russia did not have an atomic bomb, would not have it for years. But Russia had it. We have little reason to believe that Russia has not succeeded in concentrating that atomic bomb and making its own "Baby".

The French staked a lot on their Maginot Line. They staked their survival and lost. It's a lesson we should learn.

Humpty Dumpty

People's Platform

'Chickens Come Home To Roost'

PITTSBORO

Editors, THE NEWS:

DR. GRAHAM'S anti-segregation chickens (elimination of segregation as an ultimate goal, pp 166 and 167 of Report of Truman Committee on Civil Rights) have come home to roost, prematurely for his comfort perhaps, but nevertheless true, and that with a vengeance.

There can be no doubt or cavil about it. Segregation in the schools, at the college, graduate and professional levels, and possibly at the lower level, is definitely out. So says the U. S. Supreme Court, and that Court has the last say within our constitutional system, for it would be as easy for a woman to give birth to a full grown man, mentally and physically, as it would be to build an educational institution, from scratch, possessing such attributes as "reputation of faculty, experience of administration, position, and influence of alumni, standing in the community, traditions and prestige". Why the Court did not be frank and candid about the matter and say that the doctrine of separate-but-equal facilities did not meet the constitutional test I do not know. Perhaps it preferred chaos, confusion and a little torture in the dying to a clean and quick death.

Now, unlike the court, I am going to be frank. I do not like the situation. Furthermore, I attribute the situation we now find ourselves in to the teaching and philosophy of Frank Graham as much as that of any living man. He can be sold more goldbricks and possibly can sell more of the same kind than any man the South has produced in my time. Where his teachings will lead us I have not the slightest idea and I doubt most seriously if he does. What he means by "one God, one world, and one blood" I do not know. We have Negroes and Nordics and varying intermediate colors of the human race with like variations in capacities and aptitudes. Man did not do this. The devil did not. Hence I conclude it must have been the handiwork of God. What He has done I am definitely willing to let alone. If Graham means by his "one-blood" doctrine the amalgamation of the races, I suggest that he make the experiment with the peoples of the Far East, not with Nordics and Negroes, and build from there up. To experiment with top races would be entirely too hazardous.

Of course, I acquiesce in the ruling of our court. I am not an anarchist. So there is nothing else I can do other than vote my convictions on June 24, which I shall do with exceeding great pleasure.

In fact, I urged the runoff primary. I do not hesitate to take any chance, however remote, to check our manifest free-wheeling into Socialism and national bankruptcy. A nation, if anything, is a going concern. No generation is warranted in exhausting the national patrimony or seriously impairing the same. When Wilson became President the national debt was less than a billion dollars. Today it is beyond human comprehension and growing by leaps and bounds daily. On all sides we are checking-out tax-paying private enterprise and checking-in non-tax-paying governmental enterprise, which means Socialism pure and simple.

Certainly, I am not speaking as a partisan. I quit that years ago. All I hope for is to see that the institutions of this great nation, into which so much of sweat and blood has been expended in the building, are passed on to those coming after us reasonably intact. I have no children, but I have nephews and nieces aplenty. Then, too, I respect the children of the land, even the Negro children. And right here I wish to rebind the elders of the Negro race that voting in solid masses is most dangerous. The time will come when they may need help from the opposition party.

And just this further: A lovable old lady appealed to my wife to stop me from working against Mr. Graham, saying that her monthly old-age benefit payment would be imperiled by the election of Mr. Smith. Some contemptible skunk suggested that to her, all of which shows what an up-hill fight Mr. Smith is forced to make. Opposition by both state and national Administrations I do not resent, for that was to be expected. But to impose upon the weak and infirm for political ends is definitely an all-time low in political activity.

I must stop. I have written too long already. However, the outcome on June 24, I will continue to fight for what I conceive to be right.

—JOHN W. HESTER.

Brakes On The Fair Deal

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

MANY voters in the first primary did not stop to think that Senator Graham did not ask the people of North Carolina for any political office up to 1948 after Scott's election. Graham would not have been Scott's choice had it not been for Truman. I do not know if Scott went to Washington or not, but there was same connection between Scott and Truman for Scott to appoint Graham after the death of Senator Broughton. Truman knew that Graham would be his right-hand man to carry out Fair Deal programs such as civil rights and FEPC. Scott's 1948 campaign manager would not have followed Truman in all of his Fair Deal programs. Here is what the writer and many other voters of North Carolina think of what was said between Scott and Truman. "Give me Graham and I will take care of your campaign expenses", and later he was appointed by Truman as ambassador to Nicaragua.

The time is at hand for the voters of North Carolina to wake up and see where Truman, the United States Supreme Court and Senator Graham are leading us. Now is the time to put the brakes on some of Truman's fair dealers. I ask every voter that supported Graham in the first primary to study the two men and their platforms and see if you don't think that Smith will serve us better. I am sure that after you study each man closely, you will cast your vote in the second primary for Willis Smith.

—L. L. CHILDRESS.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words typewritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscenity will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed.—Editors, THE NEWS.

Propagandists Of Extreme Right Finally To Be Probed

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

SOONER OR LATER it was bound to happen. Organizations of the reactionary right have come up against the same kind of treatment meted out for a considerable time by Congress to organizations of the extreme left.

The Committee for Constitutional Government faces possible contempt action by a House committee investigating lobbyists and their sources of revenue. Dr. Edward A. Rumley, executive secretary of the committee, has refused to produce records showing who paid the costs to send out vast quantities of propaganda including John T. Flynn's book, "The Road Ahead."

HID RECORDS

This case would seem to parallel closely that of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, which is on the Attorney General's list of subversive organizations. That committee refused to produce its records showing how it was financed. Eleven committee members were sentenced to from three to six months in jail. Having finally exhausted all legal appeals, they are about to serve their sentences, thus ending nearly four years of dispute.

The Committee for Constitutional Government is just now at the beginning of what may prove to be a similar development. Rumley has refused once to produce the records sought by the lobby committee.

But the committee plans a second and carefully prepared hearing at which he again will be called upon to produce the private records of his organization. The purpose is to make plain, if he refuses, why a citation for contempt is inevitable. Rumley, in other words, will be put publicly in the position of defying a duly constituted committee of Congress.

The lobby committee, headed by Representative Frank Buchanan of Pennsylvania, has ambitious plans that go beyond this. Members of the staff believe it will be possible to show a carefully worked-out and well-financed plan to destroy the Democratic Party, or more accurately the Fair Deal section of the party, using the Flynn book as the chief weapon of propaganda.

Indications are, according to committee investigators, that 10,000,000 copies have been distributed thus far in addition to magazine reprints. The Committee for Constitutional Government is reported to have sent out 670,000 copies and the American Medical Association 1,500,000.

According to present plans, Flynn will be called to testify. He is to be asked about reports that he entered into a contract for a large lump-sum payment to write "The Road Ahead," which is a denunciation of most of the measures associated with the concept of the welfare state.

Under attack, the Committee for Constitutional Government is making a loud outcry about the violation of the rights and freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution. A letter appealing for funds quotes the Bill of Rights: "Congress shall make no law. . . . abridging the freedom of speech or of the press" and again, "the right of people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable search and seizure."

REPEATED APPEALS

Interestingly enough, this same Bill of Rights and other constitutional guarantees were invoked by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. In repeated appeals the same arguments in behalf of the right of privacy and the right of free speech were raised.

An important distinction can, of course, be made — the anti-Fascist committee is linked by the Attorney General to communism and the Communist conspiracy. But the fact remains that the contempt charged against the anti-Fascist committee appears to be based on the same refusal to produce private papers that the Committee for Constitutional Government may eventually be found guilty of.

I do not like to see people put in jail for their ideas or their political beliefs, whether they are of the extreme right or the extreme left. Such a precedent is exceedingly dangerous to all of us who cherish the freedoms that have made this nation great. It is dangerous in particular because freedom is indivisible. If you put the members of one unpopular group for its ideas, sooner or later you will jail another unpopular group and finally all who dare to think and to speak.

Man'll Master Machine Age If He Holds Onto His Ulcers

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

THERE IS something wrong with my stomach at the moment and I am hoping it will be an ulcer. I already got the gout, and I figger that if I can just catch me an ulcer now I will own all the successful stigmata of modern civilization.

I was real set up when my big toe began to throb and the doc said gout, because I read somewhere that gout only attacks people of super-human drive and intelligence. On the basis of gout alone I was able to arrange an extension of a bank note, much as a writer I know used to extract blood from the stone by outlining the sketch of a story to a banker who was unduly susceptible to book authors.

And now you learn about ulcers. A treatise called "Personality in Peptic Ulcers" says that the ulcer sufferer is "tense, anxious, mildly agitated individual frequently seen as the go-getter, the promoter, the organizer, the manager, the executive, the businessman who will not admit defeat. . .The ulcer patient may be only a janitor, but he will be the best janitor in his part of the town. . .Among executives, the man with the ulcer is likely to be on several boards of directors. . .Most ulcer victims have an insatiable craving to be superior persons."

In my research on gout, which is back again, by the way, and hurts like the devil, I found that the causes of both gout and ulcer are largely the same — or, at least that they attack the same sort of individual. You know, the mildly agitated go-getter and the best janitor available. That is how I like to think of myself these days after having regarded me as stupid for years, and I owe it all to a pain in the foot.

It is a strange thing how people who do not have the gout and ulcers are testily jealous of people who do own these twingeful testimonials to success. The laugh, hahs and they make some half-jolly remark about the improbability of your having these diseases, and then they question you on symptoms and remedy, and then they sniff and stalk off. Like a woman in the presence of another woman who is wearing the same hat, I am momentarily as poor as an apprentice church mouse, but I have at least one affluent friend who came to call when I was laid up recently with this gout thing.

"Hmph," he snorted, "you can't have a real attack of gout. It took ME 75 years and 75 million dollars' worth of what you claim to have at 34 years on no dough." And he stomped off, a little bit sore. I had scooped him on his own affliction.

I have noticed that people who have ulcers smirk, as if the ulcer was a decoration awarded by the state for meritorious service. They assume that they would not have this disturbance in the duodenum had they not indulged in some form of genius that exacted extra toll from their nervous systems.

Some have pet names for their ulcers, like Joe, or Mike. They will say, as they reach for their milk and crackers, "Well, it's time to feed Joe now," and will hand you a special sandwich or the dietary regime of Joe or Mike, or whatever the ulcer's name is. They include Joe or Mike in the conversation saying: "Well, I got to get to bed early, Joe had a tough night last night," or "I don't think I can make it, MIKE'S been acting up lately and I think he wants a rest."

I consider this disgustingly coy and sickeningly smug, but maybe I am a little bit jealous. In a time of heavy taxation, an ulcer or the gout is about the only badge of distinction left the American male that so far has not been topped by science.

If you have been reading about these intricate thinking machines at Harvard, you know they can do anything better than man can do it — add, subtract, do calculus, have hangovers, and there is even a stupid machine that has a nervous breakdown if asked to add two and two and come up with answer always comes out three. But none of these machines ever had the gout, and none of them ever had an ulcer. That's why I hope this pain is what I think it is. With the gout AND ulcers, I am suddenly become a man of double-distinction — or at worst, the superior of a machine.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Guided Missiles May Outmode Bomber

WASHINGTON

THE Navy is itching to rip the "top secret" label from the most revolutionary weapon since the atomic bomb—the guided missile. Reason for the Navy's itchy fingers is that it thinks guided missiles may make the big bomber as obsolete as the dodo.

Here are some of the facts which can be revealed without giving aid and comfort to the enemy:

1. The guided missile is guided unerringly to the target by radar either in its nose, for instance, a missile is fired five miles to one side of the target, it will automatically change its course while in the air and hit the target. The exact distance a homing missile will change its course remains a military secret, but the effect is that of a magnet drawing a bullet to the target. It cannot miss.

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff, including sober, cautious Gen. Omar Bradley, were so impressed by homing missiles they persuaded reluctant Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson to earmark millions for mass experimentation and production. Johnson has finally approved an order.

3. The Navy in its new construction program now before Congress proposes two cruisers and a number of small vessels and submarines be converted into guided-missile carriers.

4. The Navy has developed anti-submarine and anti-ship missiles which will dive under water and speed toward a fast-moving ship. This may make the transportation of troops in wartime almost impossible.

5. It will also be fairly easy to shoot down invading airplanes. Comdr. L. P. Ramage of the Navy's guided-missile research reported to the Secretary of the Navy: "The highest priority goes to those missiles whose targets will be hostile aircraft. The pendulum swings one way and then the other. The guided missile shows promise of achieving a quantum jump in the effectiveness of weapons available to a task force against the bomber. Success is inevitable."

The Navy's 'Lark'

THE only missile which can be described in print is called the Lark, of which the Navy has manufactured and tested approximately 200. Originally developed as a counter-weapon to the Jap Kamikaze, the Lark has two liquid rocket engines, uses acid and aniline fuel, and can operate outside the dense oxygen layer of the earth's atmosphere.

When the Lark nears the target, a second and independent electronic system automatically picks up the target and guides the missile to it. A proximity fuse sets off the bomb. The Lark weighs 1,200 pounds and is fifteen feet long. It has two pairs of wings at right angles.

It is a healthy fact that the Air Force, instead of bucking a Navy development which may put big bombers out of business, is giving 100 per cent co-operation to the Navy. In fact, the Air Force was so impressed with the Lark, it purchased 82 from the Navy. It also went to bat with Secretary Johnson in demanding that funds be allocated for further developments.

NOTE—Another weapon in the Navy's bag of scientific tricks is a pilotless ram jet plane. It operates on a radical principle — the more air it rams into, the faster it goes.

Basing-Point Lobby

A genial back-slapping lobbyist named Frank McCarthy is one reason Administration ranks have been split wide open over the hot basing-point bill.

No relation to the Wisconsin Senator, McCarthy is a graduate of Paul McNutt's old Indiana machine, and is now Washington lobbyist for some of the railroads which would profit by more cross-hauls under the basing-point bill.

McCarthy's influence has helped to line up such Democratic big-wigs as Sen. Francis Myers of Pennsylvania, and spurred on elder-statesman Sen. Joe O'Mahoney of Wyoming. He also claims an "in" with the White House because of his friendship with No. 1 Secretary Matt Connelly, another Irishman.

All week Mr Truman has been pulled back and forth over the basing-point bill. First a group of small business, labor and farm leaders came to Democratic National Chairman Bill Boyle against the bill. Then Senators O'Mahoney and Myers and Mayor David Lawrence of Pittsburgh went to the White House and asked him to sign the bill.

One of the last to work on Mr. Truman was Rep. Raymond W. Karst of St. Louis, a foe of the bill, who saw the President while in Missouri.

NOTE—Lobbying against the bill on the Republican side during the Senate debate was done by William Simon, former counsel for the Capehart Subcommittee on Trade Practices, now a $15,000-a-year lobbyist for the Sugar Institute, working for Senator Capehart, he also lobbied with the Federal Trade Commission on behalf of alleged violators of the trade practices he was supposed to be investigating. And Senator Capehart let him get away with it.

The Diplomatic Pouch

IT'S being kept very hush-hush, but last month Franco Spain asked the Import-Export Bank for a loan of $700,000 to build a fertilizer factory. . . Last week, a Communist police cracked the anti-Red underground in Poland. About 100 guerrilla operators who had been derailing Russian troop trains were seized . . . Latest trick of Soviet propaganda is to blame the U.S.A. for a plague of Colorado beetles in Eastern Germany and Poland. . . Verified reports from behind the Iron Curtain reveal that Russia has a slave-labor force of 20,000,000 workers. Nearly half a million are in Siberia, with 40,000 toiling in the uranium mines of Slovakia. There are eleven concentration camps in East Germany alone, a record that only Hitler could equal.