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THE PICTURE OF GORDON GRAY

EVERY North Carolinian who reads Gordon Gray's inaugural address will agree, we believe, that the right man has been selected to administer the affairs of the State's fine Consolidated University.

The picture of the man that emerged from the words spoken slowly and deliberately in the vastness of the Reynolds Coliseum was one to inspire confidence.

He showed himself a modest and an humble man.

He showed himself a man of broad vision with a good sense of proportion.

He showed himself a man of courage and firmness and, above all, of fair-mindedness.

And, equally important, he showed himself a man of humor, a sly, tongue-in-cheek variety, that lightened and informalized the otherwise dignified and austere proceedings.

Many things stand out in President Gray's magnificent address—and we use the adjective advisedly. Elsewhere on this page is an excerpt setting forth his views on academic freedom, one of the timeliest topics of the day. We have not heretofore seen so calm, so level-headed, and so sound an approach to the highly-controversial subject.

His understanding of the Consolidated University's role in the affairs of the state, the region, the nation, and beyond that the world is profound and inspiring. His unqualified support of the principle of consolidation, and his plans for integrating the three institutions more closely, are reassuring. His determination to do battle for the cause of education, while avoiding other political matters, means that our children have a new and stout champion on their side. Finally, his insistence on improving the University's service to the people, on requiring student responsibility, on high teaching standards, and on freedom from outside influences will keep open the door to greater physical growth and greater excellence of work on the three campuses.

The inaugural address was like the man who delivered it—there are so many complimentary things to be said about it that one scarcely knows where to start and where to stop. A good place to stop is his pledge to the Trustees:

"I accept in all humility the great charge you have given me. I pledge to you that as long as I serve the people of the state in this position I will give the utmost of my energies and of my mind, my heart, and my spirit. I shall, of course, hope for your support. I shall not expect that we shall agree always, but I assure you that I shall do what I think is right always. I shall not temporize, compromise, or buy support with expediency. If I find that I am wrong, I shall not hesitate to admit it. But as long as my judgment and my conscience tell me that I am right, I shall pursue the course that seems to me the proper one.

"I say this in no sense of belligerency, but not having sought the post to which you have elected me, I feel that I am entitled to embrace rectitude as my only guide and mentor."

VISHINSKY'S QUARTERBACKING

IF WE were called upon to pick an All-History team of diplomats, we'd be hard put to it to make a decision about the quarterback. There have been some clever ones in the field of international relations. Practitioners like Metternich and theorists like Machiavelli. But there's one on the scene now who can give them a run for their money. His name: Andrei Vishinsky.

He's a past master at mixing up the plays. When you think he'll pass, he kicks. Monday, when most of the delegates to the U. N. thought the wily Russian foreign minister would piledrive right into the U. S.-sponsored United Action For Peace", he pulled a neat about-face and declared that Russia might be able to go along with the plan—after a few revisions.

But, to extricate ourselves from the seasonal metaphor, no one in the U. N. really believed that the Russian "soft talk" meant a thing. Considering the nature of the "United Action For Peace", Russia could not very well have opposed it. It called for:

(1) Emergency sessions of the veto-free General Assembly whenever the Security Council, which has the primary responsibility for preserving peace, is hamstrung by a veto.

(2) Peace patrols of observers to report to the Assembly on acts of aggression.

(3) Designation by U. N. members of specific units of their armed forces to be placed at the disposal of the U. N. in times of crisis.

(4) Establishment of a commission to report to the Security Council and General Assembly next year on specific means which might be used to enforce peace.

Devised by Dean Acheson, the plan was, of course, immediately suspect for the Russians. But how could they oppose it? It was aimed against aggressors and the Russians claimed the United States was an aggressor. The Reds had branded us as such at the beginning of the Korean war.

Yesterday, while the halls at Lake Success still echoed with expressions of amazement at Vishinsky's malleability, and while delegates were spinning fine theories as to possible Russian motives, Quarterback Vishinsky suddenly reversed his field again. Mr. Acheson's proposal, he said, was "bizarre" and "illegal".

To return to our metaphor, it's likely that the Vishinsky reverse hasn't yet run its course. We don't yet know where the ball is going, but we mustn't lose sight of it.

WILL SEGREGATION STAND UP IN N. C.?

WHILE it is questionable whether Judge Johnson J. Hayes' ruling in the UNC law school case will stand up when the appeal reaches the Supreme Court, the decision serves a useful purpose. It lays before high court, for the first time, an honest and bona fide effort by a Southern state to make separate facilities for Negroes truly equal, in line with the Court's 1896 exposition of the "separate but equal" doctrine.

If the law school at the North Carolina College in Durham is not now, or does not hold promise of ever being, equal to the law school at Chapel Hill, then all segregation in postgraduate state university work must go by the board, followed in turn by the breaking down of segregation in undergraduate work and finally in the public school system.

The UNC test case differs in many respects from the *Texas v. Sweatt* case of earlier this year. The Texas law school for Negroes was patently a hasty improvisation, designed only to circumvent a previous Supreme Court decision. It was not, in any respect, equal to the University of Texas law school.

The law school at Durham, on the other hand, was established ten years ago. It has an excellent faculty and a good library. Its facilities are no more overcrowded than those at the University. It is ranked as a Grade A law school by the N. C. Board of Legal Examiners, and the percentage of its graduates to pass the bar examination is as high as at UNC. Its smaller classes enable the students to get more individual instruction. The State of North Carolina spends $1,482 per pupil to operate the Durham school, compared with $416 per pupil at the Chapel Hill law school.

Other evidence proving that the Durham school has made remarkable progress in ten years and that it promises to progress even more rapidly in the future was introduced. All of it added up to the convincing conclusion that the State of North Carolina, having chosen the way of segregation in keeping with its traditions and customs, is honestly seeking to provide its Negro law students with equal facilities.

However, unless the Supreme Court recants from the broad interpretation set forth by Chief Justice Vinson in the Texas case, even this impressive evidence will not be enough to preserve segregation. In outlining the requirements for equality, Justice Vinson wrote:

"Whether the University of Texas Law School is compared with the original or the new law school for Negroes, we cannot find substantial equality in the educational opportunities offered white and Negro law students by the state. In terms of numbers of faculty, variety of courses and opportunity for specialization, size of the student body, scope of the library, availability of law reviews and similar activities, the University of Texas Law School is superior. What is more important, the University of Texas Law School possesses to a far greater degree those qualities which are incapable of objective measurements but which make for greatness in a law school.

"Such qualities, to name but a few, include reputation of the faculty, experience of the administration, position and influence of the alumni, standing in the community, traditions and prestige. It is difficult to believe that one who had a free choice between these law schools would consider the question close."

The four plaintiffs in the UNC test have announced that they will appeal Judge Johnson's ruling. Not until it reaches the Supreme Court and is acted upon there will the people of North Carolina know whether their conscientious effort to provide an equal law school for Negroes has been in vain.

The potency of Courier editorials is terrified! Last week we suggested that both Secretary Johnson and Secretary of State Acheson should resign for the good of the country. Before The Courier editorial was on the streets the announcement was made that Secretary Johnson had resigned!—*Forest City (N. C.) Courier.*

Advice to she's: If you don't trust him, don't tryst him. The dangerous thing about danger is that it is interesting.—*Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.*

A Fresno, Calif., farmer this season has grown four bales of cotton to the acre. In fact, a little better than that, 21 bales from five acres. That gives some idea of the competition cotton growers are up against. —*Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.*

Some girls go husband chasing like some men go fishing. They don't really want the fish. They just want to prove they can catch it; have their picture taken with it, and then throw it back in.—*Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.*

Gray Says Communists Are Threat To Academic Freedom

(The following excerpt from President Gordon Gray's inaugural address yesterday sets forth his views on academic freedom and the threat to it posed by Communism. —Editors, The News).

"OTHER generations have faced other threats from totalitarianism of various sorts. The crucial fact of our time is that there are now two worlds — one dominated by Communism and the other led by the spirit of freedom.

"There should no longer be any question in the minds of any of those who believe in the dignity of the individual and in what we know as freedom that Communism is an enemy of both. Indeed, it should be clear to those with open minds that Communism is committed to the denial of both, as well as to the extinguishment of religion except where expediency dictates a certain amount of lip service to religion.

USE OF AGGRESSION

"Recent events have indicated that, where subversion and infiltration do not promise success in accordance with the Soviet time table, then there will be Soviet encouragement of military aggression. This probability, long suspected and now proven, demonstrates that Communism, in its self-generated dynamism, considers that the aim justifies any means.

"It should be clear to those who accept as we do the essential dignity of man, the search for truth, freedom of inquiry, and the right to worship, that to encourage Communism is to abandon these things and to embrace its dogma. Indeed, believers in truth and freedom and those who have true faith must enlist themselves in the cause of combating Communism.

"There has been much talk about freedom. Indeed, my own use of the word has been prolific. May I suggest that freedom in its true meaning is the sense of an alternative, the opportunity to make a choice?

"This, of course, implies in some cases a right, in some cases a power, in some cases a privilege. But these manifestations of freedom must in every case be accompanied by an obligation, a duty or a responsibility.

"The sense of an alternative, therefore, must carry with it the awareness of the consequences of electing the alternative. This is our price for freedom, voluntarily paid.

"Communism discounts alternative. The restraints we know as duties, obligations and responsibilities are imposed by individuals upon themselves by the influences of a free society upon its members; in the Communist state they assume the form of force, wielded by the state.

"We are in a decisive struggle for the loyalties and hearts of men; a struggle between Stalinism on the one hand, and the forces of kindness and decency and humanity and character on the other.

"Because a university in its very nature is committed to preserve what Communism would destroy, it would seem that the very weight of its free influences would render impotent any Communists it might unwittingly, or otherwise, be harboring. It would not seem that an individual, or even a small group of them, could harm an institution or endanger its reputation, because of counteracting pressures.

"But the closed mind will not yield, and the Communist mind is a closed mind. And for the reason that, often, this insidious influence does not manifest itself, the counteracting pressures cannot come into play. The healthful rays of sunlight have little effect upon the underside of an anchored rock.

"Frequently academic freedom, which must be preserved at all costs, has been used as a cloak to give a sort of immunity to Communists and their side-car passengers. I cannot believe that firmness toward Communists, prudently exercised, violates the principle of unfettered research and the pursuit of truth. I cannot believe that any university must reach into the ranks of those who are disloyal to American principles to develop a dedicated, independent faculty.

COMMUNISTS NOT WELCOME

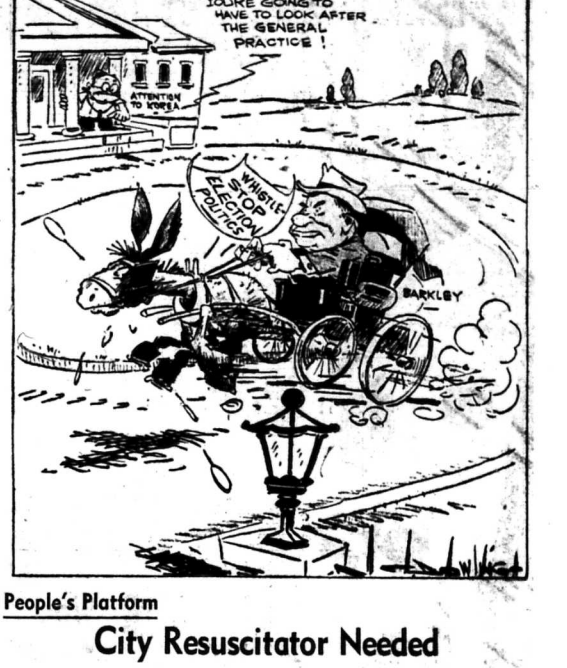
"My own position should be made very clear. We shall not provide asylums for those who would extinguish the lights of liberty. Indeed, Communists are not welcome at any of our three institutions.

"We shall not knowingly allow any campus to become a workshop, or laboratory, or training ground for the operations of those who are committed to the destruction of American cultures and institutions.

"This having been said, it must be added that in our institutions, as should be the case everywhere, we shall approach problems sensibly and with restraint. We shall not persecute the innocent, not malign the clearly misunderstood, and we shall be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt.

"I have perhaps overdwelt on this matter. Communism, to the extent that it does exist in our institutions, if far from being our major concern. Deal with it, we will. But we in the Consolidated University must not become overabsorbed with it."

Taking Over Dr. Truman's Calls



People's Platform

City Resuscitator Needed

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

THE day that Edwin Fitch was drowned in Selwyn Village, I called the Charlotte Rescue Crew within seconds after the child was discovered in Sugaw Creek. The time elapse between my call and the arrival of the Rescue Crew was 40 minutes.

These men had to come from the opposite end of the city. However, had there been another resuscitator in the city it would have been possible to cut the elapsed time to a very few minutes.

The fact that the Fire Rescue Squad does not have this essential equipment is a disgrace to a city of any size—must less one as large as Charlotte.

I wish to call to your attention the fact that there is a desperate and mandatory need for at least one other such machine.

—MRS. F. B. WOODWORTH.

School Stand Praised

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

AGAIN the Charlotte schools are greatly indebted to The Charlotte News for its very active support in the recent bond election for schools. The timely articles by Tom Fesperman and the facts presented in your daily reports, as well as in the editorial column, served to convince the public that the schools were in need of additional space.

While the amount will not suffice, it will help and when the plans are ready two years hence, they will reduce the overload considerably.

Your newspaper has served the schools well in attempting to educate the public to the fact that our city is growing rapidly and that increased facilities are imperative. Since June 5 when school closed, our membership has increased by 1,279. That in itself requires three schools the size of Chantilly or Park Road. For your ability to see the issues clearly and to handle them intelligently we are most grateful.

—ELMER H. GARINGER,
Superintendent.

A State's Rights . . .

FOREST CITY

Editors, THE NEWS:

MR. AND MRS. John Q. Public, if they are readers of newspapers, are going to have their established opinions on a "welfare state" or "service state" bombarded by a campaign to defeat the American Medical Association. Many casualties will result from the well planned offensive. However, many will survive this all out push. They will be those who have taken time out to study, prepare and analyze past experience with members of the association.

In a modern world where powerful elements of humanity have no regard for the less fortunate elements, other than their utilization as tools of excessive profits, any program or service that would endanger the freedom to extend enormous profits are generally looked on as encroachments on liberty by those fortunate elements.

Powerful social, political, physical and economic elements have had years to set-up and put in motion many public services on a voluntary plan, but they have been perfectly satisfied with status quo, while the clamoring of the public has been increasing in intensity. Now that the intensity has gained sufficient momentum for the state to offer a public service, the powerful elements now have somehow come across a plan that they are offering. Or is it a plan?

There is a prevalent misconception concerning the right of the state to perform public services. Some say that the only obligation of the state to the public is to maintain order and administer justice. Others say the state has the right, and is obligated, to provide, so far as its ability to provide, services that its people require, when they are not provided by other sources. Rightly or dividing the question, would any father deny his children needed services so far as he is able to provide it?

This knock-down, drag-out fight for a human issue is literally forces on everyone a "for or against" decision.

This battle of principle will require much zeal and personal thought to maintain one's equilibrium of conviction, since much money and opinion swaying advertising are being poured into the all-out campaign.

—I. H. RANDALL.

When Justice Failed

McBEE, S. C.

Editors, THE NEWS:

IT happened in South Carolina—at Conway, to be exact, where justice took a holiday. At the courthouse in Conway, a grand jury tossed justice to the four winds and failed to indict the Sheriff and four members of Ku Klux Klan on the charge of conspiracy to commit mob violence over a recent fracas that it happened at a Negro night club near Myrtle Beach during the past Summer and in which one of their members was killed.

The decision was not an act of striking excellence or inspirative dignity or courage. Justice walked out where prejudice walked in. If that jury be men and women of our noble peers, then our course of equal justice under law have sunk to a low level.

—MARK A. BROWN.

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

Britain Fears U.S. Aid To Chiang Means War With East

By MARQUIS CHILDS

LONDON

THE SWIFT victories in the Korean war have brought new hope that the conflict may be quickly concluded and the catastrophe of a third world struggle averted for the immediate future at least. But inside this government there is also a deep-seated fear of the settlement with the Chinese Communists and loss of all Asia to the Western world in endless warfare between the colored and the white peoples.

SUMMER REVOLT

Late in the Summer Prime Minister Clement Attlee faced something like a rebellion in the executive council of the Labor Party. Attlee came before a showdown session of the executive council. Details of this meeting have never been reported, but they are known to many in the party. At this meeting, Attlee was asked the following question:

"If the United States becomes involved in war with Communist China as a result of its policy toward the Chinese Nationalists on Formosa, will Great Britain be committed to become an ally of the United States in such a war?"

Attlee replied with a flat "No." Word of this stand was conveyed in top secret cables to Washington. It is believed here to have played a part in the Austin crisis between Secretary of State Acheson and Secretary of Defense Johnson. Some Labor Party leaders think it influenced Truman's radio broadcast "clarifying" American policy on Formosa and may also have contributed to the decision to drop Johnson.

There are Americans, of course, who speak scornfully of the British attitude as appeasement. But behind the British viewpoint is the realization of how Western forces could be bogged down in the vast swamp of Asia, leaving the Soviet Union free to go as far as she desired in Europe. Some British officials here believe this to be the deliberate objective of the present Russian policy.

Behind the British attitude is another psychological factor little understood in America. This is the feeling that World War II very nearly wrote an end to Western civilization as developed in Western Europe, and a third world conflict would certainly finish it off. Western Europe felt so much more directly than the United States the crushing impact of two terrible wars.

BRITISH AUSTERITY

Last week the British treasury announced gold and dollar reserves at two and three-fourths billions, the highest figure reached since the end of the war. This is attributable to many causes, of which the Marshall Plan probably is the first and foremost. But British austerity, plus the effects of the devaluation of the pound, certainly had a lot to do with it.

It has been a painful process which a new war would wipe out at a single stroke, and the opportunity might never come again to rebuild an economy which at least some measure of freedom was retained. This helps to explain a certain amount of foot-dragging and reluctance on rearmament. But these psychological factors cannot be ignored in calculating Britain's role. Weighing the costs and consequences of the basic objective, which, as the British see it, is to preserve peace with honor and freedom if that can possibly be done.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

GI's Wait 2 Hours To Hear Gen. Collins

WASHINGTON

WITH manpower the most precious thing in the armed forces, some of the brass hats still don't seem to realize that the G.I.'s time is valuable. Every hour he is kept in useless lineups cuts down his training period and his preparation for the battle front.

The other day at Camp Pickett, Va., for instance, the entire camp was herded on the parade ground, then kept waiting two hours to hear a pep talk by Gen. J. Lawton Collins, Army Chief of Staff.

Camp commanders seemed to think the G.I.'s had no more important training than to stand two hours waiting for the General to arrive.

Colonel Collins, a great fighting officer, gave a forthright talk, but left one sentence ringing in G.I. ears.

"Don't misunderstand me," he said, "I'm a great believer in rank and the prestige of rank."

While Collins was talking, two Congressmen also happened to drop in at Camp Pickett—Democrats Wayne Hays of Ohio and John McGuire of Connecticut. Having no brass to flash, all they got was the run-around. They were located by a lieutenant colonel at headquarters and told him whom they wanted to visit.

"You can't see anyone," tartly retorted the officer. "These fellows are busy. They're being marched to the parade ground to hear General Collins."

"What's to prevent us from going over?" asked Congressman Hays.

"We're all busy," mumbled the lieutenant colonel. "You can park your car and walk over to the hill if you want to."

The two Congressmen stayed to see how the draftees were being treated, and later got a more hospitable reception from Camp Pickett officers. They have decided, however, that it would be a good idea to drop in at other camps for Congressional inspection.

NOTE—What Gen. Collins was driving at when he emphasized the importance of rank was that every enlisted man has a chance to be promoted, and that junior officers and non-coms are the backbone of the Army.

Kaiser's Gamble

PRIVATE enterprise, according to some people, is dead.

But the other day, Henry Kaiser proved that it isn't. He paid $67,500,000 back to Uncle Sam which he had borrowed on a gamble that big business had branded as foolhardy.

Back in the early stages of World War II, Kaiser, then building ships at breakneck speed, was frequently short of steel. Finally, he decided to build a steel plant in Southern California, the first of its kind in that part of the nation. Heretofore, the big steel companies of the Pittsburgh-Cleveland-Youngstown area had dominated all markets, even supplying the West Coast.

The argument that the West was too sparsely populated to support a steel industry of its own, flatly refused to expand in that region. At Geneva, Utah, the U. S. Government, contending that the big steel companies were wrong, pioneered its own plant for Western operations.

But even farther West, and without Government subsidy, Kaiser erected the Fontana Steel Mill, wholly owned by himself, though financed with a wartime loan of $123,-805,000.

After the war, when competitors expected Fontana to close down, Kaiser expanded. He has paid $21,000,000 to the RFC on interest alone, expanded his plant with $30,000,000 of private funds, and the other day repaid all the money borrowed from the Government.

Kaiser's gamble in private enterprise is in contrast to various other private steel companies which wailed for the Government to set up its own plants, then bought them in after the war, for a song.

U. S. Steel, for instance, purchased the Government's Geneva, Utah, plant for 20 cents on the dollar. It also purchased Uncle Sam's steel mills at Homestead and Duquesne, Pa., for 23 cents on the dollar, and a blast furnace at Duluth, Minn., for 24 cents. The total Government investment in these plants was $527,000,000. The price paid for them by U. S. Steel after the war was $148,000,000.

Republic Steel also bought the Government's South Chicago plant for 30 cents on the dollar, while Inland Steel picked up two Government blast furnaces at Indiana Harbor, Ind., for 28 cents on the dollar.

Meanwhile, Kaiser, the man who believes that private initiative is not dead, paid 100 cents on the dollar, plus interest.

Texas Tax Haven

IF you want to cheat Uncle Sam on your income taxes and not go to jail, you should arrange to do your cheating in Texas. That is the private advice sorrowfully given by Internal Revenue agents as a result of lenient convictions handed down by Federal judges in Texas.

The latest of these came from U. S. Judge T. Whitfield Davidson of Dallas, when he imposed a fine of only $20,000 on E. P. Mead, millionaire Texas bakery owner and onetime president of the Gideon Society, which distributes Bibles in hotel rooms.

Mead had cheated the Government out of $245,803.75—though part of this had been outlawed for criminal prosecution due to the fact that the T-men were a little slow in catching up with Mead and the Statute of Limitations had run out.

Mead had operated a neat fraud scheme whereby invoices for bakery products bore instructions to pay Mead personally, rather than the bakery. Thus he concealed a large part of his income.

When he went to trial, however, Mead hired one of the most politically potent attorneys in Texas, J. Percy Rice. When Mead appeared before Judge Whitfield, the Judge asked him this amazing question:

"It is difficult to arrive at a penalty, but the court will ask Mr. Mead, for the purpose of determining his financial ability—would you rather pay a $20,000 fine, or pay $5,000 to $10,000 and serve a short probated sentence?"

"I would rather pay the $20,000," Mead replied.

Whereupon the Judge assessed the fine and Mead walked out of court.

Quote, Unquote

Sweetwater, Tex. obtains its water supply from Bitter Creek. —Amarillo (Tex.) Globe.

After all, it may be possible that our own hifalutin ideas are responsible for some our Government extravagance. —Pittsburg (Tex.) Gazette.

As Commander in Chief, Mr. Truman embodies a new slogan: "Semper Fottinmouthus." —Nashville (Tenn.) Banner.