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THE SHAKY FOUNDATION OF SEGREGATION

PRESIDENT Gordon Gray is entirely justified in recommending that the Supreme Court be asked to review the decision of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in the Durham Law School case. There are two main reasons why a petition for a writ of certiorari should be filed.

a student, who is taking the first steps in his life work, shall learn as soon as possible the complexities of human nature and the influences which govern it.

It adds a third meaningful ingredient. "It is of specific value that the student form acquaintance with the persons who will later occupy the positions of influence and power in the profession and in the public life of the state. . . . To know the public life of the state, as well as the commonwealth facilities, private as well as public business, and as the colored population grows in number in public affairs and in economic importance, the business relations of the race and of their legal advisers will necessarily expand. It is a definite handicap to the colored student to confine his association in the law school to people of his own class. . . .

But it is a lot more than that. What you are watching on the television screen besides the give-and-take of the witness is a cross-examiner is the further disintegration, and at a greatly accelerated pace, of the Democratic Party.

The fundamental base on which the power of the party rests is the mass of the voters in the big cities. If the allegiance of these voters, through the medium of the city machines weakened, then the future of the party is uncertain.

The weakening process had already begun before the Kefauver committee took the center of the television stage. The sensational charges of Communism in government and the bungling way in which these charges were met by the Administration shook the loyalty program on the abuses of alcohol.

There, we believe, is a doctrine that goes far beyond the Plessy v. Ferguson decision, and that is considerably more revolutionary than Judge Vinson's advanced thinking in the Texas Law School case. If the Circuit Court's decision says what it appears to say, no separate educational facilities for Negroes can be equal, no matter how fine the buildings and equipment, how extensive the library and the opportunities for specialization, how high the reputation of its faculty, how wide the range of its courses.

Justice Vinson's opinion, it will be recalled, came dangerously close to upsetting the "separate but equal" dictum laid down in the Supreme Court's 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson decision. He wrote:

"Whether the University of Texas Law School is compared with the 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 to the law school for Negroes. . . .

The outcome of the Durham Law School case should have no bearing on the University's attitude toward its medical school and other graduate and professional schools. That attitude, as expressed by a resolution of the trustees' executive committee last week, is the only realistic solution to a troublesome situation. When no separate facilities are provided, the University must—

Building upon the Vinson opinion, written by Chief Justice Warren, the dissenting Judge Morris Soper of Baltimore, Md., points out that "the quality and character of any school depends in large measure upon the quality and character of its students". Hence, since the 38th statute of the UNC represents a "cross-section of the white people of the State who constitute 74 per cent of its population," and since "from this society, the colored law students, who number only 26 per cent, are excluded," it follows that "this act is a matter of the highest public importance, and that its consequences are far-reaching."

North Carolina must abide by the law, no matter how much the law upsets cherished traditions. To do otherwise would be unthinkable.

POLITICIANS FIRST, COUNCILMEN SECOND

IT HAS BEEN EVIDENT for a long time that some members of the current City Council, still burned up because they were unable to stop the building of a recreation center in Latta Park last year, were determined to force out of office all members of the Commission—with no regard for their respect or the dignity of the office.

middle of a million dollar capital improvements program, authorized by a bond vote of the people. Four totally inexperienced men are now joining three who have had only one year of experience—and some of these, incidentally, have very poor attendance records at the Commission meetings.

Even more distressing is the irrefutable evidence that the City's park system, removed from petty Council politics by the wise act of a previous General Assembly, has been put back into politics by this Council.

The present legislative amendment, on its own initiative, should amend the City Charter to eliminate the quirk in the present law which has enabled this Council to overturn the whole membership of the Park Commission in one year. It should also increase the tenure of office, to perhaps five years on a staggered basis like the proposed Auditorium-Coleman authority, so that no future Council can run roughshod over the considered, unselfish judgment of public-spirited non-salaried Commission officials.

This Council has accomplished many things in its two years. It is most unfortunate that it is ending one term under such a dark cloud.

Bob Black, reporter for The Charleston Daily Courier, has learned that a telephone call was an occupational hazard. Suffering from a stiff neck, his physician warned him that he should no longer carry the phone receiver between a cheek and shoulder, a common practice among newspapermen which gives them both hands on their typewriter.—Mistoons (Ill.) Journal-Gazette.

Whoever thought the workshop of the man of the house was in the basement must have been short on household experience. Any seasoned man can tell you that it extends to every room at every level.—Greenwood (Miss.) Commonwealth.

Party Decline Grows Among Democrats

MARQUIS W. CHILDS

FLOWING OUT AMONG the voters of the announcer proclaims the Kefauver crime committee hearings to be the worst of the worst in the history of the air. It may well be, given the general state of radio in this year of our Lord 1951.

But it is a lot more than that. What you are watching on the television screen besides the give-and-take of the witness is a cross-examiner is the further disintegration, and at a greatly accelerated pace, of the Democratic Party.

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'Yes, I'm Just Reading About It Here In La Prensa'



The Continuing Battle

Alcoholics Get Help In Rowan

By DICK YOUNG JR. City Editor, The News (Last of Three Articles)

THE Department of Education of the Rowan County ABC Board was originally set up to provide a comprehensive, community-wide instruction program on the abuses of alcohol.

But it wasn't long after Peter P. Cooper became the department's first director that it became apparent the education program wasn't enough. Some way was going to have to be found to help existing problem drinkers.

Pete Cooper, ever one to meet a challenge head-on, has found a way—and has some dramatic results to show for it.

One tangible result is a letter in Mr. Cooper's files. It's from the wife of a former alcoholic (actually "arrested" for a public relations campaign) who is now cured, but take that the grave threat to his family at Christmas sober, for the first time in twelve years, and his wife had written to Mr. Cooper out of a heart overflowing with gratitude.

No alcoholic is ever "typical"; they're all individual, highly complex problems, but this man's story can help to illustrate the sort of rehabilitation program the ABC Department of Education is attempting.

We'll call him John Z. He was 45 years old, well-educated, had been an engineer. But during the course of a 12-year history as an alcoholic, he had sunk lower and lower until he was barely eking out a living as an odd-jobs man.

"This man," says Mr. Cooper, "was extremely capable and intelligent, as alcoholics generally are. But the only thing that kept his home and family together through these bitter years was an understanding wife—a really remarkable woman."

Things in the Z. family, however, had gone from bad to worse, when one morning about 2 o'clock Mr. Cooper was roused from his bed by a telephone. It was John's wife; she'd heard that Mr. Cooper might be able to help her husband. Would he try?

Mr. Cooper did not hesitate. In a few minutes he was at the Z. home, in a few minutes more had gotten John, who was intoxicated, to bed.

Although John was horrible all the next morning, Mr. Cooper said, "I started his treatment right away. We got a doctor for him, who eased his discomfort, gave him an examination, and began his physical rehabilitation then and there.

"In a couple of hours, John was ready to go back to work.

On his first interview with him that night, a second the next day. We ran him through a course of simple psychological and intelligence tests—and found that he was capable of grasping the potentialities of Alcoholics Anonymous, so he was referred to that group.

"A took him over—and he hasn't had a drink since. He now has a good job and shows signs of having returned, for good, to leading the life of a useful citizen."

Experiment in Bonn Paying Off Healthily

By JOSEPH ALSOP

IT IS AN odd experience to return to this little university town which is in Germany. Only twelve months ago everything here, from the political parties to the buildings, seemed to have been hastily improvised for the look of the thing.

This by no means implies that there is nothing wrong. The debts are in fact considerable. West Germany has found a place and lacks a faith. Millions of tragle refugees from the East have found refuge here, but a distinctly German society. They lack both jobs and housing, and this social ulcer has already begun to bleed.

The general economic balance of payments crisis. The big businessmen of the Ruhr are making huge profits while the workers are suffering from a 15 per cent rise in the cost of living without commensurate increases in social benefits.

But you cannot judge any government by the unsolved problems, which all governments have except in Utopia. What is encouraging about Bonn is that, despite its many failures, the broad tendency is healthy and even, in a sort of tentative incipient way, downward.

Barring the refugee group, the extremist political elements are at the moment losing out in Germany all down the line. The West German Communist Party, once a serious threat, is now vanishing from sight in a ruthless purge carried out on the usual principle of loyalty to the Soviet bloc.

Indeed this reporter had the opportunity of seeing the man who had rather pompously announced that he would be "talked about" a secret "Büder-schaft," a secret veterans' organization would shortly be over the old. "I can tell you confidentially," the ex-prophet now says, "that the organization has collapsed completely if the British Intelligence stopped paying the money they hired to keep an eye on it."

Meanwhile, the Christian Democrats, the Socialists and the others are gaining a certain maturity from the simple practice of politics, so long as they are not forced by Bonn. In Chancellor Adenauer and the powerful Socialist chief, Dr. Erich Schmidt, they have produced two German leaders of European stature. Their younger men, who had never been in politics, are showing a business and making headway. Above all the party organizations are becoming real and solid and important.

In the same manner, the Bundesrat, which used to resemble a caucus of madmen, is transforming itself by practice into a rather sane body of men. Parliament and meanwhile, other organisms of government have been born or reborn. The political scene is a bit surprising, for instance, to find the German defense forces of the future being planned by an officer who is behind the scenes between the mineworkers' union leader, Herr Blank, and a group of survivors of the Wehrmacht Staff.

Forrestal told how he came close to firing then Secretary of the Air Force Symington in the Spring of 1946 for an unauthorized, pro-Air Force speech on the West Coast.

Forrestal also complained of his troubles getting the budget. Twice he appealed to General Marshall to support increases in the military budget. The first time, Marshall was Secretary of State, and the second time, Marshall was Secretary of Defense. Both times, Marshall said instead. The second time, Marshall said that the extra money be spent for universal military training.

Forrestal also wrote bitterly of his distrust of the French and British. The diary has now gone back to the custody of the President's naval aide, Rear Adm. Robert L. Dennison.

Slow Arms Shipments BRITAIN'S new foreign minister Herbert Morrison has announced that he is opposing British plans to expand its army.

Morrison also apologized that his first official contact since taking over as foreign minister had to do with a complaint. But he said that the matter of extreme urgency for Britain if the West is to plan a successful defense against Communism.

Drew Pearson's Virginia Hill's life No Bed of Roses

HERE ARE a few facts not brought out during the crime committee probe of the glamor girl of the underworld, Virginia Hill:

Miss Hill first broke into prominence among the gangsters when she lived in the Chicago boardinghouse where Chicago's Joe Epstein, then a student in accountancy, also lived. Virginia, a restaurant waitress at that time, and came to the attention of Epstein when she was 19. Later, when Epstein got out of school, he became an accountant for the underworld, also began helping Miss Hill.

She became a runner for the underworld, carrying money between racketeers in different cities. This was a precarious job. But Virginia was smart enough to keep an intimate diary locked in a vault with a record of all her contacts and transactions, and instructed that the files were to be made public if anything happened to her.

Moisters on the lam trusted their money to her—and a doubly dangerous assignment, for not only was it illegal, but it was Miss Hill's life in jeopardy inside the underworld.

Railroad Strike Impasse

ONLY one issue has been holding up settlement of the long, bitter railroad strike—namely, the role of the railroad's Assistant John Steelman as mediator.

One reason that labor won't accept Steelman is a secret memo that was introduced by Pullman to B. B. Bryant, who are handling the strike negotiations for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. This secret memo declares: "The rules will be Steelman's intervention which is a substitute for differences, but the railroad brotherhoods want someone else."

Note—Steelman, a former labor mediator, used to be popular with labor before he entered the White House. Now he has a slight grandeur complex, bankers are to be head of the New York Stock Exchange.

Forrestal's Diary

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