

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## DOOR TO PEACE OPENS WIDER

MOSCOW'S plan for negotiations leading to a cease-fire agreement in Korea appeared to be a door to peace a bit wider.

It would have been in character for the Russians to include terms and conditions totally unacceptable to the United Nations. For example, had Moscow omitted China from the peace talks, the proposal would have been utterly meaningless. But contrary to early reports, Soviet Deputy Minister Andrei Gromyko told U. S. Ambassador Alan Kirk that the communists have not taken any part in the negotiations, along with the North Koreans, the South Koreans, and the United Nations command.

While Russia's elaboration of U. N. Delegate Jacob Malik's first suggestion of a peace arrangement has stirred peace hopes throughout the free world, the members of the United Nations whose forces are in the field are still showing great reserve. Following the leadership of President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson, they want to be absolutely sure this is a genuine peace move and not just another Russian propaganda stunt.

The interesting aspect of the reaction in the United States is the absence of any major

outry against the idea of an armistice along the 38th Parallel. Since the dismissal of General MacArthur and his fighting speech before Congress, many members of the Republican Party have insisted that a settlement along the 38th Parallel would be "appreciated." Since Mr. Malik's speech last Saturday, however, only Senator Cain, a notably irresponsible and outspoken individual, has sounded this worn theme. It may be that the anti-administration supporters of General MacArthur now believe that the American people prefer a reasonable settlement of the Korean War to an all-out war against China at the risk of enlarging the Korean conflict.

The President Truman is right when he says that a Korean truce will not decrease the need for preparedness. The threat of international Communism will not fade away when the guns stop firing in Korea. Rather Communist imperialism will likely break out in some other quarter more vital to our national security and, hence, more likely to provoke a major war. The test of this remains to be seen, and its determination is a realm strong will come when the door to peace swings wide open.

## DEATH OF A NEWSPAPER

WHEN the St. Louis Post-Dispatch recently bought out its afternoon competitor, the St. Louis Star-Times, that big city was left with just two newspapers—one morning and one afternoon. It was another step in the trend of monopoly journalism in the United States.

The Star-Times was a great newspaper, published successfully through the years in competition with the Post-Dispatch and the morning Globe-Democrat. But its doom was sealed by a steady rise in production costs, mainly labor, machinery and newsprint. (A recent \$10-a-ton boost in the price of newsprint would have cost the Star-Times \$130,000 more a year.)

The Star-Times had paid dividends for twenty years. In 1946, when newsprint was \$60 a ton, it showed a profit of nearly \$1,000,000. By 1950, despite 13,000,000 more lines of advertising, its production costs had risen to \$1,730,000. Said Publisher Elmer Roberts:

But the trend to monopoly in journalism is not to be judged by this one incident. Last year the famed New York Sun died, and newspapers in Fort Wayne and Atlanta merged. Only "monopoly newspapers," Publisher Roberts said some months ago, can bring news to the public and readers the rising costs of production.

The newspapers are not entirely without fault. They have been slow to develop new mechanical techniques that would cut costs and increase productivity per man. And when new developments came along, they have been timid about overcoming the resistance of mechanical trade unions to job-displacing innovations. Furthermore, they have only recently begun to seek new sources of newsprint in order to free themselves from dependence on Canadian producers who appear to charge what the traffic will bear.

Monopoly journalism is not, per se, bad. In some instances the added financial independence, if happily combined with an enlightened news and editorial policy, makes for better newspapering. In other instances, the results are not so good. The monopoly sometimes tempts publishers to concentrate on making money instead of serving the readers.

In theory, a free press makes it possible for anyone to start a newspaper anywhere at any time. It does not work out that way in practice. The rising of the Star-Times shows that a great deal more than the urge to express one's self is needed to start a newspaper or keep one thriving—something that should cause grave apprehension in a political patronage system where the press is now there for Sen. Robert Taft for whom a "draft" is being organized.

"This situation presented the Star-Times with a dilemma: either to let this process continue to sap the newspaper's strength through adherence to the lofty principles laid down by Joseph Pulitzer. The Star-Times tradition of crusading in the public interest will be preserved.

He chose to sell out. Fortunately he was able to sell to a newspaper known throughout the country for its high standards of journalistic adherence to the lofty principles laid down by Joseph Pulitzer. The Star-Times tradition of crusading in the public interest will be preserved.

## COME, COME, MR. RUFFIN

SPEAKING in Durham the other night, William H. Ruffin, president of the National Association of Manufacturers blamed President Truman for directing the end of Truman as a convicted thief year.

"I am convinced that the time has come when such controls can serve no useful purpose. Their further continuance would do the nation's economy more harm than good. Accordingly, I have directed the immediate abandonment of controls over wages, salaries and prices."

Perhaps President Truman said something like that in 1946. But our records show that it was the other way around, with NAM doing its damndest to get all controls lifted and President Truman fighting vigorously to retain them.

The Congressional Quarterly Almanac for 1946, which contained a reliable record of Congressional doings, tells the story of the long fight over price control that year. It says:

Retail Dry Goods Association. Although the NAM advocated letting price controls die on June 26, most of the industry groups asked merely for amendments wholly or partially exempting their own products."

The committee reports started one of the hottest battles in Congressional history. The House rigidly opposed the price amendment after another. When passed by the House on April 19, 1946, the bill was a mere shadow of its former self. Then the anti-administration supporters in the Senate passed a bill that represented a choice between inflation with a statute and inflation without one.

The two houses went back to work and after long wrangling, finally agreed on a bill that was far short of President Truman's requests but better than the original extension act. The President signed it reluctantly.

In Mid-June, 1947, the Administration was still fighting for a continuation of price controls. But the President lost the battle when Congress passed the OPA to expire by the simple expedient of not providing any more funds.

Whether the President was right or wrong is another matter. But it is entirely reasonable to allege that Mr. Ruffin has done, that it was Mr. Truman rather than the NAM who "directed" the end of price controls in 1946. The NAM may not have "directed" the affair, but it had a large hand in killing OPA.

"The 1946 fight over price control reached the floor of the House on April 18 after six weeks of public discussion. During the hearings the Administration offered to accept a representative of organized labor and consumer groups asked for a simple extension of the Price Control Act for one year. On June 30 without amendments, except one extending control to commercial as well as residential rents. An unanimous extension act was opposed by a large range of business and trade groups, led by the National Association of Manufacturers and the National

From The Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont

## NO COMMENT

In San Francisco there is a pretty young lady who is working her way through college. She has a very nice figure, and she is very popular. She has been in the news a lot lately, and she is very popular. She has been in the news a lot lately, and she is very popular.

peculiar that she is going to college. No comment.

Salvage firms expect to complete the wrecking of Camp Blanding in another month. By that time the Army will probably decide to reactivate it. — Fort Myers (Fla.) News Press.

"Why are prices so high?" asks economist. "It's a secret. Because people pay them." — Dallas (Tex.) Morning News.

Washington Pipeline

Transportation Substantive Crime Committee is planning for Gov. Fuller Warren of Florida will set a



## New Movement Born

### The GOP Of Louisiana

RALPH McGLILL (In The Atlantic Constitution)

DOWN in Baton Rouge, La., a newly formed Republican group celebrated its birth with a verbal kick in the teeth for the "hide-bound conservatives" in their party, saying that if the GOP is to survive we must "rid ourselves of the old conservative element." This was the usual derogatory slur at the Democrats, but the new group was strictly in a brave new groove with its public estimate of the party leadership.

For years Southern Republicanism has been at a low and usually corrupt level. Alfred Lanier, at a time when he was titular head of the Republican Party, said in a nationally distributed interview that with few exceptions the Southern Republican delegations to the national conventions were filled with second-rate persons and were too often of a character which would not be tolerated in delegations from states in other regions.

Republicans of stature in the South have more than broken their backs and hopes for a two-party system against the greed of the national hierarchy which somehow wanted to keep the Southern delegations in "potholes."

The "Redeemers" spoke for much the same economic interests as the Republicans in the post-reconstruction days. Though for a time supporters of Hayes, they abandoned him to form a voting alignment with the Eastern wing of the Democratic Party which was devoted to the same economic order as the Republicans—an alliance which has continued to our time. It explains why some Southern Democrats so often "act" and vote like Republicans.

There has been no second party in the South since the 1850s because as the Louisiana Republicans say, the GOP hasn't allowed one to develop.

## Turpentine Drippings

Time To Come Home (Camden Chronicle)

It is a woman who is to the judge to try to get him to turn her husband, who had been convicted one time of stealing a hog and another time of molesting a child. "All your wife's attorney did was to testify that he never did work to help support you and the children, didn't you?" asked the judge. "Yes, sir," replied the woman. "You practically have to support him, don't you?" he asked further. "Yes, sir," the woman replied. "Well, why do you want me to turn out such a worthless, no-account man?" the judge asked. "He was just about out of meat," replied the woman.

## Tit And Tat (Seaship Pilot)

Crops are looking good despite the dry weather, which reminds us of an old saying that Thompson McWaken used on us last year: "A dry season will take you to death and a wet season will ruin you."

## Good Start (Camden Chronicle)

It did not require much effort on the part of the Government to freeze our salary because it was so hot anyway.

## The Bad Part (Mt. Olive Tribune)

We picked this little boy up on the way to school the other morning, and asked him how he liked going to school. "Oh, I like going all right, and I like coming back, too. It's having to stay there it doesn't like."

## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON SEN. GEORGE AIKEN is once again Governor of the rock-ribbed Republican state of Vermont, one of only two states voting for All London in 1950. Aiken is a frugal gentleman as most Vermonters, but he writes as he listens to Senate Boy of Virginia lead a drive to cut appropriations for school lunches, juvenile delinquency, the Women's Bureau and the Children's Bureau.

"A \$50,000,000 ship is being built at Newport News, Va.," he told Senator Byrd, who used the Governor of Virginia. "It will be turned over to one of the shipping lines for \$20,000,000 or a gift by Uncle Sam of \$30,000,000. That gift is \$30 per cent of the money paid to the shipyard for material and child welfare work in this country under the budget act."

"Doesn't year-old child have any cash value?" continued the usually mild-mannered Vermont Senator. "What is it worth to restore a crippled person to a place where he can contribute to the country? It is worth more to me, as compared to a sick one? Are we to determine this in terms of dollars and cents, and decide the better of the two?"

"To hear the talk this afternoon," Aiken added bitterly, "one might assume that we ought to drown all our children and mothers and get them out of the way. Then they wouldn't be any more."

## Sen. Aiken Defends Women & Children

precedent which some Senators think should be applied to Governor Dewey. They want to question Dewey as to why he released Lucky Luciano when Luciano had a 30-50 year jail sentence yet to serve. — David Lillenthal, ex-head of the Atomic Energy Commission, made a special call at the White House to warn Truman that the new ABC press announcements, Lillenthal told Truman. . . . The Senate announced that Tennessee's agreement with Kellar that he will run again has left young, energetic Congressman Albert Gore up on a limb.

Previously, McKellar had made a gentleman's agreement that he would retire, leaving the way open for Gore. As a result, Gore had made a gentleman's agreement with the other Tennessee Congressman that he would give up his seat, and his Congressional district could be split among them. This solved the problem of who would lose a seat when Tennessee cut down one congressman's seat.

However, Gore is not out in the cold, unless he decides to tackle the veteran McKellar. . . . Wyoming's Democratic Sen. Lester Hunt has the most bipartisan record in the Senate since the death of Michigan's great Senator Vandenberg, the champion of the bipartisan foreign policy. The latest tabulation of Senate votes shows that Hunt's record is 62 per cent bipartisan.

## Peace Overtures

It is no longer a secret that U.S. delegates to the United Nations have been working with other U.N. members

## Heavy, Heavy Hangs Over—As Europeans Are Aware

By JOSEPH ALSOP

THEIR USED to be children's games called "Twenty Questions," in which "it," the possessor of the secret, employed the questions, "mule, mule, heavy, heavy, what hangs over?" Guessing the Kremlin's future purposes is a bit like playing this game. But it is at least possible to discern the heavy and increasing threat that hangs over Europe as a whole and this country in particular.

The rearmament of the Soviet Union's Eastern European satellites is what has convinced the Yugoslav leaders that war within twelve months is at best desirable, possible, if not downright probable or unavoidable.

As stated in a previous report in this space, the chief men here believe that the Masters of the Kremlin, instead of planning any immediate attack, are now seeking to open the way for easy conquests in the West. The West, however, is not seeking to open the way for easy conquests in the West. The West, however, is not seeking to open the way for easy conquests in the West. The West, however, is not seeking to open the way for easy conquests in the West.

What has happened already, is the transformation of a few isolated allied and ill-treated satellite armies into a force of 100 million men, well trained, well equipped, and well supplied. This force is now being moved into the West. This force is now being moved into the West. This force is now being moved into the West.

## Many Times It Is Better Not To Ask For Any Advice

By ROBERT C. RUARK

(Note: Robert Ruark is on a trip to Europe. This is a reprint of his better columns of the past will be reprinted. Editors, The News.)

NEW YORK MY FAVORITE agony columnist, I led whose initials are M. H., is a woman who is a bit of a trouble maker. She is a woman who is a bit of a trouble maker. She is a woman who is a bit of a trouble maker.

It is a woman who is to the judge to try to get him to turn her husband, who had been convicted one time of stealing a hog and another time of molesting a child. "All your wife's attorney did was to testify that he never did work to help support you and the children, didn't you?" asked the judge. "Yes, sir," replied the woman. "You practically have to support him, don't you?" he asked further. "Yes, sir," the woman replied. "Well, why do you want me to turn out such a worthless, no-account man?" the judge asked. "He was just about out of meat," replied the woman.

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