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THE HELMS VERDICT

It is difficult to understand the trial jury's action in freeing Mrs. Amelia Helms on the grounds of "excusable homicide" in the fatal shooting of another woman, Mrs. Hazel Beckham, last April 30.

had seen her but intermittently in the past year and a half, expressed the opinion that Mrs. Helms did not have sufficient reason to know right from wrong at the time of the shooting. But none was qualified by professional training or experience to judge sanity.

There are modern instruments for setting domestic difficulties. If juries are to follow the unwritten law in such cases and condone the taking of life by an aggrieved party, other needless and useless "excusable homicides" will certainly result.

'PEACE' OFFENSIVE GAINS MOMENTUM

It appears that Russia's peace offensive is now in full swing. Most important phase of the campaign is, of course, the race for Krasnov. Other recent developments in Soviet foreign policy are along the same line.

Before Soviet U. N. Delegate Jacob Gromyko suggested Krasnov peace talks, West Berlin restrictions had been lifted and four-power discussions on conference resumed. Then last week Russia unexpectedly announced that it was prepared to participate in the Economic Commission for Europe's Geneva discussions on the improvement of East-West trade.

Now Moscow comes out with a new English-language publication, The News, which, in the magazine's own words, seeks to promote "closer understanding between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American world."

Well, the Soviets have put on peace campaigns before, and they probably will continue to whenever they think such propaganda will help them achieve their totalitarian aims.

We believe the U. S. can see this latest effort to show up the Communies rather quickly by readily agreeing to the advantages of ex-

change of not only scientists, but other groups and individuals - labor and management representatives, farmers, students, veterans and stating that they were ready for the exchange as soon as the Russians give the word.

Connecticut's Senator McMahon, a man who believes in a vigorous campaign of truth, recently suggested to an American Veterans Committee convention that the AVTC take the lead in "challenging Stalin to permit (Russians) to visit in your homes, and you in theirs."

The Soviets have been in the rather embarrassing position, which our propaganda media could well exploit, of refusing to carry out a program which they advocated.

We hope our State Department pursues it vigorously, willing always to accept any singularities which may be necessary, but recognizing that this latest move is but one aspect of a campaign designed to lull us once again into a false feeling of security.

WALTER ANDERSON'S NEW JOB

Probably because the job of State Prisons Director has been a political football in past years, Raleigh was somewhat surprised when SBI Director Walter Anderson accepted the \$20,000-a-year post recently by John Gold, new Winston-Salem City Manager.

The surprise is quite understandable. Anderson was appointed to his job by Highway Commission Chairman Henry Jordan. Dr. Jordan was appointed to his job by Governor W. Kerr Scott in 1947. He served for a year and a half more in office. If past history is to repeat itself, Mr. Anderson, who has just given up a \$7,500-a-year post, may be to draw his pay for a year and a half before he is replaced.

But Anderson may break the tradition. He is one of the few supporters of Charles M. Johnson still alive and kicking in Raleigh today. And if he was able to survive the Scott "airing-out," he will probably hold his post through the replacement of Scott.

RED CHINA AND THE U. N.

One of the more faithful readers of this page has sent along a puzzler. What, he asks, is the proper course of the United Nations Security Council?

That's a tough one to answer. The U. N. Charter's procedure for admitting new members is quite clear. It provides that any "peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and which, in the judgment of the organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations" are eligible. It further provides that admission will be "effected by a decision of the General Assembly upon the recommendations of the Security Council."

Under that provision, eight new members have been admitted since the Charter was ratified. Other petitioners have been kept out either because they are not the "Western Powers" policy of abstaining in the Security Council.

the United States would vote against membership for Red China but that it would not use the veto since it considered the question procedural. More recently, Mr. Acheson has said he would ask the International Court of Justice whether it considered the question within the scope of the veto.

But that wouldn't unravel the legal snarl. What the United States survives as a nation, even though it holds only one vote, is entitled to keep it in U. N. membership. In that event, would Red China be considered a new member? In either case, would Nationalist China be permitted to vote on Red China's petition? Or would Nationalist China be permitted to vote Red China in case its petition was viewed as that of a new nation? And if both became U. N. members by some turn-of-events, which one would be entitled to the permanent Security Council post?

These are just a few of the legal questions and by the reader's query. The News confesses its inability to answer them. This nation's course, however, is quite clear. If the veto is permitted, the United States should employ the veto to block Red China of the United Nations until that nation has proved it is "able and willing" to carry out the obligations of the Charter. If the veto is not permitted, the United States should simply permit Red China to defeat Red China's petition in the Security Council and General Assembly voting. No nation should be permitted to shoot its way into the United Nations.

The Picture Turned Toward The Wall



Collected by Bill Sharpe

TURPENTINE DRIPPINGS

New Stanzas

(Sam Ragan, News & Observer) New version on the old soldiers' theme which has been called to my attention are: "Old teachers never die, they just grade away." "Old bridge players never die, they just pass."

Unforgivable Sin

(Laurinburg Exchange) The crime of crimes, it is said, is for a department to come to the end of a fiscal year with unspent money on hand.

Honest Confessions

(Smithfield Herald) Johnston County isn't famous as a Summer resort. We've got some of the best climate for growing crops you can find in the land, but we can't guarantee that this same climate will be favorable for the mental concentrations which we are told chess requires. For frankly it gets awfully hot around here about this time of year.

Let's Shut Up

(Twin City Sentinel) Those who nestle vivipid in their bosom, as Britain has done, should not be surprised when they bite.

This applies to France where, until a year ago, a Communist headed state research. The French Army is reported to have a large percentage of Communist officers. It isn't difficult to judge whether such an army would fight Russia in a showdown.

Many observers were convinced France succumbed so easily in World War II because Communist in the French Army wouldn't fight the Hitler in secret because Hitler had an alliance with Stalin.

There Are Only Seven

(Roe Amundsen, Morganton News-Herald) The odds in favor of encountering a poisonous snake are about seven to 60. Tarheelia has several different varieties of venomous snakes out of a total field of 60 species. Some of these poisonous snakes are rough customers. Take, for example, the canebrake rattler. Along the coastal marshes and swamps there are canebrake rattlers that reach eight feet in length with a body ten inches thick. Just imagine meeting up with one of those yarmies in the dark.

Diamondback rattlers get a little bigger than canebrakes, and are just as apt to be pugnacious.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON An unpublicized incident occurred in the Federal Power Commission recently which illustrates why Harry Truman is certain not to be elected President of the United States even if he chooses to run.

The incident involved a poker-playing croony of the President, ex-Sen. Mon Wallgren, who deliberately cut several leaves in partnership with Phillips, while his Kerry-McGee Oil Co. owns an estimated \$100 million in natural gas reserves. His gross income of \$12 million a year makes him the wealthiest man in the Senate.

Kerr Authored Bill

It was what he did on one of the most important bills he has waged in the past year—his veto of the Kerr natural gas bill. The bill was authored by friend of his, powerful, popular Sen. Bob Kerr of Oklahoma. But it would have boosted the price of gas to city populations everywhere, and also boosted the profits of the oil and gas companies. So Truman vetoed it.

Yet, believed it or not, the Federal Power Commission has now secretly overruled the President's policy and completely nullified his veto. What the Kerr Bill said was that the Federal Power Commission did not have jurisdiction to regulate the flow of natural gas going into interstate pipelines. The President, overruling the Kerr Bill, said the power commission did have jurisdiction.

Either can inject enough poison to curl up the heels of a large cow or small horse.

The pigmy is a small snake as rattlers go, but he packs enough wallop to be dangerous. In the mountain section of the state is the timber rattler, an extremely unpleasant snake with a mean disposition.

Don't get the idea that a rattler always sounds his buzzer before he bites. He may take a notion to bite first and rattle later, if the spirit moves him.

As if four kinds of rattlesnakes were not enough to give you herpetological hysteria, there are three kinds of serpents that are not equipped with a so-called warning device. One is the coral snake that lives along the coastal streams and marshes. Coral snakes are brightly colored and not especially intelligent, but they are extremely poisonous. Where most snake venom affects the blood of its victims, coral snakes' potent poison causes a fast case of general paralysis.

Two moccasins complete the list of serpentine nuisances, the cottonmouth water moccasin and the upland moccasin or copperhead. Both of these are fairly good sized, and you will find them in the environment implied by their names. Cottonmouths are evil-tempered, and many a fisherman will find that one tried to get into his boat.

Yankees Win Again

(Sankee Hill Citizen) There was a time years ago when you would see much in the press about Southern demagogues in Congress like the late Joseph R. McCarthy of Mississippi and a few others.

But now the table has been turned. The North is supplying Congress with the nation's No. 1 demagogue in the person of Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin.

His tirade against General Marshall and Dean Acheson was enough to turn the stomach of far-minded Americans.

They Get Everything

(Stanford Herald) Bill Hites tells about the newspaper reporter who was sent out to a farm for an interview. He found the lady of the house out in the yard and asked her some questions about the various things raised on the farm inquired.

"And do you have any poultry?" "Yes, ma'am, we still have a few chickens, but you would probably eat 'em up."

More Language

(Greensboro News) The Richmond County Journal speaks an example of American-as-the-is-spoken from Winston-Salem: "If I'd a saw you when I rid by I'd a flung out my arm and wye to you." Reminds us of the old toast: "Here's lookin' to you and tords you; if I hadn't a seed you I wouldn't a knowed you."

British Effort On A-Bombs Shows Need For Partnership

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

THE British will quite soon be ready to explode their first atomic bomb. The timing depends in part on what does in U. S. I. I. country. But the chances are that the first British atomic test will be within a few months, at the latest, in the coming year. This is, of course, a matter of the highest importance. For one thing, it goes right to the heart of the Anglo-American relationship.

For the explosion of a British bomb will be, in a sense, a measure of the partial failure of the Anglo-American partnership. This is so for several reasons. Although the British technicians now know in detail how to make the bomb, it will be extremely costly to clear the final technological hurdles, and to stage the test, probably in Australia, and this heavy charge on the British economy comes at a time when the British government effort is already straining British finances to the breaking point.

That for the British to test a bomb which cannot either be made or delivered in quantity amounts to a costly psychological gesture. Yet the gesture is almost certain to be made. This is so partly because, in independence, it will be extremely costly to clear the final technological hurdles, and to stage the test, probably in Australia, and this heavy charge on the British economy comes at a time when the British government effort is already straining British finances to the breaking point.

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French, and above all by the British. The further fact is that the only decisive American weapon could be nullified by a single telephone call, to quote one knowledgeable American airman. For, in some far-flung crisis, the British government notified this government that American bombers could not use British bases. The French would surely follow suit. Thus the central factor in American military power could be eliminated at a stroke.

PARTNERSHIP NEEDED It became in the early instance against this happening that our own policymakers want a working partnership with the British. This would require legislation - specifically, revision of the McMahon act. There have been repeated conversations about changing the Act. Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Brien McMahon himself has shown the need for revision. But every time plans have proceeded to the point where legislation was about to be introduced, there has been a Fuchs scandal, or a Penicovitch scandal, or a Burgess-McLean scandal, and the plans have been dropped.

The recent Burgess-McLean defection in fact, knocked into a cocked hat carefully laid plans for an Anglo-American atomic partnership. And now, in the way out apparently, is for the British to make the costly and basically unproductive investment in atomic bombs independently. The Congress will presumably be far less reluctant to permit an atomic partnership if the prospective partner has shown the capacity to produce atomic bombs anyway. Moreover, British security arrangements are being firmly if belatedly rethought, and there should be more, above Fuchs, Penicovitch, Burgess-McLean betrayals.

The explosion of a British-made bomb will be, in a sense, a considerable consequence in itself. Even so, it is time this country should make the Atomic Energy alliance, which British bases are just as essential as American planes and bombs, is not a one-way street.

Hunting Lions Is Fun - But It Comes Plenty High

By ROBERT C. RUARK

WENTING A WRITING array composed him - Luick with telephoto. Rolfe leafing full of color; a black-and-white Koffler; and a magazine-load in Cinecolor. And he has some assorted film to keep the Anso people in the black for the next few days.

EXCESS BAGGAGE We have one bag full of books, which we don't read, and two bags full of "reference" work, which I don't finish. We have a bag full of medicine for father's good, triple pills for lion wounds, stepping pills for urinary ailments, and a couple of quarts of insect repellent that would be the least in the meekest mosquito.

We have a typewriter and a portable photograph that does not work. Luick has telephoto. Rolfe leafing full of color; a black-and-white Koffler; and a magazine-load in Cinecolor. And he has some assorted film to keep the Anso people in the black for the next few days.

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