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A STRONG DIXIE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM, LIKE ROME, CAN'T BE BUILT IN A DAY

AT THE ORIGIN of the Southern one-party system stood the single figure of the Negro. The system was later strengthened by differences between the economic philosophies of the parties and is now shored up by inertia and its own inertia.

SINCE the Nov. 4 election returns revealed a surprising Eisenhower strength in the South, there has been a great deal of wishful thinking and loose writing about the prospects for a two-party South.

the South. And on only four of the nine occasions when a Democrat won would a shift of all Southern electoral votes have changed the outcome. There were two other factors that discouraged Southern Republicans.

Basic Changes Improve GOP Chances In Dixie

A GOOD many things have happened in the past few years that make possible, at last, the building of a two-party South. The migration of Negroes to other sections of the country is steadily shrinking the dimensions of the race problem.

Even So, There's Much To Be Done At Local Level

THOSE FACTORS will not, of themselves, be enough. The first job for Southern Republicans is to find an ally to help them to rout out apathetic local and state leadership.

Record Of History Shows Dominance Of Democrats

TO UNDERSTAND how thoroughly entrenched is the Democratic Party and how big a job the building of a strong two-party system in the South will be, it is necessary only to review the little history of the Confederacy.

From 1878 through 1950, the eleven Confederate states gave electoral votes to a Republican Presidential candidate only twice. In the last 30 years, only one of them, and only one occasion, failed to elect the Democratic candidate for governor.

There Are Many Reasons For Poor Showing By GOP

ONE reason for the historical supremacy of the Democratic Party, as indicated in the opening quote of this editorial, has been its success in preserving local independence in handling race questions.

National Party Attitudes Will Be Important Factor

NOT UNTIL all of these are done will a solid two-party system in the South be more than a possibility. And even when they are all accomplished, the attitude of the Democratic Party will partially heal the wounds of Trumanism and attract many wavering Democrats back to the party which has spoken so powerfully for them in Washington in times past.

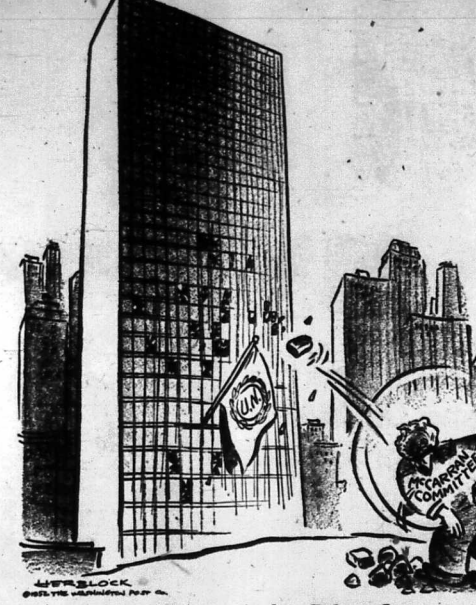
Democratic Spending

THE second is to abolish the conventional system for nominating state and local GOP candidates, and initiate direct primaries. The third is to enlist competent, respected, trustworthy candidates for local, state and Congressional offices.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

IT'S BEEN 20 years almost to the day that another President-elect called on an outgoing President, as Dwight D. Eisenhower calls on Harry S. Truman today.

'Why Don't You Go Back Where You Came From?'



People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

Prefers Two-Way Streets

IT is reported that we are to have several additional one-way streets. It would be interesting to know on what evidence this is based.

Disappointment At Korea

disappointment to a remarkable degree; but it does not point the way out of Korea or what is to be done in other areas subject to like aggressive acts.

Angles Of Korean Problem

THE news that Gen. Eisenhower committed himself on the Korean situation and the U.N. attitude with respect thereto is a mistake, as I see it.

Earlier White House Confab Recalled

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House has recalled an earlier confabulation between the Treasury or Budget Director, as some observers have speculated. For some of the advisers' anger at all happy about the recovery that Dodge borrowed money from the RFC for the bank in 1953 and did not pay it back until this year.

Hard Fact Of Soviet Power Discourage Arms Fund Cut

By JOSEPH ALSOP

ALMOST EXACTLY four years ago, in 1948, President Truman decided that he did not really need to worry very much about the Soviet Union after all.

The great question now looming ahead is infinitely larger. A program for the whole Western world was stimulated by Korea. It is placing a heavy strain on the United States and a far heavier strain on our allies.

First, there is the disappearance of the time of warning. At Korea, the Western intelligence services were counting on two months' advance warning, by such signs as building up of ammunition stockpiles and the Soviet effort to strengthen Eastern European armies against the West.

Second, the Soviets are fortunately in a position to attack the West with their present strength of 20 Russian divisions in East Germany, 1,500 aircraft in Eastern Europe and the associated satellite divisions.

Third, there are other points in the balance of power that President-elect Eisenhower must take into account. There is the growing Soviet atomic stockpile, with its special meaning for the United States.

Tom Lea's Book On El Paso Handles Tough Subject Well

By ROBERT C. RUARK

THE FIRST piece of NEW YORK writing immediately about a dog wrote immediately about a dog who takes guts even to consider the job.

Congressional Quiz

BY CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY Q—We take it for granted most business of Congress is made public. Has this always been the case? A—No. Prior to 1789 the Senate held secret sessions only the members of Congress were elected this year.

Capital News Capsules

RUSSIANS and prisoners—Madame Pandit, head of the Indian delegation to the United Nations, believes there is no chance whatsoever of arranging a truce in Korea.