

THE VOTER MERITS A BETTER SYSTEM

IF THERE is any clear-cut conclusion that can be drawn from Tuesday's record turn-out of voters in this county, it is this: Mecklenburg's election machinery is sadly out of date, and must be streamlined immediately.

There were any number of bottlenecks. Because of the heavy new registration, some precincts are to have the present system of printed ballots. The practice of checking all names against one registration book slows up everybody. With long and complicated ballots, coupling it with crowded voters, and the possibility of error increased.

In the past, Mecklenburg election officials have sought to handle the problem by increasing the number of precincts and election officials. That is a costly and wasteful procedure.

What is needed, rather, is a smaller number of precincts, a speedier method of checking

the voter against the registration lists, and an adequate number of modern voting machines to keep several lines moving swiftly throughout the day.

The machines will cost some money, but they will do the job rapidly and accurately, and will give an immediate tally at the end of the voting period.

It is unfair to the voters, many of whom have to take time off from work, to require them to stand in line in a chilly wind for a couple of hours, just to perform a democratic duty the hard way when an easier way is not only available but is actually in practice in hundreds of more progressive metropolitan areas in the nation.

Further resistance to voting machines by election officials will be inexcusable. The voter deserves a better break than he has been getting, and he will demand it after Tuesday's nightmare.

A BLOW BELOW THE BELT

A FAVORITE technique of the low-level Election Day is the distribution, just before election time, of distorted literature which might appeal to the prejudices of voters. This technique was applied, in this election, by North Carolina Republicans.

Last week-end a bulletin, on Republican State Headquarters stationery, was distributed to various ministers throughout the state. Accompanying it was a letter signed "Del Lazenby, Public Relations." The letter stated that much "concern" about the Unitarian religion had been expressed by ministers, therefore that was the local Unitarian church was being distributed. "We have no idea," wrote Mr. Lazenby, "of making a political issue of this matter."

"It is impossible to conceive of the majority of citizens of this county... observing the Holy Birth of Jesus at Christmas, and his Resurrection at Easter, with a Protestant or Unitarian background, not embracing the same faith."

In other words, at the close of a campaign between two devout and humble men, during which both, as the great majority of their most fervent partisans, had kept religion out of the bitter campaign, the local Republicans made a desperate appeal to the emotional and religious prejudices of this region. To many, this appeal was strikingly similar to the tactics used in the Hoover-Smith campaign of 1928.

To our knowledge no minister used the material sent him in the manner which was obviously hoped for by the senders. And we know of a number of ministers of divergent religious views who were downright indignant at this attempt to incite religious prejudice.

As for the local Republicans, State Chairman Bailey "regretted" any misinterpretation, and Mr. Lazenby, for four days now, has been hiding out from the press. They could at least, even at this late date, admit they hit below the belt.

THE PRESS AND THE PEOPLE

WELL, WELL, at long last! The editorial pages and the people are on the same side in a Presidential election. That hasn't happened for over 20 years. Popular support dropped from 53.8 per cent in 1948 to 49.3 per cent in 1952, and 14.52 per cent (with 10,886 votes) in the total circulation in this year, according to Editor & Publisher.

Meanwhile, the people, as many as 62.5 per cent of them in 1952, chose the Democrat. But this election about 55 per cent of the voters and 67.24 per cent of the dailies (with 90,224 per cent of the total daily circulation) chose Ike.

These figures can be variously interpreted: 1. The majority of the people are not out of touch, after all. It took the people 20 years to find out, or 2. Most newspapers, being business, favor the Republicans because they feel the GOP is more sympathetic to them, or 3. The voters and the press since 1940 both became progressively cooler toward the

Democratic Party after the resounding 1936 Roosevelt landslide. Press support of the Democrats dropped from 26 per cent in 1944 to 15 per cent in 1948. Popular support dropped from 53.8 per cent in 1948 to 49.3 per cent in 1952.

Then this year, although the already ebbing Democratic press dropped only a fraction of one per cent, another seven per cent of the voters, mindful of deep freezes and the warmth of the Eisenhower, put the Democrats in cold storage.

One could argue that all three of these factors made for the present agreement of voters and editorial pages. However, unless we miss our guess—we absolutely refuse to entertain a remote possibility—that the Democratic Party and its candidates will receive more support from the editorial pages in the next couple of years.

This for the simple reason that the party in power always makes mistakes, and hence incurs the displeasure of press and people. And that is true of Republicans as well as Democrats.

UNEQUIVOCAL MR. UNIVAC

"I'M NOT GOING to guess," said George Adams, chief of the Unifac staff, "it could be a landslide for either candidate," hedged Elmer Roper.

Arch Crowley wouldn't even look at a limb. "The outcome," he said, "is unpredictable." What did Mr. Unifac say? Did he squirm and fidget and equivocate? No, sir. Early Tuesday evening they poured three million early votes into him. His tubes lit up, his gears meshed and he speeded forth what was then a startling prediction. The by a landslide, with 436 electoral votes, 59 for Eisenhower.

But his human masters worried about Mr. Unifac, the electronic brain. So they tried to get some direct information which any good Unifac has to have, and told him to try again.

"We don't blame him, under those circumstances," said the Boston Herald.

stances, for maintaining that odds were practically even. Then they put him back on his feed and he said that Ike would get 40 states, Adlai & almost on the button, as things turned out.

Although Unifac didn't get too much of a charge this election, because of his doubtful hands, he acquitted himself well. But somehow, we fear he's going to take a lot of fun out of the election night vigil. It's rough the next day, but there's nothing to be gained by spouting out the final vote, by precinct, before we've spotted a trend.

Science, yes, but leave us have our small and harmless pleasures.

LOVE FEAST

H. S. T.—You've put on weight, John. You look like "a catfish in a goldfish bowl."

J. L. L.—Watch it! You're stealing my line.

H. S. T.—Sorry, but you're denying that I'm "the man that licked Joe-John," that is, Lewis.

J. L. L.—The job is in excruciating taste. May I observe that "your principles are elastic," you are "careless with the truth," and you are "a real expert on the subject of the United Mine Workers of America but to the United States of America."

H. S. T.—I say so. But that ends the love. What did I do wrong, going to be spotted out the final vote, by precinct, before we've spotted a trend.

Science, yes, but leave us have our small and harmless pleasures.

When the golf bug bites some men, it makes them break out in the darsened looking clothes—*Hot Springs (Ark.) News*.



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.

Support Of Classic Urged

CHARLOTTE
ABOUT six years ago The Queen City Classic had its origin, thanks to Mr. Thomas L. Robinson of The Charlotte News and to many others who helped to organize and promote the project.

The annual game between Second Ward and West Charlotte high schools will be played Friday, Nov. 7, at 8 P. M. in Memorial Stadium.

The game has a twofold purpose—financial and recreational. Proceeds from the event will finance the athletic program in both high schools. Recently attention has been focused on the exceedingly high rate of crime prevalent among Negroes. Lack of adequate recreational facilities and training have been listed as possible contributing factors in this unfortunate circumstance.

Citizens are urged, therefore, to support this worthwhile event and its contribution to youth. Letters urging employers to purchase tickets for their employees have been sent. The Queen City Classic Committee urges these persons to do this as good-will gesture. Co-operation and contributions to this cause will be appreciated.

—J. E. GRIGSBY, Chairman, Queen City Classic.

Plug For United Appeal

CHARLOTTE
Editors, The News:
I am inside information of a number of people whose names are on the list of that organization prevents them from making a contribution to the United Appeal. I am on the list because of the duties are carried out by individuals who are supposed to have a sympathetic understanding of the cause. When our friends and relatives are with their consciences. We play our part when we subscribe the funds required to maintain these organizations. If we refuse to do so, we are those whose responsibility it is to care for the needy and distressed.

We cannot condemn an organization for errors, regardless of how damaging they may appear. No charity would exist if there were no just cause. They exist because there is a need and it is our duty to help. We are not to be discouraged by the affliction do not feel the pang of sorrow? Do we not try to lighten their suffering? Can we deny them this?

The need of these organizations grows in a similar manner to the requirements of humanity. Each new age brings its problems and feeds the cases whose gratitude you will never know about.

—E. A. TRY

A Plea For Unity

Editors, The News:
TWENTY years ago on election day I was working like a beaver carrying voters to the polling station. Today I am on the sidelines watching the procession go by, which is the logical attitude of an independent in politics.

My past years of party detachment has not been a vacuum. I have progressed in tolerance and charity. My disillusionment upon the turn of the century some two decades ago has made me less exacting in demands with respect to all office-seeking leadership.

Nevertheless, I confess that we do not have a party on such leadership. But we are mostly dependent upon such leadership. If we really believe in local public affairs, if we really believe in local government in local affairs, we would be able to follow through and make our actions conform to our principles.

Quote, Unquote

"Claims facts not true"—headline. Can't depend on anything these days. — Memphis Post-Sentinel.

The pundits are trying to figure out what Stalin will do. They are trying to figure out what one thing is sure—the platform won't demand a change.—Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
WITH the hectic election period over, the United States will have to give some attention to our badly neglected field of foreign affairs, particularly to the wide area of the world.

For some time, due to the charges and counter-charges of candidates, the United States Department has been pretty much suspended. So, likewise, with some of our most important allies. Both Foreign Secretary Eden and Foreign Minister Schuman have delayed any important pronouncements on foreign affairs until after elections; in fact, even urged other United Nations members to postpone the General Assembly meeting until after Nov. 4.

One of the most shocking developments which the United States still has to do something about is the baroque and senseless propaganda of the United States against Korean women. The details in some cases have been so gross that they should be printed in family newspapers, but Russian and Soviet propaganda have been spreading this poison every day.

While the Voice of America is trying to counteract it, its budget, thanks to the pruning of irascible Sen. Pat McCarran, has been drastically cut.

Here are illustrations of what the North Koreans are telling Asia about:

Eerie Toles
NORTH KOREAN newspaper Mincha Chosen reports this eerie account of U. N. troops in the district of Chongju. "American soldiers picked all the youngest women out

Reds Launch New Hate America Drive

of the crowd of prisoners and locked them in empty warehouses. All the women were raped. The women's bodies butchers began to brand patches on the women's bodies with heated irons and nails.

"All the women who resisted the ravishers had a wire put through their nose by the Americans and they were led by this wire through the village. The monsters gouged out the eyes of many women and lashed hundreds of flesh out of their bodies.

"The butchers disembowled several pregnant women who fell into their hands during the temporary occupation of the town of Serov.

The Journal News Korea also reported in a recent issue that Americans "tormented more than 700 patriots near Moscow, Mironsa." This lying article is obviously dictated by a higher Communist echelon, went to say:

"The murderers seized them with heated irons, knocked out their teeth, cut off their noses, and gouged out their eyes. They led the women naked through the streets and then shot them. In the village of Duchon, Pyongyang the American bandits strangled a so-called 'exhibitor' of Red Communist propaganda who was a patriot. They bound them to trees and for a long time gave them no food. All the 130 people died.

"Once the Communist propaganda commission 'the American butchers led out more than 30 young women and girls on the street in this village. Many of the women had their faces brought this group to the village of Nyeunggye, where a pit opened up and they were already dead.

"All the women were placed at the edge of the pit. One of the secret went up to a woman with a child in her

Bipartisan Body Needed To Study Communism Issue

By MARQUIS CHILDS
WASHINGTON
AFTER all the stunts and stunts of the past few weeks, it would be agreeable to think that the state could be washed clean and made ready for a new President. But however desirable, that is obviously impossible. The office of the President will come with the office trailing perhaps some clouds of glory, but being trailed by all the tangled questions out of the troubled past.

One of these is the Communist threat here at home. This question was directly involved in the campaign. Republican campaign orators such as Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio said again and again that this was the danger rather than any threat of Communism from outside the country. It was extensively and deliberately exploited to discredit Governor Stevenson before the election.

Stevenson replied by affirming his American beliefs and by charging that a Republican administration would be just as culpable in failing to detect the guilt of Alger Hiss and the charges and the report seemed to many Americans to fail to confront what has become a cancerous growth on the American body politic.

NO POLITICAL ISSUE
The time is very late. The failure to try to do this last election politics must weigh heavily on the administration in power. Perhaps it is now too late to undertake to remove the issue of treason from the scrimmage of politics.

It is to this observer it seems imperative that the President make such an effort, and with all the earnestness, objectivity and effort that can be brought to bear, to see that the issue of treason is not left to the discretion of the courts. It seems to me unmistakably clear that to continue to permit the charge of treason, or the charge of a foreign conspiracy aimed at the overthrow of our way of life, to be part of the daily charge and counter-charge of politics is to invite the destruction of the freedoms on which that way of life rests.

We should have no illusions that the end of political campaigns will automatically put an end to the exploitation of the Communist charge. Elsewhere it will be our immediate pressure to take steps—such as the dismissal of all persons who were involved in the charge of treason regardless of the findings—contrary to his own beliefs and convictions.

One way the new President might move is to name a high-level commission made up of eminent Americans of unimpeachable integrity. While the move would be initiated by the President, the members of the commission would be named jointly by Congress, the Supreme Court and the White House.

The commission would be given full powers to examine into both phases of the question, first, as to the public opinion of the Communist threat from within and second, as to the damage done to fundamental freedoms by the charges of communism and treason. Such a commission would have an adequate staff to assist in its investigation across all files and documents.

A study of the thoroughness contemplated would be made in short of six to nine months. During that time it would be reasonable to expect a memorandum of findings to be prepared. It should be an answer to still the voices of all but the demagogues who would thereby question their demagoguery as just that.

The report would resolve the problems of those who have been disturbed by the charges of communism in government. It would leave only the extremist who were overzealous in their willingness to believe a widespread charge, and who are a small minority.

Popular Opinion On Korea At Odds With Ike's Views

By ROSCOE DRUMMOND
(In The Christian Science Monitor)
WASHINGTON
THE most significant fact about the new election in Korea is that the campaign has accentuated and obscured—that the leadership of the American people is not with American public opinion.

What is important is not the gap between Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and the American people, but the gap between Gen. Eisenhower and the Korean people. It is over what should be done in Korea; that gap is not large and can readily be bridged.

What is really important is the dangerous, yawning, little-appreciated chasm between the next President of the United States and what the latest opinion polls show to be the present emotions and desires of the American people, stirred and lacerated as they are by "campaign oratory" that should be done in Korea.

PEOPLE DIVIDED
The fact is that the campaign has grievously divided the American people over Korean policy. Here is the evidence:

1. Less than one-third of the entire country supports the continuing American policy in Korea, according to the latest poll taken by Elmo Roper.

2. Both General Eisenhower and Governor Stevenson supported the continuing negotiations at Panmunjom.

3. By a majority of at least 2 to 1 the American people presently say that they want to see the Korean peninsula united, and to the risk of starting World War III.

Both Governor Stevenson and General Eisenhower opposed this course.

4. By the same 2-to-1 majority the American people say that if extending the war is not practicable, they want to see the Korean peninsula united, and to the risk of starting World War III.

Both Governor Stevenson and General Eisenhower opposed this course.

Neither General Eisenhower nor Governor Stevenson favored any such course.

The danger of this deep division between what the leaders of both parties believe is best for the nation, and what the opinion polls indicate the American people actually want to see the opinion polls in Korea can hardly be overestimated.

The bridge that gap will be the foremost problem of the new administration.

Actually the fire and fury of the campaign made the difference between the two candidates much wider than they really were.

Both General Eisenhower and Governor Stevenson agreed that the Korean peninsula was not to be divided. In resisting Communist aggression in Korea by collective force was in the American interest.

Both believed that the true negotiations should be continued; both opposed the against extending the war; both warned that to withdraw from Korea before it is certified that the South Koreans can defend their frontier would be a fatal mistake; a perilous appointment of Moscow, would be inviting disaster.

Each stated that his administration would favor doing everything possible to hasten the training of South Korean troops and the United Nations troops still further from front-line positions.

Gore And Liss

WITH political relations for mixing gore and lies. One of the village added: "in the village added, Sen. Roper district, about 200 women were subjected to mockery. Outraging the defenseless women, the butchers stripped them down in groups of five and ten. The butchers used these women as live targets for pistol shooting.

"During the withdrawal from the district of Yanzou, the occupiers took with them a large group of the inhabitants of the district. These exhausted people were led by the American soldiers to a place. The Americans then called up aircraft by radio.

"Fighter planes dived on the defenseless people and brutality inflicted on them in this way more than 300 guileless people died."

Some State Department officials believe that the current Communist propaganda by the Communist may be his answer to the Katyn episode. The Voice of America did a remarkable job airing the Katyn murders before the American people.

Our broadcasts on this were so effective, in fact, that Roy Kohler, administrator for the Voice of America, has received a request for the Iron Curtain. The reprint request which Kohler is proud of came via the underground from a courageous body in Moscow.