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ELECTRICITY AND THE FARMER

WHEN the final inventory is taken of the mid-porch of this eventful century, it will undoubtedly show that the broadest change in the pattern of American living has taken place on the farms. The change has been brought about by electricity.

The annual report of the N. C. Rural Electrification Authority has just been submitted to Gov. W. Kerr Scott by Chairman Gray B. Price. Even the statistics, normally a cold and impersonal way of recording human progress, pack a wallop. And when one lets his mind roam beyond the figures out to the people whose lives have been changed by electricity, the full impact of rural electrification comes clear.

Look at what has happened in North Carolina.

In 1925, there were only 1,894 miles of rural electric lines serving 11,558 rural consumers in this state. At that time, a piddling 3.2 per cent of our rural dwellers enjoyed the normal average of 11.5 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year.

On July 1, 1952, there were 72,673 miles of rural electric lines serving 481,113 rural consumers. On that date, 80.4 per cent of our rural Tar Heels had electricity—slightly above the national average of 80.1 per cent.

And when lines authorized on July 1, 1952, are completed, the number of consumers will leap up to 497,388!

MR. DULLES' GREAT OPPORTUNITY

IF THE PROBLEMS facing the incoming Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles, are big enough to stagger the wisest of men, it is also true Mr. Dulles is favored with a great opportunity. That opportunity is the making of a corridor of trained and seasoned diplomats who fully recognize America's position in the 20th century world and who are equipped to maintain that position.

It was not in the American tradition, nor was there any necessity prior to World War I, to develop a foreign policy that had long-range objectives to which this nation would hold through war and peace and through changes of party in the national administration.

The time has come to change all that. The time has come to bring the kind of men recruited from the ranks of political plumbers as some to start at the ground level with the establishing of a Federal academy for the foreign service, and build an experienced, competent diplomatic service right on up to the top.

CAULDE IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE

THE Chief subcommittee sized up T. Lamar Caudle fairly well in its report on him Saturday. It found the former Attorney General from Wadesboro "honorably motivated" but "weak," a man who "never sold himself for riches or power" but reflected the "decay within the Department of Justice" and showed "deliberate judgment."

The subcommittee believes that "in every instance where the choice was clearly black or white, Caudle's choice appears to have been inescapably correct. He was not a politician. The choice was between white and at least Oxford gray when Caudle accepted entertainment and favors from persons interested in cases before him. Caudle acted as how he was just a country boy amongst some sharp city slickers. We've always known that."

CHARLES W. TILLET

"See who mourns for him," said Aristotle at the funeral of a leading citizen, and it may well be the key to a man's worth to know who does mourn his loss. By this measure the late Charles W. Tillet must be accorded a very high place in the history of this community, and our state.

Private electric utility companies serve the greatest number of rural customers—282,038. Electric membership corporations operated under the REA serve an additional 157,031. Municipal systems provide electricity for 40,256 customers.

By doing much of the farmer's work for him, electricity has eased the burden of labor. By enabling the farmer to expand operations in such enterprises as dairying, it has broadened and strengthened the base of his economic prosperity. By lighting his home, heating his stove, and powering the many appliances on the market today, electricity gives the farmer, as his hard-working wife a better and happier life.

If rural electrification has been good for the farmer, it has also been good for the economy as a whole. Utilities sell more electricity. Appliance dealers find an ever growing market for their products. And the nation is enriched by a more productive, more stable, more enlightened, and more content rural population.

The objective of taking electricity to the rural farmer seemed far off then. The national electrification program got under way back in the Thirties. That it is so near of achievement after so short a time is a tribute to everyone who has had any part in this remarkable and typically American venture.

NO SALE, GUV'NOR

GOV. HERMAN TALMADGE of Georgia, chairman of the Southern Governors' Bureau of State Relations, is expected to present the South's viewpoint to the nation. Governor Talmadge would like to have each Southern state contribute to a sizable chunk in order to present that viewpoint, a la Byrnes, "on present that viewpoint, a la Byrnes, in committee hearings and in magazines."

Jimmy can speak with authority, for the state of South Carolina, as long as its citizens remain apparent here in the news. He can continue his in office. He can speak with authority for the several Southern governors, if they want him to be their spokesman.

If, however, the South has a viewpoint that can be presented by one man, particularly Jimmy Byrnes, this Southern unity will pass the chance to subsidize Jimmy, and do our own talking.

That with a smile and a grain of salt. But any administrator who doesn't have strength enough to say no to pre-empting gift-bearers of the Washington has no business in the governmental office. Recognizing his weakness, he ought to have starved his back or returned to the family homestead long ago.

The report put the Caudle case in proper perspective. Other less fortunate men have had more than great personal satisfaction in his last years (before they became wracked with physical pain) that his long fight for international amity had been well worth the effort.

In one of his great "Histories," William Shakespeare lays the foundation for the worth of a man. A messenger brings word to two princes that their father has died. "Speak up," says one prince, "Tell me the manner of his dying." "Say no more," says the second prince, "I have already heard too much."

So far we have not heard of any men washing their son and hanging them on a rack in the bathroom—Greenville (Tenn.) style.



The Israeli Pattern Lifting The Yoke Of Feudalism

By WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS, Associate Justice, U. S. Supreme Court, in Land Rebers

THE mark of government of the landlords, for the landlords, and by the landlords is heavy on the Arab and Moslem lands of the Near and Middle East. People live in squalor with no opportunity of escape. Some own 200, 1500 villages. They own every piece of every piece of the growing force of nations who seek to uphold the community bathhouse, the mud houses, the fields, the animals, the water in the irrigation ditch. They own the people who, for all practical purposes, are their serfs. The peasants vote as their landlords dictate. Some landlords own 500,000 acres and cast them so as to perpetuate their control.

Israel tolerates no such condition. Israel has a social and economic base that is democratic, not feudal; healthy, not sick. Israel is a land of freedom-loving nations and peoples. Israel is a land in which human beings count.

On the world scene, Israel is also a symbol of hope and of strength. Israel is a strong addition to the growing force of nations who seek to uphold and defend the sanctity of the individual and his freedom. Israel is a vital link in a free association of freedom-loving nations and peoples. When we preserve Israel, we make that link stronger and forge a stronger union of the free world.

Money Doesn't Do It

I HAVE been alarmed and distressed at the way we have been wasting our inheritance by mass spending on tax cuts. Our purpose has been fine, and none can quarrel with that. But we have thought that dollars could do it. That was the most egregious and the most expensive error we have made in our history. The growth of communism is due to the existence in large areas

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

DON'T look for any drastic slashing of taxes by the Eisenhower Administration when it gets into power. The cuts not only will be modest, they will be made right away.

When you add this loss of revenue to the current deficit in the Federal budget, you get some idea of the tremendous slash which must be made in the present rate of government spending in order to carry out the GOP campaign pledge to reduce the deficit.

Taft Isn't Only Politician Peevish By Ike's Appointments

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALSOP

NEW YORK MAYBE it is a bit early to be worrying about the end of the Eisenhower-Nixon honeymoon. But it is pretty plain that bed trouble is already building up for President-elect Eisenhower. Anyone can see that the honeymoon is in jeopardy around the American-governor-in-embryo that has its capital here in New York.

The surface signs are simple enough. Take, for example, the state of New Jersey. New Jersey Governor, Alfred Driscoll, and New Jersey's senior Senator, Robert Anderson, were both for Eisenhower before Chicago. Neither was worried in advance of the choice of a New Jersey business leader, Robert Ten Brock Stevens, as the new Secretary of the Army. Governor Driscoll, who might have liked a cabinet place himself, was not much pleased.

On top of this, another appointment from New Jersey is now quite probable. The young and brilliant banker, Douglas Duff of Newark, N. J., is reported to be tentatively slated for the Ambassadorship to Paris. It will be an admirable appointment if it goes through. Yet Dillon has never been a Driscoll supporter. Driscoll himself has been an ardent supporter of Dillon only at second hand. The Governor's already frayed temper was far from improved.

Again, in Pennsylvania, neither Governor E. A. Tamm nor Sen. James Duff was notified of the prospective selection of Harold Stassen as Mutual Security Administrator. Duff and Duff both regard Stassen as a carpal-bagger in Pennsylvania politics. Neither has been pleased by the appointment of one other Pennsylvania to a minor post. These two notorious financiers of Pennsylvania politics have now been almost reconciled by their common exasperation.

Let's make plain that our money follows democratic program, not feudal ones. Let's help make Israel an example of what democracy can do in a continent ridden with feudalism. It has conquered the main problems that plague the Middle East—land tenure, illiteracy, disease, and corrupt child and medical care for every family. Malaria has been wiped out and other public health programs flourish.

There is the problem of water and top soil and the development of productivity so that the economy need not be subsidized. Israel needs steel and machinery for export.

These are the reasons why Israel, though rich in land, is poor in a substantial basis for a long time. It is costly to restore productivity of the earth and keep standards of living high. It is costly to take time, patience and money. Moreover, cost of immigration is heavy.

Who Rules Guam? Guam has been kept out of the papers, but the governor of Guam has quit after two years of bucking Navy brass but he has not.

The constant squabbling between Governor Skinner and Rear Admiral Ernest King, each a commander, reached a climax when Eisenhower landed in Guam to transfer to the USS Helms for the return trip from Korea. King not only neglected to invite the governor to greet Eisenhower, but didn't even notify him

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Here, seems, is the heart of the present trouble. The government is viewed as a gigantic business, which experienced businessmen are most likely to manage satisfactorily. The Republican politicians do not share the Eisenhower-Brown view. They like big businessmen, but they like big businessmen close to Roosevelt. According to those who should know, it is remarkably well done. Significantly, however, the business almost no men with practical political background.

Here are two things to be said about this trouble. First of all, there really seems to be no reason on earth for indicating the best administration for the state. He is taking a risk by forcing a business administration instead of a political administration; but he is taking a risk by forcing a business administration instead of a political administration; but he is taking a risk by forcing a business administration instead of a political administration.

Actions Of GOP Congress Will Be Important To N. C. Farmers

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

North Carolina's production of a big stake in the new, Republican-controlled Congress which in January will start gaveling the nation's laws that may involve the price supports program, foreign markets and other factors vital to agriculture.

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\$2 Billion Excess Profits Tax May Go

"If you do, Mr. President, I hope you will give me exclusive rights to sell the eggs," requested Hines. "I don't want to sell a list of business here in Washington, especially around Easter."

Russo-German Air Force

THE situation has become considerably worse since Eisenhower left Europe, but the Russians are building up their East German Air Force in the guise of "air police."

Washington Pipeline

SENATOR McCarthy has gone to bat for his Senate sidekick, Harry Cain, who was availed in Washington even though General Eisenhower carried the state.