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WELCOME TO THE REPUBLICANS

THERE may be an occasional Meeklenburger still around who feels about the Republican Party as strongly as his pappy and grandpappy did. But he's the exception, not the rule, and we venture to speak for the whole community in welcoming the North Carolina Republicans here for their state convention today.

Although THE NEWS counts itself an independent paper, it has strived through the years to help the Republicans out of their mental doldrums. It has tried to convince Democratic and independent voters that their political allegiance would be valued more highly by both major parties if it weren't so lightly given. And in this campaign year, it has sought to convince registered Republicans that General Dwight D. Eisenhower is the best man for their Presidential candidate, and that he has one other great asset—he will likely sweep the nation, including parts of the South.

But we don't argue the Taft-Eisenhower race further today. In the county and district conventions, the Republicans have managed to keep harmony in the family on that issue. It has been no mean accomplishment, and the GOP deserves a good deal of credit therefor. After all, for the Republicans at least, the big battle will come after the July conventions. It will be best for both factions if there are no deep wounds to heal.

So we welcome the North Carolina Republicans. We admire their pluck and enthusiasm. If this is their year, then let them make the most of it.

A BOOK ABOUT MR. PRESIDENT

IT WILL BE a long, long time before the other William Hillman's book, Mr. President, dies away.

Be that as it may, the picture of the President that emerges from the book is rather fascinating. It is the picture of an average American. At times there is a feeling that the man who is overwhelmed by the weight of responsibility shoved upon him, and who suffers the agony of deep thoughts and weighty problems for which he is not equipped. It is the picture of a man who is quickly and astutely through the striped-pants folderol of the State Department, who got his back up when the brass hats of the Pentagon tried to push him around, who faced quickly and decisively the world-shaking decision forced upon him, fearing all the while they might provoke World War III but hoping they would not.

In sum it is, as the author and the subject probably intended it to be, an intimate and altogether pleasing portrait of the man who is now living in Blair House while he awaits the completion of the White House remodeling job. Whether the book will be a factor in Truman's re-election remains to be seen, but it is sure to stir new clouds of controversy around the head of a man who, concerned over his place in history, appears too impatient to wait for history's verdict.

POLITICS AND FOREIGN POLICY

THE STATE Foreign Relations Committee, in a never to today that can be put off until tomorrow split, decided yesterday to postpone a showdown on inviting General Eisenhower to testify on the \$7.5 billion Mutual Security measure.

Them. Our allies are not so resolute as we would like them, either, and their will is further weakened by the slashing attacks on U. S. foreign policy by a segment of the Republican Party in this country and the forces of the Kremlin elsewhere in the world. The Mutual Security Program needs a Voice—a Voice that will carry over the squealing of the professional politicians to the consciousness of the American people and strengthen the will of our allies. Eisenhower has spoken out often, it is true, from his platform in Europe. But his words would carry farther and penetrate more deeply if he spoke from a Congressional forum straight to the representatives who are elected by the people to implement a sound, workable foreign policy.

Unfortunately, this is a Presidential election year, and Eisenhower is a candidate for the Presidency. This factor seems to have outweighed more important things with some members of the Foreign Relations Committee. Hence, the decision to rely on the volume of simple leaflets instead of the answer to the gravest question of our time.

SOUTHERNERS ARE LAZY VOTERS

IT IS no great state secret that the one-party system in the South has produced greater voting apathy than is found anywhere else in the nation. In 1948, for example, only 39 per cent of the eligible North Carolina voters cast ballots in the Presidential election.

Eisenhower on today's editorial page will be found a special study of North Carolina voting by Congressional Quarterly. Even though the 1948 national average was held down by the low split-up in the South, it was still an encouraging 52 per cent—13 percentage points higher than the top Southern states.

The answer, of course, is to be found in a vigorous two-party system. Not until the people of the South are given a choice between issues and candidates will the voting interest be set free. Until that choice comes, Dixie complaints about the sad state of national affairs will be unconvincing, for much of the blame can be assessed against their blind allegiance to an outdated one-party domination.

From The Twin-City Sentinel

SOUTH HAS NO MONOPOLY HERE

THE SOUTH has no monopoly on racial prejudices. The latest example of violence against Negroes occurred in the South from the Southern States—in California.

Here are the factors which make that strike just about as certain as the setting of the sun tonight:

Other examples were more extreme, of the expression of racial prejudice outside the South can be cited. The rioting at Cicero, Ill., immediately comes to mind. Some of the nation's worst racial clashes have been in Detroit.

It came to me at the close of day, when the lamps were being lit and a feeling of peace lay over the world. With cool fingers, she caressed my forehead. Gentle she took from me the volume of simple leaflets which I had been reading. Softly, her warm lips close to my ear, she whispered: "I'll wash and you dry."—Mattson (Ill.) Journal-Gazette.

'What Are The Odds — Er, Prospects — On Nebraska?'



Letters should be brief. The writers name and address must be given, but will be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

Dancing Is An Evil

Editors, THE NEWS: SOMETHING should be done to stop dancing in our public schools. Our children are taught the first step in dancing from the first grade on up, and if they refuse to take part in any program calling for this sort of thing, I understand they are criticized.

Not long ago there was a lot said about smoking on the school grounds by the children. I think dancing is far more harmful than smoking. Most people in the world smoke, and I have never heard of any immorality caused from smoking. All Christian ministers of the Gospel are against smoking and all real bourgeois Christians are against the dance and take no part in it.

I know there are a lot of church members that dance, but if they would repent and get right with God, they would dance no more. Many young girls go wrong every year as a direct result of the modern dance. If a young man can dance with a girl in his arms and not have evil thoughts he is not a normal person. Every Christian parent who has children in our public schools should request the members of the School Board and the principals and superintendent that dancing be stopped.

—PARKS A. YANDLE.

'Disgusted Democrat'

Editors, THE NEWS: THE state papers of March 6 carried as a news item a statement by Mr. "Pat" Reynolds of Lumberton, N. C., county manager of Robeson County.

Upon a request from the county chairman of the Republican Party for a place to hold the county convention, Mr. Reynolds waxed facetious and suggested that it be held in a phone booth, as the members of the School Board and the principals and superintendent that dancing be stopped.

Mr. Reynolds proves his caliber as a man and

CONGRESSIONAL QUIZ

Q—I've heard it's possible to have a President and Vice-President of different parties next year. If a three-way race—Republican, Northern Democrat and Southern Democrat—split the vote so no one had a majority. How could this happen?

A—If no one receives a majority of the electoral votes, the House of Representatives would pick the President and the Senate would select the Vice-President. Since in the House the election would be on the basis of one vote per state, if House Republicans kept their present majorities in 25 states, they could name the President. And the Democrats would name the Vice-President.

Q—Is there any law to keep a state's Presidential Electors from disregarding the Nov. 4 preference of its voters?

A—No, except in Oregon. In fact, Sen. Karl E.

People's Platform

county manager by taking advantage of his position to poke fun at a minority group. Cheap wit is always out of place and completely so in this instance, as Mr. Reynolds is county manager for the mightiest Democrat and the lowliest Republican. If he has no more conception of his position than that, he had better resign and join Nebochadnezzar in his pastures.

No doubt the Republicans of Robeson County would feel grateful that Mr. Reynolds did not offer the use of a Chic States building for their meeting.

A DISGUSTED DEMOCRAT Mrs. Elizabeth H. Currie

'Liberty,' GOP Style

Editors, THE NEWS: WHEN in Houston, Mr. Taft ballyhooed the Republican ideal of liberty and himself incidentally as its exponent. He must have forgotten about the law he so recently fastened in Congress—a law that shackles the workers and thereby furnishes a fertile breeding ground for communism. So he can't possibly mean he believes in liberty for all.

The particular liberty he must have reference to is truly the fundamental tenet of the Republican Party—the liberty for one man to live, unmolested in his privacy, off the labor of another.

President Roosevelt's "little red reading" patterned on Hitler's Fascistic philosophy of government—a philosophy that destroys liberty for the working class.

So if it is Taft and another Hitler we want, let's vote for them.

—D. M. HARNELL.

How Many North Carolinians Will Vote For Next President?

By Congressional Quarterly WASHINGTON THIS IS THE first Presidential General Election since the 20th Century, and both Democrats and Republicans are beating the drum to get the record number of voters to the polls.

Most states will have two elections, primary and general. Some will have more. With the primaries continuing almost until the very end of the year, many candidates and other political leaders will promote get-out-the-vote campaigns.

In 1948, 67 per cent of the last Presidential election, there were approximately 50,704,000 Americans of voting age. Of this number, 60,000, or 32 per cent, voted in the Presidential contest between Mr. Truman and Gov. Dewey.

Here is how North Carolina rated according to figures compiled by Congressional Quarterly: There were 2,049,000 persons of voting age. About 781,000, or 39 per cent, voted in the Presidential race.

CONGRESSIONAL VOTE: The vote for U. S. Representative in the 32 states where Senate contests, 22,682,000 cast ballots for U. S. Senators—48 per cent of the potential voters in these states.

In North Carolina, 754,000 voted in the Congressional race. This is 37 per cent of the total possible vote. The vote for the Senate race in North Carolina was 753,000 or 37 per cent.

More residents, percentage wise, than in 1948 to vote in 1952 than in any other state. U. S. A's mark was 75 per cent voting for

President and 74 per cent for Representative. It did not have a Senate race. Other states with turnout rates from 75-80 per cent of the adult population included Colorado, Delaware, Montana and Nevada.

States with the lowest vote turnout were Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina. Their main political contests were decided in the primaries.

More than half of the nation's adults took part in the 1950 election. There were 95,833,000 persons of voting age in 1950 of whom 69,585,000, or 73 per cent, were registered to vote.

Some 40,430,000 Americans voted in the Congressional races. This was 42 per cent of those of voting age. In the 32 states where there were contests for U. S. Senators, 40,000,000—46 per cent of the total potential—balloted in these contests.

In North Carolina there were 2,111,000 persons of voting age in 1950. About 781,000, or 37 per cent, voted, 40 per cent of the total number of adults.

Nearly 50 per cent of the Congressional race, and 548,000 in the Senate race. This means that of those of voting age in 1950 of whom 95,833,000, or 73 per cent, were registered to vote, 40,000,000—46 per cent of the total potential—balloted in these contests.

In 1950 Utah again led the nation in voting, when 88 per cent of its potential voters turned out there were contests for U. S. Senators. Other high scorers were Indiana, South Dakota and Connecticut, all with 80 per cent or over.

Low scorers were again southern states where important contests took place in 1948 and 1950. These were Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Virginia.

European leaders like French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman and German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, are perfectly aware that the plan they have hatched cannot be carried out without some sort of European Federal Union. A nation without an independent army cannot actually be truly sovereign.

For such reasons, it is now intended to call a conference of the governments of the six participating nations shortly after the European army plan is ratified, in order to try to lay the groundwork for a joint taxation and financial policy. It is intended to consider at this conference such matters as a central European judicial authority limiting each nation's sovereignty; a joint taxation and financial policy; and the lowering and eventual elimination of customs barriers.

All this sounds extraordinarily unrealistic—and it may well be. But it is a number of perfectly possible developments—another explosion of the atomic bomb, the triumph of a Charles de Gaulle in France, a Kurt Schumacher in Germany, the assassination of the mutual security program—could cause the whole film paper structure to fall to the ground. The Sovereignty has already doing everything possible to let it down.

In the second place, the whole movement toward European unity has been illogical, accidental, and through the back door. The European Union has been established by a device for delaying or preventing the defense of the West. But even if all goes well, the European army will not make a great deal of difference militarily for two years.

This means, according to high-placed stabilization leaders, that industry, not labor, will be striking against the Government. That's also why, for the first time, there's talk of the Government seizing the steel plants, in a move against labor, but in a move against industry.

At any rate, the showdown dates is this week-end, and the Government doesn't step in, first in the blast furnace will start being closed day after tomorrow.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Giant Steel Strike Due This Week-End

A GROUP of steel executives sat in OPS headquarters the other day listening to OPS officials explain a nice new price formula by which the steel companies would get a price increase under the Caphart amendment.

Mundt (E-S) pointed out March 5 that the electors will know long before their votes are to be "counted" officially Jan. 8, 1953. If no candidate won the required majority, in that case the electors would get together and electing a President and Vice-President.

Reasons for making out the price increase was not the approval of the Wall outside, but because it has become apparent that the steel industry is not going to accept a modest price increase merely under the Caphart amendment but wants a larger price increase above and beyond this to compensate for a pending wage boost.

That was why steel executives looked so bored when they met with OPS officials last week. They were not particularly interested in the Caphart amendment which is decreed by law and which they knew they were going to get. What they were interested in was a price increase to take care of the expected wage hike. This they knew they were not going to get.

So what the bored look on steel executives' faces meant was that the American steel industry heading for one of the biggest strikes the nation has seen in the last decade.

What they wanted was not \$2.0 a ton increase, but from \$8 to \$10 a ton price increase.

Here are the factors which make that strike just about as certain as the setting of the sun tonight:

And they knew they were not going to get this because the matter has been discussed backward and forward inside the Truman Administration, and such friends of industry as Defense Secretary Louis A. Wilson, Economic Stabilizer Roger Putnam, with ex-Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia, now Price Administrator, have decided against it.

The Wage Stabilization Board is recommending a wage increase for steel workers of about fifteen and a half cents an hour. This increase is based on accepted cost-of-living indexes and the fact that other workers, such as General Motors, have enjoyed regular wage boosts while steel workers have been tied down with a long-term contract.

They have decided first that steel profits had skyrocketed so high that there was ample margin to absorb the wage increase. They also decided that an increase in the price of steel would knock a hole as big as a bar-door in the price of steel controls, and touch off a new wave of inflation.

The Office of Price Stabilization will oppose any price boost to compensate for this wage increase. The OPS will permit a price increase under the Caphart amendment which probably will average out at around \$2.40 a ton. However, the Caphart amendment covers cost of production increases only during the start of the production run in War and July, 1951. It does not include cost of production increases since last July. Therefore, the recom-

ended wage boost is not covered by the Caphart amendment.

Washington Pipeline

SENATE REPEALS from Maryland, when McCarthy used to defeat Senator Tydings is still jittery over what the Justice Department will do about the Tamm election scandal. Butler has written a letter to Senate leaders asking them to investigate the Tamm case. Credit Congressman Cecil King with tipping the scales for civil service for the Tamm case. Butler has written a letter to Senate leaders asking them to investigate the Tamm case. Credit Congressman Cecil King with tipping the scales for civil service for the Tamm case.