

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. E. DOWD, General Manager
B. G. GRUFFITT, Executive Editor
C. A. MCNEIGHT, Editor

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A MOMENTOUS WEEK IN EUROPE

ONE THOUSAND, one hundred and nine years ago, by the Treaty of Verdun, Charlemagne's European empire was dismembered. This week the heads of six states comprising much of the old empire sign a document that seeks to return to the European concept, by creating a European Defense Community.

This European Defense Community, if approved by member parliaments and effected, will have a single defense force, composed of Germany, France, the United Kingdom and the United States. The six-member European countries are France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. They have already created a European coal and steel community, under the Schuman plan, and have an embryo political superstructure through the Council of Europe.

Also significant was the signature yesterday of the German "peace contract," by representatives of Germany, France, the U. S. and the U. S. It too must be ratified by member legislatures before it becomes effective. If approved, it will give West Germany virtual autonomy. She will not be placed under a separate treaty with Russia, and the Western allies will have the right

to intervene in Germany in case of internal uprising. Germany will be required to contribute men and materials—ultimately twelve divisions—to the European Defense Community.

It may be that Western Europe, which failed to reunite by way under Napoleon, Bismarck or Hitler, will not reunite by peaceful means. The legislatures may reject either or both of these East German sentiment for reunion with East Germany continues strong. Russia will keep trying to drive a wedge between West Germany and the West. Despite the progress of the past seven years, national jealousies and economic rivalries continue.

But, only three years ago, a United States of Europe was only a dream to all but a few statesmen. It was something abstractly argued by students, urged by little-known writers. Today it is the official goal of European and American governments which are trying to work out the British and American relationship with it.

Historic new courses are being charted in Europe this week. Beneath the facade of communiques and conferences are plans for a new Europe, which may alter national boundaries and alliances centuries old.

JUDGE BOBBITT AND THE SUPREME COURT

TO BORROW a legal phrase, Judge William H. Bobbitt has managed to restrain and direct his many demands from within a militant campaign in his behalf. But we are not so restrained, and hence take this last opportunity to voice the hope that the Democrats of North Carolina will nominate Judge Bobbitt for the Supreme Court vacancy in Saturday's balloting.

Not that we are militant about it. You don't get militant about the Supreme Court. You try to be calm and cool and honest in appointing the job and the men who are offering for the job.

There are several good candidates in the field. Our preference for Judge Bobbitt in no way implies disrespect for other. Rather

it stems from the deep conviction that he is the best qualified man seeking the job.

The job demands the highest of qualities. The North Carolina Supreme Court is the apex of our system of state law and justice. It is the interpreter of our Constitution and statutory laws, the arbiter of dispute, the guardian of the way. (2) has a guide, (3) over a compass, or (4) possesses an unusual sense of direction. Otherwise, he'll get lost.

Such a man is William H. Bobbitt, candidate. We commend him to you.

OPEN LETTER TO GOVERNOR SCOTT

Dear Sir:
I'VE NEARLY three and a half years, your highway engineers have laced North Carolina with an amazing network of blacktop secondary roads.
They are good roads.
They are off the beaten paths.
They run through interesting areas that have been seen by few.
They are relatively free of traffic.
In many instances, they cut driving time and distance.
But they're not being used, save by the residents who live along them. And the reason they're not being used is that they are not marked.

For example: a fellow can miss every town about a hamlet between Chapel Hill and Charlotte (and see a new slice of your favorite Alamance County to boot) if he (1) lacks the primary road book, (2) over a compass, or (4) possesses an unusual sense of direction. Otherwise, he'll get lost.

So we offer this suggestion. Number the secondary roads, put some signs, and furnish the mapmakers with an up-to-date inventory of the new paved roads. It will relieve the primary road book and introduce Tar Heels to new sections of their state, both worthy objectives.

—Editors, Tar News

A SUGGESTION FOR FAIRER REPORTING

WE HAVE long been concerned with the way the press is being "used" as an instrument of "punishment by publicity." Editor & Publisher is likewise disturbed, quotes an observation on this subject by Alan Barth of The Washington Post, who summed it up this way:

"When we publish in headlines that Senator McCarthy has proved out wild charges of treason or espionage against a career foreign service officer or an economic adviser to the President or a high government official, having no connection whatever with the Government, we do the Senator's dirty work for him and we inflict on his victim a very real and irreparable injury. The fact that we do this often when there is not the slightest corroboration of the Senator's charges—often, indeed, when we know them to be altogether absurd."

Editor & Publisher regretfully concludes that it doesn't see how this can be avoided. Newsman cannot establish themselves as infallible judges, and "we had best make up our reporting and news technique."

We agree that newsmen, being fallible creatures, should stick to their knitting. But the abuses of the present system could be lessened, we feel, and other improvements in fair news coverage made by adding a new tool to the equipment of the Journalist.

The new tool could take the form of a Washington reporting bureau, sponsored by newsmen throughout the nation, staffed by experienced newsmen. Its objective would be the compilation of background information on various issues and personalities, and the furnishing of this material to member publications.

The way things work now, for example, a

public figure makes an unfounded charge. His words are news, and the story is widely printed. Wire services and some reporters do a creditable job of including in the story the remarks of accused persons, or persons having the facts. Sometimes, because a key figure is unavailable, or because of the complexity of many public issues, the rebuttal is not immediately forthcoming. Perhaps it never gets published. This newspaper, in its effort to be fair, has not detailed, pertinent material, could keep the record straight, and do so promptly.

Such a bureau could do much more than just counterbalance character assassination. When a public figure deals lightly with the facts, the bureau could set them right. When a politician talks out of both sides of his mouth, the bureau, having his previous voting and talking record at hand, could set the two or more positions taken by the man alongside each other. Most public figures, after seeing their conflicting positions rather devastatingly exposed by a few short paragraph inserts, would not be inclined to repeat their inconsistency. And in the matter of complicated legislation, this bureau could be particularly helpful.

Certainly many newspapers do their best to keep a balanced perspective. But keeping the record straight on the huge number of public issues is a job that has mushroomed to the point where it has far beyond the file of any reporter, the morgue of any newspaper, the function of the wire services. We hope that news executives and Editor & Publisher, with its wide readership among them, will give thoughtful consideration to formation of such an organization.

From The San Francisco Chronicle

GONE TO POT

TO THOSE who contend the younger generation is getting farther out of hand, a Penn State College professor offers pertinent proof by a couple of pennies.

"Our race is degenerate in these latter days," said one, "a children no longer obey their parents."

"The children love luxury," complained the other. "They have had much contempt for authority. They show disrespect for elders, and love chatter in place of exercise. They no longer tire when elders enter the room. They contradict their par-

ents, chatter before company, and tyrannize over their teachers."

The first of these quotes, explained Prof. Paul Benbow, is by an Egyptian priest, writing in 4000 B. C. The second was by Socrates.

"If you want to stay young, just associate with young people. If you want to get old in a hurry, just get up with them." —Pittsburgh (Pa.) Gazette.

Most Americans live in the present—hence. —Memphis Press-Scimitar.

Yeah, But It's Pretty Hot Back-Home, Too



People's Platform

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

Not So Many After All

Editors, Tar News:
I QUOTE from The News story of May 24 where a Huntersville citizen is quoted as saying, "The woods are full of McEwens." This statement is so incorrect I wanted to call your attention to it. As a matter of fact, the McEwen family is very small, there being a total of 28 McEwens in Mecklenburg County, counting all the women and children. There are exactly eleven male McEwens of voting age in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

CHARLOTTE

Evidently the Huntersville man is a friend of the McEwens as he states Carl McEwen, my brother who is retired. Your story would indicate that the reason my brother was re-elected is because there are so many members of the family. I like to think that there are other reasons.

—L. MORRIS MC EWEN.

Separate And Kind

Editors, Tar News:
I WAS reading a letter in People's Platform entitled "Speak Up For The Negro." I think that colored people should be trusted with kindness and they should not want to sit up with white people. I know that some people are unkind to the Negro but I feel that there should be a bus for the Negro and taxi too.

CHARLOTTE

I have a sister who lives in a town where the colored people live out in a town of their own near the white people. They have their own stores, clean streets and laundry places and taxes and never go to the white people's town only to work. I favor treating the Negro right but let them stay in their place and not mix with them for we are all human beings and we can be kind to them. They live right while around us. We know God doesn't want us to mistreat anyone and we can be kind. It doesn't cost anything.

MRS. MAYNE BARGER

County Commissioners' Race

Editors, Tar News:
NOW is the time for the voters of Mecklenburg County to clean house of the present regime of County Commissioners, and vote for men who stand for economy in county government.
These same County Commissioners employed a firm from the Midwest, who knew nothing of the local values of properties in the City of Charlotte. They paid them over \$300,000 to put on the books what tax valuation property owners should pay on during the coming fiscal year. They have more than doubled our tax valuations on our homes and business properties. In addition to this they propose and accepted in their budget for the coming fiscal year 1952-1953 the additional sum of \$30,000 expenditures over what they budgeted for the year 1951-1952.

For the past ten years or more the present commissioners have been increasing our operating budget as well as our taxes each year, and they propose to do so for the coming year. If they are re-elected.

What Mecklenburg County taxpayers need to do

is to elect a new set of commissioners who will stand for economy in county government.

Most significant thing about the lobby is that this time it's not being directed by the oil companies. The Federal Government has promised to protect oil companies from being protected under Federal operation, so the oil companies now don't care whether they pay royalties to the Government or to the three states which are clamoring for oil lands oil-Texas, California and Louisiana. All the oil companies want is to have the dispute settled so they can get on with it.

But having created a Frankenstein, the oil companies are today unable to control it, with the result that such a Senator as Senator Hiram B. Dwyer of California have been pressuring them to stay in line.

Chief target of the lobby is the Senate. A mere handful of votes one way or the other will spell the difference between upholding or overriding the veto. So the lobbyists are trying to persuade certain Senators who oppose tidelands oil to be absent. They don't ask them to reverse themselves and vote for tidelands oil; merely to be away from Washington and unable to vote.

Senator in this category are Magnuson of Washington who has been away; Egan of Oklahoma who has promised to support the President if in Washington, but who is busy

is to get out and vote on May 31. And get behind the candidacy of good men who stand for economy in our County government. Voters of Mecklenburg County, I urge you to vote for the chairman of your County Commissioners, John M. Gallagher, for your County Commissioners Sam S. McIninch, E. K. Brown, Courtland A. Jones, L. T. Vinesett. These men will give Mecklenburg County, an efficient, economy, tax-saving Government for the next two years.

H. B. JONES

Guiding Rule

Editors, Tar News:
I HAVE been reliably informed that a man left 45 feet and was carried to a Charlotte hospital. But treatment was delayed until some responsible person signed up for the expense. If that is Christianity or humanity, that's hell. Then let's forget everything Hitler ever did. In a privileged country like we have such action is just as bad as I am not a religious fanatic. I would show mercy to a brute as well as a human being. If an enemy of mine were seriously injured I would show him mercy.

CHARLOTTE

What would Jesus do? That should be the rule to follow in the event of future cases like this one.

WM. C. MCINTIRE

Good Officials Sorely Needed

Editors, Tar News:
VOTING time is around the corner again, and everyone must be aware of the tragic and deplorable mistakes that have been made again and again. These mistakes centered around people who have sold the rights of our country as well as the rights of themselves, for a mess of pottage. Again, and again, we have witnessed non-Christian leaders occupying unique positions in our country—positions which-form the life of our country from which the life of our nation must be pumped to keep alive our country and states.

Again and again, leaders have shown that if they would advocate injustices for a people or minority races, they could be sure of the dependable positions they would hold. They have held and are holding because of their standing out against fair play for people.

Those people are placed in these dependable positions by the people who sold the blood of their fellowmen to those who requested it. F. E. P. (No! Well, we want you! Equality of opportunities! No! Well, we want you! Such is the most damnable curse upon our country, and we are paying the price in blood for our sins.

Do not be responsible for the spilling of your neighbor's blood, nor that of yours by selling your birthright for a mess of pottage. Let us put men in the unique positions of our governments. Godly men; fair-minded men; just men; men of stern qualities; Well, we want you! Equality of opportunities! No! Well, we want you! Such is the most damnable curse upon our country, and we are paying the price in blood for our sins.

—L. BARNWELL WASHINGTON, Minister Wilson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Election Year 'Economies' Threaten Defense Program

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSO

WASHINGTON
THE House and Senate are planning to determine to do the year's defense appropriations in the manner of Little Borden in a perverted manner. Having given the United States 40 weeks some weeks ago, the House has now given it to foreign aid. The Senate will not be far behind.

It is important, first, to trace to its source this kind of care-free ax-wielding. The chief source is the organized group of business lobbyists, who are always hard at work here justifying their salaries. Among these, the United States Chamber of Commerce is the most important; also, the National Association of Manufacturers and even the Committee for Economic Development have been giving a helping hand.

FLANK ATTACK

The important feature of this process is the reasoning behind it. The U. S. Chamber of Commerce (always headed, "It's your money they're spending") has avoided a frontal attack on the national security program. Instead, it has boldly charged the military lobbyists with "wasting \$1 billion or more" per year, and has urged "saving" by across-the-board cuts. This is, of course, the usual method the House and Senate have adopted.

When queried about this remarkable 50 billion figure, however, U. S. Chamber officials confessed that they were unable to document it in any detail. The figure was it appeared, the result of mystical contemplation, plus talks with Rep. Louis Brandeis of New Jersey.

The Congressional approach has been the same. No detailed explanation was offered, when the House chopped \$4 billion off the defense appropriation. No examination or consideration was attempted, when the House placed a limit on next year's spending of funds for the armed forces. The House has appropriated and obligated, which will again put off the American preparedness date until 1957. The most solemn forecast of economic convulsions and perhaps even

changes of government in Britain, France and other NATO nations, was merely issued when the House chopped \$700,000,000 out of the economic aid section of the foreign aid bill. The idea was, it is to be said, to save money, to leave the Executive Branch to be up to the sounds as best it may.

COST IS DOUBLED
The two things to be said about this whole quack process. The first is that the Western world will never be defended if this goes on. You cannot build a sound defense by hastily tripping defense appropriations when the defense appropriations are being made, and then wailing "oh, oh, when the Kremlin keeps quiet for a bit, this is a serious situation." The second is that the cost and slow down the procurement of hardware so that the defense is never ready when wanted.

Furthermore, Defense Secretary Louis C. Howe and Deputy Secretary William Foster are both brilliantly able and stoutly conservative men, who have been throwing away the taxpayers' money. It can be assumed, therefore, that the House and Senate are not doing this for their circumstances permit. Thus ax-chopping at their funds for one result in cancelled orders for planes, tanks and the like, on which our future survival may well depend.

On the other hand, as has often been pointed out in this space, the units cut by the House are outrageously and dangerously high. The real reason for this high cost is the fact that the House as the American infantry battalion, with its 50 per cent more men and 12 per cent more firepower than the Soviet battalion; the Joint Chiefs of Staff organization, with its 10 per cent more men and 10 per cent more firepower; the high pay of our military manpower, which Congress has just raised the spending of funds for the armed forces. The House has the political guts and the detailed knowledge to attack those three issues, and yet it fails to do so. They would be thoroughly justified.

Mr. Graham, Slightly Nuts, Finally Achieves Due Fame

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK
IT SEEMS MY BOY, Ronnie Graham, has finally become a Broadway star.

He is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway. He is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway. He is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway.

There is a funny girl named Alice Graham, who is a Broadway star. She is a young woman, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway. She is a young woman, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway.

Reveries do not generally live long in this town, but "New Faces" is standing "em up in the rear, and it is a Broadway star. It is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway.

A NEW GENERATION?

I have never met anyone on an entire new generation of theatrical names. Rogers and Hammerstein, Moss Hart, George Kaufman, and many others. The new generation is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway.

My name is Gian-Carlo Menotti. He is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway. He is a young man, a thing called "New Faces," a tiny little revue that is playing "New Faces" on Broadway.

When Mr. Graham has seemingly endless strings to his bow, since he writes music, plays music, sings after a fashion, and is a dialogue, writes lyrics, plays a mad comedy and is quite an accomplished actor. How he has managed to do so many things, and to do so long is a mystery, because his following has been fantastic.

Lone Star Politician

THOSE who talked with Texas Governor Shivers during his visit in Washington get the impression that Allan Shivers is doing a little shivering about his reelection chances. Certainly he has a long and arduous road ahead of him.

In conferences with Speaker Sam Rayburn, the Governor has been talking with the Texas radio station, which has been doing a lot of work for him. Shivers' political opponent, Ralph Yarborough, made a speech in Texas recently. Yarborough, they reported to White House, was complaining that Texas radio stations should be allowed to broadcast the Texas radio station, which has been doing a lot of work for him. Shivers' political opponent, Ralph Yarborough, made a speech in Texas recently. Yarborough, they reported to White House, was complaining that Texas radio stations should be allowed to broadcast the Texas radio station, which has been doing a lot of work for him.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THIS city has seen all sorts of lobbyists in its day, but seldom such a high-powered, high-level group as that now pulling wires to defeat the President's pending veto.

Most significant thing about the lobby is that this time it's not being directed by the oil companies. The Federal Government has promised to protect oil companies from being protected under Federal operation, so the oil companies now don't care whether they pay royalties to the Government or to the three states which are clamoring for oil lands oil-Texas, California and Louisiana. All the oil companies want is to have the dispute settled so they can get on with it.

But having created a Frankenstein, the oil companies are today unable to control it, with the result that such a Senator as Senator Hiram B. Dwyer of California have been pressuring them to stay in line.

Chief target of the lobby is the Senate. A mere handful of votes one way or the other will spell the difference between upholding or overriding the veto. So the lobbyists are trying to persuade certain Senators who oppose tidelands oil to be absent. They don't ask them to reverse themselves and vote for tidelands oil; merely to be away from Washington and unable to vote.

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Tidelands Oil Lobby Gets Set For Ato

campaigning elsewhere, and Kefauver of Tennessee. Kefauver has wired Senator McFarland asking him to postpone a veto until June 3 when he can return from speaking commitments in California. Kefauver will support the President.

Lobbyist Roll Call

MEANWHILE here is the roll call of chief wire-pullers in the hot-and-heavy battle over tidelands oil.
Speaker Sam Rayburn has been spending almost as much time in the Senate as in his own House of Representatives. Loyal to the President, but on this issue even more loyal to Texas, Sam has been trying to persuade key Senators to vote for Texas.

Ex-Senator Sheridan Downey of California aims \$700,000 a year lobbying for Long Beach, Calif., which produces 10 per cent of its revenue from the oil wells that jut out into the ocean along its waterfront. Downey has been busy as a bird dog buttonholing old colleagues, but so far has been unable to keep all the Senate floor.

William McCadam, former public man for Senator Taft, paid \$400,000 a year plus expenses by the oil industry to influence legislators. Recently a member of McCadam's office had the gall to phone the Senate Interior Committee and ask for a report on what happened at a closed-door session on tidelands oil. The committee was headed by Governor Allan Shivers of Texas—came to Washington

both on tidelands oil and to mend his fences with certain Texas leaders in the Capital. Shivers talked to his old Republican friend, Gov. Val Peterson of Nebraska, and to the man Peterson appointed to the Senate, Fred Stearns, in order to mend his fences. Later, Senator Stearns, who previously visited against Texas and for the Federal Government, left for Europe.

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