THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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RUBE GOLDBERGISH, BUT IT'LL WORK

THE ENGINEERS' solution for extending Independence Blvd. westward may appear, on first examination, to be a sort of Rube Goldberg arrangement, but a close examination of the diagram indicates that it should work well.

The latest proposal, approved informally by the City Council yesterday, is to run the Boulevard *under* E. Morehead St. immediately east of the present intersection, and then over both South Blvd. and the Southern Railway tracks, dropping back to grade before it reaches S. Tryon St. The modified clover-leaf pattern will permit smooth movement of traffic in most every direction with these main exceptions:

1. Cars traveling in either direction on Morehead St. will not be able to turn west into the new segment of Independence Blvd., but will be able to reach it via S. Tryon St.

2. Conversely, cars traveling east on Independence Blvd. will not be able to turn directly into Morehead St. They, also, will have to turn at S. Tryon St. to reach Morehead.

3. Cars traveling east on the new section of Independence Blvd. will not be able to turn south into South Blvd.

Otherwise, the system affords complete flexibility for the movement of traffic.

The cost to state and federal governments will be higher than the original plan, but the net cost to the City for right-of-way will remain the same—about $800,000. The City will, however, have to contribute the D. H. Hill school property, valued at some $175,000.

The promise of Chief Highway Engineer W. H. Rogers that surveys will be started immediately, and construction begun as rapidly as possible, is further proof that Highway Commission Chairman Henry Jordan has assigned top priority to the project. In so doing, Dr. Jordan is not motivated entirely by the needs of the people of Charlotte. Independence Blvd. is a key link in the state highway system; not until it is completed will it be able to fulfill its original purpose, which was to tie together two areas of great traffic density, Wilkinson Blvd. on the West and the Monroe and Albemarle highways on the East, and facilitate the movement of vehicular traffic in between these two areas.

All in all, it appears that the state and federal engineers have worked out the best possible solution to a vexing problem. And by rejecting the previous scheme, they avoided the creation of a still greater problem at the intersection of Independence and Stonewall St.

AN ASSET WORTH DEVELOPING

GOV. KERR SCOTT delivered a good speech to a Farm & Home Week audience this week. It was in his old "Go Forward" tradition—"We cannot rest on our laurels. We must keep pressing." With 90 per cent of the state's farms to be electrified by the end of the year with a solid record of road-building (despite his favoritism for his home community) behind him, he turned his attention to conservation of water, soil and forests, and development of the state's waterways.

While North Carolina farmers lost upwards of $200 million in crop damage during the recent drought, some irrigated farms produced bumper crops. But not nearly enough. Only about 10,000 of North Carolina's farm acres are under irrigation. In some places there is too much water. There are about five and a half million acres of wet land in the eastern part of the state which, if drained, could be converted into 200,000 farms of some 25 acres each.

Erosion annually wipes out millions of dollars in soil fertility. Floods, in addition to destroying lowland crops, sometimes discourage industries from coming to potential flood areas in the state, paradoxically perhaps, because the purity of North Carolina water is attractive to industry in this cellulose age which requires great quantities of quality water. The manufacture of a ton of nylon requires 250,000 gallons of water, a ton of steel 60,000 gallons, large air-conditioning plants require vast quantities of water. The conservation and wise development of the state's ample water resources has truly become of importance to the city as well as farm dweller in North Carolina.

We would like to draw particular attention to the governor's suggestion that a North Carolina Maritime Authority be created and charged with development and maintenance of our waterways. He suggests it be financed just as activities of the Highway Department are—by gasoline taxes paid by users. Private and commercial operators are now rebated the tax on gasoline which they use in their marine engines. This money could be used for dredging and otherwise improving waterways and channels, facilitating the operation of the State's underdeveloped seafood industry and developing fishing and recreational activities.

Such a program, just as the construction of modern port facilities at Morehead City and Wilmington, and wider use of water conservation techniques is part of a sensible water development plan for the state. Establishment of a Maritime Authority should be considered by the next General Assembly.

SCHUMACHER—FRIEND AND FOE

THE DEATH of Kurt Schumacher, strong-willed leader of Germany's Social Democrats, removed a major headache for U. S. planners in Germany. They were exasperated by his opposition to West Germany's increasing ties with the Western nations, and they shuddered at the prospect that he might topple Chancellor Adenauer from power. But the future actions of the new leaderless dissidents he led—and ruled with fist of iron—may cause Americans to wish Schumacher were still around.

For in important respects he was a friend of the West. True, he was unalterably opposed to co-operation with the Western Germany was reunited. A Socialist government for all Germany and a Socialist United States of Europe was his goal, and he railed against rearmament as proposed by the West, preferring a sovereign German army.

But if he was harsh with the West, he was equally adamant with the Reds, long before the U. S. was. Once after making a particularly violent anti-Red speech, a high occupation official reminded him that the Russians are our allies. "You," retorted Schumacher, "must remember that the Communists are our enemies." When Communists flocked to him after his 10 years of emaciating imprisonment for sneering derision of Hitler, he scorned their support despite the suggestions of Western occupation officials that he co-operate with the Reds.

A battle royal for control of his party may now shape up. Two possible leaders, Mayor Reuter of Berlin and Mayor Max Brauer of Hamburg, a one-time U. S. citizen, had been blacklisted by Schumacher because they disagreed with him. It remains to be seen whether the Socialists can agree on a leader who will continue Schumacher's strong opposition to the Communists. At any rate his death should remove one obstacle to Chancellor Adenauer's policy of increasing integration with the West.

A GOOD MAN ADVANCES

CERTAINLY it is a tribute to the outstanding record Dr. Logan Wilson has established at the University of North Carolina and other schools that he was recalled to his native state as president of the University of Texas.

Further, North Carolina may be proud that the most heavily endowed state university in the country came to Chapel Hill to find its chief executive.

Only 45 years old, Dr. Logan's academic experience in sociology has been augmented by administrative positions at Tulane and the University of Kentucky. As academic vice-president and provost of the Consolidated University of North Carolina since last August, he was particularly responsible for allocation of functions among the three UNC institutions and co-ordinating and strengthening faculty personnel and facilities.

We are disappointed that Dr. Logan is leaving our state. But we congratulate him on his excellent advancement, and wish him the best.

From The Arkansas Gazette

WOMAN'S TOUCH

SAGES through the ages, in their moments of honest appraisal, have confessed that it is woman who keeps the race's feet on the ground.

Men may build the great cathedrals and dream the big dreams. Men may even make some of those dreams come true, may someday conquer all of outer space, but, when they take off on that first rocket trip to the moon, it will be the women who remembered to pack the box lunches.

So it is that Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, the eminent University of New Mexico meteoriticist, needn't have been too disturbed by an embarrassing recent experience.

Dr. LaPaz has advertised far and wide for material evidence of the mysterious green fireballs he has been investigating for more than a year. When a package was recently received from a Macon, Ga., school teacher who thought she might have such evidence, it was placed under a Geiger counter before being opened. No reaction. When it was opened, it was found to contain "a black, porous mass". Puzzled, Dr. LaPaz and his assistants subjected the strange matter to microscopic examination and a variety of laboratory tests before finally throwing up their hands.

It remained for Mrs. LaPaz, who was consulted in a moment of resignation, to identify it for what it was:

Burnt toast.

The moral is evident and the incident has served one salutory purpose in materially lessening our already slight interest in green fireballs.

The worst thing about history is that every time it repeats itself the prices go up.—*Camden County (Ga.) Progress.*

FTC Report On Oil Cartel To Have World Repercussions

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

A Vice-President — and even a Vice-Presidential nominee—has some powers in spite of the tradition of the uselessness of the office. Sen. John Sparkman of Alabama, who has second place on the Democratic ticket, has just given a modest but nonetheless interesting demonstration that even potentially it carries some weight.

For months a great many people, including some with influence such as Sen. Thomas C. Hennings (D., Mo.), had been trying to pry loose a report on the international oil cartel that was labeled top secret. Before the Democratic Convention Senator Sparkman also wrote a letter to the White House asking that the report be released. Results, zero.

But shortly after his nomination Sparkman got word that the controversial report prepared by the Federal Trade Commission could be made public. He promptly announced this fact through the Senate Small Business Committee of which he is chairman.

The report spells out the complete control exercised over the world trade in petroleum and petroleum products by a combination of British and American companies. There is nothing new in this control, it has been exercised almost from the beginning of the era of mechanization when the flow of oil became vital to the very existence of a modern nation.

MUCH DETAIL GIVEN

But economists and researchers for the trade commission put in their report more detail and documentation than the public has hitherto been given. It analyzes at length the interrelationship among the British companies, Royal Dutch Shell, Anglo-Iranian, Iraq Petroleum, and American companies in the international field such as Standard of California, Standard of New Jersey and The Texas Company.

The report was ready for release at a moment when oil was the hottest subject in world politics. Throughout the Middle East the rights of foreign oil companies in conflict with the tide of rising nationalism threatened revolution and chaos. As the cartel report was circulated among government departments with the stamp of secret in it, many both in Defense and State were convinced it would fan this conflict.

Finally, the issue of secrecy was put up to the White House. President Truman named a three-man committee made up of Secretary of State Dean Acheson, Secretary of Defense Robert Lovett and Mutual Security Administrator Averell Harriman to pass on it. Harriman was included, of course, because just a year ago he spent weeks in Iran trying to get agreement between the British oil interests and the Iranian government on a settlement of the increasingly bitter dispute there.

This top-level group turned the report over to General Walter Bedell Smith, director of the Central Intelligence Agency. After reading it, Smith is said to have recommended to the committee that it would not be in the best interests of America to release the report at this time. With this recommendation they agreed that the report should be kept back.

But pressure for its release continued. And at last the Sparkman request was honored. About 40 deletions are said to have been made, most of them being instances of dealings with Middle Eastern countries. These, it was felt, would be used to inflame the rabid nationalists in Iran where today the margin between law and order and disaster, with the West driven out, is paper thin.

CUTS ARE UNIMPORTANT

Those who have studied this remarkable document say that the cuts make no real difference. Left in are hitherto secret details of how the big powers in the world-wide oil empire have agreed and on occasion bitterly disagreed.

It includes excerpts of a hitherto unpublished memoir written by one of the richest and also one of the most mysterious men at the center of what is virtually in itself a super government. By virtue of his five per cent interest in the Iraq Petroleum Company and his other oil connections, Calouste Gulbenkian, 83-year-old Armenian now living in Portugal, has a fortune which Life magazine estimated in an article two years ago to be close to a billion dollars. The Gulbenkian memoir, taken from the files of one of the large American oil companies, reveals that he has frequently clashed with the big companies over exploitation of Middle East reserves. Gulbenkian has, incidentally one of the most famous art collections in the world. Some of his best-known pictures are on loan display in the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

There is, of course, politics as well as oil in this remarkable story. One evidence of that was the fact that Senator Homer Ferguson (R., Mich.) promptly tried to get into the act, alleging that the Republican 80th Congress had four years ago done an equally effective exposure which the Administration ignored. But it is in terms of the politics of the world stage that go with it—that this newest report will have loud reverberations.

At 82, Bernie Baruch Still Leaves The Kids Dumfounded

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

THE old boy turned 82 the other day, and the fact that he flew out to California to carve his initials on a redwood tells you something of his stamina. Bernie Baruch has his secret where Ponce de Leon missed it. The older he gets the younger he makes it seem.

I had a little chatter with him just before he left, and the old gentleman stays the same. It is only August and he is already worrying about the equal crop down in South Carolina. He is fretting some about MY health—I'm not 37 yet and the old warrior is 82, but he's worrying about MY health.

I'm not worrying about HIS health, though. If there was ever a fair bet to live forever B. M. Baruch is that bet. He has already kept his hair and keep his mobility and kept his brain. All intact. He gave up tobacco and he only toys with the one old-fashioned but he still eats with the enthusiasm of a small and ravenous cub. He sleeps like a hibernating bear, and God gave him the wonderful gift of being able to drop off at odd moments, sitting in a car or resting in a chair.

STORES UP ENERGY

He stokes his energy with little naps, and manages to drape more work around his siestas than the average youngster performs on power. Physically, about the only thing wrong with him is that he is deaf in one ear and sometimes his feet hurt. They don't hurt when he hunts, though. He walks still with a young man's long and steady stride.

His restless brain is interested in everything. He writes a lot and reads a lot and ponders a lot. He can still get as mad as an Irish revolutionist, and I am the kid who knows how mad he can get.

I am a young man comparatively and he can tire me with the force of his mental vitality. He can shoot better than I can and he rides a horse with more grace and decision. He can also bet horses better than I can, because he sometimes wins. He still works at his basic business, which is making money in the market.

He has taken an immense interest in this year's political scene, but has not declared for either candidate yet. He was the financial godfather of the Democratic party, but my feeling is that he thinks maybe we need a rest from the Democrats for a while. When he decides you will hear it loud and clear.

I am, of course, a little prejudiced about B.M.B., since it has been my good fortune to have been his hunting partner and occasional sparring partner for the past six years, but, prejudice or no, I think he is one of the last living symbols of America as the way God intended it to be — honest, industrious, hardy, wealthy, kind, wise, generous and level-headed. Happy birthday, Chief. I hope you live to be 150 years old and kill your limit of quail every day from December to March.

'Are They Gonna Play Drop-The-Mantle?'

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

New President Will Discover Closets Filled With Skeletons

WASHINGTON

THE biggest skeletons the next President will find in the White House cupboard can be summarily described in two sentences. The United States and the West are now growing stronger, but the Soviet Empire is building up its military power even more rapidly. There is no reason for immediate alarm, but there are grave reasons to be alarmed about the future.

The best reason is the fact that the atomic field is the most significant area of change. Soviet output of atomic weapons is massive and increasing. The Soviets are rapidly expanding and improving their means of delivering these weapons to American targets. American air defenses are conspicuously weak. And the Soviet air defense in depth has already, by official admission, rendered the B-36 "obsolete," and is being continuously and vigorously strengthened.

By 1955, in other words, the Soviets may be able to attack this country with crippling effect, while we may be unable to launch an effective counter-attack. This terrible situation need not arise. The technological advance of the last year can prevent it from arising. But what is needed is no mere ounce of prevention. What needs to be done is likely to prove both drastic and unpleasant.

So much has already been suggested in a previous report on the real issues confronting the country, which are not being discussed in the current presidential campaign. But there are other issues not being mentioned, other vast problems which the next President must also solve. For instance, when the new President enters the White House, he will be overwhelmed by a positive avalanche of skeletons from the cupboard where they keep the problems of our allies.

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FOR these problems, the situation of our major ally, Britain, can serve as a convenient symbol. Very few people in this country seem to have noticed it; but Britain has only narrowly avoided total bankruptcy this Summer. It was a very close shave. A final, disastrous run on sterling was barely averted, with the assistance of heavy infusions of American-aid dollars. And this close shave has already produced certain truly radical results.

On the one hand, the British policy makers and most of their American opposite numbers have just about abandoned hope of getting Britain on an even economic keel on the present basis of affairs. The fever, they say, did not kill the patient this time, but the disease itself has not been cured and cannot be cured without new remedies. Among the remedies being vaguely and rather nervously discussed are liberalization of American tariff policy to permit Britain to export more to this country; and an Anglo-American stabilization fund to maintain a better dollar-sterling relation. It is hard to imagine two projects more unlikely to arouse Congress.

By the same token, the Spring and Summer economic crisis has forced the Churchill government to take a new look at the British defense program. This has led into a new look at the plan for West European defense elaborated by Gen. Eisenhower.

Together with many Air Force planners here, the British now believe that the NATO program must be revised. They want more emphasis on air power, more emphasis on new weapons, and a reduced call for naval power and ground divisions in the line. Forces so balanced, the British say, will be both better and cheaper. It is hard to imagine anything more likely to arouse the French, Germans and other continental allies than this "new concept," as Winston Churchill has called it.

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DRAW from these facts the obvious conclusion. If the next President is willing to tackle the British problem, he will also have to tackle both Congress and the other Atlantic allies, when he has hardly learned his way around the White House.

If he is not willing, on the other hand, he will still be unable to prevent the British from raising the question of their "new concept" at the NATO Council. He must be ready to see Britain again gripped by her economic fever. When that happens, he must be prepared for the probable fall of the Churchill government and the return to power of a Labor party which Aneurin Bevan increasingly dominates. And he must be prepared — this unfortunate next President — for Bevan's entirely likely decision to cancel our air base rights in Britain, and thus to cripple the retaliatory strength which is the heart of all Western strength.

This is only a sample, moreover. The problem of France, which in turn involves the fate of Indo-China and through Indo-China, the fate of Free Asia, is almost as serious as the problem of Britain. Over-all, this republic has now given strategic commitments of one sort or another to no less than 41 other nations, most of them on the periphery of Soviet power. And there is nowhere, on this entire periphery, where there is no threat or sign of trouble.

Perhaps the reasons that the Presidential candidates do not choose to discuss the realities of the task they aspire to, is because the subject hardly bears talking about.

Quote, Unquote

A new resident from back East moved into one of the upstate counties and one day stopped at the court house to register. "How long must a man live here before he can vote?" he asked. The politico at the desk looked him up and down and asked: "Which ticket?"—Carlsbad, (N. M.) Current-Argus.

Some Mississippi farmers sued a seed firm for $50,000 alleged damages, claiming they got the wrong kind of watermelon seed. Those farmers must have believed the pictures and descriptions in the catalog.—New Orleans States.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Full Inquiry Into Foreign Lobbies Needed

(While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, the Washington Merry-Go-Round is being written by several guest columnists, today's being Sen. Wayne Morse, Republican, of Oregon.)

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By SENATOR WAYNE MORSE

EUGENE, ORE.

DURING the 82nd Congress the late Sen. Brien McMahon and I introduced in the Senate of the United States a resolution which proposed that the Committee on Foreign Relations should make a "full and complete study and investigation for the purpose of determining (1) what attempts, if any, have been made by any individuals or groups of individuals representing the Chinese Nationalist Government, the Chinese Communist Government, or any other foreign government to influence the foreign policy of the United States since Dec. 7, 1941, and (2) the extent and means, including methods of financing, of any such attempts."

Repeated rumors, charges and counter-charges that foreign agents representing foreign lobbies had been exercising improper and undue influences over American officials, both in the executive departments of government and the Congress, had reached such widespread circulation in Washington that Senator McMahon and I decided that the American people were entitled to have the facts investigated.

Little did we realize when we introduced the resolution that we had touched upon what had become a political taboo in many circles of Washington officialdom.

Judging from mysterious telephone calls, anonymous letters, and visitations which we received from some very remarkable characters, we sometimes thought we had become the innocent participants, if not the victims, in a fantastic cloak-and-dagger game.

The Administration, through the Secretary of State, offered to make available any information contained in its files on foreign lobbies, if any authorized committee of the Congress asked for it. This of course was a grand gesture on the part of the Administration, because, as we pointed out, the executive branch of the Government has an equal and independent responsibility to check into the activities of foreign lobbies, if it has in its files any information which raises the slightest question as to the propriety of the conduct of foreign agents within the United States.

The attempt of the Administration to pass the buck on investigating foreign lobbies should not fool the American people. It should conduct such an investigation without prodding from the Congress.

On the other hand, the Congress has been equally guilty of the well-known political game of buck-passing by placing resolutions calling for investigations into Congresional pigeonholes, with those responsible for such ducking of public responsibility alibiing by suggesting that the Department of State or the Department of Justice should act on their own initiative.

Chinese Communist Lobby

IRRESPECTIVE of who is responsible for a failure to investigate the many allegations concerning the activities of foreign lobbies, the fact remains that there appears to be enough foreign-lobby smoke emanating from high places in Washington to justify turning in a fire alarm.

It is the opinion of this writer that a thorough investigation of foreign-lobby activities in the United States would disclose that there is a very active Chinese Communist lobby working through Communist underground channels in the United States. In all probability, it would be found that this propaganda network, with its phony Asian peace proposals and false accusations as to American foreign policy in Asia and alleged United Nations atrocities and conduct of the Korean war, is well-financed by the Chinese Communist Government. The sources of this propaganda need to be ferreted out and disclosed to the American people.

Likewise there appears to be much evidence that agents of the Nationalist Chinese Government within the United States have been seeking to influence American public opinion in an endeavor to promote our becoming involved in a preventive war in Asia. Both the executive branch of our government and the Congress have owed it to the American people for many months to face up to this foreign-lobby problem, and it is to be hoped that, when Congress reconvenes in January, something at long last will be done about it.

It is not for me to say what the facts are about the lobbying activities, if any, of these Chinese officials, but it is perfectly clear to me that neither the executive branch of the Government nor the Congress can justify further delay in proceeding to conduct a thorough investigation of the activities of foreign lobbies as called for by the McMahon-Morse Senate Resolution 170.