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A MISSING CHAPTER IN WHITE STORY

IN HIS TESTIMONY before the Senate Internal Security subcommittee investigating the Harry Dexter White case, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover made one rather interesting statement that has been consistently overlooked in post-hearing comment. The statement came after this paragraph which was widely publicized:

"At no time was the FBI a party to an agreement to promote Harry Dexter White and at no time did the FBI give its approval to such an agreement. Such an agreement on the part of the FBI would be inconceivable."

That part made the headlines. In the text as printed in U. S. News & World Report, Hoover then added:

"The failure of our predecessors to defend the government from communist infiltration left the new administration a necessary but very difficult task. We are now confronted with this problem, not because there was any real lack of information available to our predecessors as to the identity of the Communists in government, but because of the unwillingness of the non-Communists in responsible positions to face the facts and a persistent delusion that communism in the government of the United States was only a 'red herring'."

Yet Mr. Hoover said that although White was permitted to remain in office, dismissals of "others who had similarly been involved in this particular investigation" took place in March, June, July and September of 1946—just a few months after the FBI report on White was sent to Mr. Truman.

If this principle were applied to White, it would, of necessity, have applied to others who had similarly been involved in this particular investigation, who were dismissed from Government service when their subversive activities were discovered. *Those dismissals occurred in March, 1946, April 16, 1946, July, 1946 and Sept. 25, 1946.*" (Italics ours.)

That raises a rather interesting point. The major charge made against the Truman Administration by Attorney General Brownell in his Chicago speech and in his testimony before the Jenner subcommittee was that Mr. Truman had been "blind" to the threat of communist iinfiltration. In Chicago, he said:

That was the statement.

It appears to me that most men entrusted with high office will put personal political ambitions and aspirations above their obvious duty to their country. As I see it, Senator McCarthy is doing a job much needed to be done. He may make mistakes at times. He couldn't be 100 per cent right all the time. He is fighting for the eradication of the most dangerous influences dedicated to the single purpose of destroying the government of this free country. He gives everyone called to testify before his committee every chance to be truthful and honest. No wonder he has difficulty in holding his temper when a witness before his committee, suspected of being a Communist, invokes the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which he purposes to destroy. If a witness hides behind the provisions of the Constitution to keep from incriminating himself, he has by so doing obviously incriminated himself as a Communist and should be thrown into jail.

Why should we worry about what foreign governments think or say about our efforts to save our country? Are we obligated to them more than to our own people? Do we want to be a free people or do we want to be subservient to a group of nations proposing only to look out for their own selfish interests? My suggestion is that we forget politics and get behind McCarthy and give him all the help in our power.

—J. E. ELROD

The U. N. Has Failed

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

THERE is a growing feeling that the United Nations has failed. America pays for 78 per cent of its projected program, although the has only one vote against seven and permits other nations to dictate the policies which disastrously affect the American people. Millions of dollars are taken from the American taxpayer each year to provide for the luxurious and huge expense of this atheistic organization.

One hundred and thirty-five thousand American casualties and 2 million South Korean soldiers and civilian were killed or wounded in the United Nations police-action Korean war. In the pending truce the United Nations has covered her friends, President Rhee and the Koreans, and have agreed to award the aggressors a part of Korea inhabited exclusively by Koreans. This proposed truce is another Teheran and Yalta agreement such as delivered the Poles to Russia and prepared the way for the Communist conquest of China. Powerful pressure has been exerted by financial interests who want to do business with Russia.

—WARREN W. WOODS.

A GREEN LIGHT FOR SAFETY PROGRAM

THAT the City Council has turned its attention to a better traffic safety program in Charlotte, we chalk up as a major gain.

At its session this week, the Council called for sterner enforcement of the law giving pedestrians the right-of-way when they are crossing streets with the green light, a subject discussed in these columns several days ago.

Even more encouraging was the receptive attitude toward a suggestion by City Manager Yancey that a full-time safety director be employed to direct a city-wide education program.

Mr. Yancey pointed out the obvious: that wise traffic engineering and enforcement of traffic laws to the limit of the police department's ability are not enough. Without an education program that begins with the child and touches everyone, motorist or pedestrian, avoidable injuries and deaths will occur.

If enforcement of the law is a city responsibility, it follows that education in traffic safety is a proper function of the municipality, for which public funds may be expended.

So we second Mr. Yancey's motion, and pledge the full resources of this newspaper to any general traffic safety program he and the City Council may design.

SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AT EPIDEMIC STAGE

MAYBE it's the power of suggestion. Maybe it's because the town is full of characters. Maybe we're just in a cycle. Whatever the cause, the epidemic of attempted suicides in the city jail belongs in the nonsensical category. It just doesn't make sense.

It's understandable that an occasional inebriate or despondent should try to do himself in during those first moments of mortification at being put behind bars. But to have three suicides and six attempted suicides in a little more than a year is not so understandable.

A woman arrested for drunk driving, who tried to hang herself with her silk stocking Friday, was the latest. She was a bad actor from the first. At one time she kicked one of the arresting officers. And after she was cut loose from the cell door, where she had fastened the other end of the stocking, she fought and kicked some more, finally biting an officer on the arm.

This incident, like the one last week when a man got mad at the policemen who thwarted his suicide attempt and told them "Drew Pearson will hear about this," illustrates the value of the new jail patrol system instituted by Chief Littlejohn. An officer makes the rounds every five minutes, checking on the occupant of each cell.

That may appear to be a rather costly expenditure of manpower, but it will be worthwhile if it prevents other suicides. The police department hasn't a responsibility to protect prisoners against violence, even when self-inflicted. That responsibility is now being met.

TAX 'EDUCATION' PAYS OFF FORTYFOLD

THERE'S good news today for taxpayers. Tax Commissioner Andrews and his sleuths have discovered a revenue source which, when tapped, won't cost the honest taxpayer a cent.

A few months ago Internal Revenue Service agents made door-to-door canvasses in New England. They interviewed 8,800 people. They found that 13 per cent of the persons contacted failed to pay federal taxes they owed.

The 13 per cent coughed up $80,000. Some 1,500 persons who were not contacted by the IRS, but heard that the tax men were around, suddenly discovered that they owed taxes too. An additional $320,000, in voluntary contributions, rolled in from them.

Thus, concluded Commissioner Andrews:

"We collected $400,000 through the survey at a cost of only $10,000, and returns are still coming in. There is reason to believe that this ratio of 40 to 1 might be maintained in the majority of other areas to be surveyed during the rest of the year."

Mr. Andrews emphasized that the canvass program is primarily educational, that most tax delinquents erred through inadvertance.

Whatever the cause of delinquency, the results of the canvass are good. May the tax men continue their "education". A one dollar investment that pays off 40-fold, and corrects an injustice to boot, is almost too good to be true.

From The Sanford Herald

'WE WERE IN LOVE'

IN THE THOUSANDS of homes all over the country where the father plugs along at his job and the mother, during those periods when there isn't a new baby, works to help keep things going, occasionally there must be dreams of wealth—wistful thoughts of how nice it would be if somebody left the family a fortune.

Such could not have been the case, though, in the frame house out in Texas where a couple known as Mr. and Mrs. Thomas D. Palmer pooled their pay through the years to care for themselves and their ever-increasing brood. Each passed up money in order to go on with their average life.

Thomas D. Palmer is really Thomas C. Buntin, member of a socially prominent Nashville, Tenn., family, who 22 years ago abandoned his wife and children and disappeared with his secretary.

Mrs. Palmer, of course, is the secretary, the former Betty McCuddy.

Buntin put aside riches as well as his family. And his partner in elopement in time passed up a $30,000 inheritance to keep their identity hidden.

"We were in love," said the woman known as Mrs. Thomas D. Palmer. "Money didn't mean too much to us. If money had meant anything, we wouldn't have done what we did."

Was it worth it, this business of living in disguise for nearly a quarter of a century, finally to be unmasked when an insurance company found grounds to hold up payments resulting from Buntin's having been legally declared dead?

Well, the marriage lasted, and there were six children and now there are a couple of grandchildren besides. Such permanency can't be said for Buntin's first fling at matrimony, and the implied solidity is in sharp contrast with his old reputation as a playboy.

Laws, morals and perhaps honor are involved here, and none of them is a thing to be tampered with.

Observers will be mighty tempted to say something kind about the young man and the girl who walked out of their world to be together.

McCarthy Speech Made Dulles And Ike 'Hopping Mad'

BY STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of State John Foster Dulles is apparently a much braver man than many people have thought. When he read his eloquent restatement of the basic principles of American foreign policy to his press conference Tuesday, he was quite aware that he was inviting bad trouble. He was also quite aware that he himself is particularly vulnerable to the special brand of trouble which Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy is expert at making.

SECRETARY DULLES

Just because that is so, it may seem surprising—as it did to many of those present at the press conference — that it was Dulles of all people who first met the McCarthy challenge to the Eisenhower administration head-on. The background story of how Dulles came to do so is interesting.

The Dulles boiling point has not always been low, as the recent too amply demonstrated in his first months in office. But when Dulles saw McCarthy's television performance last week, and then a day carefully read the transcript of McCarthy's speech, he came to a slow, angry boil.

For Dulles is no fool. He recognized instantly that McCarthy meant to use Dulles and the Dulles foreign policy as the stick with which to beat Eisenhower. This was the only possible meaning of McCarthy's intimation that the Administration foreign policy is one of "whining, whimpering appeasement." It was the only possible meaning of McCarthy's fake formula for freeing the captive airmen, and of his remarks about "perfumed notes" and "the phony truce." Especially, it was the clear meaning of his reference to John Carter Vincent, whom Dulles cleared of the McCarthy-McCarran charges of disloyalty, and to John Paton Davies Jr., whose head Dulles has refused to serve up to McCarthy on a platter.

* * *

The day after the McCarthy speech, Dulles conferred with his aides about what, if anything, should be done. He was reminded that if he responded at all, McCarthy was sooner or later certain to counter-attack. He was reminded also of the form this counter-attack was likely to take. Ultimately, McCarthy was sure to use the Vincent episode, the Davies matter, and above all Dulles' service on the Board of the Carnegie Institute while Alger Hiss was its president, to "prove" that Dulles was part of the "old Truman-Acheson-Hiss-Vincent-Lattimore gang."

When all this was pointed out to him, Dulles replied in effect that, although he might lose his job in the end, at least he would keep his self-respect. Having decided to fight back, Dulles began to think hard about the form his response to McCarthy should take. He discussed the matter briefly on the telephone with the President, who was having a family Thanksgiving in Georgia, and the President agreed that they should consider the matter carefully immediately on his return.

On Monday of this week, therefore, Dulles went to the White House, and found the President, who had by this time thoroughly digested the McCarthy speech and its meaning, hopping mad. Dulles told the President what he had in mind, and Eisenhower was enthusiastic, asking only to see the finished version of the statement. Dulles worked late on Monday night, drafting the statement. He showed it to the President on Tuesday morning. Eisenhower approved it without changing a word. He promised Dulles that he would back him "to the hilt," which he did in full measure at his press conference on Wednesday morning.

* * *

From all this, it is clear that the Administration's response to the McCarthy challenge was in a sense fortuitous. It was not, as some have thought, a carefully worked-out White House plan; it was originally strictly Dulles' own idea. But it is also clear that, once the President understood the real warning of the McCarthy speech, he welcomed the Dulles proposal with open arms.

There is, in fact, no longer any doubt about where the President stands on the McCarthy matter. One distinguished recent visitor to the White House remarked afterwards that he was surprised by the vehemence of the President's feelings about McCarthy—and even a little disturbed, lest the subject become an obsession with Eisenhower. Yet the President has wished to avoid demeaning his office by instigating a sordid squabble with the Senator on some essentially petty issue.

SENATOR McCARTHY

McCarthy's attack on the Administration's foreign policy, however, gave the President precisely the issue on which he could with dignity take a firm stand. On this issue, moreover, it was entirely appropriate that the Secretary of State should strike the first blow, with the President backing him up. At any rate, the battle is now joined.

No doubt Dulles is in for a rough time from the man who considers a baseball bat a suitable instrument for teaching his peculiar brand of Americanism. But with Eisenhower squarely behind Dulles, the final outcome cannot be much in doubt, unless the country has indeed lost its senses. And John Foster Dulles deserves a full measure of credit for courage, a commodity which has seemed all too rare lately, in the State Department as elsewhere.

Bermuda Meet Finds Churchill At Peak Of Incredible Career

By MARQUIS CHILDS

BERMUDA

THE figure of Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill has towered for so long above the events of his age that it is a touch incredible that he should be here for still another go at making history. It is as though Pericles or the elder Pitt had stepped out of the tapestry of the past to take a speaking role once again.

As Sir Winston enters his 80th year, the adjectives fall before the phenomenon of his persistence, his survival at the center of things, his refusal to accept the fatalism of drift toward yet another and perhaps final catastrophe. He wants to try at the end of his life to move at least a few steps toward the kind of negotiation that could put the world on the road to peace.

To suggest that he does not know the obstacles that lie before him are the wishful illusions of an old man, that he means to appease Soviet Russia if not kept under tight American rein, is of course to misunderstand Churchill's whole history. All through the '30s he stoutly resisted the appeasers in Britain who were so sure that if Hitler were only spoken to politely he would stop being so rude over and over again. Churchill said that the Nazis would respect only strength. His repeated cry went unheeded at the 11th hour and the 59th minute he rallied England and the West.

It was the wholeness of the man, as he spoke out of the breadth and the depth of the range of values that had made the West great, which caused his voice to be heard in that hour. It has been said that this will be Churchill's last conference, his last effort. But that is a rash assumption.

At the time of his illness last June, which caused the postponement of the Bermuda meetings then, many were ready to count him out. But even in the wellins of his own inner resources have been wonders. When Secretary of State John Foster Dulles saw Churchill in London several weeks he was astonished at his vigor.

The thread of history goes a long way back into the past. He tells in a roving commission of his earliest childhood memories. At the age of four he was living in Ireland where his father was secretary to the British viceroy over Ireland, the viceroy being his grandfather, the Duke of Marlborough. As a young cavalry officer out of Sandhurst he took part in the last cavalry charge at Omdurman in the Sudan. He was a war correspondent in the Boer War in South Africa.

In India, as a young officer of the British raj full of self-esteem, he played dashing polo. In world War I he knew Woodrow Wilson, Lloyd George, and all the great as a colleague and equal. The leadership of the fiasco of the Gallipoli campaign bore him down but as he knows so well, men have both good and bad fortune.

This reporter first saw him when he was in almost-complete eclipse in the early '30s. He was sitting at the back of the opposition benches, next to the late Sir Austen Chamberlain. The two of them slouched down, seeming altogether indifferent to the sluggish flow of debate.

Churchill's career was ended, so they said. He had ample time to exercise his great gift for writing history, which is one of the reasons he will shortly receive the Nobel prize for literature.

SUMMIT OF CAREER

It is singularly fitting that he should set foot on this little island at the summit of his career. For all the changes that have come since 1941, including several thousand motorcars, Bermuda has an atmosphere an identity congenial to the Churchill temperament. Bermuda was a name that called up for the 16th Century all the romance and adventure of the great age of discovery. It was the setting for Shakespeare's play. "The Tempest,' which weighs in so fine a balance what is noble and what is base in the spirit of man.

Churchill has not always in the past understood the tides of change. He has sometimes, in fact, stubbornly resisted the inevitable, as in his persistent belief that the British Empire could be maintained intact in an era of revolutionary change. But this small vestige of it is symbolic of the past that Churchill has spanned.

There are no miracles in the old man, and he would be the first to say it. There is certainly no miraculous solution by way of any conference tables, but the fact of his resilience is in itself not to be discounted. At the climax of the victory in World War II the voters threw him out. A lesser man would have been crushed by that ingratitude, but he is here as Her Majesty's first minister and he may know the very out of this last and greatest crisis.

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.

Brighter Uniforms Needed

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

I WISH to commend the fine work done by the traffic policemen of this city in keeping traffic flowing as smoothly as possible during the late afternoon rush hours. I would also like to make a suggestion.

During the hour between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. traffic is at its worst, darkness has set in, headlights are on, and store windows and neon signs cast an added glare on the streets. In the center of all this confusion stands a police officer directing traffic dressed in the blackest of black uniforms.

Why, in the name of common sense and safety, don't the authorities attach some bright reflective material to these officers' clothes and give both the law and the public a chance? On several occasions I have seen a member of Charlotte's Finest pull in his chest or backside to avoid being rubbed the wrong way by passing motorists who couldn't see him. Before an officer zips when he should have zagged, let's protect traffic directors and ourselves by making them more visible at night.

C. RUSSELL PRICE

A Sound Suggestion

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

THE lead editorial in The Charlotte News of Nov. 30 outlined two suggestions for the Police Department under which violators of minor traffic regulations would be allowed to pay fines by mail.

The suggestions seemed to me to have considerable merit until I read the last paragraph which carried the thought that at least much and possibly more fine money could be collected under this system.

This makes it appear that the collection of fines is the main purpose of the citation. If that is the case, then I think the Police Department has the wrong objective that will not be corrected by allowing mail payments.

—TED H. GALLIER

(Note: Don't blame the police department for that last paragraph, blame the editors. It was tagged on as a sort of an afterthought, and should have been stricken as irrelevent and immaterial. Eds., The News.)

Let's Get Behind McCarthy

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

AS an American citizen of average intelligence and having information from sources available to all other citizens, I am not a little mystified and troubled about all the furor raised in the American press and by radio commentators regarding the televised speech made recently by Senator McCarthy in answer to criticism of the Investigating Committee of the Senate which he heads, particularly the criticism of ex-President Truman.

Last election day I voted for a great leader of demonstrated ability and unquestioned motives. I voted for President Eisenhower because I believed him to be a man in whom the American people could put supreme confidence that he would preserve our democratic form of government and the American way of life.

I read in today's papers that President Eisenhower has, along with Secretary Dulles, blasted Senator McCarthy for his methods and efforts to uncover the infiltration of Communists in our national government. I can't understand it. About the harshest thing the Senator said was that Truman is a discredited politician and I believe the majority of the country will agree with the truth of that statement.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Hoover Commission Stacking Charged

WASHINGTON

YOU might have thought the secret of the H-bomb was to be revealed, judging by the way ex-President Herbert Hoover pledged everyone to secrecy at a recent meeting of the commission to investigate government waste and operations.

However, this writer is able to report what went on inside the closed-door meeting, and the subject, which the public is certainly entitled to know about is Hoover's plan to investigate the government's public power program.

This question is of such vital interest to private and public power groups, as well as to the general public, that one member of Hoover's commission, Congressman Chet Holifield of California, demanded to know why a director with a public power background wasn't appointed to the 36-man "task force" which will investigate government power projects.

"It strikes me as most unusual that not a single member of the task force is representative of the public power program," Holifield told Hoover during the secret session. "On the other hand, there are a number of anti-public power spokesmen on the task force. How can the investigation be objective with that kind of a setup?"

Hoover stoutly denied that the task force was stacked one way or the other. He insisted that no member was directly connected with public or private power.

"We endeavored to select people of ability and integrity who would be completely objective," said the ex-President.

"Well, let's consider a few of them," shot back Holifield. "One of the members is Brachen Lee, governor of Utah, who is against Hell's Canyon and who has a vigorous record of opposition to the public power program."

Holifield also cited Harry Polk, former president of the National Reclamation Association, who wrote a news article Sept. 25, 1952, attacking public power and the TVA; also Robert W. Sawyer, Oregon newspaper editor who has consistently opposed federal development of low-cost electricity.

"The integrity of those men cannot be questioned," bristled Hoover.

"I do not question their integrity," countered the California congressman, "but I do question the qualification of men to sit in judgment on the government's public power program, when they have preordained views against it. And I intend to discuss the matter openly in the next session of Congress."

Peace Pact With Russia?

HOTTEST item on the Big Three agenda as the Bermuda conference got under way was a nonaggression pact with Soviet Russia.

Discussion of the proposed pact was not publicized in advance, and most observers have rated the top Bermuda topic as the coming four-power conference of foreign ministers. However, before President Eisenhower left Washington, the State Department received a confidential memo from the British that they would like to discuss offering Russia a nonaggression pact in order to ease her fear of the united European army.

Subsequently, the State Department queried other interested government bureaus to get their reaction and to prepare the President in advance of his trip.

The British and some State Department officials have felt that a nonaggression pact might have several useful benefits.

1. It would take the curse off Moscow's continual harping on the idea that the United States is warmongering and that the united European army is for the purpose of attacking Russia.

2. It might conceivably persuade the Russians to relax their military might, lift some parts of the Iron Curtain and re-establish a certain amount of cultural exchange between East and West.

On the other hand, some advisers inside the Administration fear that a nonaggression pact would merely lull the western world to sleep.

This is the problem placed at the top of the Bermuda agenda.

Note—Also on the Bermuda agenda is a question so secret there will be no announcement—future strategy regarding the atom and hydrogen bombs.

Brownell's Timing

EVIDENCE has just come to light that Attorney General Brownell had been sitting on the Harry Dexter White case since last August and carefully timed it just after GOP defeats in New Jersey, New York and Wisconsin.

It is now learned that Brownell discussed the secret FBI memo mentioning White's name with editors of U. S. News & World Report as early as last August.

The attorney general was interviewed by the editors for the September edition of their magazine. He was careful not to mention the FBI memo in his official interview, but off-the-record he confided that he had an FBI memo dated Nov. 5, 1945, which identified 37 government employees as Communist suspects, including the names of Alger Hiss and Harry Dexter White.

In other words, Brownell had the public memo in his safe to set off his blast at least three months ago, but held his fire for the sake of political timing.

Incidentally, Brownell has dozens of other secret FBI memos on suspects, including accusations embarrassing to both Democrats and Republicans. Unlike White, however, most of the accused are still living, so Brownell has refused to let the charges go public until he is prepared to back them up in court. That's why some of the names will come out through the Jenner committee.

Mrs. Warren's Birds

CHIEF Justice Earl Warren was chatting about things non-legal with Mrs. Henry Schultz during the recent Anti-Defamation League dinner honoring President Eisenhower. They were talking about hobbies.

"Mrs. Schultz," said the Chief Justice of the United States, "my wife once had a hobby that almost drove me crazy. She collected some lovely canaries and finches. At one time, we actually had 50 canaries and finches around our house. When I got home at night I found I couldn't open my mouth without fear of having one of those finches fly right into it."