THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1954

Hawaiian Red Issue Has Been Distorted

ONE OF MANY national issues about which much is said and little is done is Hawaiian statehood. Opponents and advocates of statehood long ago exhausted all the arguments on both sides, and now merely repeat themselves and embellish the old arguments. One of the most embellished arguments against statehood is that Communists have a great influence there.

This argument is frequently used by some southern politicians. Sen. Eastland of Mississippi said admission of Hawaii would "place on the floor of the Senate of the United States two senators who, if not Communists, would be subject to influence from Moscow." Tom Linder, Georgia's commissioner of agriculture, said that "90 per cent" of the Hawaiians are Communists.

The truth is that Hawaii's senators would probably be Republicans, judging from the voting history of the territory, and furthermore they would probably be Republicans opposed to segregation, because of Hawaii's traditional disregard of color lines. These two facts readily explain the vehemence of some southerners' opposition to statehood.

Regarding actual Communist influence in Hawaii two points should be made.

First, if communism there is a particular threat, it will be so whether Hawaii becomes a state or remains a territory.

Second, the Senate Interior & Insular Affairs Committee, headed by conservative Republican Sen. Butler of Nebraska, heard testimony pro and con, including that of opponents Judge Stainback and Paul Crouch, a former Communist now with the Justice Department. The committee noted Red activity in Hawaii. But it concluded that it "is no more of a threat to the present territorial government or the proposed state government than it is in any of the existing states." Mr. Crouch's boss, Attorney General Brownell, the Eisenhower administration and the Republican leadership in Congress hold similar views.

Likewise, two points should be made regarding the charge by a letter-writer, in today's PEOPLE'S PLATFORM, that the press has been silent about communism in Hawaii.

First, as most everyone knows, statements cannot be accepted as facts merely because they appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Second, the press certainly did report the charges made by Crouch and Stainback. Recently press accounts have dealt primarily with the merger of the Hawaiian and Alaskan statehood bills, which was the most newsworthy aspect of the perennial statehood issue.

The Interior & Insular Affairs Committee's conclusion seems logical enough. The Red threat is recognized in Hawaii as it is elsewhere. But communism's strength there is not sufficient to preclude it from statehood.

Let Foreigners Read Both Sides

AMERICA'S overseas libraries were originally intended to help foreigners understand and thus come to appreciate and respect this country and its policies. The libraries were to be examples of this country's freedom, covering the spectrum of political ideas so that foreign readers could see that Americans expressed widely divergent views. The foreigners could read these conflicting views and then, like people in this country do, arrive at their own conclusions.

Chiefly because of Sen. McCarthy's attack on the overseas library program this concept was narrowed. Extremist and sometimes merely controversial books were taken off the shelves.

Recently the libraries have refused Sen. McCarthy's request to stock copies of his two books, MCCARTHYISM, THE FIGHT FOR AMERICA, and AMERICA'S RETREAT FROM VICTORY. The library officials held that the books are 'not suitable reading" for the program's purposes.

The officials' refusal was in line with their present directive. Perhaps, as some have said, there is poetic justice in their refusal. But more importantly, their decision is tragic and saddening, as was their previous decision not to return to the shelves some of the books Sen. McCarthy assailed.

These decisions were saddening and tragic because they result in misrepresentation of the true America. McCarthy is a part of America, the men he attacked are a part of it, and foreign readers well know that they are. These men are controversial. So is America. How much more effective our overseas information program would be if its officials stocked McCarthy's book, in which he attacked particularly Owen Lattimore and Gen. Marshall, and put next to them Lattimore's ORDEAL BY SLANDER and one of the books about Marshall's truly great fight for America. Say to those who would read them:

Here are two views of a controversy you've been hearing about. Maybe you'll want to look at them along with some of the accounts you may read in other books, magazines and newspapers here.

That is not the McCarthy method, nor the Communist method. It is the sensible, democratic method, based on the premise that individuals can come to sound conclusions when given facts and opposing arguments.

It has been argued that the overseas information program should be used to create a favorable attitude toward this country, that many foreigners unaccustomed to freedom could not evaluate conflicting opinions they might encounter. In practice, however, most overseas library visitors are well-educated, able to draw their own conclusions. Unfortunately, the library officials do not have the funds nor a great desire to take the information program to a grass roots level. Furthermore, Americans will find it difficult to sell other nations on the value of democracy as here practiced if they don't practice it in their overseas information program.

Keep 'Em Short

WE WOULD NOT minimize the serious problems inherent in newspaper mergers, like the recent sale of the WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD to the WASHINGTON POST. But there is an interesting minor result of merger that ought to be explored. How, if mergers continue, will newspaper names be kept reasonably short?

The "new" Washington paper is now laboriously called the WASHINGTON POST & TIMES-HERALD. Up in New York there's the WORLD-TELEGRAM & SUN. In California four names have been combined into the VALLEJO TIMES-HERALD & NEWS-CHRONICLE. And Santa Rosa has what must be a bipartisan PRESS-DEMOCRAT & REPUBLICAN.

We aren't sure what the answer is. Names of papers with an illustrious past are not lightly discarded when they are sold. But if newspaper names get as long as, say, Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Beane—or McDougle, Erwin, Horack & Snepp—there's liable to be outright revolt among the telephone operators and street salesmen.

From The Richmond News-Leader

PIGEONS VS. PEOPLE

OTHERS may sing of crocuses, robins, and pussy willows, but to us spring's surest sign is a flock of pigeons swirling like a water spout onto a freshly-seeded lawn. That sight marks the beginning of three months of war up and down our block between pigeons and people.

One neighbor, working on the scarecrow motif, has already draped strips of gay metal foil on strings cris-crossing his yard about a foot off the ground. It would delight the heart of John Burroughs to see the happy, carefree pigeons strutting about beneath the metal confetti. Another neighbor set up a great box trap in his backyard, but the pigeons, probably guided by the same sixth sense that can bring them unerringly from Patagonia, never enter the trap unless our neighbor is in the living room.

A third friend, given to strong impulses, was awakened last Sunday morning by a hub-bub of cooing and chortling, and, gazing out, was enraged to see a multitude of glossy, sleek birds vacuuming up the seeds he had sown the day before. Bounding from bed, he grabbed the first ammunition that came to hand, a sack of potatoes, as he shot through the kitchen. Flinging open the backdoor, he began to pinwheel potatoes with all his might. For a good 30 seconds the air was a rich mixture of potatoes, pigeons, and profanity; and after that, mashed potatoes and silence.

We read long ago with mild regret how the passenger pigeons used to so populate the wilderness that they broke the branches of the tree where they perched. Then the paleface came and in a few years had slaughtered the beautiful birds to extinction. What we want to know is: How in the name of Daniel Boone did they do it?

It is time for good southern Democrats to get together and decide whether Hawaii is dominated by Republicans or by Communists.

Somerset Maugham, at 80, says he has completely run out of plots. He could do like some other writers and continue using the old ones.—MIAMI HERALD.

The Army has devised a new C ration which will include fruit cake, oat meal cookies and pound cake. This may be a scheme to stimulate recruiting in the areas of the soda counters.—NEW ORLEANS STATES.

". . . it's a subpoena from a Senate Investigating Committee."

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.

News' Editors Should Wise Up

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

I take your paper and like it, but naturally I can't agree with you on everything. Why don't you people wise up?

—WM. L. JOHNSON

McCarthy Helps Himself, Democrats

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

SOME folks keep saying that many people think McCarthy is doing a great job but I don't run across many of them in my contacts with the public from all over the country.

Possibly he is doing a great job but he is surely not doing it for:

1. President Eisenhower.
2. The Republican Party.
3. The Protestant clergy.
4. The great majority of the American people who elected—not his nibs as he seems to think—their president.

Could it be that he has selfish motives?

Here are the ones I believe he is doing a great job for:

1. Himself.
2. The Democratic Party.

—CASUAL OBSERVER

Press Is Too Quiet About Hawaiian Reds

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

THE statehood for Hawaii debate, which is now pending in the Senate, seems to have received a cold shoulder from the "working press of the nation". According to the Congressional Record, the fight against statehood has been led primarily by the southern senators—Eastland of Mississippi, Daniel of Texas, Johnston of South Carolina, and many others. Some argue the fact that the closest island in the group is 2,000 miles off the coast of California, and that the islands themselves are spread over an area of 1,600 miles, with international waters between. Others point to the commonwealth form of government, such as Puerto Rico has, as the proper solution to the situation.

All, however, are greatly concerned with the large Communist following on the islands. Judge Stainback, former Governor of Hawaii, stated before the committee that the International Longshoreman's Workers Union, an ardent proponent for statehood, controls almost every working man in Hawaii, and that a public official cannot be elected in the face of ILWU opposition. This is the same ILWU which was renounced by the CIO because of its Communist leadership. To those who say that Communist influence on the islands is decreasing, Paul Crouch, who organized the Hawaiian Communists and who, since renouncing the Communist Party has proved invaluable to the Justice Department in testifying against his former cohorts, answers that the party has been "kept small" by its leaders. According to Mr. Crouch, the Communist influence on the islands is 20 times greater than in any state in the U. S. Thus says the Congressional Record.

What does the press say? Outside of a casual mention—nothing. It seems that the "crusading" press might have more to present to the public on the questionable precedent we are setting in giving statehood to non-continental areas . . . especially those with such a large Communist following.

Could it be that the same left-wing, international press that has consistently misquoted and misinterpreted Sen. McCarthy in his fight against communism, is now more than ever playing the McCarthy theme in the hopes that statehood for Hawaii will sneak through unnoticed?

—DOROTHY PRESSER

(Editors' Note: See editorial "Hawaiian Red Issue Has Been Distorted.")

Likes Competition In Newspapering

Spartanburg, S. C.

Editors, The News:

HOW fortunate newspaper readers are in Charlotte in having two daily competitive papers can be seen in an article on "The Press and the Common Man," by Alistair Cooke in the Saturday Review of March 13.

He states that he "should have thought (it) very un-American to have so many cities where there is only one newspaper, of a pronounced political bent, or where the morning and evening newspaper are owned by the same company. Is it too much to suggest that the Sherman Act might have a wide field of application here?"

The diversity of opinion and news that is deplored by Cooke is certainly to be found in greater abundance in Charlotte than in most other cities. In my absence my maid was asked by a pollster why I bought Charlotte papers and none published locally. Was I from Charlotte? She told the man I was born here, but just liked the Charlotte papers.

As one who has worked on three papers and tried to study many papers published it is my opinion and lament that the local scene has been all but forsaken. Local news is neglected, goes unpublished not just here but in many cities. Radio stations give so little local news and that at the tail end of the news program.

Local news should be accented and emphasized. The reason it isn't read is that it isn't offered in adequate amounts. Every reader of this can think of much legitimate local news of meetings and happenings that never are published. The accent is on advertising and you won't find many papers in which there is as much news and features as there is advertising.

Cooke surveys the national journalistic lay of the land to report that "American newspapers are unrepresentative of the whole community and are becoming even more so . . . It is the editor who should be the brains and the conscience of the paper. The intrusion of the publisher, on editorial policy . . . deranges the proper function of a newspaper and makes it primarily a business or an annex of partisan political power."

—J. WILSON HARRISON

News Should Carry A. M. Radio Schedule

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

SOMETIMES I get so mad at The News, I pick up the radio page to see when a morning or early afternoon program comes on—and then I remember that I have to check the morning paper to find out, just because The News won't list radio programs on Charlotte stations before 3 p.m.

You carry the complete TV Schedule for both Charlotte stations. (We prefer radio to TV, thank you.) Don't you think radio people deserve as much as the TV crowd?

—MRS J. L. FINKLER

Better Live Right, For Children's Sake

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

EVERY day you read where some young boys have committed a crime and I often wonder what kind of home life they had. I heard of a mother visiting a son in prison and she threw her arms around him and cried and he pushed her away and said: You are to blame for me being here. You never taught me to live right.

I wonder today how many dads and mothers have a Christian home, one where the Bible is read and a prayer said every night.

Think of your children and live right.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Look For Counter Measures If 5 Million Unemployed

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Eisenhower is now getting an almost daily briefing on the economic situation. When he said at his press conference on Wednesday that he saw no need for "slam bang" action on the economic front, it was reflecting, of course, the combined best judgment of the men who brief him.

Chief among the briefers are the President's three-man Council of Economic Advisors; his special economic assistant, Dr. Gabriel Hauge; and—the man he listens to most carefully—Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey. These men unanimously agree that there is no clear and present danger of the economic down trend getting out of hand. Yet it is worth noting that the President left the door very much open to strong action in the future. And this suggests two questions which need to be answered.

If the down trend continues, at what point will the administration decide that the time for counter measures has come? And what sort of action will the administration take?

The President and his advisers have not, of course, defined in advance the precise point at which action will be taken. Yet they do have a fairly clear picture of the sort of economic situation which would demand strong counter measures.

If unemployment climbs to around 8 per cent of the total labor force—a bit over five million unemployed—and if other economic factors show a "net negative drift," strong counter measures will then be in order.

MARCH FIGURES AWAITED

For human and political as well as economic reasons, the employment figures will be the most important in arriving at a judgment. In a press conference statement on Feb. 17, in fact, the President used no other criteria, when he said that "we would have a definite warning" if employment did not "begin to turn up" in March.

The figures for March will not be available until mid-April, but the expectation is that there will be another slight increase in unemployment. Yet unless something suddenly goes very wrong, there is no intention of taking counter measures until the whole economic picture for the spring begins to be available towards the end of May.

Even if unemployment is pushing up to the five million mark by that time, "slam bang" action will not necessarily be taken. The President's advisers point out that in 1949, under the Truman administration, unemployment almost reached 5,000,000. The Democrats took no strong counter measures, but the economy righted itself naturally, even before the Korean War began.

Yet if there are other bad signs as well — if income and production dip again, if the current construction boom suddenly slackens, above all if there are sharp reductions in business spending for plants and equipment — then the administration will act. According to present planning, if the worse comes to the worse, this action will fall into three main phases.

Phase one will consist of executive action, like lowering interest rates further and generally adopting an all-out easy money policy. This will cause sharp pain to Secretary Humphrey, a hard money man from way back. But if it must be done it will be done.

TAX CUT, PERHAPS

If this limited surgery fails, more radical surgery will be proposed to Congress, in the form of another across-the-board cut in income taxes, probably of 10 per cent. This too will be done with infinite reluctance, and there is no intention of adopting the Democratic proposal for an increase in personal exemptions. But again, what must be done, will be done.

Finally, if the economy still looks like taking a real nose-dive, massive expenditures for public works will be proposed. This will only be done if there seems to be absolutely no other way out. But if the Eisenhower administration decides to prime the pump, the pump will be primed in a way to make Franklin D. Roosevelt look like a piker.

Republicans Unhappy About Their Legislative Record

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

SEN. Homer Capehart, a forthright Republican politician from Washington, Ind., rose on the Senate floor and the cats began jumping out of the bag at a really notable pace.

Within a brief space, the senator had demonstrated clearly that:

Republicans are extremely nervous about their tax bills, so much so that when a tax cut bandwagon comes along, their leaders can't be sure of holding their lines.

They are not happy about the legislative schedule whose results so far have been negative with respect to a GOP record but affirmative for the opposition in that the Democrats have appeared unified, harmonious and generally victorious.

There is not so far a Republican Party line which individual senators feel bound to respect and committee chairmen are pushing their special interests without allowing time for senators to study the effect on their local situations.

Senator Capehart's state is famous for its practical politics and he sees no reason to apologize for it. "I want to be practical and fair," he said repeatedly as he gave the GOP tax applecart a large push and eventually overturned it to a significant degree.

Capehart spoke up as the Senate was preparing to vote on the House excise tax cuts — an election year sweetener not in the original Eisenhower tax program. Sen. Douglas of Illinois had offerred an amendment to add household appliances to the favored industries without much more hope than to put most Democrats at least on record for it.

Household appliances are largely manufactured in Indiana and Capehart complained he had hardly seen the bill, much less had a chance to study the Douglas amendment. Yet he was being deluged, he admitted, with telegrams favoring it. Ears perked up quickly on both sides of the aisle.

Chairman Millikin of the Finance Committee tried but failed to stem Capehart's aggrieved eloquence, part of which he directed at the Chavez ouster proceedings. These, said Capehart, consumed two days when the fact was they might better have been delayed for 10 years.

This was public revelation of dissatisfaction which had already begun to seep out of the cloakrooms. The Republican effort to oust Democrat Chavez of New Mexico had failed as any realistic appraisal of its chances would have shown it would. Since no personal wrongdoing was charged to Sen. Chavez, the debate was set in a political frame of reference which lent itself to a rousing partisan fight.

In that debate Republicans came off an embarrassing second-best. They were shown to be asking the Senate to oust a Democratic member because his state's elections were mismanaged while leaving a Republican governor elected at the same time free to appoint a Republican to the vacancy. When they attempted to stipulate that the vacancy should not be filled until a general election, Democrats hooted that they were telling a governor not to obey the Constitution.

It was too much for five Republicans who voted with the Democrats against the ouster while several others quietly found business elsewhere. The Democrats broke all records by being present every one and, with the exception of Sen. Chavez who stood aside, all voting no.

It added up to a disagreeable setback, galling to many Republicans who acrimoniously declared it could have been foreseen.

Other major issues on which the Republican leaders have been outmaneuvered are the the Bricker amendment and statehood for Hawaii. A substitute Bricker amendment not wanted by President Eisenhower is still hanging over their heads. Hawaii is tied to Alaska now in a statehood bill whose chances of reaching the White House are dim.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Rep. Velde's Committee Is Disunited

WASHINGTON

HERE are some of the backstage reasons why members of the House Committee on Un-American Activities are aroused over its operations and why the ranking Republican, Congressman Pat Kearney of New York, recently issued a public statement calling the committee setup "rotten."

The committee has some devoted, conscientious members and investigators. However, bickering among the highly paid staff who draw annual salaries of $197,000, is so bitter that some congressmen on the committee say privately that only the discovery of "another set of pumpkin papers" can restore its prestige and morale.

Chairman Velde of Illinois, now fighting for re-election and the chief cause of the bickering, knows he has to come up with something spectacular to save face, but in his efforts to do this so far, he has simply managed to pull more and more boners—such as subpoenaing Harry Truman.

Here's the run-down on the key figures on the staff. It's a huge staff with an annual payroll which eats up all but $78,000 of the committee's $275,000 appropriation.

Charles E. McKillips — A third-rate committee investigator, he's frequently in hot water. He's so inept that on more than one occasion congressmen have been advised that "someone is trying to impersonate a committee investigator." It was no impersonator, however. It was just McKillips.

At the time of the "pumpkin papers" discovery, McKillips almost got fired because as a "gag" he deliberately posed sleeping in front of the committee safe. The safe contained the pumpkin papers and McKillips was assigned to guard them. The picture of the "sleeping" McKillips was carried by the wire services coast to coast, and the committee members failed to detect anything funny about it.

More recently the committee voted to drop McKillips after he submitted expense vouchers which included the cost of a trip to the Atlantic City race track. When he was not dropped, Congressman Kearney asked his fellow Republican, Congressman Velde, why McKillips was still on the payroll.

"I have overruled our action," Chairman Velde replied.

George Williams — Investigator, former FBI man, was in charge of the investigation of Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam which backfired. He joined the committee in April, 1953, through the influence of his sister, Patsy Rhodes, who is secretary to Congressman Moulder of Missouri, a committee member. Salary: $9,211.28.

Dolores Anderson—She's the fiancee of Chairman Velde, is an A-1 stenographer and accompanies him on various business trips. Because of her closeness to Velde she's a real backstage power and is feared by other staff members. This adds to the committee bickering.

Leslie Scott—An Illinois newspaperman and publisher. Scott's job is to check on Velde's constituents and help his re-election campaign. He owns The Lacon Home Journal and The Toluca Star Herald, both in Velde's district, but draws a salary of $6,927.78 from the taxpayers.

Earl Fuoss—Is a former FBI man, leader of one of the warring factions that's splitting the committee. Though not a heavyweight, Fuoss has considerable power since he's largely responsible for getting Robert Kunzig named as committee counsel, and Kunzig knows it.

Robert Kunzig is committee counsel. Politically active in Pennsylvania, he was an Eisenhower delegate to the Chicago Republican convention. Other staff members regard him as one who uses his position to play favorites. He was responsible for subpoenaing Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughn, which backfired. When asked by committee members why he issued the subpoena, he explained: "The McCarthy committee was taking this up and I thought we should get in the act."

Tom Beale—chief clerk, is older than most staff members, quiet, conscientious, competent.

Courtney Owens, Donald Appell, Bill Wheeler are committee investigators. All are topnotch men.

Jackson Jones is an able young investigator and a hard worker. Jones was fired while the committee was holding hearings in Chicago because he refused to cooperate with Kunzig. Other committee members have demanded that he be retained.