

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1954

**Indochina Crisis Is Straining Anglo-American Alliance**

By THE ALSOPPS

**WASHINGTON**—The partnership between Britain and America, which has been the core of free world strength through eight perilous years, is now far nearer the breaking point than most people suppose.

This is no mere slanging match between the irresponsibles, like Britain's Aneurin Bevan and our Sen. McCarthy. Extreme mutual bitterness now prevails in the highest and most responsible quarters in both London and Washington. There has been nothing like it since the Anglo-American partnership was forged in the fires of war.

The cause is the Indochina crisis. The issue, essentially, is whether or not the free world can afford a vast Munich in the Far East. But in order to understand why the leading Western governments are now nursing violent grievances against each other, one must take the problem by stages.

U. S. FAULT

The first fault was undoubtedly American. The Eisenhower administration waited far too long to face the facts in Indochina. Then, when the facts absolutely had to be faced, Secretary of State Dulles took London and the other allied capitals completely by surprise. The surprise was his speech calling for "united action" to save Indochina from Communism. The suddenness of our decision, the failure to consult about it, left the British naturally nervous and resentful.

Nonetheless, the prospects were still not bad on April 19, when Secretary Dulles reached London to discuss his united action plan. Britain would join in immediate discussion of the ways and means of united action. This was to show the Communists that the Western powers were united and ready to act if need be.

EDEN RENEGED

The next fault—and a very big fault too—was the state abandonment of Eden's second commitment to Dulles. Joint talks about the united action plan were to have begun at the State Department on April 19, just before Secretary Dulles' departure for Geneva. The representatives of France, the Asian countries and the interested Asian nations were actually convening when the word came from the British Embassy that Eden had reneged.

The word was that the British ambassador, Sir Roper Liddell, had unfortunately been instructed to join the discussion afterwards. The insipient breach was covered up for the time being by hastily transforming the meeting into a conference of Korea. But the effect of Britain's change of front was to leave the western negotiators at Geneva without even a busted flush in their hands, while the enemy opened the game with the dread ace of Dien Bien Phu.

Various explanations for Britain's change of front were offered to Dulles by Eden. The real explanation seems to have lain in British politics. The Conservative government greatly fears its own

public opinion, at a time when a general election probably impends. Unfortunately for Britain, it was self-righteous about it. The word was officially passed in London that "Dulles was bluffing" and that "Congress would never go along" with "united action" or any other kind of action to save Indochina.

The American policy makers who have been so deadly earnest ever since they took their first grim decision five years ago were pleased to hear that the Foreign Office knew more about Congress than the President and secretary of state of the United States.

TALKS WITH FRENCH

More scars were left when a British veto prevented American air strikes to relieve the heroic Dien Bien Phu garrison. Then the fall of Dien Bien Phu and the total impotence of the Communist negotiators at Geneva brought the Anglo-American quarrel to its present stage. The main issue in this stage is the Franco-American discussions of the conditions of American intervention in Indochina. Ambassador C. Douglas Dillon and Prime Minister Joseph Laniel are doing the talking in London.

This discussion was begun by French request. It has already led to an American policy decision, reviewed in the Presidential press conference, that if necessary we will intervene to save Indochina even if the British do not join the party.

Thus the Anglo-American partnership is in effect in abeyance already.

The independence of recent American actions, the danger that they may lead to a Far Eastern war, have alarmed and outraged our neighbors. In Washington, there is equal outrage and alarm over London's apparent willingness to accept a Far Eastern status quo.

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**The South Respects The Law**

**T**he South's reaction to the Supreme Court's decision on school segregation has been an admixture of disappointment, surprise, maturity and seriousness. To be sure, shrill voices have been heard. But calmness has characterized the response of most of the press, political leaders and men in the street. The ruling of the court is respected, rather than mocked.

This attitude was apparent at the State Democratic convention in Raleigh Thursday. Keynote speaker Gayle drew a round of applause when he said that as good citizens "we have no other course except to obey the law as laid down by the court. To do otherwise would cost us our respect for law and order. And if we lost that in these critical times we will have lost that quality which is the source of our strength as a state and as a nation."

The delegates acted officially in similar manner when they tabled a resolution critical of the Supreme Court and condemned "without reservation" any effort of men, singly or in organized

groups, to set themselves above the law.

This responsible attitude of southerners deserves the notice of authorities who will eventually be charged with enforcement of the court order. If the authorities do not flaunt their power, but approach the problem mindful of its enormity, solutions will be found.

A further point needs to be made, and it is that a special session of the General Assembly, to consider the school segregation problem, would be unnecessary at this time. After the Council of State, the State Board of Education and State Department of Public Education have studied the problem, and after the Supreme Court's rehearing and decision on enforcement of its order, legislative action will doubtless be necessary, but hardly before the regular session of the General Assembly begins in January. Legislators elected to it next Saturday will probably bear a heavy responsibility for working out an orderly integration of the schools, an obligation which the Senate itself has voluntarily set their representatives.

**Other Senators Should Support Gillette**

**S**EN. GILLETTE yesterday pinned the responsibility for Sen. McCarthy's excesses where it rests most heavily—on the U. S. Senate.

He noted that the Constitution states that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. He charged Sen. McCarthy with violating constitutional liberties of citizens.

The Senate could clip McCarthy's wings in several ways. First, the authority that has been delegated to his committee and subcommittee. It could prescribe the rules under which the committees operate. It could withhold their funds, and change their personnel.

to apply these curbs on McCarthy. For example, only one senator, Fulbright, voted against providing funds for the committee which McCarthy heads.

Sen. Gillette's speech indicates that at least one more senator has decided that the Senate itself must take stronger measures against McCarthy. Sen. Flanders' speech a few months ago, in which he strongly denounced McCarthy, suggests that a move now against McCarthy within the Senate would have some support from both sides of the aisle.

Other senators should step forward too, and finally cut down to size the dangerous, reckless man who has degraded the Senate.

**Two Industries' Effect On N. C. Wages**

**"I**n North Carolina is to expand industrial employment, and increase its average income substantially. It will have to look to the more complex industries which demand higher skills and require larger capital investments but which also pay higher wages."

So concluded Dr. B. U. Ratcliff, professor of economics at Duke University, when he discussed means of raising the state's per capita income before editorial writers in Chapel Hill recently.

One newly-arrived North Carolina industry, electrical and electronics equipment, exemplifies the type of industry which meets Dr. Ratcliff's sound specifications. Another newcomer, the needle trade, is an example of the kind of low-pay, semi-skilled industry the state is already overburdened with.

In 1939 there were three electrical and electronics equipment plants in the state, employing 66 persons. By 1947, its plants employed 5,023 workers. Now 40 plants employ 22,000 Tar Heels.

During the past seven years these plants have invested \$42 million in new construction and plant modernization. The work demands considerable skill and wages are fairly high. The average weekly earnings of production workers in the industry last year were \$71.55, and most of the companies are large, nationally-known plants that maintain little if any wage differential between workers in North and South. That wage compares with from \$41.29 to \$56.55 paid North Carolina hosiery and textile workers (November, 1953). Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the \$62.08 paid in the tobacco industry, which along with textiles, accounts for about two thirds of the state's manufacturing.

The needle trade has been coming, principally from New York, to several southern states. South Carolina apparently has more of this new industry than other southern state, according to an article by Harry L. Golden in *Concessions* Waresay, with chapters in Columbia, Greenville and Spartanburg. In North Carolina small sewing

shops are found here in Charlotte, in Monroe and in Asheboro.

Shop owners say they're getting away from "the rackets" up north. Certainly it is true that they're getting away from paying moderate wages. Garment workers in New York average about \$80 a week. Nationally, the average weekly wage in 1952 ranged from \$43 to \$59, depending on the kind of garment. Last November, the average pay in the industry in this state ranged from \$34.27 to \$37.47. According to Golden, the average South-wide wage in the garment industry is \$24.

Needless to say, the state needs the kind of high-pay industry typified by the electrical and electronics equipment industry.

However, the garment industry deserves no particular welcome so long as it pays North Carolinians little more than half of what it paid New Yorkers.

It presents yet another example of an intrastate industry which ought to be covered by a state minimum wage law similar to the federal wage law.

**Vote Next Saturday**

**I**N CASE you're planning a week end away from home soon remember this: There is one place where every responsible citizen will be next Saturday, and that is at his voting place.

Civilians may not absent ballots in the general election next fall, but only service personnel and hospitalized veterans can cast absentee ballots in the May 29 primary, a week from today.

The polls open at 6:30 a. m., early enough for you to vote before taking off on a trip. They stay open until 6:30 p. m.

If you don't vote, you can hardly put the blame for the kind of office-holders elected on anyone but yourself, and others like you.

**News Is Okay, But Has Too Many Ads**

**REASON** stands no chance these days when it collides with "practical politics." — Chathamcooga News-Free Press.

**MY** FIRST comment will be that during the past 12 years when The News has been in our home, it has been of the utmost efficiency in the coverage of public interests, political news and world events.

The Republican platform called for two years and was the proud recipient of the annual "Trip To Charlotte." While there, I saw The News in action and saw the efficiency of such men

as Mr. Ripper of your circulation department. It is indeed very grateful for the articles which have appeared concerning the Festival. They were excellently written and show an intelligent grasp of what we are trying to accomplish in our school music program. All of our music teachers have expressed genuine appreciation for your help.

— OLIVER COOK, Director  
 Charlotte City Schools.

**WE** should welcome a change of performers in the American view this still another nail in the Communist position already unyieldingly rigid. Outwardly, of course, the American view is that on Indochina we shall still go on trying to create the position of the Communists at one extreme for a simple cease-fire and the Bidault proposal for a controlled armistice at the other extreme.

No westerner can tell what is being said within the Communist cabinet but it is not hard to imagine them, or, at any rate, the Chinese saying very much the same things about the rigidity of the American position. Certainly, there are some obvious embarrassments in that position.

For example, it has been impossible in spite of every effort

appointed to the Supreme Court. It was brought out that he had been a member of the Ku Klux Klan. Despite that, he became a Justice.

"In a small way," said Lee, "I hope I can do on the FCC what Black did on the Supreme Court."

While you don't win a mile race with a 100-yard dash, Commissioner Lee seems to be trying hard to achieve his goal.

Speaking before the Industrial Communications Association on the energy, he told them the government could not set aside certain wage-lengths for factory communication.

"It would be like the impossible task of allocating public roads for the exclusive use of individual trucking and transportation companies," Lee said.

Commissioner Lee's advice was: "Use Western Union, Bell Telephone and normal business channels' stores."

More recently, Lee has started a quiet campaign against wire-tapping. The record of a tap on a telephone conversation, he points out, can be changed. It can be cut and distorted, just like the cropped photo of Secretary of the Army Stevens and Pvt. Schirne. This is something, argues Commissioner Lee, which Attorney General Brownell didn't realize when he proposed the legislation of wire-tapping.

**'And What's New With You?'**



Letter should be brief. The writer's 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.

**City Should Have Downtown Comforts**

**EDITORS**, The News: AS a resident of Charlotte I can't help but compare Charlotte with other cities much smaller. Downtown Charlotte does not offer the shopper or stranger anything worthwhile. Not a branch or restaurants.

I can't help but notice the old people wandering around with no place to sit down to chat with old friends. The old ones don't want to stay in the house or their rooms all day. If you stop on the sidewalk to discuss the weather, the police will tell you to move on.

I would like to see our city move out of the hick stage and set aside some place downtown where the weary shopper, the stranger, the cripple, and the old can get some comfort.

— H. E. MARKS  
 P. S.: I am 80 years old.

**Music Festival Aided By The News**

**EDITORS**, The News: I WANT to thank you for your help in connection with our recent Music Festival. The publication of these articles was of

prime importance, since of course the majority of people are unable to attend the performances. However, everybody reads The News, and I am sometimes tempted to believe that what appears in print is of more importance than what people see or hear in actual performance.

We are indeed very grateful for the articles which have appeared concerning the Festival. They were excellently written and show an intelligent grasp of what we are trying to accomplish in our school music program. All of our music teachers have expressed genuine appreciation for your help.

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**Ike Should Welcome Change Of Performers**

**WITH** reference to an article in Saturday's paper by Mr. Daniel Delaford, entitled "The Day Entertainment Is Plumb Ridiculous," it seems to me that since Mr. Ike was so strong for a change of performers, that he would certainly welcome one now.

With the daily performances that the Republicans have been staging in Washington, D. C., between the hours of 11 a. m. and 4:40 p. m. for the past three weeks by a group of professional performers, I would certainly welcome the change to see a group of amateurs perform.

— LAVEENE McINNIS

**Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round**

**P**RESIDENT Eisenhower has become almost giddy about the subject of Alaskan statehood.

The other day, John Butrovich, a member of the Alaskan Senate, called at the White House to remind the President that the Republican platform called for Alaskan statehood, as well as Hawaiian, and that the Alaskan people wanted action on both issues.

"We pay the same federal taxes that are paid by the people in the 48 states," Mr. Butrovich declared bluntly. "But we have no voice in making the federal laws, including the tax laws."

"There was an edge on Ike's voice as he shot back:

"I fully appreciate your interest, but statehood for Alaska is not a one-sided question. There are other considerations that must be taken into account."

Eisenhower didn't elaborate as to what those considerations were, but it's reported one of them is "security."

Some observers are unkind enough to point out that the White House didn't become concerned about security until after the Senate voted, 37 to 28, to approve statehood for both Alaska and Hawaii. They suggest Ike's chief worry is the probability that Alaska would send two Democratic senators to Washington.

**People's Platform**

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**ON DOODLE-BUG FISHING**

**F**IRST time in 60 years that somebody hasn't invited or somehow prompted me to go fishing on Easter Monday," writes O. J. in "Shucks and Nubbins" of the GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS. "Well, there's grass high enough in the backyard to land a doodle-bug, Lordie!"

The grass ought to be nice and long all right. If it isn't, a wild-onion shoot will do.

You find a blade of Johnson that suits you, one with a good stiff end from where you pulled it from its wrapping, and dab it in a soft place where you spit on the ground.

The mudded end down a doodle-bug hole—that's why you've got to have a good-long piece of grass or else a wild-onion top—and wait till if wiggles. That's when you yank the doodle-bug, holding on for dear life.

If there's no wiggle you chant, "Doodle-bug, doodle-bug, raise me on fire."

The doodle-bug bites then and you pull him out—a soft, pale, grub, squashy if he don't wobble out, with scissors-like jaws.

There was a great big boy in our community whose head was touched, as country people say in their everlasting charity, by the hand of the Lord and who remained a child in all but size. What a doodle-bug catcher he was! His mama's chickens came running every time he plucked a bit of grass, maybe just to taste, they were so certain of his catch.

He chewed tobacco, though, and the rest of us always thought that made him just more attractive. And you know, he never did say "Doodle-bug, doodle-bug, raise me on fire." What he said was "Doodle-bug, doodle-bug, have some pie."