

A Way To Raise Medical Standards

AT ITS Pinehurst convention this week, the N. C. Medical Society, by a voice vote, tabled a proposal to admit Negro doctors to membership. The proposal had been advanced by the Guilford County society, and was supported by delegates from the Mecklenburg, Buncombe, and Durham-Orange societies. In all, 32 of the 141 members of the House of Delegates had been instructed to vote for admission of qualified Negro doctors to membership.

Opponents contended that Negro membership in the state society would make it difficult to obtain desirable convention hotel accommodations, and that it would create a problem in arranging the convention's social activities.

Within the framework of current race relations in North Carolina, those contentions have some merit. But they raise an important question: In their preoccupation with convention by-products of Negro membership, did the doctors not lose sight of a bigger objective, the urgent need for improving the professional standards of Negro doctors in North Carolina?

No newspaper has any right to suggest to doctors or any other professional group that they should embrace new social relationships far more advanced than prevailing customs of the society in which they live. In the choosing of one's social friends, there will always be discrimination, and it is not limited to the races.

But improvement in the training of Negro doctors, the provision of better

hospital facilities for the use of Negro doctors, and uplifting the standards of Negro doctors through association and consultation at the professional level are the direct responsibility of the medical profession. The public has been shut out of this area by laws which authorize the medical profession to set its own standards of training and practice.

But the public is not voiceless. There is an increasing public demand for better hospital facilities and better medical and health standards for Negroes. In Charlotte, that public demand is being expressed through a special committee formed by the Social Planning Council which is now seeking the best way to give Negroes better medical facilities and standards.

Next Tuesday the Mecklenburg County Medical Society is to consider a motion to amend its constitution and by-laws by deleting references to the white race wherever they appear. This will open the doors to qualified Negro members.

The arguments advanced at Pinehurst do not apply to the local society. The social activities of the profession are not involved. The only question is whether the profession will make available to Negro doctors the opportunity to increase their knowledge and skill and lift their ethical standards by associating with white doctors in a purely professional capacity.

It will further the cause of better medicine for Negroes and it will fulfill the legal and moral obligations of the profession. If that question is answered in the affirmative.

Differences Are Being Smoothed Out

LAST WEEK President Eisenhower temporarily forgetting that a whisper in the American White House may become a roar by the time it reaches across the oceans, told his press conference that the American delegates at Geneva were "trying to arrive at a 'modus vivendi'—a way of getting along—with the Communists in the Far East."

The remark was "widely interpreted at home and abroad to mean that the President had pulled the rug out from under Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and his 'united action' program for resisting further Red expansion in the Far East. Mr. Dulles' decision to leave Geneva and return to Washington for conference seemed to fit into this interpretation.

Yesterday Mr. Eisenhower clarified the confusion. He not only declared his unqualified support for Secretary Dulles' efforts to form a united front against communism in Southeast Asia, but he went one step further. He issued a formal statement which would help to bolster France's diplomatic position in the Geneva talks. Speaking specifically of the united front project, the President said:

"In the fact that such an organization is in process of formation could have an important bearing upon what happens

at Geneva during the Indochina phase of the conference.

Since the beginning of the cold war, it has been the strategy of the Communists to split the free nations into factions, and they have used every weapon in the arsenal of diplomacy and propaganda. At times they have had unflinching but influential help from Communists on both sides of the Atlantic who play for domestic votes by criticizing allies.

Fortunately, the coalition of free nations has held together despite the increasing strains and irritations. The alliance was stretched perilously thin when the U. S. announced a policy of "instant retaliation . . . at times and places that we choose" against major aggression. This seemed to be a threat of atomic warfare, and it caused shudders of apprehension in those European capitals that would be the most vulnerable targets for Soviet atomic and hydrogen bombs. The alliance was stretched further by Secretary Dulles' demand for a "united action" in Southeast Asia before he had quietly lined up pledges of support for intervention in Indochina.

President Eisenhower's press conference discussion of the united front project indicated that differences are now being smoothed out, and his expression of optimism that the project will show progress should help speed it along.

Forsyth Pioneers In Driver Training

DRIVER training is high on the list of Motor Vehicle Commissioner Ed Scheidt's recommendations for reducing highway accidents, for good reasons. North Carolina ranks 46th among the states in student enrollment in driver education. One out of eight Tar Heel students takes a driving course in school; some states have 100 per cent student participation. Drivers in their teens and early twenties are involved in more accidents than in any other age group; thus training the younger crowd down on accidents in their age group. A three-year survey in Vermont showed that trained young drivers had one-fourth as many accidents as untrained drivers. In every public school in the state, "we in the free world continue along with the full light of publicity on what we are doing."

Thus North Carolinians should take notice of what Forsyth County has just

done to equip its youngsters for the highways. This week the Forsyth County Board of Education unanimously decided that, beginning next year, completion of a course in driver education will be compulsory for graduation from high schools in the county. The course will consist of at least 30 hours of classwork and six hours behind the wheel.

In Mecklenburg County driving courses are available in some schools, on a voluntary basis. We believe the local boards of education should consider following Forsyth's example, and that prospective General Assemblymen should support the effort. It is likely to make next year, "in every public high school in the state," as Gov. William Umstead recommended in his inaugural address.

Legislation now is pending that would set up a joint congressional committee for the CIA, just as a joint congressional committee exists as a check on the Atomic Energy Commission. This is sound legislation and should be passed. Mr. Dulles is a charming fellow, but he has powers that, in our view, are far more consistent with the sinister powers of a Gestapo or a Russian NKVD than with the traditions of a free America.



They Fight For Us

The Men At Dien Bien Phu

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALOP

WASHINGTON
As these words are written, the perimeter of Dien Bien Phu is a total area of hardly more than half a square mile.

The Communist enemy holds the heights around the little hotel in the war-scarred jungle. His big guns, his mortars small and great, his lesser arms, all pour their creeping fire into the narrow space of the fortress—which is a fortress more by virtue of simple human courage than of barbed wire and machine guns.

The murderous, terrible fire has now gone on, with little slackening, for so many weeks that day must follow day, night none to count the time. By night, the attackers come on, screaming their battle cries, plunging up the barbed wire, fighting hand to hand with the defenders in the hot, steaming darkness.

By day, the enemy saps his way forward to the earthworks of the perimeter, to prepare his next attack. And the exhausted defenders throw up new earthworks: string new barbed wire and pour out their blood in counter-attacks, to regain vital ground that has been lost by night.

Within the fortress, the weather is a life and death matter; for the heavy tropic rains have begun, and all depends upon air support and air reinforcement. If the day drags without too much an overcast, then the bombers will come to drive down the enemy, to clear these men who have volunteered to join a fight that the world regards as hopeless. There have been many of these volunteers from the French Indochinese Army—150 in just one of the last days. Their act is one of the bright spots in the story of a glorious feat of arms.

Of the 14,000 defenders of the fortress, few now lack wounds of some sort, but ordinary wounds are treated as things of little consequence. Those who can fight, fight. But those who cannot fight, now number nearly one-third of the total. They are a great weight, a heavy burden, that the still-fighting men cheerfully bear, from the knowledge in each man's heart that his turn may come at any time.

In all, there are perhaps 10,000 men who can still fight, of the French parachute battalions, the Legion, the Moroccans, the Algerians and the Viet-Namites. They now stand against the furious onslaught of an ever-increasing force of the enemy. Yet Christian de Castries, the sardonic, instantly brave leader of the defense, continues to inform headquarters that the danger at Dien Bien Phu is somewhat exaggerated.

That is how one pictures the fight at Dien Bien Phu. If one has seen anything of this Indochina war and the French and colonial army that has fought it.

ARE FRIENDS THERE?
Are the friends one made when one was there in this fight at Dien Bien Phu? How about the acquaintance of Washington states, who said, "It was such a relief to be in Indochina after the infernal Pentagon?" Is he there too?

It is impossible not to wonder about these men, and how many of them are still alive, and how many, to hurry every morning to find out whether the French flag still flies over Dien Bien Phu, in the infernal war that has been waged in the narrow perimeter where the few days the enemy, maybe, as these words are written, are still fighting.

Following this, Adm. Radford stepped off in London to try his luck with Churchill. Radford is considered one of the most dynamic men in Washington. In fact, he won his job as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff partly by his persuasive personality. For when President-elect Eisenhower stepped off at two Jims on his trip to Korea, Radford took him for an hour's walk while the plane refueled, and during that time sold him on a lot of ideas such as rebuilding Chiang Kai-shek's Navy for use against the Chinese mainland.

He was so impressed that he asked

de Castries and his brave men. No one can tell. If they are overwhelmed, we shall know soon enough that these men have fought for us and for free world, by their weakness and delays, by their unsuccesses and their compromises, the leaders of the West have contrived to make the fight at Dien Bien Phu into a great world turning point. Here, in this Indochina valley, the dam can break and the flood of communism can pour over Asia. If that is to happen, the chain-reaction of disaster will quickly teach us to see the full and desperate import of this fight around fearful odds halfway across the world.

People's Platform

Doctors' Action

Prompts A Question

Charlotte

Editors, The News:
THE news about the recent decision of the North Carolina Medical Society to exclude practicing Negro physicians came as a really shocking surprise. And to top it all off their flimsy excuse (noted in an earlier AP report) about inadequate hospital accommodations for their numbers were to increase is to beg the issue flatly.

I am prompted to ask just one question:
"What would Jesus do?"
—ROBERT H. JOHNSON

Piedmont Salesmen

Pleased By Coverage

Charlotte

Editors, The News:
WE ARE extremely grateful to you and to your good people for all of the time and space that were contributed to the Piedmont Sales Conference.

A great deal of the credit for the success of this conference is due to the excellent publicity that you so generously gave us many weeks before the actual date of the conference. Your paper has always done a wonderful job of publicity in connection with the conference, and this year, in our opinion, you really excelled yourselves.

—J. WILL PATTERSON
Piedmont Sales Conference

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Church Outtaked Radford And Dulles

WASHINGTON
Radford to accompany him on the remainder of the trip to Korea.

Since then Radford has been the only member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to have been interviewed in Indochina. But he has managed to sell Eisenhower on that policy—provided our country is not involved.

So, with Dulles having failed to win Churchill, Adm. Radford himself stepped to the front. The Prime Minister, however, was adamant. He said that American intervention in Indochina would be the biggest mistake the United States could ever make. And Radford, despite his logic and eloquence, could not budge him.

Note—After his talk with Churchill, Radford was suddenly called home. He was told to return to the White House instructions to come back immediately—presumably to report to the National Security Council.

Churchill Outtaked Radford And Dulles

Reason for McCarthy's concern was that Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri has shrewdly asked each ex-FBI man who has testified so far regarding his severe charges that he has established that they all resigned in good standing.

Not so, however, with Surine, Surine, who has been with McCarthy longer than any other investigator and is the man closest to him, was fired from the FBI. That's one reason why McCarthy didn't want Surine called to the witness stand.

Surine was fired in connection with a white slave case in Baltimore.

This fact was developed by the Senate subcommittee, which probed McCarthy's finances in 1951. At first the FBI tried to protect Surine—perhaps because he had been a close liaison between J. Edgar Hoover and McCarthy. Later, when Sen. Hennings of Missouri persisted in wanting to know the full facts regarding Surine, he received an official letter stating that Surine had retired to resign but had not been permitted to return.

Probe Helps Sen. McClellan, But Does Stevens No Good

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
SEN. McClellan, of Arkansas, ranking Democrat on the McCarthy subcommittee, went home last week and to mend some election fences and found out that the Republican family fight was taking care of them nicely.

He is telling his colleagues that he never got a better reception, with even the newspapers that are normally against him giving him helpful advertising. McClellan, of course, fears no Republican, but he is being challenged in the Democratic primary by a vigorous former governor, Sid McMath, and had not been too happy about it.

The senator now feels he has plenty of time to devote to the question of who lied as to the Army and McCarthy. He says he is not fixing to close the show until he finds out. And it is highly improbable that his fellow senators, even including McCarthy, would care to try to make him do so.

McClellan is willing to help expedite the hearings and has been pointedly refraining from using his cross-examination rights to the full. His determination to see through, however, is grim news for Republicans, who hardly bother now to hide the distress they feel over the hearings.

McClellan is widely understood here that prior to his present troubles, Stevens had been scheduled to succeed Deputy Secretary of Defense Kyes and, in time, Mr. Wilson himself.

He is being excused by his friends for his present political naivete and inexperience. He is, they say, too nice to brawl with a McCarthy. It still remains to be explained why he failed to protect his personal dignity from encroachment and his Army from the McCarthy onslaught.

It is just possible that he took too literally the President's admonition to get along with Congress, and that he has open contempt for other senators. But it is all said with a certain detachment.

Secretary Stevens stands out, however, as a sample product of the Eisenhower administration of business. When, from his own mouth, the story is unrelated of the pampering of Pvt. Schine and the obedient and obedient back and call of McCarthy and Cohn, the professional politicians groan.

Stevens had unusual prestige here. He was not just another businessman. He had been chairman in 1952 of that blue-ribbon jury set up by the Department of Commerce, called the Business Advisory Council. The council is purely advisory but its prestige is high.

Two members of the Eisenhower Cabinet, Thomas E. Dewey, Secretary of State, and Defense Secretary Wilson, and Treasury Under Secretary Folsom were on it when it elected Stevens chairman. The sign of confidence and respect from the cream of the business community was duly noted when the Eisenhower advisers worked out the Cabinet and "Little Cabinet" slates.

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How M'Carthyism Damaged U. S. At Geneva Conference

By MARQUIS CHILDS

GENEVA
The West has agreed upon a common position from which to face the Communist challenge at this conference, it is not difficult to see that the Communists are all too painfully evident.

Secretary Dulles worked manfully during the past two weeks to tie together an emergency Asian pact that he hoped would provide temporary cement for the disintegrating situation in Indochina, holding the West to a common objective.

But with this an impossibility it is not surprising that the French can make with the Communists to end the Indochinese war. The French have issued a press conference statement on an arrangement with the Communists in Southeast Asia ended the last chance for the intervention of Dulles proposed a week ago.

The surprise of the Eisenhower remarks served to accentuate Dulles' lonely position at Geneva. American delegates have been conscious that what was transpiring here has been overheard by the concentration back home on the McCarthy hearings. Without a continuity of interest that at least some support, even a line dedicated to his task as Dulles is must feel a sense of futility.

FOREIGN SERVICE HURT

It was the State Department that first felt the full force of McCarthyism, and one consequence has been the serious weakening of the Foreign Service and, therefore, the major source of information on which foreign policy is based. It can hardly have failed to occur to American policymakers that the loss of Indochina could touch off a political barrage and a series of public castigations such as followed the loss of China to the Communists.

In this connection it is noteworthy that the American experts who knew most about China and who might have provided valuable background knowledge at the conference have either been fired or charged with pro-communism or even treason. Or if they were more fortunate they have been exiled to safe, meaning nonpolitical, posts.

If McCarthyism has distracted America, it has distracted best of our allies. In a short time Australia is to have an election, and no one wants to rock the boat, particularly when the Communists conveniently furnished the Petrov case as a campaign issue for the Labor Party. The Australian have followed a cautious line, but at least Foreign Minister Casey, alone among the western leaders, made a speech on the Korean issue.

Within the American delegation is a source of deep resentment and a serious European delegate has come forward to speak. The reason of course, is that the Communists are not supporting America's ally on the Korean peninsula. The reason of course, is that the Communists are not supporting America's ally on the Korean peninsula.

EDEN'S PROBLEMS
While British Foreign Secretary Eden has been under a long-standing Churchillian injunction to go just as far as possible to get along with the Communists, he must constantly bear in mind two things. One is the division of public opinion in Britain, where not only in the Labor Party but also among Conservatives there is a deep dread of involvement in an Asian war which would become a third world conflict.

Second, Eden must never forget the obligation to try to hold the line. He must not let the Communists win. That means the British must consider the sensibilities of Nehru in India and his insistence on both sides of the line that America cannot accept.

As for France, the distractions and divisions are as numerous as the French themselves. The wonder is that Foreign Minister Bidault, a tense, high-strung individual, has made it as far as he has. His troubles with the French Assembly are like those of Dulles with Congress.

For many years the Communists also have their troubles and their conflicts, which get aired in spite of the fact that they are behind the scenes. The Petrov case has been a godsend to the West. It has once again exposed the unending struggle between the Soviet totalitarianism.

Surine also wanted to New York to investigate Assistant Secretary of Defense Alexander Rosenberg, before the erroneous charge was made that she was a Communist. The Senate, however, unanimously rebuffed the charges and confirmed her retention.

Finally the faded picture of Earl Browder and Sen. Tydings, used in the Maryland campaign, is strangely reminiscent of the prime picture of the Secretary of the Army and G. David Schine.

No wonder McCarthy protested so vigorously that the picture of Surine be called to the witness stand. At a lot of people don't realize it—including at this writer and probably the Secretary of the Army—but it was one Dwight D. Eisenhower who played into McCarthy's hands by permitting him to examine intact the returns.

Without an order from the President, it is a penitentiary offense for the Treasury to give returns to anyone, even a senator. However, on Feb. 19, 1953, Eisenhower signed a blanket executive order, No. 10455, giving the McCarthy subcommittee and its investigating committee the power to get any income-tax returns they wanted merely by writing a letter to the Treasury.