

THOMAS L. ROBINSON Publisher
J. E. DOWD General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH Executive Editor
C. A. MCNEIGHT Editor

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U. S. May Defend Thailand, Laos And Cambodia

By THE ALSOPS

A PLAN to guarantee Thailand against Communist aggression is now taking shape within the Eisenhower Administration. The purpose, of course, is to contain the consequences of the smashing Communist victory that now seems likely in Indochina.

Eden talks this week. The chances are good that the final decision will be to offer a military guarantee to Thailand. If so, other Asian nations will certainly be asked to join in the guarantee. Whether or not the French will also be asked to do so, depends on the policy of the new premier, Pierre Mendes-France, and on developments in Indochina.

The French attitude is important. The French attitude is important. The French attitude is important. The French attitude is important.

main Indo-Chinese state of Viet Nam where the Communist riot is now so far advanced. The idea, then, is to join Laos and Cambodia with Thailand, in a federation that would collectively undertake the common defense against Communist attack or aggression.

For State Senator, F. J. (Jack) Blythe

IN THIS FURTHER COMMENT on the Democratic primary election, we shall detail the record of the incumbent state senator, Fred H. McIntyre. That record has been fully revealed to the voters, during the 1953 session of the General Assembly and since. It is enough at this stage to repeat that it was a very poor record, one which does not justify his reelection.

On the contrary, the record made by F. J. (Jack) Blythe when he filled the unexpired portion of his late brother's term in 1949 has stood up under the closest scrutiny. If there was a single occasion when Mr. Blythe acted arbitrarily or capriciously, it has not come to our attention. He always administered great consideration for the House members of the delegation, the elected local officials of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, and the people who voted him to office.

The importance of sending a reasonable man to the state Senate cannot be overstressed. Unless he can work humbly and in good humor with members of the House delegation, constructive local legislation is impossible. And unless he stands well with fellow

senators, he can have no influence beyond his own single vote on statewide legislation.

In 1949, the Mecklenburg delegation handled more than 70 requests for local bills affecting only Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Not once was there an open fight within the delegation; not once did city and county officials come away from Raleigh feeling that their wishes had been ignored; not once did the people back home have reason to fear that a vital service would be cut off, or materially changed, without their approval.

Moreover, Mr. Blythe stood high in the estimate of fellow senators, and his counsel on major statewide legislation was sought by the Senate leadership.

Jack Blythe has been a successful businessman who is widely and favorably known throughout North Carolina. He has proved his ability to represent Mecklenburg County with a sense of balance and proportion. He has earned the opportunity to serve Mecklenburg County once again, and at a time when Mecklenburg desperately needs effective representation in the state Senate.

In sum, he merits your vote on Saturday.

New Rule Would Mess Up Farm Program

MECKLENBURG, like thousands of other counties, has a county Agriculture, Stabilization & Conservation committee. (It used to be called the PMA committee.) It is composed of three farmers, who help administer the police operation of federal farm programs—soil conservation payments, acreage and marketing quotas, and the like. In addition, each of fourteen townships in the county has a three-man committee.

Members of the committees are democratically elected each year by farmers in their county. County committees work on ASC matters one or two days a month—and get \$7 per day for doing so.

Township committees get \$6 per day for their work, which may be only a couple of days each year. Obviously, some of these committees lose money by serving. They serve because they've been chosen by their fellow farmers and they believe their work will help the farm program. Practically every one of the 45 committees in Mecklenburg County has been reelected year after year. This cumulative experience is one of the main reasons for the efficient local administration of the agricultural program.

For these reasons, it is almost incredible that most of these experienced farmers will be ruled ineligible to continue in office, unless a recent Agriculture Department ruling is rescinded or changed.

Last week the department announced that committee members who have served

the past three terms cannot be re-elected. Furthermore, all of the county, state and national officers of farm organizations, like the Farm Bureau, would be ineligible for ASC jobs. The only exception would be this: If all three incumbent members of a committee would be ineligible, one of the three men could continue in office.

The Agriculture Department announced that the new rules are designed to bring about greater participation by farmers. Just how this would be accomplished is difficult to understand. Certainly they would decrease participation and enthusiasm of the thousands of farmers who, as committeesmen, have been the grass roots strength of the agricultural program. They would be understandably resentful of their thankless exclusion from the program. New committee members, unfamiliar with the complicated regulations and formulas, could not explain the program to fellow farmers until they had spent a good deal of time familiarizing themselves with the program. And certainly, at least in some areas, the proposed change would invite political shenanigans, in view of the fact that county committees are county office managers.

The proposed change is as senseless as would be the forced retirement of experienced congressmen and executive department officials or, in private life, incumbent members of a board of directors.

If Agriculture Department officials are at all wise, they will quickly admit their mistake and rescind the order.

A Man With A Plan And Ability

THE distinguishing feature of all recent French governments is that they have been short-lived. There have been about 20 during the post-war years. The new government, under Pierre Mendes-France, may have a particular claim to life, because he has set himself a time limit of one month in which to obtain a settlement of the Indochina conflict. If no satisfactory result is obtained in that time, he said, his government will resign. But the new premier may upset some of the old patterns. For certainly Mendes-France is not the ordinary type of French premier.

For one thing, he is not, as some premiers have been, a mediocrity acceptable to the French legislature only because he hasn't antagonized a majority of his fellows. A brilliant economist and financier who first went to the Assembly at age 23, he has a program of his own. For several years he has demanded an austerity program for France and a sweeping revision of French finances. He long has called for a conclusion to the Indochina War, not certainly, because of Communist sympathies, but because he realized that this colonial war was preventing vital social and economic reforms at home, thus increasing the domestic menace of communism without effectively combating the menace in Indochina. The president of France turned quickly to him. A majority of the Assembly, not counting the Communists, gave him a

substantial vote of approval. Perhaps at last, in desperation, France may be resigning itself to inevitable changes.

His decision to take over the foreign affairs portfolio himself calls attention to one aspect of current French governments that is often overlooked. It is that the French, if fickle regarding their premiers, have been quite consistent regarding foreign ministers. During the post-war years there have been only two others, Robert Schumann and Georges Bidault, except for the month-long incumbency of another during the Blum regime. In other words, there have been fewer French foreign ministers, during this period, than American secretaries of state.

While Mendes-France is not as enthusiastic about the European Defense Community as Schumann and Bidault are, he is a staunch friend of the West. He could be what the doctor ordered for ailing France.

Sharp

NOMINATION for the best Associated editorial of the year—the Associated Press has announced the winner. It was a Washington Friday which opened this way: "A tall, Bibletoting man came to the Capitol today to protest the end of the McCarthy-Army hearings. He was taken to a hospital for mental observation."

From The New Orleans States

SUCH CHIVALRY!

ONE OF THE spectacular springtime maladies of the college campus busted out at Northwestern University a few days back. It was arrested, and cured by a college dean with just eight words.

As 300-bed male students stormed toward a girls' dormitory, shouting "We Want Panties," the dean stepped to the head of the column and quietly asked the leader: "Please give me your name and draft number."

Never was an advancing column reversed so fast. They turned and fled,

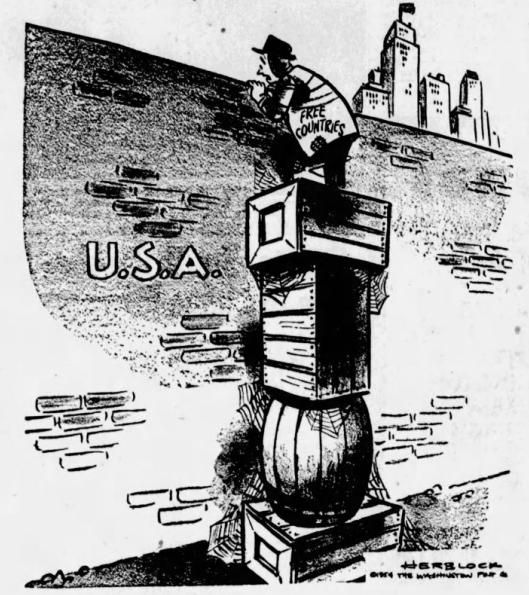
their ardor for coed unmentionables, at that price, faded and gone.

Such chivalry! Such knights in shining armor!

Take care of your teeth, advises an advertisement. Brush them every day and don't call anybody who can lick you a liar.—FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

Sometimes a plea is sense of humor seems to be more enjoyed than a keen sense of humor.—CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

'Anything New On Trade Policies?'



People's Platform

Letter 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.

Booker Washington's Views On Segregation

DAVIDSON Editors: The News: A LEAST one contributor to the People's Platform, writing in opposition to the recent Supreme Court decision, has called Booker T. Washington in support of segregation. The writer referred to Washington's statement: "In all things that are purely social we can be as separate as the fingers, yet one as the hand in all things essential to mutual progress."

In fairness to Washington, who was unquestionably one of the ablest and wisest men of his generation, two things about the above statement should be pointed out. In the first place, the phrase "purely social" qualifies the statement to the extent that it can hardly be considered an endorsement of segregation. In the second place, it was made in 1896, early in Washington's public career, before segregation practices had been cemented into law by most of the southern states.

In the years shortly before his death Washington made much stronger and more positive statements on the matter. Segregation was not only unnecessary, he declared in 1914, "but in most cases it is unjust." The Negro knew, he added in a prophetic paragraph, "that segregation meant 'an unfair deal.' With specific reference to education he stated: "As no color line is drawn in the courts in the matter of punishment, neither should any color line be drawn in the opportunity to get an education in the public schools."

Washington's approach was one of conciliation rather than agitation, and the "philosophy of the possible," he worked within the framework of existing conditions to gain the maximum advantages and opportunities for his race. But at no time, so far as I can discover, did he endorse enforced segregation.

—SAMUEL R. SPENCER JR.

Will Southerners Accept Court Ruling?

LENOIR Editors: The News: THE Supreme Court decision that racially segregated public schools are in violation of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution presents the South with an issue that threatens our personal liberty, our social institutions, the very fabric of our way of life that we have known since the nation was founded. These are things that Southerners and Americans, in the past, have fought for.

But I am beginning to wonder! Editorial expressions in the North Carolina papers that I read seem more interested in preserving the status quo than in the interest of racial harmony than in preserving segregation.

Letters published in the public opinion columns seem to be neatly labeled "for" and "against" in the way in which they are received. Those in control of our governmental affairs are "discreetly" silent on the subject or have offered only innocuous statements that give you no idea as to whether they are for or against segregation.

Does the above indicate an attitude that is representative of the people of North Carolina? Do North Carolinians believe that the South has been wrong in the policy of racial segregation as we have known it since the Negro was first brought to America? Are North Carolinians willing to accept decisively a federal decree that it is in itself a violation of constitutional guarantees, though it allegedly seeks to protect other, possibly sacred rights or guarantees, without first resorting to every possible means of preserving their liberty?

Are we willing to abandon "states rights" altogether? Is it time for those who believe that the answer to these questions is "no" to make their views known to us in positions of power and influence in our state. I quote from Sen. Eastland of Mississippi: "All that southern people have to do to insure continuity of their segregated school systems is to present a united front. We are witnessing the beginning of a great controversy—one which will last for years and the issue is: Shall the white man and the Negro retain their racial identities? The future greatness of America depends upon racial pride and the maintenance of Anglo-Saxon institutions which still flourish in full flower in the South."

Independence and Liberty were never won by sticking strictly to legal means.

—ROGER WINBORNE

The President Must Lead In A Fearful, Tense Age

By JOHN S. KNIGHT Publisher, Detroit Free Press

GENERAL WEAVER says, "The Scripps-Howard newspapers gave President Eisenhower some good advice." The nub of it was that the Republican Party is drifting without direction and that Ike must give the leadership it needs.

The Scripps-Howard editorial also said that it's "high time the President should 'start swinging' in the current controversy with Sen. McCarthy."

Being a man of great good will, Eisenhower has studiously avoided engaging in personalities. He has criticized the McCarthy techniques while making no reference to the man himself.

Admirable as this approach may seem from a Presidential level, it likewise explains why Eisenhower is not a greater force with members of his own party in Congress.

The President, under our system of checks and balances between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government, views his job as that of a chief administrator.

But, as he is reminded by Scripps-Howard, "he apparently has forgotten to remember that he also is the chief political leader of the nation and his party." COMPROMISE AND DELAY In the calm days of Calvin Coolidge, the Eisenhower approach could not have been criticized. But in a world torn by tensions and tormented by fear, a President must lead.

This was well understood by Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman, faced as they were with the most difficult and trying presidential problems since the Civil War.

We may disagree violently now,

among ourselves as to the wisdom of their leadership (I did not like it) but no one can ever charge them with letting the presidency slip by default.

Since the death of Sen. Taft, there has been no real leadership in the Senate. Important committees of the House are dominated by angry Republicans having little sympathy for the Eisenhower program.

The result is compromise and delay, a paralyzing process which slows down the legislative machinery while the clock runs out. The President's speech was an excellent presentation of the administration's position on the issue.

But the field of foreign affairs, the administration's policies are less sharply defined. No one knows where we stand on Indochina. If you add up all the statements made by Eisenhower, the vice president, the secretary of state, the military and Associated Republican leaders, the sum total is bluff, bluster, back-and-forth and baloney.

Leadership is a rare quality, possessed by few men. Eisenhower has that quality as was fully demonstrated in World War II.

Compromise, however, means more than taking a stick to McCarthy, although that might be a good idea. We should expect their President not only to be a good administrator concerned with the general welfare but a man of deep personal conviction, willing to fight for his convictions.

We need that kind of leadership now!

Drew Pearson's Wis. Group Doesn't Want AF Academy

Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON WITH a score or more American cities bidding for the new Air Force Academy, one city, Lake Geneva, Wis., definitely doesn't want it. The new West Point for the Air Force. So emphatic are its residents that they have filed suit in the U. S. district court in Washington to enjoin Secretary of the Air Force Harold Talbot against selecting Lake Geneva.

What happened was that when a delegation of Lake Geneva citizens, headed by Talbot, refused to hear them. "I am not going to listen," Talbot told the group. "I'm fed up with this whole business. I'm not interested in what you have to say and I'm not going to accept it verbally or in documentary form."

The delegation was composed of John McCollow, attorney; Curtis McKay, prominent resident of Lake Geneva; and Franklin Walsh, a leading dairy farmer. Having been rebuffed by Secretary Talbot, they turned down to court and filed suit to prevent him from selecting Lake Geneva, on the ground that he behaved "in an arbitrary and capricious manner in refusing to receive information" from them.

Talbot's choice for the Air Force Academy has now narrowed down to Colorado Springs, Colo.; Altam, Ill.; and Lake Geneva. In visiting these sites, he was entering in Lake Geneva by a delegation of merchants in what is known as the city of Lake Geneva. This, according

to the delegation which visited Washington, is composed of about 4,200 people, chiefly merchants, most of whom do not want the Air Force Academy located there.

However, these 4,200 people, according to the delegation, do not represent the 20,000 people in the surrounding area, which is largely a residential community. The majority feel that the Air Force Academy would completely change and spoil the area.

Army Pull

Regardless of how you may feel about the junior senator from Wisconsin, one good thing which ought to come out of the Army-McCarthy hearings is less political maneuvering.

While armed-services pull has been exaggerated, it does exist; and here are some instances which should be banished completely in the future. Mayor Thomas D'Alessandro of Baltimore got his son commissioned in the judge advocate general's office where he was not likely to see Korean combat. The mayor approached Sen. John Butler of Maryland who approached the same Gen. Miles. Robert who figured in McCarthy's request for a commission for Schine. As a result, young D'Alessandro was yanked out of basic training at Indiantown Gap, Pa. and given a direct commission.

Congressman Velde's son—in February, 1953, I reported that Congressman Velde, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, was pulling wires to get his son transferred to Bolling Field after he graduated from the Air Force Academy. He promptly called me a liar. However, Richard Velde later turned up at Bolling Field, a choice berth just 30 minutes from his father's office in Washington.

Sen. O'Daniel's son—When "Pass-the-biscuits Pappy" O'Daniel of Texas was in the Senate, his son Lee flunked out at officers' candidate school. The son, who falls are immediately sent out into the ranks. But, thanks to an influential father, young O'Daniel got three different shots at officers' school. Finally, after flunking twice, he made it the third time, and was transferred to Fort Washington, D. C., right under his father's nose.

Parrott Thomas—One of the prize-raising devices used by Congressman Parrott Thomas of New Jersey, who went to jail for taking salary kick-backs, was to transfer soldiers to lush posts and then collecting from their families. When Pvt. E. A. Kimmel of Long Beach, N. Y., was about to be shipped overseas, Parrott Thomas transferred him to the Army to make him an undercover agent for the House Committee on Un-American Activities. He got him stationed in New York. The Army, skeptical, refused; it never did send Kimmel to a combat area, and he was discharged.

Parrott Thomas also transferred him to collect from Kimmel's father by selling him an insurance policy. Thomas also tried to keep Pvt. George Tipton of New York City out of combat areas, and incidentally collected a total of \$500 for his political campaigns. MacArthur's Star However, military politics is by no means confined to congressmen. Some of the worst politics has been pulled by the highest-ranking officers in the armed services. When Douglas MacArthur was a brigadier general during the war, he was transferred to the War Department and told Secretary of War John Weeks, father of Sinclair Weeks, the present secretary of commerce, that he wanted MacArthur promoted. Stetebury had been a heavy contributor to the Republican Party. MacArthur got his promotion. MacArthur was an aide to Secretary of War Nicholas B. Longworth during the war and was advanced from the rank of major to brigadier general in one jump. After the war, he was the only regular soldier to be promoted to a wartime rank, but he had to do so much wire-pulling to keep it that Congress actually passed a law providing that future brigadier generals must be promoted only from the grade of colonel. The law was specially aimed at preventing anyone else from duplicating what MacArthur did.