



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1958

Take The Blinders Off U. S. Science

MOST of the republic's political man have been neutralized in the course of time by the hearty laughter of reasonable men. But the bureaucratic obsession with secrecy, which has afforded more than its share of exasperation of silliness, seems to lead a charmed life. Unnecessary secrecy persists even when it threatens the national security. It is all too often meant to protect. Lloyd V. Berkner, a member of the President's Science Advisory Committee, sharpened this point the other day when he disclosed that seven Washington agencies recently translated a Russian scientific report and then marked it secret. Berkner could not name these agencies. Congress, he said, because their identity also is a secret. But he made no secret of his fear that "we might someday have to fight a war with pieces of paper marked 'Secret,' rather than with weapons."

This is an old fear of Berkner's. He was pleading the case for a freer flow of scientific information long before Russian progress in missiles made this flow an obvious necessity.

"One can readily understand the need for security with respect to a specific weapon," he said several years ago, "where disclosure would not only permit its duplication but would also render it susceptible to enemy countermeasures. But the present craze for secrecy goes far beyond this. It is bad enough to

deny to our own people information that is already in the hands, not only of friendly nations, but of those behind the Iron Curtain as well. It is outrageous to cover inaction and weakness by secrecy when disclosure would lead to public support of remedial measures . . ."

Berkner and his fellow campaigners against self-defeating secrecy finally have succeeded in capturing the attention of Congress. But the attention of Congress and its tired laughter at Berkner's example of bureaucratic folly will hardly suffice.

The craze of concealment runs deep. Berkner estimates that 90 per cent of the information now classified should be released so that it can be of benefit to the research and developmental efforts of American scientists. In this situation suitable reforms on a voluntary basis can hardly be expected.

Security is a highly sensitive area, of course. But so is the organization of the U. S. military establishment. A Congress which has been willing to push for reorganization of the Pentagon should be equally vigorous in demanding that the U. S. take the blinders off its scientists.

Most congressmen, after all, probably can remember when it was fashionable to believe that Soviet science would never account for much because of the secrecy of the regime in Moscow.

The Republicans Whistle In The Dark

A SUITABLE theme for the televised GOP congressional campaign kick-off this week could have been supplied by a whistle appearing on a darkened stage. Forced optimism really was the theme, despite the jovial efforts of the party's orators to mask it. Rather than winning control of Congress this fall, the Republicans are more likely to lose a sizable chunk of the strength they now have.

If everything else was equal, the mathematical odds would be weighted strongly against them. Both the Senate and the House more Republican than Democratic seats are at stake, and more Democratic than Republican seats are considered "safe."

But everything else, of course, is not equal. The Republicans were put on the defensive on the issue of national security by the Russian Sputnik. The President himself has put them on the defensive on domestic issues with a budget calling for cuts in domestic spending—without creating the national mood that would make them acceptable in the precincts. His cheerless assurances that there is nothing to worry about with respect to national security will hardly

persuade voters that domestic sacrifice is necessary.

The President and other party leaders are trying to disguise the party's prob- ability to get this fall an election by taking the offensive against mixing security with politics. The mixture, however, already has occurred and congressional investigations controlled by Democrats will stir the issue hotly between now and election day. The President so far has missed most of his opportunities for putting his imprint on revival of American scientific and military prestige. His conclusions, in fact, differ vastly from some of those reached by committees of eminent people from the business and industrial community. The Gaither and Rockefeller reports will serve as a substantial shield against GOP charges that the Democrats' preoccupation with the security issue is motivated by partisanship.

But even if these factors were not present, Republicans would face a bleak prospect in the fall. They lost Congress, after all, when the President was swept to a landslide victory. Nothing has happened since to indicate a resurgence of party popularity.

The Shortest 90 Minutes In TV

IF THE DuPonts were not so well fixed financially we should all be weeping over their misfortune in deciding to sponsor on CBS-TV a 90-minute production of *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*.

Sandwiched between three acts of masterly acting by Judith Anderson, Viveca Lindfors, Hume Cronyn and Eva Le Gallienne, the commercials recounting DuPont's own miracles could have made only the most feeble impression. Some of the commercials have been heard that if the entertainment is bad enough the commercials can be made to live vividly in the viewers' memory. With some fairness, TIME magazine recently reviewed the commercials on a *Sprung* Oxy production rather than the play itself. DuPont, alas, will have no such luck.

To make matters worse, there seemed to be a great deal of shrinkage in that

90 minutes of premium time it bought. Surely it was one of the shortest 90 minutes in the history of television. Had DuPont employed actors of lesser calibre and chosen a poorer vehicle for their talents, those 90 minutes could have been stretched into an eternity.

And as a final stroke of ill luck, the program took viewers up on one of these rare peaks of artistry and showed them just how large television's potential is for achieving moments of beauty and truth. The result may be a greater demand for programs in which the viewer cannot look forward with eagerness to the commercials.

DuPont should be able to console itself, however. If it is a mite poorer for sponsoring *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*, the viewers who saw it are a great deal richer for the experience.

From The Twin City Sentinel

WINSTON-SALEM HAS A HINT FOR CHARLOTTE

THIS community would be short of memory if we did not commiserate with Charlotte over the present plight of its symphony orchestra.

According to THE CHARLOTTE NEWS, the symphony must raise funds for its support, and raise them in the next 30 to 60 days. But at the last report, the board had not found anyone with the necessary ability and interest who has time to head the campaign.

Presenting the problem, one of the board members pointed to other cultural organizations in Charlotte, which also are seeking funds now. "With separate fund drives," he said, "there is division of workers and division of leadership."

These sounds from Charlotte have an all too familiar ring. Those of us who were in these parts a few years ago know the problem well—from first-hand experience. The same sort of thing could, and did, happen here. Our sympathy for Charlotte therefore is an understanding of our concern for its cultural dilemma is genuine. Those who would further the arts want to see them furthered everywhere.

Nevertheless, Charlotte's plight may be taken as a good argument for this community's way of supporting its arts—especially at this time as the Arts Council sets up the machinery for the annual one-shot fund campaign later this month. By combining the appeals of the

Symphony, the Little Theater, the Arts and Crafts Association and all the other cultural organizations, the council has enjoyed the leadership of some of the community's most able men and women in key campaign posts. Business and industry have become more interested in participating. And the organizations themselves have flourished.

As the Charlotte Symphony board member said, "This fund raising is a perennial problem for all cultural activities." It is not easy yet for this community to raise the necessary funds for the sort of arts program we would like. But by joining efforts, we're meeting the problem in the way we think best. And we're making headway.

A car to be manufactured in Australia will have seven horsepower—or about enough power to light the double headlights and two stacks of lights on the tail fins of the modern American car.—JACKSON (MISS.) STATE-TIMES.

Add internationalism, as rare as a Middle East situation that doesn't flare up.—GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS.

The little boy who could never remember what his mother sent him to the store for is now grown up and a member of Congress.—GREENVILLE (S.C.) PIEDMONT.

Good Right Arm



Russian Strategy

'Grasp At Straws'

By WALTER LIPPMANN

WE are engaged, so we are told, in a propaganda contest with the Russians. We must prove to mankind that we rather than they are the true champions of peace. Although the progress of this contest cannot be scored exactly, we know on no less an authority than Mr. Dulles himself that at this stage in the game the Russians are leading. The best evidence of this is that there is mounting popular pressure in the Western world in favor of accepting their proposal to hold another meeting at the summit.

The idea of a meeting at the summit has become the rallying point of the opposition parties in Western Europe, and there are important signs that the idea is making deep inroads among the parties which support the governments. In Germany, the furious success of Mr. Kennan's lecture has been a clear sign of the strength of the opposition to Dr. Adenauer's government. On the question of a parity at the summit, Mr. Macmillan is on the political defensive at home, and even here the President and Dulles have let it be known they must in some measure bend with the pressure.

There are the strongest reasons for thinking that no good and much harm would be done if, under present conditions, there were a meeting at the summit. Mr. Dulles has surely been right in refusing to avoid such a meeting and no one has argued his case more cogently than Mr. Kennan himself.

The question we must ask ourselves is why this wrong-headed idea is winning such popular support in the Western world.

It has been said that the democracies are easily deluded, and will grasp at any straw which seems to offer relief from the threat of war and the heavy burdens of the race of armaments. That may well be true. But it begs the underlying question which is why the democracies are grasping at this straw.

INEXHASTIBLE STAND

The answer to that question is, I believe, that the leaders of the democracies are not giving them anything else to grasp. Mr. Dulles, Dr. Adenauer, and Mr. Macmillan have given the impression not only that they do not want to negotiate at the summit, but that they do not want to negotiate at all. They have created this impression because on the crucial issues of the cold war in Germany, in the Middle East and in Eastern Asia—they have been standing inflexibly on terms which they and all the world know are not negotiable.

The effective answer to the proposal, which is undoubtedly proper, would be a concrete effort to negotiate some specific issue through normal diplomatic channels. It would be a limitation of arms shipments to the Middle East. It might be the thinging out of the pariahs in Central Europe. It might be the Polish plan for a central zone without nuclear weapons.

SURRENDER

It must be something definite and substantial. As long as the Western governments say no to a

KONRAD ADENAUER
Growing Opposition

parley at the summit, say no to concrete and limited proposals, they are surrendering the diplomatic and the propagandist initiative to the Soviet Union. And they cannot hope to gain the initiative by elaborate proposals about disarmament, which nobody understands, or by suggesting that in the vast reaches of outer space we might in the end do by a metaphysical negotiation what we cannot do by diplomacy on earth.

I have been talking about the propaganda contest in which we are engaged, and I do not mean to suggest that there is any near prospect that the Russians will ne-

FUTURE POSSIBILITY

The chances are that this deadlock will not be resolved by the initiative of the great powers, but rather by political developments in both halves of Europe. In the Eastern half there is always some prospect of a revival of the Hungarian type. In the Western half there is the likelihood that within a few years, within the term of this administration, there will be new governments in eastern Europe, and that in these governments the existing opposition parties will play a leading part. If and when that happens, it will be very important that we should not have alienated them and thus find ourselves on the outside looking in.

Republican Strategy

'It's All Truman's Fault'

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

REPUBLICAN orators around the country, working hard with statistics and quotations supplied by the Republican National Committee, were out to prove this week that the blame for the lag in the development of missiles rests squarely on Harry S. Truman.

The same figures and the same quotations appeared in most of the speeches delivered in advance. And the theme, which will be heard again and again as the congressional campaign approaches, is that the Eisenhower administration has done everything possible to make up for the delay and indifference of the Truman administration.

POT AND KETTLE

In short, on the perilous issue of the nation's security we seem to have reached a stalemate. The figures used in the fifth anniversary of the President's first inauguration were intended, as Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks put it at a Republican fund-raising dinner in Tulsa, Okla., to "curl your hair."

From 1943 through 1952, \$3.5 billion was spent on long-range ballistic missiles, while from 1953 through 1956 more than \$3.5 billion was spent.

The quotation used by speaker after speaker is by Werner von Braun, missile authority who directed the development of the Army's Jupiter missile at the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama. Von Braun said:

"I could not help but remember this as I read the tributes to 83-year-old Matt Neely, who he had pioneered the first missile safety bill, crusaded against Senate windbags, cleaned up crime in the District of Columbia, worked so patiently to make the nation's capital a model city, how he could count on almost every chapter of the Bible; how intensely loyal he was to West Virginia; and how he was in the world to make him that the government spend a billion dollars to fight cancer."

Meeting Arranged

I told the senator that my phone was tapped by so many people that I sold commercials on it, but I arranged to meet him 15 minutes later at the F Street entrance of the Waldorf Hotel, and drove him to the Capitol.

En route he told me how Louis Johnson, former secretary of defense and a big Democrat whoel in West Virginia, had urged that he change his position in opposition to the gas bill and vote for it. Johnson promised a contribution of \$5,000 to the campaign of Congress-

lead that when all the slambang- over who did or didn't do what on missiles is over, will very likely set the tone of the Republican campaign this fall. He calls President Eisenhower as one who moves around other man in our time can achieve a genuine peace and "save humanity from the holocaust of nuclear war."

Other speakers took the familiar line out of the campaigns of 1952, 1954 and 1956 to add up the casualties of World War II and Korea of the cold war. In Germany, 74,000 wounded in wars under "Democratic administrations." In other words, the Republican Party is once again to be represented as the party of peace and the Democratic Party as the party of

BENSON'S PITCH

Speaking in Yakima, Wash., Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson said in his prepared text, "We are not lost in the abyss of a bloody, hopeless war which neither side could win, as we were only five years ago." He did add, "While some international problems remain unsolved, we must always remember the vast difference between a shooting war and a shooting war. And for the benefit of the farmers he said that no one should be misled by farm statistics 'based on casual-

ADAMS BORES IN

But with the real that might have been expected from the man closest to the President and perhaps the most dedicated worker in the administration, Sherman Adams goes farther than the others. In his dinner speech at Minneapolis he took the whole litany of denunciations, blaming the Democrats for the "military catastrophe" of Pearl Harbor, "the Red invasion of Korea," the plight of the Army's Jupiter missile at the Redstone Arsenal in Alabama. Von Braun said:

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Lonely Voice

Sometimes in these latter years, as Matt Neely neared the end of the road, his voice seemed very much alone. Another Democrat came to Congress in the same year that West Virginia first sent Matt Neely to Washington—Charles McNary, of Texas, named Sam Rayburn. That was 1913. Came the New Deal and Sam became a New Dealer, sponsored some of its most important legislation. But while

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People's Platform

Bus Route Change Essential To Safety

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

IF THE disgustingly biased article printed on Page 4-B of your Jan. 22 issue in regard to re-routing a county school bus around Silwell Oaks Road is a sample of the effort to keep the truth in reporting local news, then you certainly are making no effort at all toward reporting true facts.

Let me state here and now that I am a resident of Silwell Oaks Road. However, I do not have children of school age this year, nor will I have next year.

Certainly the parents seeking this route change were not asking the County School Board for sympathy. Neither did they ask for

"door step service" and I am quite sure that none of these parents stated to the County School Board that anyone else that children had to "stand on an 18-inch concrete strip beside the highway" while waiting on the bus. So you see your article was far from reporting the situation correctly.

As a county and state taxpayer, I sincerely hope the County School Board as well as the state bus route supervisor, L. W. Alexander, will give the matter more serious consideration than your paper has.

Anytime such a slight alteration in a county bus route, as was requested by these parents, will keep 33 children off a thoroughfare with a 55-MPH speed limit, then I am all for it and I think most interested citizens will agree.

—J. B. NUSSMAN JR.

Washington Pipeline

Princess Margaret went to visit the United States after she goes to Canada. She would like to spend one month touring the U.S. from coast to coast, but advisers suggest that she should stay here more than two weeks because Canadians would be offended. Margaret is spending only two weeks in Canada.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Neely Battled For Economic Justice

WASHINGTON

IN THE winter of 1956 during the height of the battle over the natural gas bill I got a phone call from Sen. Matt Neely, who was laid to rest in West Virginia yesterday after 36 years in Congress.

"Drew," he said, "I've just read what you've written about the influence peddlers and the gas bill. Keep it up. But you don't know the half of it. You just don't know what's happening. Is your phone tapped?"

Meeting Arranged

I told the senator that my phone was tapped by so many people that I sold commercials on it, but I arranged to meet him 15 minutes later at the F Street entrance of the Waldorf Hotel, and drove him to the Capitol.

En route he told me how Louis Johnson, former secretary of defense and a big Democrat whoel in West Virginia, had urged that he change his position in opposition to the gas bill and vote for it. Johnson promised a contribution of \$5,000 to the campaign of Congress-

Neely Battled For Economic Justice

man Bob Molohan in his race for governor of West Virginia.

'Anything But That'

"I love that boy," said Neely. "I'd do anything in the world to make him governor of West Virginia—but not that."

I couldn't help but remember this as I read the tributes to 83-year-old Matt Neely, who he had pioneered the first missile safety bill, crusaded against Senate windbags, cleaned up crime in the District of Columbia, worked so patiently to make the nation's capital a model city, how he could count on almost every chapter of the Bible; how intensely loyal he was to West Virginia; and how he was in the world to make him that the government spend a billion dollars to fight cancer."

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