



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Will Military Unity Remain A Phantom?

IN A pre-Easter pat-on-the-back Speaker Sam Rayburn praises his House colleagues for "one of the most imposing programs of far-reaching legislation that has been enacted in many years in so short a time."

Almost all of the 27 bills and resolutions whose approval prompted Mr. Rayburn's praise involved the appropriation of money. Without disparaging the purposes of the appropriations or the amount of study that preceded them, it can be said fairly that spending money during a business recession is hardly a fair test of Congress' statesmanship.

One such test will be whether Congress returns from its Easter vacation. President Eisenhower stated it forcefully yesterday in his measure requesting reorganization of the Pentagon to equip the nation with a truly unified fighting force. The President's statement of what must be done is a foreboding index of what has not been done in years of tired talk about military unification. Said the President:

"Strategic and tactical planning must be completely unified, combat forces organized into unified commands, each equipped with the most efficient weapons system that science can develop, singly led and prepared to fight as one, regardless of service." Dismissing any attempt to destroy the identity of the individual services, the President said nevertheless that "separate ground, sea and air warfare is gone forever and operational commands must become 'truly unified, efficient military instruments.'"

These words of the President seemed to be keyed snugly to the concept of nashutun warfare, the advent of which Congress is hastening by expenditure of

billions on missiles, satellites and nuclear-powered submarines. It would seem that Congress would be eager to mold into the military organization the same capacity for instantaneous, coordinated action that is being built into military weapons. It is certain that Congress wants a military team that can win any sort of war, regardless of the ground rules.

But the achievement of these goals will place a stupendous strain on an election-year Congress primarily interested in making economic tonic for the homefolks. Deeply involved in shoring up the "end of fighting force" the President wants is a reduction not only in the independence of the separate services, each of which has patronage-sweetened alliances with powerful congressional chiefs, but also a lessening of Congress' purse-string power over military affairs. Because of this and also because of the tremendous complexity of the task of unifying services devoted to aged traditions of separatism, Congress will find decisive and significant action a tall order of business.

One thing seems clear—that if the President considers his duty done when he has proposed, leaving Congress to dispose as it pleases—another President in future years be making the same kind of fervent plea to Congress that he has just made.

Before Congress moves to reorganize, the Pentagon, Congress itself must reorganize some of its most treasured dyed-in-the wool notions about military. Until some evidence of its ability to do this is shown, Speaker Rayburn's happy estimate of Congress' perception will remain open to serious question.

Get Up, You Lazy Frogs, And Jump

ANYONE hereabouts who may be harboring the idea of a spring festival for Charlotte (and there'll always be a publicity man), should be apprised fully of the hazards involved.

One of the best known spring whoop-de-dos is Washington's Cherry Blossom Festival. Although everything short of an act of Congress—no, not even a veto and hormones—was used to make the trees bloom, they declined. And so on festival day there was much marching about in the icy mists with nary a spot of natural color to brighten the proceedings.

The azaleas at Wilmington displayed similar orneryness. The Azalea Festival went on, but without blooms. The buds refused to believe that the sun was shining even though festival officials held sun lamps over them.

All this is dreary enough, but somehow less dispiriting than the predicament in which promoters of the Dore Coast Pirates Jamboree find themselves. It's a mile more difficult to hold

a frog-jumping contest without frogs than it is to hold an azalea festival without azalea blossoms. And the frogs which are expected to show their form in the jamboree's contest seem to be sleeping in this year.

Kitty Hawk's Orville Baum who trained "Atom Baum," the high jumper of last year's festival, has not lost hope. "If we can get local frogs awakened in time for some training before our jamboree contest April 26," he said, "I believe we can send a winner to the International Jumping Frog Jubilee in California this year."

Spoken like a true promoter, but you may note that there is a world of difference between awakening a frog and interesting him in a game of high hurdles.

All in all, Charlotte seems fortunate to have its big festival in a living but the Carolinas Carrousel doesn't have a carnival of courage, but the notables expect it to, and if they did, one could be purchased without getting involved in the aberrations of spring.

Must We Beware Of Ballerinas, Too?

THE dourlest miserabilist in U.S. diplomatic misanthropy surely be John Foster Dulles. He is not only given to "agonizing reappraisals" of past perils but also to a comfortable kind of fatalism about whatever the Russians are up to at any given moment. Some seventh sense (yes, seventh, for that is the sorrowful sense) seems to warn him that no matter what it is, it is bound to be extraordinarily successful in the bleakest way possible for the United States.

Now, Mr. Dulles views dancers with alarm.

The secretary of state told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the other day that Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet was being used "primarily" to strengthen the efforts of international communism. That's what he said, "primarily."

Those unacquainted with the secretary's curious addiction to wretchedness might well wonder why his department had so recently negotiated cultural ex-

changes with the Soviet Union—including ballet—if that's the way he feels.

Somehow we cannot conjure up a satisfactory vision of anybody at all being converted to communism by a performance of, say, SWAN LAKE or LA SYLPHIDE or even THE NUTCRACKER. Powerful and poetically persuasive though the performances might be.

Anyway, the classical gestures of Russian ballet are the products of Czars and Tsarinas, not Soviet Russia. Our history books record no instances of young Americans rallying to the cause of Nicholas II when Pavlova and Mordkin thrilled New York in 1910-11 with the Imperial Russian Ballet. They just clapped.

That's the nice thing about the arts. You can lose yourself in them to such an extent that you can forget wars, politics, platforms—and even secretaries of state.

steam abacus, for counting comic rays and for measuring their effect upon man's theoretical brain."

One large, more or less fat animal, Walt Kelly, known to millions as the oldest boy cartoonist in the game, will serve as consultant to the group, inasmuch as his experience with humans covers nearly a half century. "I have had many experiences with humans," said Kelly. "Those who do not believe in humans are in error. I know they exist, science to the contrary."

Until a husband can get alimony by crossing his legs and smiling at the judge, there are no such things as equal rights.—SPARKS (GA.) EAGLE.

Biggest question facing industry today is which company can first produce the pen that will write in outer space.—NEW ORLEANS STATES.

The woman who arranges a match for her daughter often expects to referee it, too.—GASTON GAZETTE.

'See! I'm Highly Recommended, Bub'



Hail And Farewell

One Pollyanna To Another

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

DEAR JOE: Well, the time has come, alas, to pack up and go our separate ways, after more than 12 years and (a painful thought) some two and a half million words. In those 12 years, we've been to a lot of places, from Moscow to Manhattan, Krasnodar, and we've covered a lot of news, from the Little Rock riot to the Korean war.

In 12 years, I've learned something, at least, about reporting. You remember, perhaps too vividly—that when I joined you I'd never written a line for a newspaper. When assigned to a newspaperman ask me how to become a columnist, I always answer, "Have a brother who already is one."

The first thing I learned was that reporting is hard work, and especially hard on shoe leather. Not all of it is hard to be sure. You remember those days when we were putting salt on Louis Johnson's highly colored nose? (Dear me, what fun that was, and how long ago it seems!) He always firmly believed that he was the victim of outrageous Pentagon "leaks." In fact, as you know, we got 50 per cent of our information about how he was destroying our defenses simply by examining his own line budgets.

SKELTON HUNTING

But it was rarely that easy. Sometimes the job of a reporter seems to me like a paleontologist's. You find a thick bone buried deep in the subsoil, and then I find a couple of teeth or a tibia and pretty soon you've got a pretty good idea of the whole skeleton. There is a hardy anatomy of the trail of something really important.

Not all of it has been enjoyable. We've never written anything

important that the Russians didn't already know. But we've been the subject of a few "security investigations," and that gives a man a queer feeling. Not half so queer, though, as those inevitable moments (usually in the dog days, after Congress had adjourned) when we'd been told at all to write about except the squabbles on the White House lawn.

There have been moments, too, of frustration, when we have both felt that we were crying in the wilderness, with nobody listening. And we have had our differences.

I still have that column you've hired, in which I write that the 1958 election would look like a horse race, if it weren't for the Gallup Polls. And I remember reading with you (fortunately in vain) to hedge on the result against Stalin, and angrily arguing with you that you vastly overestimated the importance of the decision to withdraw our troops from Korea in 1949.

AGREEMENT

But our differences have been on matters of detail and interpretation. On the big things we have always agreed. You remember how often, when one of us has been abroad, and our letters have crossed, we have written the same things to each other, almost in the same words. I suppose that is one advantage of being brothers as well as partners. On a point especially we have agreed absolutely.

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There Were Triumphs . . .

... And Frustrations

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

THE trail of the late Gerald Jester Murphy, the American airplane pilot who disappeared mysteriously while working for the Dominican Republic, has turned up equally mysteriously in Cuba. Cuban intelligence agencies are checking on whether Murphy was also responsible for some of the mysterious disappearances of Cuban pilots.

Murphy is credited with carrying Professor Jesus de Galindez of Columbia University from Long Island to the Dominican Republic. BATISTA after he was allegedly detained or murdered. Galindez was a critic of Batista's Trujillo.

Intelligence agents in Cuba have definitely ascertained that Murphy landed at an airport near Havana March 13, 1956, in a twin-engine Beechcraft, N-65100, unloaded his cargo of arms, and

immediately returned to an airport in Florida.

Cuban circles state that Murphy sometimes carried arms and on other occasions transported currency to finance revolutionary activities against Batista. Murphy disappeared shortly after Dec. 3, 1956.

It is reported that the investigation now being made into Murphy's connections with Cuban revolutionaries may lead to surprising revelations involving some big names in Cuba and the United States.

Snow Takes Its Toll

It is now the first of April and some of the snow we had two weeks ago is still unmelted in the shadow of the house at my farm. The snow was so heavy it broke all the electric lines. Many people in this part of Maryland and Virginia had no heat or power for days and it made us realize how dependent we have all become on modern conveniences. It was how helpless we would be in case of an atomic bomb attack.

The United States has never been at

Woe In Wisconsin

GOP Is Panicking

By DORIS FLEESON

MILWAUKEE

panicking in this state where Democrats have given them very little trouble since the Civil War. GOP officials are making most of the hard political news with their outcries against the Republican administration in Washington. Their displeasure has been fanned out from Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and the President himself.

The party factionalism which has its start in the controversies engendered by the late Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy is on the increase. Most Republicans safely in office—including Gov. Vernon Thompson, who is up this fall—are planning lone-wolf campaigns.

LAST STRAW

No local Mark Hanna has shown up behind the scenes to take the place of Tom Coleman, the soft-spoken, tough-minded Madison industrialist who for years kept the politicians' heads together with one hand and filled the party coffers with the other.

The recession, following upon the steady drop in farm prices, is the last straw for the party so long in power. The industrial areas and farm trading centers both report the pinch.

RICH AND DIVERSIFIED

This is a rich and diversified state. The drop in prosperity is estimated at 6 to 8 per cent, overall, and there is still widespread well-being. But that loss of confidence about which President Eisenhower complains seems to be present. Individuals say: "The President says savings are up. Whose savings? Not mine. Not my neighbor's."

In such a situation the party out of power has nowhere to go but up. That it had started upward was disclosed in the dramatic upset Senate victory scored last summer by Democratic William Proxmire. Proxmire won counties

OLD WOUNDS

It would seem that either a Kohler or a Davis candidacy would reopen old wounds. Yet not everyone believes that Stine, who is in his sixties, could be effective on the hustings against Proxmire.

Except for a vocal but small minority, Wisconsin seems to prefer to forget about its late senator, whose brief span aroused so much controversy and gave the nation a synonym for the Know-Nothing Party. Plans made for an elaborate McCarthy memorial service in the state capital have never materialized. Some Democrats wish they would. Their argument is that reviving the memory of McCarthy would give Democrats no votes, but would lose about 30,000 for the Republicans who have abandoned him.

People's Platform

Know-Nothingism

Rock Hill, S. C.

Editors, The News:

THESE must be frustrating times for economics professors. How does one teach economic crises? Though there appears some clear evidence of a gradual economic decline, the classic picture fails to materialize. The period should be characterized by restriction of credit, falling prices, attempts to liquidate, numerous business failures. However none of the symptoms is visible.

Prices rise, credit is expanded, business hangs on and unemployment figures increase. The classic recession is accompanied by fear, lack of business confidence, a rise in cost of production, lessened demand, wage cuts and raw material orders—sneezed.

We see instead a steady stock market, bond prices keep firm and no wage cuts. The heart of the business however shows a falling employment on the job cardigan. The patient is sick but he shows none of the usual symptoms.

Bernard Baruch echoes his 1932 cry to stop government "make job" programs and the Hoover Republicans play back the record heard in the Great Depression: Do Nothing.

Like all economic prophets, this writer has trouble finding a way out. He has no answer. Perhaps what we need in Washington are men who admit: "We

don't know." But every politician must sound off as if he was an Adam Smith and Thorstein Veblen. If all of them would admit they would have trouble making a living but in the economic do-gone-it and realize that jobs and more jobs are the cure and make work, get the shovels and hammers moving. Make more cotton goods and nylon, so that the merchants can put more sell in their lives and banks keep the money moving, then we would be headed for better times.

—WILLIAM MARCHE

Shades Of 1932!

Bernard Baruch

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WILLIAM PROXMIRE
New Blood

Democrats always gave up as hopeless; he scored heavily in small towns and cities which were bedridden Republican strength.

HELL WIN AGAIN

Political observers feel that with his terrific campaigning ability, Proxmire will win again. Some think he will win so big he can help into office Thompson's probable opponent, Sen. Gaylord Nelson. Nelson is popular with his party, probably more so than Proxmire. But Democrats privately complain he is lazy.

The Republican effort to offer competition to Proxmire got off the ground when a respected Supreme Court justice, Robert Stine, resigned from the Supreme Court to make the race. Other possibilities are former Gov. Walter Kohler, trounced by Proxmire last year, and former Representative Glenn Davis. The McCarthy who lost the GOP nomination to Kohler and sulked in a test during the election campaign.

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