



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1958

Isolationism: A Royal Road To Nowhere

ON top of all of America's other woes, for isolationism to rear its ugly head at this unpropitious moment would be the last, the very last, straw.

But if we are to believe the anguished reports of some of the nation's most competent pulse-takers, that is precisely what is happening.

For instance, James Reston of the New York Times was traveling through the Middle West and along the California coast while our friends overseas were sacking USIA libraries, insulting the Nixons and blaming Washington for their troubles. He reported that he "heard more isolationist talk on the West Coast than at any time since the war."

A marked erosion of the internationalist spirit has also been noted on the editorial pages of newspapers that pour in daily from all parts of the nation.

The public's plique is understandable. Some disillusionment and anger are even pardonable. But isolationism? Please, not that.

Temporary setbacks have obviously thrown something of a pall over the country. But the setbacks must not be allowed to becloud the real issues or divert the United States from its real purposes.

A less satisfactory case can be made for isolationism today than in the days of Col. McCormick, Sen. Taft and the America Firsters. "Fortress America" was a gone gossamer the moment the intercontinental ballistic missile became a Russian reality, and maybe as long ago as the first atomic bomb. Hitler loomed in the world could devastate a continent. The next madman in charge of the government of a considerable nation can lower the boom on the entire planet.

A goal-alone, stand-offishness may have been possible for the United States in the early part of the century. It is plainly impossible today.

A Sharp Blow To City-County Planning

FOR Charlotte and its surrounding suburbia, a measure of self-pity is highly appropriate today.

The man who made metropolitan planning a practical reality here is bound for greener pastures. Dr. William E. McIntyre, Mecklenburg's first city-county planning director, Cleveland has spirited him away.

The loss to Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is tremendous.

Bill McIntyre is a quiet, unassuming young man but he both a master craftsman in his field and a superb defender of the whole concept of orderly growth.

He has had to lay all the groundwork for a vast and ambitious city-county operation in Mecklenburg. Master plans, land use studies, traffic artery planning, development and rehabilitation plans, population studies represent only a few of the chores that he has handled so well.

The Seal And The Road To Milton

THE seal is a flipper flapper and prefers pools to pool halls, but he and man have to pool in common besides being mammalian.

The point came out sharply in a story the other day about a harp seal having to have a mastectomy of the mammary because he kept swimming round and round a tank in which he had been imprisoned.

His learned keepers explained that the seal wanted to get away from it all. Some seals, probably including this one, consider it their right to seek greener, or bluer waters, to see and be seen moving in majesty around faraway islands.

This seal, at any rate, really tried to thwart the circumstance of being in the same tank with the same seals every day, having the same seals tossed

Interdependence is a practical reality. We need our friends and our friends need us. Furthermore, we must continue to help our friends if they—and we—are to remain free and independent.

Yet two-thirds of the free world's people live in economically underdeveloped areas. Their average production in goods and services amount to only about \$100 nearly 20 times less than the U.S. average of \$2,000 per person. Furthermore, their life expectancy of 36 years is only about half that of the rest of the free world.

It is reasonable to believe that the rising demands for freedom from grinding poverty in the underdeveloped world is strong enough to shape world history. Recent events in Latin America and the Middle East have demonstrated clearly that impoverished, unstable countries can confront vital American interests with dangers that are quite real and quite disturbing.

It is in America's best interests for these nations to be stable, independent and peaceful. These interests require America to frame and carry out a policy designed to assist the economic development of the free world. In addition, these interests require America to organize and promote a workable program of collective military security.

It is little wonder then that the Eisenhower administration is now saying that foreign aid must be regarded as a permanent part of the United States budget. It represents only the necessary acceptance of a fact of life in the Space Age.

This is not to say that present policies cannot be improved. They can. Indeed they must be improved if the United States is to cope successfully with contemporary international problems. But any thought of abandoning what has been called America's internationalist outlook and replacing it with an isolationist or "Fortress America" policy is unrealistic in the extreme.

The tragic part of it is that city-county planning is only in its infancy here. The great accomplishments lie ahead. Urban redevelopment is an example—and it is not even very secure on the drawing boards today. Mr. McIntyre will be leaving at the very time when his services are next to indispensable.

It is possible that an able successor can be found. But the city and county will face problems. There is a great national shortage of qualified planners and, consequently, salary requirements are rising sharply. Local governments can not expect to recruit and keep topflight people if they are unwilling to pay adequate beginning salaries and if they fail to reward their planners sufficiently as their value to the community increases.

It is not the money we cannot afford. It is the loss of men of the caliber of Bill McIntyre.

to him at the same time, and the same people looking over his flukes all the time. So he swam like crazy, but he wound up not at the idyllic island he envisioned—but in the tank, minus a few pounds of blubber for the effort and probably feeling a bit jaded too.

The learned keepers checked him full of tranquilizers in an effort to help him adjust to his surroundings, and the last we heard, he had adjusted. He goes round and round in his tank all right, but slowly, methodically and, above all, normally.

Somehow we're unimpressed by his docile adjustment. It will last. There's something very human about this seal and humans never stop wanting to get out of the tank — although few of them do. Even the Milton road, we've heard, turns back to the starting point.

Harry Golden In The Carolina Israelite

THE COMING OF THE ROBES

IT IS NO coincidence that North Carolina was the last state in the Union to ask its judges to don the traditional black robes of their office. The Calvinist tradition goes very deep. From way back it frowned on the "robes of office." The robe was always looked upon with suspicion, the suspicion that goes far back into Calvinist history and the struggle with the Papacy. This North Carolina was the original land of the huckster boys, the fellows with the rifle, the ax and the bag of corn, and there better not be any adornments in the church, not even a vase of flowers. (Only the open Bible on the altar.)

The judicial robe goes back to the Hebrew priesthood. John Selden, the English lawyer who lived in the early part of the 17th century, introduced the robe for the judiciary. A great student of Hebrew and Catholic church law, Mr. Selden adopted the robe idea for the bench, an idea which the Catholic clergy had borrowed from the Jewish priesthood. An idea carefully embodied by Pope Hildebrand, if you want to rule

over people you must make yourself as unlike them as possible. Mr. Selden saw the need of this, the robe transferred to the bench. You had down a judgment that may mean life or death to a prisoner before the bar and somehow the prisoner himself feels better about the judge. Much better than being sentenced to the gas chamber by a fellow in a flannel shirt and Marx suit.

Try on a new robe for size. A high defense official predicts that rockets, missiles and atomic bombs will soon be made obsolete by the death rays—JACKSON (Miss.) STATE TIMES

When you moan about a world of woe you are not talking to the young husband who has just become father of his first born — MIAMI HERALD

Wild wire gets out at me because I eat so much and I don't gain any weight. While she says it she even reads a restaurant ad she puts on two pounds. — AMARILLO GLOBE-TIMES

Here's Inside Story Of How French Crisis Developed

By JOSEPH ALSOP

PARIS
Many are groping for a key to present events in France and their probable future meaning. They might well ponder the following remarkable and well-attested story of the beginning of the present agonizing crisis.

It concerns the moment when the infuriated crowd in Algiers had already attacked the great building of the Government General, and the French commander in chief, Gen. Salan, had given the task of restoring order to his

paratroop commander, the famous Gen. Massu.
At this terrible moment, as his men were forming up, Gen. Massu telephoned Paris to ask his masters in the civil government the key question. Should he or should he not fire on the crowd? He pointed out that the odds against restoring order by any other means were very heavy indeed, and he added that this was essentially a political choice.

EXIT PELULIM

At that time, of course, there was an interregnum in Paris. Fe-

lix Gaillard, who was hastily consulted, replied that he had already ceased to be Prime Minister and was therefore unable to answer Gen. Massu's question. In sum, the civilian politicians re- warded equal haste, replied that he had not yet become Prime Minister and was therefore unable to answer Gen. Massu's question. In sum, the civilian politicians re- fused the responsibility of making the crucial decision. So Gen. Massu restored order in his own manner, by joining in the formation of the Committee of Public Safety.

Consider this episode. Then remember the experience of the French paratroop Army in the last ten years, first in Indochina and then in Algeria. Many dark places of the present situation are thereby illuminated.

FREEDOM OF CHOICE

What is revealed, above all, is the relative freedom of choice that a serious and firm French government can still enjoy and exercise if it wishes to do so. It is true that the crisis was precipitated by extremists of the Right, like Massu's civilian colleagues on the Algiers Committee of Public Safety.

It is also true that some sort of plot was already on foot when the fierce atmosphere at Algiers suddenly cloaked into total crisis—the code messages to the Algerians are proof of that.

But there is no truth in the widespread impression that right-wing extremists have been ably singled-handed, to challenge and subvert the legitimate government of France. Without the Army, the Soustelle, the Delecluse and the others of the same kidney would count for very little indeed, even in Algiers.

Furthermore, if you consider the history of Gen. Massu's telephone call and all that preceded it, you cannot properly argue that the civil government of France was abandoned by the Army. At any rate, it is just as accurate to say that the Army was abandoned first by the civil government. What, then, will the Army do now, this Army which was and is the key factor in all this grim affair?

EXTREMISTS ALL?

The best answer one can give is at once simple and complex, disturbing as well as reassuring. There are of course plenty of right-wing extremists in the French Army. The officers who joined in the Corsican operation, the officers of the paratroop outfits that quietly moved into the military academies of metropolitan France in the first days of crisis, can hardly have included many persons with liberal or letting views.

But this element in the Army is first of all a minority, and secondly, even the extremists of the Army will accept orders from any civil government firm enough and disinterested enough to give orders. On this broad, consider again the episode of Gen. Massu, asking whether he should do what must



JACQUES SOUSTELLE
Is De Gaulle His Prisoner?

have gone so violently against his grain

It is a terrible thing that the legitimate government of France should have foundered on a double abandonment — an abandonment first of the Army by the civil authorities, and then, one must add, an abandonment of the civil authorities by the Army. But this drama of France's parliamentary government deserves the bitter tag-line of one of Moliere's plays: "You asked for it, Gen. Gaillard." For Gen. de Gaulle, in contrast, there will be no danger of abandonment. He can give his orders, to control or even to suppress the right-wing extremists, for instance, and they will be carried out by the Army. Furthermore, those who think that De Gaulle is likely to be the "prisoner" of such men as Soustelle and Delecluse can hardly have read much of the history of the last war.

SOUSTELLE'S PUPPET?

The man whom Roosevelt and Churchill could not make a prisoner, is hardly likely to become the prisoner of such a one as Jacques Soustelle.

In sum, the choice will be up to Gen. de Gaulle and will be him alone. What one cannot predict is whether he will be content to restore sanity and order in France or whether he will inflame France to support France in Africa, together with the signs are encouraging. But no one really knows the inner mind of this looming, remote and enormous figure who now dominates the scene in this strife-divided country.

'My Boy, Have You Thought Of Continuing With A Graduate Course?'



Breadwinners, Arise!

Equal Rights For Males?

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain
THE WAY she headed, I thought might be replaced with a course in basic algebra so that you could make a move in the general direction of the science instruction that we keep screaming about the lack of.

A SILLY THING

There is a sort of general female effort about, to get the male population growing in strength for a long time now. A man in an apron is a silly thing, at best. A man doing woman's work is sillier.

My grandparents had a shortage of help, too, but nobody ever suggested that Grandpa wash up. And Grandpa didn't have all the easy ways to living — vacuum cleaners, mixers, garbage disposal — all the gimmicks you see in the four-color ads in the periodicals which yack about this togetherness but which pop Papa in the kitchen and turns him into the mama when the kids play with him.

I grant you, some chores fall within the old boy's domain. I

would not expect the mamas to mow the lawn, make out the tax returns, fetch home a few cans of beer, redneck the house, or saw off their thumbs with a do-it-yourself carpentry kit. But I — as an old boy — don't see why I should jockey a vacuum cleaner around, ironing my own shirts, cooking the meals — unless in an outdoor emergency involving Saturday afternoon and a barbecue spit and maybe a little gin.

Certainly I will never make a bed, even at post-natal, nor dis- per a child, nor sweep a floor. I will walk a dog, yes, throw out all the darning letters, yes, and try to take care of the business that feeds the family. But Dad, that kitchen don't sing me no si- sen- sence. All I am interested in is what comes out of it and the debris resultant, and I baby's baby.

PAMPERED WOMEN

There has never been in the history of the world a female population so pampered as the American woman. The mechanical replacements for old-fashioned manual services make her wealthy, even if the breadwinner is so poor he can't afford but one car and one TV set. Belcher's, the new and sleek, the electric fridge, drop it in the dishwasher and rinse, don't iron, this kid is not really a slave to woman's word. Housewife's knee I haven't heard of in years.

The guys seem to like being poked around and shaved, most household economics. The time has come to rear back on the hind legs and holler, maybe the ladies want to be legions, and they can't think they can bring back the past, but they can't America keep its snout out of Rumanian affairs."

Bad Gobble
What GobbleDeJ was referring to was a State Department press release and a Voice of America broadcast which switched the date of the anniversary of Rumanian freedom to the day the kings of Rumania were crowned. This was like having the Kremlin congratulate the American people, not on the 4th of July,

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People's Platform

'Such Captrap'

Rock Hill, S. C.
Editors, The News:

PLEASE, oh please kind editors, let's have a little sanity in your paper from here on out. We outsiders are sick to death of reading about all those Mecklenburg Democratic politicians and their silly primary. Such claptrap.

We sensible South Carolinians wouldn't think of having such a to-do about a little old primary.

From all the carrying-on, you think that your Democrats could elect a Democratic congressman in awhile. But I seem to notice that a Mr. Jones, a Republican, is the fellow who gets all of Mecklenburg's votes.

—R. K. SASSER

European Defense System Endangered

Celtiver, S. C.

Editors, The News:

THERE is small wonder that in his last press conference President Eisenhower recalled that he and De Gaulle were best friends. Without France, we can pick up our NATO marbles and head for home.

There appears little information as to De Gaulle's plans. His strongest supporters have a record of anti-Americanism. There is also uncertainty whether the generals are leading De Gaulle or if De Gaulle is heading the parade.

It is possible that, under De Gaulle, political and economic reforms may be pressed on France and a stronger and more stable regime may emerge. However, the dissenation caused by the oppositionaries may revolve the time into revolution and chaos. Should events take this unfortunate path, there would be an immediate



Just Noise?

breakdown in the effectiveness of NATO and the administration will be faced with the necessity for an agonizing reappraisal of our European defenses. With or without De Gaulle uncertainty is the keyword.

—WILLIAM MARCH

U. S. Navy Should Stick To Its Boats

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

IN VIEW of recent humiliating experiences resulting from efforts to launch satellites, maybe it would be better for our Navy to continue in the boat business. At least they usually get boats launched successfully.

—A. C. BUCKLE

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors: Note: Though Drew Pearson is now back in Washington, he wrote a continuing series of dispatches from behind the Iron Curtain and here is one of them. They will be alternated with his columns from Washington.

BUCHAREST, Rumania
WHILE riding through Bucharest one afternoon I listened to Communist Party First Secretary Gheorghiu-Dej haranguing a big crowd during ceremonies in honor of visiting Premier Gomulka of Poland.

American Audacity

"The United States had the audacity to congratulate the Rumanian people, wherever they may be, on their anniversary May 10, the monarchist anniversary, not our real Independence day when we

U. S. Has Friends Behind Iron Curtain

won our freedom from Turkey," said the Rumanian leader.

'Last Gap'

"This is the last gap by the Americans to try to bring back the despotic remnants of the monarchy," continued the head of the Rumanian Communist Party. "This is American wishful thinking. The Americans think they can bring back the past, but they can't America keep its snout out of Rumanian affairs."

Bad Gobble

What GobbleDeJ was referring to was a State Department press release and a Voice of America broadcast which switched the date of the anniversary of Rumanian freedom to the day the kings of Rumania were crowned. This was like having the Kremlin congratulate the American people, not on the 4th of July,

but on June 20, birthday of Queen Elizabeth.