

For The Boys

Change What You Wish

By Samuel Grafton

ONE of the theme songs of the Opposition is that we must not change anything on the home front while the boys are away. A series of ads tells us that the soldier boys will be furious if anybody even so much as lay a hand on the corner drug store.

folks back home. I imagine he sees the folks back home in these visions, sitting at tables. Possibly, even, dining. I wonder if it would add to the accuracy of his flying, to catch a vagrant riddle news bulletin telling him that Senator George has succeeded in having food prices hiked.

The first step was to kill subsidies, which might have cut food prices back. But Congress can't stop there. What's the good of killing subsidies, if food prices remain where they were afterward? The second step is now under way. Senator George wants a "readjustment" of value, which will "equalize" prices, meaning raise them. Aren't higher prices a change on the home front? No, those you can change. That's Senator George, so long as you keep your hands off that old drug store of mine.

These sentimentalisms about not changing anything on the home front while the boys are away are merely a kind of camouflage. Congressional commanders wear these phrases on their hats, like branches, as they move in for the kill, intending to bring about the most serious of changes. If the boys abroad do not want anything changed, it is pretty clear when they ought to be sending their V-mail.

These might even be a soldier boy or two serving in the fond belief that there is an office of War Information functioning back home, and he might be distressed to find that all that had been changed while he was away. One wonders whether Brother, in the services, is concerned about Sister's ability to buy ice cream down at the corner drug store nearly so much as he is concerned about Mother's ability to buy anything at all, what with rising food prices.

The administration is almost patetically, trying to hold on, to keep things from changing, while the would-be changers move in to alter everything, under the slogan that they are apolitical change. They are against change, and hence there goes another agency, maybe the one which financed the purchase of the farm of the father of a soldier boy's son.

But there is Senator George, and also Mr. Herbert Hoover, and also Senator Taft, all arguing, in various guises, against food price control, and their voices really join, and the burden of their song is that food prices must rise. Won't a food price rise be a serious change on the home front? Doesn't it conflict with the Opposition promise not to change anything on the home front while the boys are away? The sentimentalizing about dear old Main Street, how it mustn't be changed by the bureaucrats in a kind of obscurantist cover for a legislative blitz which aims at much more serious changes.

The administration is almost patetically, trying to hold on, to keep things from changing, while the would-be changers move in to alter everything, under the slogan that they are apolitical change. They are against change, and hence there goes another agency, maybe the one which financed the purchase of the farm of the father of a soldier boy's son.

We are shipping the boys out right along now, and most of them are leaving under the impression that this country intends to control the cost of living. Is all that going to stop while they are halfway overseas?

It would seem like fairer ball to pause until the soldier boys come back before making these changes. It is grotesquely unfair to do all this while pretending merely to be waiting for a trolley car on dear old unchanged Main Street.

I like these ads, about the Army flier flying along, his face in the moon, dreaming about the

It would seem like fairer ball to pause until the soldier boys come back before making these changes. It is grotesquely unfair to do all this while pretending merely to be waiting for a trolley car on dear old unchanged Main Street.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS
And Evening Chronicle
Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday by
The News Publishing Company, Inc.
100 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, N. C.
Buck Davis, Editor
Mrs. Dowd Jones, Secretary
D. D. DENN, Vice-President and Editor, on leave for the duration
W. C. DOWD, 1946-1947
The sole editor of The Charlotte News was established 1883. The Evening Chronicle (established 1857) was purchased by The Charlotte News May 1, 1914.

The News desires to be notified promptly of errors in any of its reports that proper correction may be made.
ASSOCIATED PRESS AND AP FEATURES
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it, or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the text hereof published herein.

Subscription Rates
For the year: 30 cents per week, \$7 cents per month. By mail: One month \$1.00; three months, \$2.80; six months, \$5.20; one year, \$10.00.

FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1943

Empty Saddle?
Marvin Ritch Says There's
Room for Senate Hopeful

Not much has been heard, lately, of the candidacy of Charlotte's Marvin Ritch for the Senate in next year's race. He says that he won't guarantee to run, which evidently leaves him free to enter the hunt if he wishes, or to sit by and watch Bob Reynolds and Clyde Hoey fight it out. In connection with his own candidacy, however, Representative Ritch made an observation:

"You've got it all wrong. This state isn't seceded up, and the list isn't finished. There are thousands of people who won't have Reynolds at any price—and many of those won't have Hoey, either. There'll be somebody else in that race, you wait and see. I need somebody else. It might not be me, but it'll be somebody."

That warning came to mind as we followed the latest public utterance of Governor Hoey, before the Methodists at Lake Junaluska. The statements he made sound a great deal like political observations, but they doubtless are. They seem to hit the key of Mr. Hoey's campaign for next year:

"We will not and ought not to have the same kind of world. Some of the grossness and selfishness should have been consumed in the earlier years of our Republics and crucibles should be lessened amid the common suffering and sacrifice of mankind. A well ordered economy ought to be provided by the leaders in science, invention and industry. When peace comes those who have served us on the battle front must not walk the streets to find jobs. This great nation must have jobs ready and waiting for them."

The sentiment on the war and peace, we have a hunch, will not be enough for the voters. Most of them will recognize the campaign as of great national importance, but they'll want to hear something about themselves and their own particular problems. We don't believe such a view can whip Bob Reynolds, who may be excited to carry on the same type of campaign he did in '32, when he had Cam Morrison laughed out of office.

Bloc-Busting
City Council Apparently
Hopes To Remain Split

We share the apprehension of a high City official (who must remain anonymous) over the continued flare-ups in City Council. We can see no reason for the weekly re-acting of our savage battles fought out in the recent elections; surely the City cannot gain from the purely political spats which take place on virtually every vote. We do not question the alignment of majority and minority members on any issue; we do question the motives of both sides when they join so gaily in the fray, and continue to announce to the public that this or that faction is determined to out-manoeuvre the other. We see it, however, as that sort of scrapping back and forth may be, as has been suggested, an admirable safety device so far as the public is concerned; the theory being that, so long as there are factions there can be no real danger. We see it, however, as a real danger to the public good. When Majority Councilman Baker rises, for instance, to challenge Mayor Baxter, and there is an exchange of heated words, there is little thought on either side of setting for the good of the citizens. The members of the Council, these days, are wrapped up in the battle for control. Any and all issues are beside the point and treated only as means to an end.

There have been even deeper splits in City Council, in the past, but none so clearly defined, bringing about such things as fighting it open season. The members of the people, it should be said, and the minority should listen and play a minor role. The Mayor's position is that the Council should "be what we hoped it was" at the time of inauguration, has to be passed; the Council remains as

widely split as during the campaign. It never intends to get together, from all the signs, on any major question. It may not be expected that its members will break away from the blocs very often to vote independently. Mostly, they will be voting in control.

The Works

Raleigh's OPA Violator
Got 'Em, and Deserved 'Em

The courts of North Carolina, for business civil or criminal, for war or peace, might take a lesson from Judge J. M. Meekins of the Federal bench in Raleigh. The judge, with Fred B. W. W. a well-known baker, standing before him convicted of violating OPA regulations, threw the book. Because Staudt allegedly falsified his reports to conceal almost 500,000 pounds of sugar and fraudulently obtained a license to produce a term of two years in the penitentiary, and fined \$2,500.

If other violators were given sentences in kind, the black markets of this country for the lesser violators would be closed. If all courts of law in these times dared to follow the lead of Judge Meekins, there would soon be no problems of delinquency, no reports of crime waves here and there. But, rather than follow such a course, the court system apparently operates more carelessly and inefficiently than before.

There have been numerous cases of little violators of wartime driving bans who were rather severely punished, but the Raleigh case goes far beyond any we have noted. Judge Meekins, apparently, took the view that such chicanery in this time of national shortages was tantamount to treason. We would that local courts, trying similar cases, might adopt the same attitude.

Rather than the now-popular resentment against OPA and all other Federal agencies, there should be some support for their operation on the part of the public. We can think of no better way to guarantee that support than to instruct the courts to crack down on violators and make breaking of the new laws unprofitable for the greedy and careless.

New Drive

It Brings New Tactics
For the Against Japan

The sudden flashing of black headlines on the war in the Pacific should have brought a little to Americans; for many months this hail of our war has lain almost in silence. But for the comparatively small operation against Attu, there has been nothing but waiting and preparing. Now, with the prongs of an American offensive driving through to the southward, it becomes apparent that a new kind of drive is on. The Allies are on the march in the South Pacific for the first time.

Operations in the lower Solomons, centering about Guadalcanal, were actually defensive operations. Now, with big bases behind them, the forces under General MacArthur aim to clear out a whole area of Jap domination. And this tactic is not to be confused with the popular idea of island-hopping to the north. The purpose of this offensive will be to neutralize and seize a whole area, to force the enemy back to the next line of prepared bases, something over 1,000 miles away.

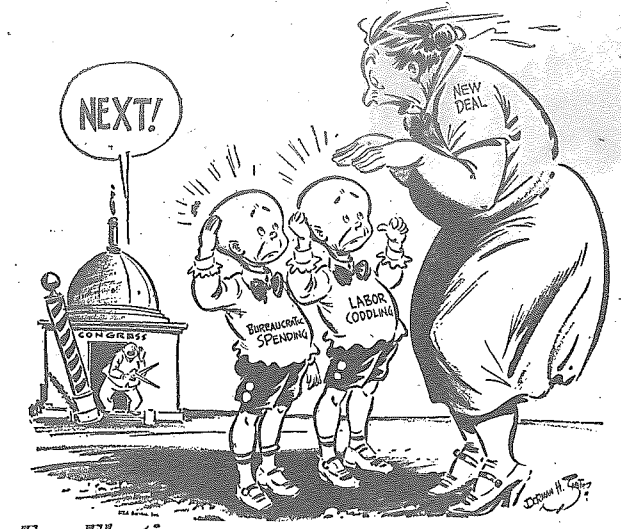
In that fashion, great sections of the Pacific may be cleared. When the present phase has been finished, the situation will call for an attack on Truk and surrounding bases. Then, in turn, the Jap will be forced to flee for far greater distances. With the completion of two such campaigns, the Allies will have won great territories. It will not be a process of knocking out island by island. The tiny groups of dots cannot be defended, one by one, as they are taken. And that is the aim of the new drive now underway.

The testing out of the combined forces in the Pacific should be of breath-taking importance to the general public. In these next few days will be told the measure of success to be expected in future drives on Japan. The brilliant successes thus far won seem to indicate that our forces are equal to the great task ahead. As the plan unfolds in day-to-day battle, the world will know for certain.

In the lively Midwest, a fair, drill-press operator, reports a feeling of relief. "We just got out of the great task ahead," she says, "that those funny jumps on my arms are muscles."

Mama's Fair-Haired Boys

—By Dorman Smith



For Election

Money From The Unions

A PERMANENT ban on campaign contributions by labor unions was proposed in a bill introduced in the Senate on June 25 by Senator Hatch, Democrat of New Mexico. The bill is technically an amendment to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, which forbids campaign contributions by corporations. The recently enacted Connally-Smith Anti-Union Labor Bill, which amended the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, campaign contributions by any labor organization as defined in the Wagner Labor Relations Act, but the Connally-Smith bill is intended to outlaw such contributions after the war.

expenditures. The corresponding Gillette Committee in 1910 did not list labor contributions separately, but pointed out that the Du Pont family gave \$197,000, the Pew family \$109,000, the Rockefeller family \$25,000. The Republicans spent \$1,841,900 in 1936, the Democrats \$6,035,000. The corresponding figures in 1936 were \$1,198,000 and \$2,228,000.

It remains to be seen whether the 1944 election results will be affected by the new ban on campaign contributions by trade unions. In 1936, labor made a record by contributing less than \$770,000, most of it in aid of Democratic candidates. Of this total \$181,000 went to the American Labor Party of New York, which endorsed the Roosevelt-Garner national ticket but had candidates of its own for some local posts.

The Hatch Act of 1939 and 1940 limit to \$5,000 the amount contributed by any one person in any one year in any one election, and to \$250,000 the amount which any one individual committee may receive or spend. But, as noted above, this has been interpreted as allowing one person to contribute \$5,000 each to many committees, and as allowing each committee to spend or receive \$2,500,000. In Ohio 33 separate committees supported Willie in 1936, and in the whole country the Democrats had 41 groups supporting Roosevelt, in addition to state committees.

A total of \$27,000 went in 1938 to Labor's National League, practically an adjunct of the CIO. More than three-fourths (\$172,000) of the campaign chest of Labor's Non-Partisan League came from the United Mine Workers. In addition, the UMW donated \$100,000 to the Democratic National Committee, gave \$50,000 to the Roosevelt National League and \$25,000 to the Progressive National Committee, lent the Democratic National Committee \$20,000 and the Pennsylvania Democratic Committee \$40,000, both sums later repaid. Other expenditures through the total UMW donation to \$380,000.

The Federal Corrupt Practices Act is specifically non-applicable to primary elections, which in some states determine the general election. The act forbids donations by corporations in any election in which Presidential electors or members of Congress are to be chosen. It is a matter of judicial interpretation as to whether this covers state and local elections held at the same time. However, many state laws forbid corporate contributions in state and local elections.

This total of \$380,000 from the United Mine Workers is compared with a total of \$10,000 contributed by the Du Pont family. All these figures were published by the Loneragan Committee of the Senate investigating 1936 campaign

It may be a matter of judicial interpretation also as to whether the Connally-Smith Act now forbids the use of campaign funds directly or through a political committee, in behalf of a candidate for President or Congress. Certainly the spirit, at least, of the Corrupt Practices Act was violated when corporations bought expensive advertising space in, and hundreds of copies of, Democratic convention books.—Editorial Research Report.

That Printer's Ink

Christian Science Monitor
PRINTER'S ink smells the same anywhere. But those who have worked on a news weeklies tell you that the aroma from such papers, wafted back over the years, is something nostalgic and not to be forgotten.

over a long period of years. But financial difficulties and subsequent passing from hand to hand had at last brought them, ironically, under the same ownership and the same roof.

I had a speaking acquaintance with one such weekly. It was published in rural Ohio, and its setup was unique. For it was, at one time, a news weeklies office, differing violently in politics, owned by the same person, but under the same roof, edited by the same man, and going meekly to the same press for printing.

Although the ancient enemies were compelled to get their food from the same kitchen, so to speak, they did not see this as a logical reason for eating at the same table. Therefore, the offices were haughtily petitioned from each other, with the consequence that a paper was like a ticket window, between. The proprietor, who adored his office, and two-fingered out his glowing editorial replies to appear in the rival sheet on Friday. Between times he collected news items and wrote news copy for both papers with strict impartiality.



"We have a solemn duty to help keep down inflation—let me suggest that we keep close check on our husbands' spending money!"

Platform Of The People
Let's Clean Up

Editors, The News:
Those who called about the item I had in The News and The Observer last Sunday, I answer as follows: If you think the situation is not so bad and you are as much interested in making a decent place in which to live as you are in making a decent living, go down to police court and get the facts for yourself.

I will list some of the cases disposed of in Police Court this week and the manner in which they were disposed of.

Three girls from Pennsylvania were arrested in one of Charlotte's leading hotels registered there with soldiers from Morris Field, 30 days suspended provided they stay in YWCA until Friday at which time they would go back to Pennsylvania. Is this fair to the ladies who live at the YWCA?

Connie Baker—and here is his record for approximately five years—

3-5-35—Liquor Law, Superior Court, Suspended sentence, Eighteen months on roads. This case—two years on roads concurrent with above.

10-10-35—Liquor Law, No record with leave.

2-17-35—Liquor Law, 915 fine, \$7 cost—paid.

6-21-40—Liquor Law—Fined \$25, Cost \$7—paid.

12-25-40—Involved in cutting at his home. Released.

1-24-41—Assault on female. Sent to domestic court.

7-18-41—Liquor Law, Fine \$25 and \$7 cost.

3-28-42—Assault, Domestic court.

2-29-42—Robbery. No probable cause.

6-3-43—Liquor Law, Six months suspended, Two years conditioned.

6-28-43—Liquor Law, No guilty.

In this case, (tried 6-28-43) officers testified they found five pints of whiskey and twenty or fourteen dram glasses in Baker's possession and ten or twelve empty bottles bearing the same brand and labels as the full ones.

Since this man's record began in 1928, he has spent eighteen months on roads (or was supposed to) that would leave him about 1 1/2 years of freedom. Eleven times in court and paid out \$86, or about \$25 a year which is much less than a license would cost and much more profitable than legal business.

Case No. 5763—Seventeen pints (legal limit is eight) 30 days suspended, payment of cost. After of whiskey about \$50.

Case No. 5762—Nine pints 60 days suspended on payment of \$25 and cost.

If there is no law in the city of Charlotte to prosecute persons, firms or corporations who rent property for illegal purposes there should be, and it should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law—insurance is NO excuse—they should KNOW what the property is being used for.

If you want more evidence I can give it to you and I am still of the opinion that we need house-cleaning and I feel like the City Court is a good place to start.

R. V. KELLY, Charlotte.

Harding Place Echo

Editors, The News:
Although I did not recognize myself as a "prominent worker for Negro recreational facilities," you have told me that this remark in your issue 20th editorial, "The Other View—Harding Place," referred to me and I should like to make a clear statement of my attitude concerning the proposed Negro park and playground.

When I was first approached and asked to sign the petition offering the location of the park I stated that I could not sign it because I felt that the petition took a purely negative view and that our property rights should not preclude the rights of a large percentage of our population to have adequate park facilities. However, I also stated that if a suitable site were available, not located adjoining a developed white residential section, I thought it should be used and that this would be much better for all concerned, white and colored.

Since that time I understand that the group of Harding Place-Greenwood C.H. property owners have not only found such a site but are offering to raise money to help pay the additional cost. If the alternate site can be built, this seems to be a very reasonable attitude in the face of adverse criticism. The alternate site does not adjoin a white residential section but does adjoin the central part of the Negro section and is said to be a better park site than the land adjoining Harding Place. This alternate site is also owned by the Orphanage and across the street from the same distance from the Orphanage buildings, but it is said that the Orphanage would prefer not to sell it as it is more convenient for farming than the site adjoining Harding Place.

I do not pretend to know all the details or whether or not this problem has been properly presented to the Orphanage Board, but it seems to me that the inevitable noise that would result from the play-ground for the Negroes would be more damaging to adjoining residential property owners than the inconvenience in farming would be to the Orphanage. I do not believe that a development of this nature would be a damage to the Orphanage. In fact, it probably would be beneficial. The inconvenience to the Orphanage presumably would be offset by the higher price paid for the alternate site.

Therefore, the question seems to be whether or not the Harding Place people are justified in asking that the Orphanage sell the alternate site in order to give the Negroes a better park and eliminate all real and imaginary dangers to white residents of the Orphanage buildings. To me that matter could be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned.

MRS. R. M. MCKEY, Charlotte.

Visitin' Around

Red Falls And A Bed Bone Haus
(Wall City Area, Lexington Dispatch)
If there is anyone who wants a red bone house, or some place to go to see this writer, and don't want to see him, you come as you are not so anxious about money. We want to get rid of something which devours food. C. B. Wall, R. A. Lexington.

They Say
(Mount Meriah Item, Monroe Journal)
Most all cotton has been planted and lots of corn. People have been doing all the work they can. Some women say they were eighteen hours a day.