

W. C. DOWD, JR. J. E. DOWD, Editor BURKE DAVIS, Associate Editor

JANUARY 5, 1945

That Was That

Nobody can accuse Governor Cherry of carrying over the campaign promise which he shared with his opponent in the primary to propose that the Legislature call a statewide referendum on Prohibition. The Governor has proposed that the Legislature call a statewide referendum on Prohibition. In the waning shadows of his inaugural he said:

"One of the recurring problems confronting the Legislature is what to do with the liquor stores. We have an unusual condition in this state in that part of the counties have liquor stores authorized by the General Assembly. Many people have expressed a desire to have an opportunity to vote on the question of liquor control. I promised the people of the state in the recent primary to recommend such an opportunity to the General Assembly. I take this means of advising you that the condition which now exists in the state, with reference to liquor, should not be tolerated without approval of the people by popular vote."

And he recommended that the Legislature call a statewide referendum, and passed on. There is certain to be a good deal of legislation for such a referendum. Delegations of Dyes will go to Raleigh and put on a show before committees of the House and Senate, arguing that "the state can't exist half wet and half dry" and such both as that, which sums up to the absurdity that the 25 counties which like their liquor stores should have to give them up because the other 75 counties don't want liquor stores. But in the end the Legislature, we predict, will call no referendum.

It will call no referendum for two reasons. 1. According to Governor Cherry's own statement, 200,000 North Carolinians are in the service. To hold an election on so divisive a question as Prohibition during their absence would be a dirtier trick than the Legislature would care to perpetrate.

2. The revenue from legal liquor will hardly be relinquished by the State or forfeited by the 25 wet counties without a bitter struggle which could disrupt the whole legislative program.

For the plain fact is that liquor stores, though they hold only a few counties, produce a heavy-drinking North Carolina, produce a lot of dough. From an 8-1-2 per cent special tax and the 3 per cent sales tax, the State Treasury realized in the last fiscal year \$1,185,247. Net revenue to the 25 wet counties was \$2,739,805. In the more populous counties, such as New Hanover, Wake, Durham and Cumberland, revenue from this source positively truncates county tax rates (New Hanover, for example, has \$21,815 net), and makes possible added enforcement of the liquor laws by side.

Why, even the dry counties derive some slight revenue because of the wet counties. In the last five years Mecklenburg has sold through the State ABC board 687,483 gallons of confiscated liquor, and applied the proceeds to general government.

Governor Cherry may surprise us by actually putting up a fight for a statewide referendum. We do him the justice to believe that he is wholly sincere and wants a referendum. But he is too old a hand to expect the Legislature to come trooping in support of a suggestion which he himself must realize is ill-timed and not very sensible at best.

A Rebellion

The 76th Congress, which should have been mild and pleasantly mannered, passed the first day in a busy exhibition which augured trouble for the future. In the House, there was a flexing of muscles, a sudden wedding of Republican and Southern Democratic strength. This was not only a challenge to the Administration which had expected a more amenable House; it was a fierce declaration of independence by headstrong men.

Its first act was to revive the dying Dies Committee, and make of it the first permanent investigatory committee in our history. Republicans and Southern Democrats gave not a thought to all the past argument that the Dies group had exerted a dangerous influence.

Words Of The Wise

If we did not flatter ourselves, the flattery of others would be quite harmless.—de la Rochefoucauld.

How many people have met us with a look of meaning in their eyes, and sunk at once into critical acquaintances.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

Each I know then, once and for all, that Franklin knows no idols, worship no fetiches. It has already stepped and if we will quietly turn around and step once more, over the more or less putrid body of the Goddess of Liberty.—Benito Mussolini.

Mostly aroused indignation is the hallmark of a fool; and the lesser the cause, the greater the fool.—Talbot Stout.

When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the senses are all in conspiracy against him.—Jonathan Swift.

Every deep thinker is more afraid of being understood than of being misunderstood. The latter perhaps wounds his vanity, but the former wounds his heart, his sympathy,

ence upon American life with its Red-baiting. His wild program of invading into the private affairs of citizens of all walks of life. The rebels behaved as if they had not been told, authoritatively, that this prying into citizens' lives was a waste of time and money. They had their way, and quickly.

Such an opening performance recalls the turbulent state of the nation just prior to the elections, and it raised anew the question of who won the election, and why. It seemed to be a revival of the war against Administration policies, and not at all the measured wisdom of the new-style Congressmen of which we have been told.

If this day was a pattern, we are going to see some hot times in the House and we will certainly see them as a result of the state in the Dies Committee. And, regardless of what Democratic Whip Ramspeck says, this first clash resulted in a Democratic defeat. The publicist administration has one of its thumbs down on Mr. Dies and his sensational sleuthing. And the voting Wednesday made it look as if the Southern rebels, still distrustful of the President, must draw the partisan line before they, could deliberately joined the issue to show their defiance.

However tumultuous the fight may be on domestic affairs, and however far apart Congress and the President remain, the Republican on Capitol Hill must draw the partisan line before they, could deliberately joined the issue to show their defiance. However tumultuous the fight may be on domestic affairs, and however far apart Congress and the President remain, the Republican on Capitol Hill must draw the partisan line before they, could deliberately joined the issue to show their defiance.

"The tobacco habit tends to make the extreme cold writes a Western medical publication after standing 45 minutes in a cigarette line.

Jail For Children

When boys and girls have been sentenced in Juvenile Court, their next stop is at the Detention Home, which is really the old Mint Street jail under a thin disguise. These youngsters, on whose behalf the community expends no money, effort, are allegedly to be reclaimed, to be helped toward responsible citizenship. Their stay at the old jail doesn't help. For it remains a jail.

It is a pretty decent state of repair, though there is a definite fire hazard, and the Negro boys are caged on the third floor to which the only entrance and exit is a narrow, winding stair. Just now, the place is freshly painted. Toilet facilities are crude, with some of them jammed between bunks where the children sleep.

Some of the children have company, with sometimes two to a cell. But most often, in their long days of waiting, they must remain in solitary confinement—the worst form of punishment known to our penal system. There is no provision for their recreation, though a large room for that purpose is provided; the large yard is never used for recreation, being filled with cordwood. Superintendent Alley and his wife do their best for the youngsters, but that, under present circumstances, is pretty poor.

Two little instances serve to indicate the general atmosphere of the place: A social worker, going to the jail, saw a little boy of about eleven or twelve come in for detention. He was met at the door by a determined keeper, who frisked him in business-like fashion, searching for weapons.

She asked another boy, alone in his cell, if he had anything to read. He displayed a stack of magazines provided to occupy his dreary hours—Argosy Detective Stories.

However, this jail is disgraced, it is still a jail, and it is operated as a jail. If we have any hope of reclaiming these children we must abandon this building and the spirit for which it stands. If we persist in treating them as criminals, we will be rewarded in turn as we deserve.

A great untold story of the war, says a knowing worker, going to the jail, saw a little boy of about eleven or twelve come in for detention. He was met at the door by a determined keeper, who frisked him in business-like fashion, searching for weapons.

which always says: "Ah, why would you also have as hard a time of it as I have?"—Friedrich Nietzsche.

I have never been able to conceive how any rational being could propose happiness to himself from the exercise of power over others.—Thomas Jefferson.

Most of our suspicions of others are aroused by what we know about ourselves.—Henry Stanley Hastings.

To bring complaints as we are the monotony of slinging passions would be as great an affliction as the pains of Hell, and might even be pleasantly interrupted by them.—Benjamin Jewett.

One of the greatest pains to human nature is the pain of a new idea.—Walter Bagot.

The trouble with law is lawyers.—Clarence Darrow.

A talkative barber was trimming the beard of a client and said: "How shall I cut it?" "In silence," replied the king.—Plutarch.

For The Files (One of a series of Studies of North Carolina, economically and socially).

WE DON'T know what higher education is worth to the young people of this country. But we do know that the more you educate a young man, the more he will inevitably waste time and money. In the weeks of higher education comes progress and enlightenment, even if we can't settle on the exact worth in dollars and cents.

That concerns us at the moment is the standing of North Carolina in this field. And this is it: Nine and a half per cent of North Carolinians over 25 have finished one year of college, and there we rank 15th in the South, 43 per cent have finished two years, giving us a rank of 34th; 4.6 per cent have finished three years, rank, 34th; 1.6 per cent have finished four years, rank, 34th.

That includes whites and Negroes. In whites who have finished four years of college, North Carolina ranks 15th in the South, 43 per cent have finished two years, giving us a rank of 34th; 4.6 per cent have finished three years, rank, 34th; 1.6 per cent have finished four years, rank, 34th.

Further, 7.4 per cent of North Carolina's urban population has finished college, ranking us second in the South, several definite conclusions may be drawn with regard to the South, and offers these conclusions: From the foregoing study of college education in the South, several definite conclusions may be drawn with regard to the South, and offers these conclusions: From the foregoing study of college education in the South, several definite conclusions may be drawn with regard to the South, and offers these conclusions:

First, the South, as a section of the United States, has a smaller percentage of its residents college trained than does the nation as a whole. It has not been the purpose of this study to determine just how much this is due to training of relatively fewer people than do other sections or to migration. However, the fact remains that the South has a smaller percentage of college educated people than any other section of the United States.

Second, that the progress being made in training Negroes is not commensurate with the progress being made in training whites. Actually, 4.8 per cent of the whites and 0.95 per cent of the non-whites have four years of college training—a ratio of five to one in favor of the whites.

Third, that the urban population of the South, with a percentage of 4.1, is better than average for the nation, which has only 4.7 per cent.

Fourth, that the rural-nonfarm population of the South is about average. It has 4.1 per cent of college graduates compared with 4.2 per cent for the United States.

Fifth, that the rural-farm population of the South with a percentage of 1.9 falls considerably below the national percentage of 1.2. This means that on the basis of population the South has only about three-fourths as many college trained people living on farms as has the entire country.

These conclusions, then, indicate the lag in Southern higher education which is centered primarily to the non-white and rural-farm population groups.

In short, North Carolina's problem, as well as that of the entire South, is bound up in the state of the Negro and the tenant farmer—as are almost all of our regional problems.

The Standing Of The States

Percentage of Population 25 Years of Age or Over by Years of College Completed for the United States, 1940

Table with columns: States, 1 Year, 2 Years, 3 Years, 4 Years, p.c., p.c., p.c., p.c., rank. Lists states like Texas, Virginia, New Hampshire, Nebraska, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Vermont, North Carolina, Michigan, Missouri, Wisconsin, Indiana, South Dakota, North Dakota, Louisiana, West Virginia, Maine, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Arkansas, and United States with their respective percentages and ranks.

Yeh, But Some Of Mother's Cases Are Most Urgent



Airing Our Troubles

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON French. This, the British believe, has made their position in Europe far more difficult. Such instances could be multiplied many times over. They all go back to something more fundamental. It is an attitude which came to the surface during the International Air Conference in Chicago.

Building class Britons, deeply conscious of how tough it will be for England to maintain her world position, are suspicious of American motives. Let's put it frankly. Some of them seem to believe that Americans want to push them down into second or third place.

In negotiations on international affairs, the suspicion is that we want to dominate the world's airlines. The same is true when the talk turns to free news channels and free competition between news agencies around the world. The fear is that with our wealth and power we will insist on being No. 1 in every field.

For a great many years Britains railed the waves, plus a lot of land scattered around the seven seas, and did a good job of it. The world of 1897, which was the year of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, no longer exists. Winston Churchill is one of the few survivors of that proud past. Yet inherited habits of mind change slowly.

Certain vital decisions with respect to the war must shortly be made. It would be foolish to deny that the suspicions which color attitudes on both sides of the Atlantic are just now making it much harder to reach these decisions.

It's not a good time to be airing our differences. But at least by bringing them out into the open we know how difficult are the obstacles in the road ahead.

The People's Platform

Editors, The News: In reference to your editorial on the poll tax state which you would like to make a correction. Louisiana is not a "poll tax state". I have been and am a voter and voted in the past election, in a state where there has been no poll tax since 1901. The requirement of the poll tax was eliminated 60 days before voting. My state was one of the first, if not the first, to abolish the poll tax. Our voting percentage may not be what it is in other states, but if you will note the percentage in the state elections last Spring you would find completely different figures.



"The only reason for this sketch is that about this time every year newspapers must have a gag about an overfed executive dictating to his voluptuous secretary in a tropical setting—and this is it!"

Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON. How important efficient military intelligence is to victory or defeat is illustrated by some of the inside facts on the recent German counter-attacks both in Italy and Belgium. In Belgium, it is Washington news before was announced, the U. S. Command was in a hurry to get the message of German troops and General Clark's headquarters in Rome, that if the Nazis attacked they would center on this Negro division.

In Belgium, however, someone not only was off guard, but apparently was over-confident. The division against which the Nazis aimed their drive was a completely green unit and was not even under fire, and it was only natural the Nazis picked this as their main objective. It was so alert it spotted this Division's arrival in Europe, for it had been under fire since last August. The first day it went into the line, incidentally, the Negroes were shot at by German artillery and stood up very well. There was no Nazi breakthrough at that time, however.

Long Week G2 For a long time, it has been admitted in high-up Army circles, that G2 or Military Intelligence has been one of the weakest branches of the Army. Several bonehead plays have been chalked up to it.

Another bonehead credited to G2 is not knowing that three divisions were lying in wait for Allied forces when we landed at Salerno. There was another bonehead in the attack at Kiska when we bombed the island for days after the Japs had left, but the intelligence was supposed to have heard the chief blame for that.

Reason for intelligence mistakes in both the Army and Navy is attributed to their closed-shop policy, whereby a preponderant number of blue-blooded officers are in command.

Then in 1943, about a year and a half ago, the same Cabinet post once again was vacated before his eyes. Tobin, APL, president Green, and CIO, secretary of Labor, were calling on Roosevelt about the muddled labor situation, when he got up and said that Secretary of Labor, who had submitted in 1941 just before Roosevelt was inaugurated for a third term.

Then in 1943, about a year and a half ago, the same Cabinet post once again was vacated before his eyes. Tobin, APL, president Green, and CIO, secretary of Labor, were calling on Roosevelt about the muddled labor situation, when he got up and said that Secretary of Labor, who had submitted in 1941 just before Roosevelt was inaugurated for a third term.

Green pointed out that the same thing applied to him regarding his rival the CIO. He was more of the White House conversation, and Miss Perkins continued on. Now she has said flatly that she will not continue, and there have been some definite indications the President would like to appoint Tobin. This time, however, the teamster's chief is not at all enthusiastic. Being older, he sees a lot of headaches ahead. So he has told friends that he will not be Secretary of Labor.

The Tank Race

By Hal Boyle

IN BELGIUM, Jan. 1.—(Delayed.) During the battle of Krinkmel, two German "Tigers" and one American "Sherman" played tricks around the Rhine in a wild chase around a house.

The Germans were trapped inside their tank when a tankman damaged the treads, and they refused to come out. As doughboys circled around, trying to open the hatch, with the Sherman trying desperately to catch up with and knock out its Tiger from behind, and at the same time keep from exposing its own rear to fire from the second "Tiger."

Then the two doughboys stuck up the situation and ran to the rescue. They started galloping after the Tigers but, after a couple of tries, found the house, they realized they never would get in for a while. They tried to make out a hole in the wall, but they failed. So they ducked into a doorway and waited for the Tigers to come by. They trained their machine guns on a corner of the house, and their enemy tanks whipped around, they knocked them out in one-two order.