

South Carolina's Gift To Georgia

PLANK number one in the platform on which Eugene Talmadge garnered a... recent Democratic primary promises a return to white supremacy...

In all probability the Legislature will turn to the South Carolina plan, a system that has thus far successfully abridged the Constitutional rights of Negro voters...

Since this fantastic political system is about to be visited upon Georgia, The Atlanta Constitution recently sent one of its writers to Columbia to examine it in some detail...

The Debate Behind The Donnybrook

ONCE you dig through the political veneer that now coats all OPA organs, pro and con, and skirts the massive illoge of such kindred critics as John Lewis...

This argument begins with the proposition that it is the duty of the Government to protect the citizen against inflation...

The question, then, is whether there is any point in maintaining OPA at all. Would the best hope of bringing prices into line, even with the present disparity...

The obvious, and honest, answer of any sane businessman is in the affirmative. He bids his right-shoulder opinion on the choice, and perhaps cor-

What Changed The Board's Mind?

SOME three weeks ago the Charlotte Board of Realtors gave its unanimous approval to the City's proposed zoning ordinance, suggesting only that the setback provision for built-up downtown streets be limited to those thoroughfares earmarked for future widening...

But yesterday the Real Estate Board, meeting in executive session for the purpose of reconsidering the ordinance...

However, this leaves us holding something of an editorial bag. We lit a candle for the Board at the time of its original action. We made the point that its action should remove the last organized opposition to a plan that means much to Charleston.

Another Voice

A SORT of vicious circle is keeping the United States uncomfortably constricted. The South is being defended because of the doctrine of states' rights, and the doctrine is being defended because of the more militant among Negro leaders and by some well-known friends of racial amity in the North...

In the midst of all this the voice of a moderate has a welcome sound—particularly when that moderate is a highly influential and well-known associate editor of the Mount Bayou (Montgomery) Digest. Mount Bayou is one of the very few all-Negro towns in the United States, writing in the Memphis Commercial Appeal...

not be invoked to prevent such defections as ballot box stealing, voting the dead, and the like. The party, by its aid, against the Democratic Party only in the same manner they are applied against other private clubs—in the event of rioting, disturbance of the peace, or similar activities dangerous to the public welfare...

And the Party, as a private organization, cannot, of course, fine an errant member or throw him into jail. The worst that it can do is to prevent an election from being held in the City for several days in exclusion from the Democratic Party, or club, which means that he would also be barred from participation in any future primary.

A good many competent South Carolina attorneys are of the opinion that this complicated scheme to subvert the Constitution is amply protected by the various legal technicalities still employed by the recent Supreme Court decisions. The fact that it is also obviously at variance with the intent of the basic law of the land is apparently of no more concern to South Carolina Democratic leaders than it is to Eugene Talmadge.

It is significant that the best its most ardent proponents have been able to offer in defense of this gigantic conspiracy is that it appears to be legal. Surely the majority of white South Carolinians, even though they have been persuaded to accept it, must wonder occasionally if this isn't a most peculiar way to go about building a great representative democracy. And some, at least, must also wonder if their Democratic leaders made a sound bargain when they abandoned the Constitution...

People's Platform

As ONE of your readers I think it commendable that you strive for two-party Government in North Carolina. It is undeniably best for the nation as a whole and I see no good reason why it would not be best for you state in the South. That goes for Maine and Vermont also.

Mr. Beasley's article in the Monroe Journal was informative as to party responsibility and regularity and it states some facts when he says, "in a very broad sense we may say that the Republican Party is conservative and the Democratic Party is liberal." However I cannot agree with members of our "broad distinction" have been shown through more than a century. I believe impartial history will show that it was only when the Democratic Party turned really liberal that it came into power and remained in office. Then as it tends to become conservative or reactionary it loses its following and the Republicans come back in power.

As to what Mr. Beasley has to say about platform differences between us and the future of the state platform. It seems to me that state platforms are primarily for State Senators and State representatives. The reason many give for this is that the average citizen feels that Senators and M. C.'s should vote with their constituents in "viewing" legislation. This is especially when that issue is a part of the national platform. In states where the Democratic and National Democratic platforms are nearly equally divided between two parties you will find that the state Democratic and National Democratic platforms make no mention of conflicting issues.

I do not mean any disrespect, but offhand it would be hard to many readers Mr. Beasley's article that he is a diplomat or a politician who knows just where to stride a line. —RANDALL SHOEMAKER

(NOTE: Mr. Beasley is no fence-straddler, but a distinguished and perceptive editor who is probably the best informed in Southern newspaper circles. He is now practicing the editorial arts in North Carolina. He has long ago announced that he would be about as well under one party as it would have done under two, all things considered. He quite properly would the political arena and the future of the state platform. In the South or out of it, he has never been able to maintain party discipline in the sense that English political editors maintain. Because we believe the South desperately needs a political reorientation, we frequently disagree with Mr. Beasley's articles. But the last to call him an apologist for the Democratic Party, which he frequently and eloquently criticizes. —Paging Sig-Wit

TAYLORSVILLE Editors, The News: SOMETIMES ago, I wrote a harmless little letter for publication in your excellent newspaper. The News, within a week that letter was, in a manner, assailed by Mrs. Hendricks of Dallas. She began her letter

by asking this question—"Are we unfair to Russia?" She attempted to answer that question herself in the affirmative, and was succeeding admirably well when she finally admitted that her letter was only a story, thereby killing whatever force or reply it might have had. In that admission she has no one to blame but herself. I am sure that the reply I gave her was a fair and reasonable one, and did not, in the least, abridge or challenge her right to her opinion. I am sure that Mrs. Hendricks did not have to answer or attempt to answer my letter and when she elected to do that, she should take the consequences.

But to cap the stroke, on Sept. 26, someone who is either ashamed of his name or the letter he wrote, attempted to come to Mrs. Hendricks' defense. He begins by accusing me of using ridicule against Mrs. Hendricks. Then he proceeded to ridicule me with all his might. He said that I was trying to defend Mr. Stalin when Mr. Stalin is abundantly able to do that himself. Now, just imagine that writer admitting that Stalin's position is a position easily defended. Now is that not a fair and reasonable statement? I have always held that if you would give his kind enough rope he would hang himself.

I am calling him Mr. Sig-wit, a contraction for Signature Withheld. Now, Mr. Sig-wit, you say that a few years ago one of our Communist dogged his sentence here and went to Russia to live; that he came back and said that he would rather be in prison here than to be in Russia as a free man. That is exactly right. You see Mr. Sig-wit the Russians do not want to be in Russia as a free man. I mentioned Mrs. Hendricks' name seven times in my letter. Well, Mrs. Hendricks is a lady and when she sees her name in a newspaper she is sure to be called by her name. Now Mr. Sig-wit tells me to do away with Shakespeare and Wells and the like and stop at that of him and Mrs. Hendricks. In doing that I find myself sandwiched between Mrs. Hendricks "Kapoof" and Mr. Sig-wit's "Kapoof". Now Mr. Sig-wit is going to get myself in such a pickle when I write that little letter to my favorite newspaper—The News.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who desires to contribute. Contributions should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Please do not include any photographs or illustrations of any kind. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, The News.



Platforms And Politics

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WASHINGTON Despite official denials, here are the real facts regarding the shipment of atomic bombs to England for stock-piling. Last spring, here in North Carolina, the USA for a stockpile of atomic bombs, but Truman refused the request...

WASHINGTON SECRETARY OF State Byrnes secretly proposed to British Ambassador Sir Stafford Cripp that the issue a strong, joint statement condemning Spanish Dictator Franco. Byrnes thought this would show that the United States was not pro-Franco, but is against dictatorship whether in Spain or Russia...

Marquis Childs

HERE in our own country is that the sleepy and unexciting conviction you bring back from even the limited use of our own resources...

This is the testing ground. This is the arena where the decisive struggle will be fought. It is a fairly steady balance here in America, if we show the world that our system has the capacity to stand up and can produce the rewards and satisfactions all men seek...

But if we are torn by internal strife, if we are torn by internal strife to go completely out of control in a boom-and-bust cycle, if the hope for a great future will be long deferred—if, indeed, it does not die. The next few years may well determine...

CAMPAIGN IMPORTANT The current election campaign is likely to have greater importance in the perspective of history than it has for most of us today. I have not about a trip that was to have taken me into the heart of Europe...

Sometimes it almost seems that the little party has been deliberately tried to offend our friends and admirers in Europe. The impression you get from some of the people who are eager to come to America and see the country is that the bureaucratic red tape in applying for a visa...

SAMUEL GRATTON That Word 'Fascist' Perhaps this picture reflects a little of what is going on in the minds of those who are using the word 'Fascist' to describe the present situation in Germany...

Obviously not, and then there follows a long list of names of people who do not use such language, tra-la. STRANGE THING When I was in the States, I got it, good. But the strange thing (a very strange thing, come to think of it) was that I was not only a member of the White House that he plans to return to Washington...

Decoding The Diplomatic Cables SECRETARY OF State Byrnes secretly proposed to British Ambassador Sir Stafford Cripp that the issue a strong, joint statement condemning Spanish Dictator Franco. Byrnes thought this would show that the United States was not pro-Franco, but is against dictatorship whether in Spain or Russia...

Paris—Secretary Byrnes has been talking to his Undersecretary, Dean Acheson, by trans-Atlantic telephone, drafting a stalling note regarding the Dardanelles. The State Department will urge Turkey to reject any Russian plan to close the Dardanelles to non-black flag nations...

Chungking—President Truman's personal envoy to China, General George Marshall, called his chief staff work for further instructions from the United States. He also stated that he was discussing Chinese internal affairs, and whether he should come home. Truman replied that he had every confidence in Marshall's judgment...

COROLL REECE'S FOOT For Republican Congressional candidates at Boise, Idaho, the State Senate was following a Communist-Socialist line in supporting the reelection of Donnell Reece. It was known that he had himself visited for the Tennessee Valley Authority more than a dozen years ago, and TVA is the father of Reece.

Reece was defeated for re-election in 1930 because of his opposition to TVA, so reversed himself in 1932. He decided to run for Congress in 1934, and was elected. He was sound policy in his own district.

Struggle At Home

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