

The Great Dry Victory In Rockingham

THIS season's first effort to bring ABC stores westward into the Piedmont has ended in a great and overwhelming victory (at the polls) for the Dry forces of Rockingham. There was a heated campaign and an extraordinarily heavy vote; there is no question but that the will of the citizenry prevailed.

who had decided to make a vote against ABC the price of admission to the Kingdom of Heaven. Because Mecklenburg's population is predominantly urban, and perhaps less susceptible to the hellfire and brimstone technique employed in Rockingham, there is still a chance that Mecklenburg voters may be allowed a chance to decide, the ABC argument on its merits, which is all we who favor ABC, have ever asked. There is a strong case against ABC, but theology has nothing to do with it. The question, which was lost to sight in Rockingham, is whether there has been a change in the attitude of the liquor traffic underground or by bringing it into the open, placing it under rigid restrictions, and taking private profit out of it? There is room for deeply religious persons on both sides of that argument, plenty of room, and the effort to drive a church from the Kingdom of Heaven seems to us, in view of the stand he takes on it strikes us as un-Christian, to say the least.



People's Platform

Policies Of The Platform

I write to ask that you not print the article I sent you on March 17. I am asking this because I know you are saving it until you can play it up like you did my first article. You will recall that you saved it for three weeks so you could play it up as a "cheerful little item for Brotherhood Week." Yet, within the article were printed in just a few days, in an editor's note to the article by the anonymous writer, you stated that my article was intemperate and bigoted but that I had as much right to my opinion as Father Coughlin. . . .

address in St. Louis before 20,000 people, last Oct. 28, Bishop Oxnam said in part as follows: "The Protestant pledges himself to accept, and in humility calls upon his Roman Catholic fellow-Christian to practice, very simple principles of religious liberty, 'Do unto others as ye would be done by.'"

A New Test Of Party Loyalty

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, delivering an avowedly political address on Jackson Day, selected his Housing Program as a test of Party loyalty. It was, we think, an excellent choice, for the basic issue—the responsibility of the Government for providing adequate homes for veterans—is, or should be, above the ideological debate that surrounds most purely social legislation.

work no hardship on individual homeowners, who would still be free to sell their dwellings at inflated prices. It would only prohibit speculation in dwellings, an indefensible practice in these times. The situation, however, is complicated by the fact that the Southern Democrats, who were the objects of President Truman's appeal for Party unity, are already publicly committed. Eight members of the North Carolina delegation—Reps. Kerr, Barden, Cooley, Durham, Doughton, Ervin, Eubank and Weaver—voted against the old-house ceiling. They will have to make a complete about-face in order to meet the President's test of Democratic loyalty, which means a public admission of previous error, or light penance for a politician.

People's Platform

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MONROE (NOTE: The flow of communications to The Platform is irregular. Winston Churchill's controversial address at Fulton and Burke Davis' controversial address on the ABC stores brought it to flood into the office. There has been a considerable delay between receipt and publication.)

It is our policy, however, to give priority to those letters dealing with "desert" and transient topics when there are no editors, however, are quite right when they say that it is a matter of opinion as to whether or not there is a fire.

The Signs And Portents Of 1946

WELL, cotton the last of the un-price-controlled commodities, has passed 27 cents and is still on the way up with brokers having trouble filling their orders. And still the Cotton Congressmen proclaim that the OPA's half-hearted threat to clamp on a ceiling will be met by a battle to the death.

Why, there is not a slipper and padded overcoat nor a grammar school laid in all of Dixie, from the gentle flowing Potomac to the trickling Rio Grande, who has not heard from press, platform, and pulpit all the time that the speculators and the nefarious exchanges which kept the horny-handed sons of toil in a bondage more terrible than that of the Israelites in Egypt.

MONROE ONE of the chief objections to my article of Feb. 21 (Orders from the Vatican) is that it yells fire when there is no fire. The editors, however, are quite right when they say that it is a matter of opinion as to whether or not there is a fire.

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Another Voice

A Resonant, Reverberating Keynote Selection of Robert L. Doughton, now serving his eighteenth term as Congressman from North Carolina, as keynote for the state Democratic convention strikes an old, if often disappointed, friend of the family as a stroke amounting almost to a complete loss of contact with the two greatest wars in history; if he cannot find something substantial by way of a confession of faith, it would be futile to look farther.

To The Journal the career of the Cotton Congressmen proves that "times have changed" and 1945 is "Year of Revolution." It's all of this that has been going on more portentous. It's beginning to look like The Year The Leopard Changed His Spots.

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Drew Pearson's Lehman Suit Partly Because Of Hoover

WASHINGTON The tight veil of secrecy which surrounded the resignation of Herbert Lehman as director-general of UNRRA can now be lifted. The excuse that the former New York Governor resigned because of poor health was mere "diplomatic double-talk." Actually, Lehman resigned because he was disgusted with the deceit and fraud which has surrounded the entire question of post-war reparations.

Lehman felt that many of its decisions were frankly political, and that too was being used as a weapon to influence the politics of certain nations not friendly to England. Finally, when he saw he had lost on all these fronts, Lehman resigned. He refused to sign a critical blast against the Truman Administration.

Another Voice

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Forgive us our apathy, but a public feud just can't seem to raise a temperature over the Berlin-Viashinsky thing.

WASHINGTON ONE of the most fascinating developments in the news of the CIO delegation that visited Russia last October, it was news that has been a long period of training is inevitable.

TRAINING PROGRAM "It is being made," says the report, "to train workers as tool and die makers, and the need is such that some of them are being trained in only six months' training instead of the six years' training that the district workers are being used for training. Some Germans are being used on skilled work and for training. The normal training period, but the practice is not general."

Inflation Dangers

NEW YORK WE HAVE HAD earnest warnings that if Congress fails to re-open price control or to renew the existing amendments, we shall all suffer because we shall have to pay more for food, clothing, and other necessities. The fact that we might have to pay 35 cents for an ice-cream soda, or \$20 for a pair of shoes, is a clear sign of inflation. The truth is that Congress is playing with more than its own neck when it orders the other potential hazards.

Asked For Deputy

ABOUT three weeks ago, Stettinius returned to Washington to name a deputy to replace the United Nations, so he "would not have to carry the burden alone." Byrnes said he would think it over; but he did not privately. It is hoped that Stettinius will ease himself out of the United Nations picture.