

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FRIDAY, MAY, 31, 1946

When John Lewis Won, Who Lost?

THOSE who ponder the curious hold John Lewis has over-his miners may find a complete explanation in the settlement of the coal strike. With the odds against him the createst in his atorny career, Lewis wound up with a total victory—the wage increase he had demanded, the royally-supported, welfare fund, unionization of some forgemen, improvement in sanitation and housing in the mine villages. The UNIW member, countine his gains (some \$10 a week in cash on the average) will conclude, as he always does, that old John is the best friend a miner ever had.

But for every victory there must be a defeat, and there are many to share this one. As usual, the average citizen, who will pay an estimated 35 to 50 cents a fon more for his coal next Winter, heads the list. Beyond this immediate bite at his pocketbook lies the certainty that this new bulke in the nrice control line will brine on others, and hasten final collapse of OPA.

The mine operators probably come next on the casualty list Whatever their past and present sins they are justified in their complaint that they have been jobbed. The Government, seizing the mines after private negotiations for a new contract had failed to prevent the strike, made it clear that. So the contract had failed to prevent the strike, made it clear that. But when the Government began its own negotiations is dies of a just compromise turned out to be total default to the union. The operators technically do not have to accept the Government-negotiated contract, but they can reject it only with the certainty of remeding the strike and starting the whole weary round again.

We have an idea a place on the casually list must also be reserved for Harry Tru-man, and with him, the Democratic Party he heads. It can be argued, with some justice, that the failure of Congress to

provide the President with the means of provide the President with the means of dealing with the atrike left him only a limited choice. He could (1) permit the crippling atrike to continue, or (2) meet John Lewis' demands at the expense of the public and the mine operators. But the general public, beset by the current confusion, will remember only that Harry Truman, who had assumed personal responsibility for the negotiations, chose the second alternative, not why, And the suspicion will grow that he did so in an effort to appease the vociferous critics who have suddenly arisen on the left to brand him as anti-labor.

It is hard to see how truckling to Lewis can restore the crumbling Democratic relationship with organized labor. Instead, it seems likely to promote a new wave of union demands (that welfare fund royally business is a new wrinkle certain to excite he interest of many a union boss) that will lead the Government into another mmasse, and again force its hand. The Administration's habit of procrastination—and this mine contract only postpones the basic problems—has already provided the Republican Party with a tidy stock of political capital; the course now being followed by G.O.P. leaders in opposing the President's emergency labor legislation indicates that they understand how to use it. It is hard to see how truckling to Lewis

that they understand how to use it.

If there is any comfort in this gloomy picture it lies in the knowledge that John Lewiy' great triumph was a tactical victory. Strategically, it may well be organized labor's worst defeat, for it again emphasica the inability of the Government to control those unprincipled minorities that wear the union label. John Lewis' arrogance, his utier contempt for the public welfare, and his frightening demonstration of power will not soon be forgotten. And we shall not always be burdened with a weak President and a Congress dominated by penny-ante politicians who cannot see beyond the next election.

Byrnes Has Been Busy Too

THE newspapers, even in their present THE newspapers, even in their present undernounthed state, have been devoting the usual amount of space to the international scene, but Mr. Byrnes' difficulties with Mr. Molotov have seemed duil and routine alongatide the President's spectacular, if futile, struggle with the unions. But the international conflict, difficult as S is to follow, has been greatly clarified in the past two weeks. Mr. Molotov's recent blunt aumnary of the Paris conference may become an initorical footnote that will survive long after Mr. Truman takes his place alongside Rutherford B. Hayes.

Replying to Mr. Byrnes' charges that the Russians have consistently blocked all efforts at final peace settlements, Mr. Molotov charged in his turn that'America and Britain have formed a bloc aimed at depriving Russia of her international rights. Mr. Molotov said a good deal more than that: he documented his thesis that Russia has certain "legitimate claims" that must be recognized. But the greatest importance of his address lay not in his words but in his clear implication. Russia is demanding a sphere of influence in Europe and Asia to guarantee her survival in a world of power politics. Her faith in collective security, what there was of it, has vanished.

This statement of Soviet aims, counled Replying to Mr. Byrnes' charges that the

This statement of Soviet aims, coupled

with Mr. Byrnes' recent, firm policy in Paris almed at preventing their accom-plishment, has the effect of defining the area of conflict, it is trapic, perhaps, for it means that many of the high hones for an era of international co-operation, of disarrament and world progress, have gone glimmering. The UNO, and the bright dream of peace it represents, loses its aut-alance and becomes a plous hope for the future.

But there is still no reason to abandon But there is still no reason to abandon that hope, Mesars, Mollotov and Byrnes have made it clear that for a time at least we are to have two worlds, not one, but they are two worlds that may yet merse without mutual destruction. Perhaps the only possible basis for building an enduring peace is to recognize the conflict between the Soviet and the Western World and attempt, over the years, to reduce it.

and attempt, over the years, to reduce it.

Maybe, in the flush of Joint victory over
Germany and Japan, we exnected too much,
convincing ourselves, briefly, that we had
at last entered the Age of Reason. And
perhaps we will find that we have, at
the cost of our illusions, avoided the final
error that would have insured our destruction. Self-delusion is an Americavice, but sooner or later we were bound
to discover that we cannot avoid conflict
by pretending it doesn't exist.

Here's That Cloud Again

THE slugging of a Republican poll watcher by an elderly Democratic of-I watcher by an elderly Democratic of-ficial in Eastern North Carolina the other day may have resulted from any number of non-political causes, but we choose to regard it as symptomatic of the increasing raggedness of Democratic tempers. And there is, Heaven knows, good reason for it; even in this one-Party preserve it is unnervine to hear the discordant zounds attendant to the national Democratic col-lance.

lapse.

There is a feeling of public diagonal in the very air these days, and that feeling, as any politician knows, usually precedes a change in the politician knows, usually precedes a change in the politicial weather. The first control is the Washington trough for fourteen in the Washington trough for fourteen in the Washington trough for fourteen in the washington trough for fourteen loval party hacks can spot small stream loyal party hacks can spot small stream loyal party hacks can spot small stream for the faith of their fathers, expressed their preference for Republican Harold E. Stassen as next President of the United States. United States.

We suffer under no delusion that there

will be a great shifting of Party lines in North Carolina comes the national revolution. We will continue, of course, to fill all offices with Democrats, but within that loose definition there is room for a homeomorphism of the country at large the South usually reacts to the general urge to turn the rascals out, even thouch it means replacing one set of Democrats with another.

with another.

And maybe it has already begun. There were signs of it in Asheville, where a "Gi" licket made an impressive showing in the primaries, wresting several important offices away from one of those local political organizations enterached Ioniz enough to have earned the title of "Ring." Most, communities, like Metkinburg, slept information of the latest opportunity to lineer an information of the latest opportunity to lineer there are minimizing that could develop into a should by 1948.

We leave it to our peers to determine whether North Carolina needs a change or not. We rest with reporting that we think we can detect on the far horizon one of those clouds no bigger than a man's hand.

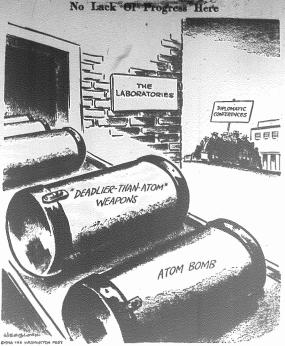
Another Voice

If One, Then The Other

F the Congress passes the President's emergency labor set, including the power to draft into the armed services, boscimen was strike against the Government or who remain on strike after the Government takes over a plant or industry. Moreover, the strike the strike of the draft set. It was watered down about also pass an appropriate draft act. If was watered down afterting all other classes in the country.

For the right to draft striking workers These two actions are mutually incon-is defensible only if everybody else is be-

And the present draft act is not an adequate draft act. It was watered down by the House, which voted 306 to 13 in favor of the drafting of strikers, until it practically abolished the draft.



Harold Ickes

Hannegan's Mouth Trouble

The Lower Levels

THERE is little that can be said in Mr. Hannegan's defense, except that his early training in the lower levels of St. Louis politics afforded him no experience which would enable him to see any direction of the control of the co

Shadow Of Integrity

Will' Mr. Hannegan should have taken it upon himself to announce this appointment in advance is beyond comproblement. True, as National Chairman of the Democratic Party, he is consulted maintenance of the Chairman of the Democratic Party, he is consulted main in appointment of the Chairman of the Democratic Party, he is consulted main in a power of the Chairman of

People's Platform

WILMINGTON

JUST as Mr. J. P. Long has vanied to congratulate E. T. Gerom for his expressed opinions on the world food crisis, so do I find myself impelled to take least with these two gentlemes seen a more starling expression of mai. I find myself impelled to take the constraint of the control of the

-LEE G. BOIKO.

Quote, Unquote

WE all know what Russia wants. We all know what Britain wants, and our Government knows full well what the American people want. Yet we wait in wain for an answer to the all importaint question: What is this administration's Greign policy?—Sen. Kenneth S. Wherry (R) of Nebraska.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewritten if the label and obscently will be deleted—anotherwise anything poes. Each letter must be signed although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will weighhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tax News.

Marquis Childs

Pressure On Vandy

WASHINOTON
COLLEAGUES of Senator Arthur
H. Vandenberg are trying to
persuade him that he must go
back to Faris when the Foreign
Ministers meet again on June 18
terns with Russis on the peace.
They argue that Vandenberg's
presence is necessary to finaure
against, any weakening compropresence is necessary to finaure
against, any weakening comproaurance that this country will
stand on "principle."
In the cloak-room talks, this

corporation counsel in Detroit, began his career as the "Boy Orator" of the Michigan Legislature
in 1910.
WAY TO PEACE

Those who are uring VandenThose who are uring Vandenthe Peter Seleve
that only by presenting an unyielding front in the face of Rusala demands will a decent peace
that only by presenting an unyielding front in the face of Rusala demands will a decent peace
that the end would be a world completely dominated by the Soviet
the end would be a world completely dominated by the Soviet
In the light of Foreign Minister
Moditor's statement in Pravis
this week, it is hard to see how
gether across the terrible divide
that is beginning to separate the
world. Moditor took a line even
that is beginning to separate the
world. Moditor took a line even
in his report. He instated that all
defails of the peace be agreed
to among the Big Four befors a
called. This is the exact opposite
of the stand taken by Byrnes with
Vandenberg's support. It seems
called. This is the exact opposite
of the stand taken by Byrnes with
Vandenberg's support. It seems
called. This is the exact opposite
of the stand taken by Byrnes with
Vandenberg's support. It seems
called the peace of the stand
toward calastrophe.
All the evidence reaching Rusfirm their conviction that demorrary is hopeleastly enlagified in
the own contradictions and confirm their conviction that demorrary is hopeleastly enlagified in
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in the own contradiction and confirm their conviction that demorrary is hopeleastly enlagified in
the own contradiction and confirm their against any weakening compromise. They look to him for assurance that this country will
aurance that this country will
aurance that this country will
in the closek-room talks, this
word principle is frequently heard,
Vandesberg himself often employs
it. The Senator from Michigan
has made no secret of his satiswas the only real achievement of
was the only real achievement of
the Paris conference. That, as
Vandenberg sees it, was the solutification of an American policy
freation of an American policy
america has always stood for.
This was the theme of Vandenberg's brief speech approving
the report made by Secretary of
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Samuel Grafton

UP FOR RE-ELECTION

UP FOR RE-ELECTION
But Vanderberg is up for reelection this Fall. He protests that
he constituents will not understand it if he spends so much
time abroad, its insists that he
time abroad, its insists that he
what people are thinking.
"Listen, Van," one of his Senate
friends said the other day, "you
won't have to make any campaign.
Frawda is making your campaign
for you."

for you."

This was a reference to the fraquent blasts directed assainst Variemberg by the Moscow paper.
Fravita, and by the Moscow propapravita, and by the Moscow propamate, meet of Moscow's propamate, meet of Moscow's propabut on the Republican who had
stord at his side. Statisticians in
other world figure — Pepe Plus
XII — has received such concentrated attention.

Old Order Endureth

MARCH OF PROGRESS

Our republic has not been hit by any explosive bombs, nor by any social bombs, either the old order enduren. The few changes in the process of the proce

home, while in the other direction as new televiation cable from far away was being buried in the away was being buried in the many and the second of the second of the second of the sharecroppers hovel, but it remains as it was when it was built, lifty years or the second of the news of the day. What little there is, is petiliant result than spanniely concerned. A cut than spanniely concerned. A cut than spanniely concerned. A cut of the second o

BUB OF WHAT?

MORAL LAG

Drew Pearson's: McKellar Nears End Of Legislative Road

CENATE leaders have had several talks with Capitol Physical Chorge Calver to see whether venerable Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee will be able to continue as presiding officer of the Senate.

officer of the Senate.

Dr. Calver has lold them that McKellar's trouble is inability to get auffectent blood into his head-with the result.

Intak he either loses consciousness or his mind starts to
wander. Both effects have happened recently-either from
too much eactement of from too hearty eating.

by the Sensie is in session now and you are pre-Biffle replied.

"Now, Lea, you know that's not so." McKellar insisted.
He explained that he was really in his room at the Hotel
Mayflower,

Bibble pointed out that the Senate was in session, debating the British loan.

"Why should they debate the British Joan?" McKellar sized. "You know we passed that yesterday." chair, but the British it for the season of the British it for the British in British it for the British in British it for the British it for the British it for the British it for