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Representative May's 'Explanation'

REPRESENTATIVE ANDREW JACKSON MAY has been prevented from testifying before the Mead Committee, first by the pressure of Congressional business and later by a heart attack which occurred shortly after the Senate Committee announced it would subpoena him. However, neither attention to his duties nor his failing heart have prevented him from sending political fences in his old Kentucky home. To his constituents he has written:

I am sure you have heard of the smear campaign now being carried on as a result of the political "inquisition" of what is known as the Mead Committee. All they charge me with is calling by telephone the Under Secretary of War, now Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson, and some army officers urging them to rush the production of war materials at a time when General Eisenhower was pleading for more shells to meet the bloody onslaught of the Belgium blitz.

Senator Jim Mead is a candidate for Governor of New York, and thinks if he can crucify me he can use that to make himself a great hero. He is the author of his present difficult political position. For more than a year I have been waging a hard fight to keep the military secrets of the atomic bomb in control of the armed forces to prevent them from being given away to some foreign nation, and this campaign is being conducted by the Reds and Pinks. They want to steal the military secret and give it to Russia.

The Mead Committee, of course, has charged Representative May with nothing. It has heard competent testimony linking him with a dubious munitions company suspected of having received large bribes. And it has invited (and finally subpoenaed) Representative May to testify

in his own behalf, which he has refused to do. Instead he has declined to discuss the testimony and has rested his case on his unsupported contention that (1) it isn't so, (2) Senator Mead is trying to smear him, and (3) he is the victim of Communist persecution.

The sad thing is that political observers in Kentucky believe Andrew Jackson May's tactics will insure his re-election in November. The pose of martyr, standing unshaken before attacks from "meddling politicians," is becoming to a candidate, and Kentuckians, like all Southerners, are long on loyalty. That strange, inverted virtue may blind them to the palpable absurdities of Representative May's "explanation" of the part he played in the shocking scandal uncovered by The Mead Committee.

But the Kentuckians have no monopoly on blindness. Now comes Tar Heel Lindsay Warren, the Comptroller General, arising in righteous wrath to condemn wartime fiscal policies approved by the Congress as "damnable." The cost-plus contracts which were standard were "a wide-open invitation to spend the people's money—a gate wide enough to drive a team through." Mr. Warren's meaning is clear: the scandals being unearthed by the Mead Committee are a mere beginning.

If there was ever an occasion for public outrage this is it. Lindsay Warren's charges leave every Federal official, in Congress or out, open to suspicion. In this instance we would say that the burden of proof falls upon the accused. Those who are innocent will have no difficulty proving it. Those who cry "smear" will be automatically suspect, as Andrew Jackson May certainly is.

How To Prevent Intervention

WHEN Senator Knowland of California entered a New York Herald Tribune editorial decrying the Georgia lynching in *The Congressional Record* two Southern arose immediately to protest. Senator Russell of Georgia said brutality was not unknown in California and if Senator Knowland persisted he would retaliate by putting unkind newspaper comment on his state in *The Record*. Senator Johnston of South Carolina said he resented Senator Knowland's remarks and that he didn't think it was polite to criticize a state in the Senate. Down in Atlanta Governor-nominate Gene Talmadge said the lynching was pretty bad, and added that there has been a good deal of mob violence in Detroit at one time or another.

These remarks, and the other spokesmen were championing the right of the South to settle its problems in its own way by arguing that other people have problems, too, the officer in charge of the investigation of the Walton County lynching was admitting defeat. "We have talked to a lot of people," he said, "and they all agree. William E. Spencer, head of the Georgia State Police. The 'best people' won't talk." He added that he was receiving no co-operation from local law enforcement officials and that family and friends of the victims were "tripped by terror" and "Afraid to testify." He would like to see the Federal Government take over. He was not being sarcastic.

This apparently means that the State of

Georgia, despite the best efforts of its Governor, is incapable of solving one of the worst crimes in its history. If this is true, how can the opponents of Federal intervention continue to justify their opposition to such measures as the anti-lynching bill which has been repeatedly filibustered to death in Congress? It is plain that they can do so only by defending the right of white Georgians to shoot down unarmed Negroes.

It is not insignificant that some Southern newspapers are beginning to demand Federal action. *The Greensboro Daily News*, which has long favored intervention although regarding special legislation as unnecessary, says flatly: "Where law and order as invested in local and state officialdom break down or are incapable of acting, there is only one authority left to intervene and press for justice, which, after all, is decreed in Constitutional guarantees." There will be many other Southerners to take up that cry unless Georgia comes to some improbable miracle bring the 20 white murderers of Monroe to justice.

The leaders of the Southern spokesmen in arguing that brutality knows no state lines. But they are forgetting that ordinary standards of human decency also know no such artificial boundaries. Mass murder in Georgia is as much the business of the *Herald Tribune* as it is of the *Atlanta Constitution*. Senator Knowland as it is of Senator Russell. The only way to prevent outside intervention is to make it unnecessary.

Straw Poll On City Extension

THE Planning Board, we think, is wise in undertaking a straw poll to determine the attitude of the 15,000 suburban residents who would become residents of Charlotte if the city limits are extended. The proposal is to extend the city limits to the south and west, and it might be well to start it now. The usual opposition to extension comes from those who fear their tax burden will be increased by it. This is rarely true at the moment, because special fees for school attendance, water and sewer service, and increased fire insurance rates usually equal or exceed the amount of the city tax. But there is, we suppose, some basis for the fear that rates might be increased in the future.

There are, however, many advantages in having the city better roads and streets, adequate police and fire protection, street lights, etc. These are tangibles, but there are intangibles of equal importance, such as obtaining a voice in the affairs of the city of which these suburbs are as much a part as if they were in residence at the corner of Trade and Tryon.

On the reverse side there is the matter of justice to the city-dweller and taxpayer. All those whose existence depends upon

services provided by the City of Charlotte are under obligation to bear a full share of responsibility for the operation of the City Government. They would be forced to accept an extension of the city limits quickly and without dissent. The extension would give access to schools, libraries, etc., to all those who reside within the limits. Such action, of course, is not contemplated, nor would we suggest it. But it does serve to illustrate the parasitic nature of the citizen who seeks the advantages of the city and the freedom (from taxes) of the countryside.

But the most important argument in favor of extending the city limits is that orderly planning is impossible without it. Charlotte is a growing community, due to expand rapidly in the next few decades. Disorder is certain if independent communities are allowed to spring up around the perimeter of the present City.

This is the consideration that we believe will impress city-dweller and suburbanite alike. If the city limits are extended, that the Planning Board's straw poll will show a majority in favor of extension. Unofficial though the poll is, it can pave the way for speedy action.

Another Voice

EDITOR LOUIS GRAVES of the always refreshing *Charlotte News* has taken the *Charlotte News* to task for the use of the phrase: "None of this is any business of ours" in a News editorial commenting on the effect of a new ordinance on the city. "None of this is any business of ours?" asks Mr. Graves in a letter. "And, if you think so, why all the comment?"

We are happy, for one, to have the imprimatur of one of the best hands in the newspaper on editorial matters. Of course, it is much easier to meddle in a Polish matter than in one in Georgia. Moreover, we do not have to append: "This is none of our business, but..." Distance lends

enchantment; and, besides, there is no kickback from readers.

There is a very good reason, however, for inserting this slightly hypocritical phrase in the midst of some meddlesome editorial on the effect of a new ordinance on the city. It is to show that the editorial is a paragon of virtue though it is none of our business. "But we will make it our business to keep an eye peeled," Asheville citizen.



People's Platform

Dissatisfied To Satisfied

Editors, The News:

DEAR MR. BEST: I read your reply to "Dissatisfied" in the columns of *The News*. Judging from the laboring man's view, your defense of control has a leaky roof, and a rotten foundation. In the first place OPA would have something to sell or houses to rent being gifted with either fore-sight or hindsight. Had they been satisfied for a short while to only increase prices to the extent of the removed subsidy all might have worked out your way. But the love of a few dollar and the inherent desire to fatten up at the expense of God's other children proved too strong for them to resist.

So the producer and a seller of everything blasted things sky high at the start of non-control. You very probably can't appreciate the view of the masses, as I am riding a hunch that you are either in trade or the rental business. But please don't try to ring in your column writers, all a Republican Democrat, or Red. I simply stand for everything that our beloved late President stood for. So here is hoping that you don't lose too much sleep over the resurrection of OPA.

—DISSATISFIED.

From A Friend

Editors, The News:

I WANT to say that "A Minor Angel to Argue with" was a graceful and beautiful tribute that could be appreciated by your readers and especially by the friends of the late S. A. Reed. Although we were not personal friends, Mr. Reed and I had a satisfactory friendship by regular correspondence during the past ten months. In fact it was his recommendation that influenced me to write this to the *News*. I discontinued the newspaper I had been taking mostly because its policy seemed to be too far right of center for me to stomach day after day. Mr. Reed advised that he thought I would like the more liberal editorial policy of *The News* and listed the names of your column writers, all of whom I was already familiar with except 3 on your feature page.

—RANDALL SHOEMAKER.

Help Wanted

Editors, The News:

I HAVE just finished reading Burke Davis' article about Al Burdette and it was very interesting also amazing. I would like to tell you about my husband. I could write him about my husband. I feel like some miracle might help him for he is really letting it get him down. He is 51 years old of decent living before he is too old to enjoy them. At the rate he is going now I'm worried for fear he might die drunk while I discussed him with him, he seemed totally uninterested. I discussed him with him, he seemed totally uninterested. I discussed him with him, he seemed totally uninterested.

Mr. Burdette's address or send him mine and explain to my husband. Hope you won't think it little of me.

Drew Pearson's • Public Must Be Alert To Preserve Peace

EIGHTEEN years ago this month, I traveled with Frank B. Kellogg, then Secretary of State, to a Peace Conference in Paris on which—like this Conference—the people of the world placed great hope. At Paris, as Secretary Kellogg signed his pact to outlaw war, the little people of the world who have to do the fighting and the dying when war comes rejoiced—many were even sure—that a new era of peace on earth and good will had finally come to stay.

Frank B. Kellogg, of course, was ahead of his time. So was Henry L. Stimson who followed him in the State Department and who did his best to carry out the obligations of the Kellogg Pact. Worthwhile men always are ahead of their time and progress always has been a matter of the world trying to live up to the goals set by other men ever since the days of Christ.

However, the sheet remains that even while the ink was drying on the Kellogg Pact, Viscount Yanaoka Uchida, who signed it at Geneva, knew that his war lords were conspiring to set Manchuria and later all China. And while the Polish foreign minister sat in the famous Clock Room of the Quai D'Orsay participating in the ceremony of signing the pact, Polish cavalry was fretfully skirmishing along the German border.

Man In Street Did Not See War

I came back to Europe in 1920 for the London Naval Conference, when it became distressingly clear that Mussolini was planning to stab France in the back; and again in 1936, when Hitler was betting his money on France in Spain and had baffled France by sending his troops

me to write you about this but I feel like I must do something before it is too late.

NOTE: Mr. Burdette, who has so successfully straightened out his own life, will be more than happy to help any alcoholic. His address: Rev. Al B. Burdette, Baptist Memorial Presbyterian Church, Concord, N. C.—Eds., *The News*.

The Box Score

HOW North and South Carolina members of Congress were recorded by the Associated Press as voting on recent roll calls:

SENATE: On resolution to submit to the states proposed constitutional amendment guaranteeing equal rights to Negroes, rejected by vote of 8 for, 35 against (two-thirds majority required): Hays, North Carolina, Johnson, South Carolina, and Maybank, South Carolina, against; Bailey, North Carolina, not voting.

On Barker, Democrat, Kentucky, motion to put aside House, Republican, Oregon, anti-polit-tax amendment to Tidelands Bill, agreed to 34 to 22; Hays and Maybank, for; Bailey and Johnston not voting.

On passage, 210 to 142 of compromise OPA revival bill, all for except: Hays, North Carolina, Johnson, South Carolina, and Maybank, for; Bailey and Johnston not voting.

On Bail, Republican, Minnesota, amendment to terminate leave pay bill to provide for automatic promotions and substantial allowances for American prisoners of war, rejected 44 to 33; Johnson, Maybank and Hays, against; Bailey, not voting.

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On passage, 250 to 79, of amendment bill vesting control of the Federal Reserve System in the Federal Reserve Board, all for except: Hays, North Carolina, Johnson, South Carolina, and Maybank, for; Bailey and Johnston not voting.

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The Earth Yields

WASHINGTON

THE bounteous American earth is giving forth again with a record harvest and the world's hunger is being eased. This newest miracle, after five years of bumper crops, is more good fortune than we are entitled to expect.

What the nation has done, despite confusion and conflict both in Washington and in the country, is truly remarkable. A total of 400-500,000 bushels of grain was sent to Europe and Asia in the year ending June 30.

But while we can take pride in this record, with the honor going chiefly to the farmers who sweated out record yields of wheat and corn, we should remember that there are still vast populations on the edge of starvation. There is a long road ahead before anything like the pre-war food level is achieved. Members of an unofficial famine mission to India have just returned to this country. They found comparatively little evidence of malnutrition and almost no famine.

This, however, is because a rigid rationing system distributed the available food efficiently and effectively. Bengal Province, where the government has been able to do an effective job, is a big exception. The order and discipline that prevailed elsewhere deeply impressed the Americans who toured the country by plane from one end to the other.

LIVING RATION The ration is 120 ounces, or approximately 1200 calories for adults, six ounces for children under eight. This is just enough to sustain life. That is what is so important about it. It is the only ration that is realistic. It is the only ration that is realistic. It is the only ration that is realistic.

The famine mission found a gap of 750,000 tons in India's supply of food for the year ending October 1, 1945. The government of India is now working to close this gap. It is the only ration that is realistic. It is the only ration that is realistic. It is the only ration that is realistic.

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton D. Anderson said members of the mission, when they conferred with him, that 500,000 tons were in sight. Somehow, we in this country must find a way to ship that extra 250,000 tons.

—SIGNATURE WITHHELD.

Samuel Crafton

Spoiled Business

LOS ANGELES

THERE is something spoiled and wilful in the shouting of some of our farm and business groups for a new British-Canadian wheat deal. It is a spoiled business. It is a spoiled business. It is a spoiled business.

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