

Thurmond's 'Welcome' To Realtors

SOUTH CAROLINA'S hosts to a regional conference of the National Association of Real Estate Boards probably didn't bargain for the type of "welcome" addressed by Senator J. B. Thurmond to the visiting delegates at Myrtle Beach Monday. The Governor, instead of voicing the usual general platitudes reserved for such occasions, exhorting property owners to use the terms for "profitless" in the housing market by offering homes for sale "ridiculously and exorbitantly overpriced." "Loathsome," "inhuman" and "grievous" were terms employed by South Carolina executive to describe some real estate owners.

The Governor's message was frequently interrupted by boos and other evidences of displeasure from the delegates, and the South Carolina Association of Real Estate Boards hastened to offer its humble apologies for what it termed the miserably inadequate and discourteous welcome. However, if the Governor's remarks are taken seriously, they did not include all real estate owners in his charge, certainly some of the counter-fire which he drew from the assembled realtors was no less reprehensible.

For example, Morgan L. Fitch, president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, promptly cloaked himself in the mantle of "free enterprise" and expressed his surprise that the Governor of South Carolina should deliver a speech "written in the New York offices of the Communist Party," thereby dealing in "demagoguery." Progress toward solution of the housing shortage, Mr. Fitch said, is due directly to the "intelligent action" of the last session of Congress in extinguishing all housing controls. By removal of controls, Mr. Fitch continued, new investors have been encouraged to build for the current market

and a tremendous amount of housing has been released.

And Paul F. Semonin Jr., president of the Housing Shortage Association, replied that the realtors can and will do something about the housing shortage if only "they will leave us alone."

It is news to us that Governor Thurmond is a demagogue or Communist, or that much progress has been made toward solving the housing shortage since Congress removed building and rental controls. The thousands of citizens who are living under intolerably crowded conditions, or who can find private and decent housing only at prices beyond their ability to pay, will derive scant comfort from the remarks of Mr. Fitch, Mr. Semonin and the like. It is our own idea that the realtors have been neither more nor less glutinous than the rest of us, and that the housing shortage is due to conditions beyond anybody's control, including theirs. Certainly Governor Thurmond was not hospitable, and perhaps he was unrealistic when he charged that the real estate men were profiteering from the rental market. But the real estate men are open to the same charge of unreality when they are left intemperately that if everything be returned to normal, unrestricted, they will fix everything up.

A Tar Heel delegate to the Myrtle Beach convention, H. E. Izenhour of Salisbury, came much closer to the point than Messrs. Fitch and Semonin with their pretty talk about unrestricted private enterprise. He said that the realtors to be "a little ahead of the politicians in fighting for standards for housing which a right thinking people will favor. If we don't do that through private enterprise, then the politicians and bureaucrats will take over."

THIS unreal political landscape includes a hillside still brightly flecked with sunshine in the instant before a great storm descends upon the scene. The light is deceptive, and conclusions must be tentative. Yet it is clear that the Kremlin has clear probability that the Kremlin has now altered the directive of the Western European Communist parties. After more than two years of full measures, an immediate change in policy seems to have been commanded.

It is apparent that the first signs of this great event should become visible here in Italy. For it was also here in Italy that the Western European Communist line was established for the immediate postwar period. The story is dramatic.

COMMUNIST POLICY
Very briefly, the Communist Party of Italian partisans were early organized by veterans of the Western European Communist Party sent out from Moscow. Their main task, moreover, was not to fight the Fascist Government, but to prepare for a seizure of power on the classical revolutionary line. The party was to be a party of the masses, to be a party of the masses, to be a party of the masses.

Then the surrender of Marshal Badoglio led to the establishment of a new Italian Government in southern Italy. The Italian Communist Party was then established in the Fascist Italy in fancy dress; set up a new party against the King's Government. The Communists were also to maintain a general condition of political disorganization in the Government.

This in turn had two purposes. First, the Western European Communist Party was to prevent any opposition to the full power of the Government. The Communists were also to maintain a general condition of political disorganization in the Government. The Communists were also to maintain a general condition of political disorganization in the Government.

WITH all Europe reeling toward the worst conceivable crisis, this extreme eastern projection of the tragic continent may be lost in the confusion of the day. However, it is here in this trouble center and here alone that the Communist Party has committed direct intervention.

How are we doing in Greece? The answer is: Not too well. But given the circumstances, this is a surprise no one.

First and most important is the time element. The program the American people are attempting to carry out is based on information supplied last December by the Greek Government. The conditions inside Greece have greatly deteriorated. The guerrillas in the mountains have taken over the control, and the economic condition has worsened.

TOO MUCH DILEMMA-BALLING
On account of the delay of nearly six months in sending the aid mission with relief, there came another. This was a delay of nearly two months after the arrival of mission director Dwight Griswold in Athens. The broader the base of the Greek Government, the more the Greek Government, the more the Greek Government, the more the Greek Government.

Now, for a week Greece has had a serious and a free government in the hands of the Premier, the Premier of the Thessalonians. The Premier of the Thessalonians, the Premier of the Thessalonians, the Premier of the Thessalonians.

Why does this matter? It is a matter of the highest importance. It is a matter of the highest importance. It is a matter of the highest importance. It is a matter of the highest importance.

People's Platform Light On ABC Liquor Prices

Editors, The News:
THE News has committed a breach of propriety in publishing as public information, not as advertising, the list of liquor prices in ABC stores when opened in the near future.

It is still in uncertainty as to the limit of the amnesty which will be granted to the guerrillas. Even if it is reasonably successful, there is no prospect that Greece can enjoy anything like real military security until called to arms by the United States Army. That work will not be completed before June, 1948. After that, the threat on the borders from Russia's Balkan satellites may remain.

While the Government is making a fresh start toward stability and the Army is being reorganized, the problems of reconstruction and revival of production still are unsolved. American money and American goods are still being poured into Greece in the economic field. Appreciation of the size of that task grows as our representatives proceed. Conservative observers now estimate that our Greek venture will cost the United States five years of our time and an uncertain amount of money. Meanwhile, it still is too early to tell what destiny we chose for ourselves when we selected this little Mediterranean land as the spot for a showdown with Soviet Russia.

Intellectual Nausea
Editors, The News:
CONTINUOUSLY insisting upon putting the cart before the horse, and distorting the employment of the word "intellectual" in the "Constitutions" of Sept. 6, P. L. Lindsey contends that, despite the Roman dispersion of Jews in the Middle Ages, the Jews have continued in sustaining themselves beyond the lack of a national homeland, but have manifested a peculiar genius of their own.

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Power-Puffed Lewis

NEW YORK—Hated by the public, disliked and distrusted by his own workers, the late John L. Lewis, president, secretary and vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, is being remembered as a man who has been a major factor in the class warfare, and the picked balldog of unions fighting for their own interests.

Why does Lewis pull this dramatic squeeze play and launch this new campaign?
The answer simply is that this move is part of the grand strategy of making himself America's labor boss. By the union labor, AFL and CIO.

It is his labor technique in action. He sees himself as the man to smash the Taft-Hartley Law—and to have the dues paying millions of men in his gratitude. He sees it as a fight between himself and the Government's labor law—the flower-wearing Robert Denham.

"Long shot gambling is my territory," Denham says.
That's what Lewis is playing—a long shot. He has a 50-50 chance of power any more he ever had, over 15,000,000 to 17,000,000 Americans, labor's rank and file.

His strategy runs something like this: By the American Federation of Labor, he also influenced the CIO, which was waiting to follow AFL's lead. He wanted to see the AFL and CIO forced by Lewis' action to boycott the Taft-Hartley law, the new Government labor law.

At the same time he will couple this drive with a political campaign. He will back the Democratic candidate for President. He will back the Democratic candidate for President.

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A Long Way To Go In Greece

CHANCES to cheer for a gain by the American side in the battle over Greece have been exceedingly rare but we currently are able to discern a break in the clouds over that strife-torn Balkan peninsula. There are signs of a new dawn of hope. Our satisfaction over the recent turn of events should be tempered by realization of the fact that we still have not reached the point that we can confidently predict a favorable outcome in the struggle.

The Greek picture has been brightened by the establishment of a coalition Government and by the extension of amnesty to guerrillas who will lay down their arms. Both of these developments are important steps toward restoration of order and peace in the Balkans. The new regime rests on a precarious basis.

Although the new cabinet is headed by Greece's aged Liberal leader, Themistocles Sophoulis, and his party wields a larger vote in the regime, the reactionary monarchists still are in the picture. In the Government, Constantin Tsaldaris, remains in the here as deputy premier, foreign minister and chairman of an inner cabinet composed of two Populists and two Liberals. The Populists hold the key posts in the cabinet, fourteen places to eleven for Sophoulis' Liberals.

America's Dilemma In Inflation

A RELATED call for "stateism" on a price control comes from a Republican leader in Congress, Senator Flanders of Vermont, who heads a Senate-House subcommittee which is conducting price hearings in New England.

The terms of the Senator's legislation with the stateism which killed off OPA and other Government controls has been shaken by the evidence uncovered in his investigation of high living costs. A recently brief report on the ground with consumers, retailers and distributors has forced him to see that we are heading toward a big bump under the present plan and unguided operation of the free enterprise system.

We have reached the point where there are only three alternatives, as Senator Flanders sees it. They are: (1) Let the price spiral run until it is checked by employment; (2) restore Government control over the production and distribution of wages and labor, and on the question of prices with industry; (3) let the price spiral run until it is checked by employment.

It is the failure of stateism, on the part of the Republican majority, and the Democratic Administration, industry and labor which started us on this road. But road without brakes. It is the absence of leadership in these same circles that makes it highly questionable whether the nation can be united in the face of the danger that is rushing upon us. Whether any program capable of arresting the price spiral can be devised and approved by the conflicting interests that control our destinies.

The chances that Government controls will be revived are as slight as the prospect that "stateism" will come to our rescue. In all the discussion of the ways to check the price boom, we consistently

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Victor Riesel

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