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CAROLINAS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

AMERICANS love a parade, any time, any place. Even such simple ingredients as one tooting band and a couple of decorated cars make an interesting enough procession to stop pedestrians on a busy street and hold their attention. But when you blend together such an intriguing combination as that to be put up by the Christmas Festival Committee here this afternoon, then you really have something.

Last year, some 200,000 young people and their elders squeezed into every square foot of ground space and hung from every available window along historic Tryon Street to watch the first edition of the Carolinas Christmas Festival parade go by. They came from all over Charlotte's big trading area, some of them from many miles away.

And barring a heavy downpour, they'll be back in even greater numbers today to watch, and take part in, the second edition, bigger and more colorful in many respects than the first. The parade is the main event on the day-long program of festivities which ushers in the Christmas season in the Carolinas.

The members of the Charlotte Merchants Association and the scores of individual workers have done a monumental job in arranging the countless details of the gigantic program. It has been a wonderful example of co-operation.

Perhaps, from the standpoint of the merchant-sponsors, there are commercial overtones to the project. After all, Christmas is a time for gift giving, and a good many of us are prone to put off our shopping until the very last day. That makes it hard on the merchants, not to mention ourselves, and anything which will alleviate that last minute rush works both ways.

But for us spectators, it will simply be a good show. And we'll be there, just as we were last year, just as we will be next year.

A JOB FOR THE SBI

THE other Sunday afternoon in Gastonia, a drug-crazed youth put down the guns with which he had blazed away at officers and spectators surrounding his house, raised his arms in the air, and walked forth to surrender. One newsman said he came out with a grin on his face which had been slightly cut by flying glass. The youth, Ray Aldridge, was bundled into a police car with seven officers and rushed to the Mecklenburg County Jail.

A couple of hours later, news photographers took pictures of Aldridge in his cell, one of which showed his face bruised and puffed, his eyes almost closed, his lips thick. He told reporters then, and later, that the officers took turns beating him on the ride to Charlotte.

The Gastonia Gazette reported editorially that there had been other occasions in the past when it had had reason to believe that prisoners were beaten by Gastonia officers.

Finally, this week, the *Gazette* took a courageous and forthright stand on the question. It called for the suspension of the seven officers who transported Aldridge to Charlotte and whom he accused of the beating. The men should be relieved of duty, the newspaper said, "until the facts are discovered". It continued:

"Most serious aspect of this whole case is not the question of how Aldridge was handled. Literally scores of people — men whom we believe are honest, upright, hard-working, law-abiding — have told us in confidence of similar beatings which they say Gastonia officers have given law-breakers from time to time and which have never seen the light of day in the courts or in the newspapers. In addition, this newspaper has . . . had stories of men being beaten by officers . . . If it (the police force) is guilty of this and other similar offenses, the force should be cleaned out and a brand new start made."

THE NEWS, on several occasions, has asked Gaston Police Chief J. C. Elliott whether or not he planned to investigate the alleged beatings. His latest comment was: "If we get information from some reputable people who saw Ray Aldridge beaten we will do something about it. We don't have anything except Aldridge's word. We aren't going to take that."

Such a theory would mean that any officer might take any prisoner to the darkest cell, beat the daylights out of him, and then deny it. No "reputable people" would see him, of course, and Chief Elliott wouldn't take the prisoner's word for it.

It is not a matter of creating sympathy for Aldridge. His was a dreadful crime and its tragic results are beyond recall. He merits the full punishment of the law.

But, like any other prisoner, he deserves the protection of the law once he has surrendered and until such time as the State pronounces him guilty and prescribes his penalty. And if neither Police Chief Elliott nor the public officials of Gastonia take definite action to find out the truth of the beating charge, then the Governor of North Carolina should put the State Bureau of Investigation to work on it. As long as there is suspicion lingering over the heads of the seven officers, the reputation of all policemen will be jeopardized and the effectiveness of law enforcement hampered.

UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANCE

IN 1928 when Al Smith ran for President of the United States religious prejudice reached what was then a twentieth century peak. Al Smith was a Catholic; for this reason he was considered unfit by many to hold the supreme office in this nation. Not because he was not a competent man, not because he did not possess qualities of leadership, not because he was a thief or a murderer—but because he was a Catholic.

When a man's religion could make him a target for abuse, when a man's religion could block his progress in his career, then education was sorely needed.

It was not alone because of Democrat Al Smith's case that the National Conference of Christians and Jews was organized in 1928 with Republican Charles Evan Hughes and Dr. S. Parks Cadman as its leaders. Smith was not the only object of religious prejudice. Catholics were not alone in suffering. The Jew—history's whipping boy—was in the same, if not an even more buffeted, boat.

The United States at that time resembled, and in some respects still does, a fight ring with three contestants—each participant with two adversaries. Jew hating Catholic and Protestant, Catholic hating Jew and Protestant, Protestant hating Jew and Catholic.

"Hate" was the customary term for what members of one faith felt for the members of other faiths. To some extent it *was* and is hate, but more important it is ignorance, lack of knowledge and misconception that prevented and prevents inter-faith harmony. The work of the Ku Klux Klan against Jews and Catholics, vicious "jokes" about Jews and Catholics all contributed to the mass of misinformation which bulwarked religious prejudice. The most telling blow of all was Hitler's campaign to exterminate the Jew; many in this nation endorsed that campaign while fighting against it.

Through the past twenty years the National Conference of Christians and Jews has sought to teach the public that religious prejudice is baseless; it has tried to show the public how much adherents to all faiths are *alike*, to have them recognize those things which all religious groups have in common. Its campaign has been, to some degree, successful; from a one man staff in a single office in 1928 it has grown to an organization with 60 offices and a staff of more than 200, but this numerical accomplishment is not the source of the National Conference's pride in this its twentieth year. Workers with the National Conference are proud, and have reason to be proud, because leading citizens of all faiths have accepted the National Conference, have given their support to projects undertaken (for example, the Religious Book Week program in Charlotte, to which many of Charlotte's citizens contributed their efforts), and have accepted positions on committees.

Tomorrow at Greensboro's Sedgefield Inn workers in the North Carolina region for the National Conference will hold their annual meeting and anniversary dinner. The names of these workers for inter-faith harmony are well known; such persons as Regional Chairman Frank P. Graham, and members of the state advisory committee, I. D. Blumenthal, J. Melville Broughton, Jonathan Daniels, Clyde A. Erwin, Monsignor R. Freeman, Bishop Edwin A. Penick, D. Hiden Ramsey, Norman Block and L. W. Driscoll. Their contribution to better human relations is valuable; the state is better for it. And for the untiring efforts of the National Conference of Christians and Jews' Regional Director Allyn P. Robinson the state is better.

The men named above are able, as are the other members of the State Advisory Committee. But on another level—on your level—there is much work to be done. Your active participation in the National Conference is needed; but even more important is your active participation in living with your neighbor, in accepting him as your neighbor, in bettering human relations.

From The Raleigh News and Observer

STARTING EARLY

BY directing the State Highway Commission to make immediate estimates of the cost of "black topping" 12,000 miles and treating 36,000 more miles within four years, Governor-elect Scott has made it clear that he intends to waste no time in making good his campaign pledges.

Mr. Scott does well to make an early start. At the best the building of the roads will take a long time. It may take a long time to get an authorization for them. If a bond issue is involved, and it well may be, the question must be submitted to the people.

The people of the State have already approved Mr. Scott's position. They will approve the speed with which he is moving to make good his pledge.

Forty-One Gun Salute

Marquis Childs

The Tide Turns

WASHINGTON

SINCE the revolt of Nov. 2, a great deal has been written about the Republicans who are not coming back to Washington. But nothing has been said about those who will return, like Mary's little lamb, bringing their records behind them.

This is not the Old Guard. In the Senate, particularly, those who will be coming back — chiefly because they were fortunate enough not to have been up for re-election were swept in by the Republican high tide of 1946.

The voters in '46 were dissatisfied with a number of things. They decided it was time for a change and they returned a Republican Congress. But the incoming Republicans, or far too many of them, took this as a mandate to turn the clock back to the William McKinley era.

That was not at all what a majority of the voters had in mind. The Republican diehards carried in on the '46 tide were a greater handicap to Governor Dewey, in my opinion, than the Old Guard. They seemed determined to prove in the 80th Congress that the GOP had forgotten nothing and learned nothing.

THE NEW CROP

The lesson was especially pointed in the West. A new crop of Senators came in from Nevada, Utah, Washington, Montana and they promptly proceeded to vote against all the things dear to the West.

New Republicans such as Senators Harry P. Cain of Washington and Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin fought public housing. They represented not the people, but the housing and real estate lobbies.

By comparison, Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, the majority leader, appeared to be a flaming liberal. Taft fought hard for his housing bill and got it through the Senate in spite of the obstructionist tactics of the younger Republicans. It was blocked in the House by strategists for the lobbies that were determined it should not pass.

The most conspicuous example in the group of Republican two-year-olds is Senator George W. Malone of Nevada. Malone's record is not only completely reactionary on the domestic side, but on foreign policy he showed himself an old-fashioned isolationist. He voted to cut down the European Recovery appropriation and he was against extending the Reciprocal Trade Agreements except for one year.

In the same class is another of the 1946 crop—Senator James Kem of Missouri. Kem's record and his point of view are early Illurian. By his standards, Dewey was a dangerous radical.

The record of Senator Zales N. Ecton of Montana is nearly as bad. So is that of Senator William E. Jenner of Indiana, who was elected for short term in 1944 and returned in '46. Judged by the outcome on Nov. 2, Sen. Arthur V. Watkins of Utah was for the most part voting against the interests of the majority in his region and in the nation.

Quite understandably the voters took these men as a sample of what Republicanism might mean if applied across the board. When President Truman hammered away at the record of the 80th Congress, he did so against the background of the votes not of the Old Guard, but of the newcomers supposedly representing the best and bravest in the party.

WEIGHT OF NUMBERS

The sad thing is that at least one newcomer, whose record is excellent on both the domestic and foreign policy, went down under the weight of his party. That is Sen. John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky. Truman carried Kentucky by a plurality of 123,328, compared to 84,000 for Roosevelt in 1944, while Cooper lost to Virgil Chapman by only 21,285.

It is hard to see now, by hindsight, what Dewey might have done to overcome this handicap. As the bandwagon psychology grew, oddly assorted characters jumped on for the victory ride — men such as William C. Bullitt and Jesse Jones, who seemed to represent nothing but the past and a violent vindictiveness toward everyone connected with the past. In retrospect, the handicap appears to have been an old man of the sea which would have bowed down a far more vigorous and forthright Presidential candidate.

Looking at the returns state by state, you cannot escape the conclusion that most of the Senators swept in on the '46 tide would have been defeated if they had come up this year. In a sense, then, they will be lame ducks.

Progressive Republicans in the Senate, conspicuously Senator Aiken of Vermont, have indicated that they mean to take over the leadership and the direction of their party. But what they will do with these holdovers from the past is hard to see. It is possible, however, that lame ducks can read the election returns.

Go Back To The Fundamentals Of Teheran

The Shadow Of German Rearmament

By SUMNER WELLES
Former Undersecretary of State

NEW YORK

FEAR that British and American policy is now directed toward the immediate establishment of a strong and autonomous Western Germany is casting a deep shadow over Western Europe.

The vote in the French National Assembly last June showed that apprehension lest the English-speaking powers repeat their fatal error of the 1920's and rebuild a powerful centralized Germany as a buffer against Russia is shared by all of France's political parties.

The French are protesting against the centralization of power proposed in the draft constitution for the new West German state, and against the rapidity of the economic reconstruction of the British and American zones. They reject the Anglo-American plan to restore the Ruhr industries to German control and insist that the international authority to be set up in the Ruhr be permanent and that this authority place security above economic recovery.

THE spectre of German rearmament is arousing as much anxiety in the Low Countries, in Scandinavia, and among the democratic elements in Poland and Czechoslovakia, as in France.

I received this message from Europe three days ago:

"The actual German has not changed in any way. He is your enemy and you cannot trust him. General von Paulus and his men have played up to the Russians because they are convinced that in the long run the Germans can master the Russians. They are not afraid to serve them for the time being. If you put arms in the hands of the Western Germans—rumor already mentions an army of 500,000 men—the von Paulus tactics will one day spread to the West and, should Russia find herself in a tough spot, she and Germany will join in the conquest of Europe, and the Western Germans will stab you in the back. You will not be better off if the Russians leave a Communist-dominated German army behind them. The results will be the same."

This warning did not come from France. It came from a prominent Danish journalist in Copenhagen.

Since Germany robbed them in 1864 of their Southern provinces the Danes have tried persistently to obtain for South Schleswig the democratic right of self determination. In 1946 the British occupation authorities suggested that the Danish government fix the Schleswig frontier as it might see fit and either expel the unwanted Germans by force or hold a Danish-controlled plebiscite. The offer was rejected by Denmark on the ground that the only lasting solution for the South Schleswig problem must be true self-determination.

Last month a group of four Danish political leaders headed by Hans Rasmussen attended a conference in London called to discuss the problem "informally." Great Britain still has to consult the United States and France. But Danish officials are convinced that the final decision will not represent a recognition of Denmark's just claims, but rather a bribe to the new allies the English-speaking powers are trying to secure in western Germany.

At the very moment that the United States is seeking to promote confidence and unity in western Europe the sharply mounting anxiety aroused by Anglo-American policy toward Germany is having a gravely disruptive effect on the unity of the western European countries.

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NEITHER the French nor the other peoples of Western Europe are ignorant of the fact that the essential basis for a realistic and long-range German policy was found at Teheran. As Robert Sherwood has shown in his incomparable contribution to modern history, "Roosevelt and Hopkins," Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt there agreed upon the fundamental principle that Germany should become a federation of autonomous states. Subsequent misunderstandings and differences voided that agreement. Yet the three major powers were then in accord upon the only policy that spells security for Germany's neighbors. No other policy can offer Europe the hope of future peace.

At this late date any solution of that kind would, of course, imply the willingness of both Moscow and Washington to reverse their present course. Yet if there is ever to be a chance for the policy agreed upon at Teheran to be revived, the opportunity afforded by the aftermath of President Truman's reelection would seem to be the most propitious.

Notwithstanding the Vishinsky tirades, the diatribes of Red Army leaders and the virulence of Soviet propaganda, this momentary detente offers American statesmanship a chance to cut through the accumulating antagonisms of the post-war years and get back to the fundamentals of Teheran.

The German cancer is infecting every part of Europe. Such features of American policy as the European Recovery Program and the Western European Alliance—unavoidable as the bad faith and stupidity of Russia's leaders may have made them—can only be palliatives. They will not cure the malady. There will be no cure for Europe unless there is a German settlement that means the certainty of German disarmament. And this only political decentralization and international control can provide.

It will be solely the pan-Germans and the German militarists who will profit from the present contest between Russia and the English-speaking powers for German support.

Quote, Unquote

. . . Poem In Which Is Contained a Fairly Accurate Estimate of the Esteem in Which Fluttery Maidens Are Held by Bold He-Men:

They don't care a loon
For women who swear.

—Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.

You must have two things to get any real pleasure out of an automobile. One is the time. The other is the money. Usually if you have the money, you take the time. —Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.

New speed regulations here call for 35 miles an hour in one direction and 25 in the other. Ought to boost the sales of those new models that look as if they're going when they're coming. —Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Another Dirty Job

WASHINGTON

ONE of the penalties of President Truman's stirring victory is that he must go on doing the dirty jobs of government. And it now seems all too likely that radical taxes is going to be the first and foremost among these unpleasant tasks. In fact, if the President pays his customary attention to his expert advisers, he will ask the Congress to raise something "like the huge total of five billion dollars of additional Government revenue.

Treasury and Budget officials are not making any public statements on higher taxes. Yet, as they point out privately, the facts speak for themselves. It is worth noting that they would have spoken just as loudly to Governor Thomas E. Dewey as to President Truman. For the facts are both simple and inescapable.

In this fiscal year the Truman-vetoed tax cut will cost the Government, according to the estimates of the Council of Economic Advisers, upwards of five billion dollars. As a consequence, the Treasury will run into the red to an estimated billion and a half dollars. Every economist, from left to right, agrees that such deficit financing in boom times is economic insanity. And the hard fact is that next year, unless the most important commitments of the United States are to be briskly tossed into the ashcan, Government expenditures are sure to be sharply increased.

The chief areas of increase can be briefly listed. The greatest increase will be of course, from fear of Soviet aggression. Defense spending, which now accounts for about 30 per cent of the load on the taxpayers, will have to be boosted by an absolute minimum of a billion dollars—and the budget experts agree that it will have to be held to a billion a miracle will have been achieved.

Now that the goods are in the pipeline and the checks are actually being written, the European Recovery Program is likely to cost the taxpayers a billion billion dollars more next year. Rearmament of Western Europe is clearly in prospect. The lowest guess for the first year's cost is a billion dollars, and the final figure is almost certain to be more than this.

To this, add China. It is becoming daily more clear that the United States can either apathetically accept the appalling catastrophe of a China totally dominated by the Kremlin, or can make a great effort to avert the catastrophe. Some such effort is almost certain to be made, and there is no doubt that it will be costly.

At home, there are two lesser areas of probable increase. The farm support program may well run into the hundreds of millions, depending on the size of crops and the world agricultural market. Moreover, the President is committed to a program in the social security, housing, health and education field which, according to a preliminary estimate by the Council of Economic Advisers, should cost about an extra half billion dollars. Against all these increases, only comparatively small savings, especially in tax refunds and veterans' expenditures, are possible.

Thus it is obvious that unless the country is to invite disaster by operating deeply in the red, a tab of several billion dollars in increased taxes is going to have to be picked up by somebody. Who is it to be?

WHO'S TO PAY?

To that question there is among the experts a pretty unanimous answer — the corporations. The community property provision of the new tax law will not be repealed. The high-income brackets

Continued on next page

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Maine's Lady Senator Resists GOP Bait

WASHINGTON

MAINE'S Senator-elect, Margaret Chase Smith, is a most attractive lady, though not given to flirtation. However, leaders of the Maine Republican machine have been flirting like mad with the first woman elected on her own to the U. S. Senate.

What they want is to get her out of the Senate. Apparently, Old Guardsman Owen Brewster doesn't relish the companionship of an alert and progressive lady colleague in the Senate.

Maine GOP leaders made their first pass before the election. After first clearing it with Albany, they offered Senator Smith a seat in Dewey's Cabinet. The deal was that she would be replaced in the Senate by her machine-backed opponent, who lost out in the primaries—Gov. Horace Hildreth.

Mrs. Smith's reply: She was flattered, but the people of Maine elected her to the Senate—not the Cabinet.

The Old Guard next sounded her out on another deal. If she would boost Hildreth for a Federal appointment, they promised to arrange with Sen. Wallace White—who is retiring anyway—to retire before January. Then Governor Hildreth would appoint Mrs. Smith to the vacancy, thus giving her seniority over the newly elected Senators for committee assignments.

But Maine's new woman Senator would make no deals of any kind—either before she entered the Senate or later.

KKK Complaints

GRAND DRAGON GREEN of the Ku Klux Klan is still worried about leaks from inside his organization.

Speaking at Klavern No. 1, Atlanta, Ga., the week after elections, the Grand Dragon wrung his hands and once again cautioned his followers to be careful about leaks.

"I have to talk frankly in these meetings," he said, "but I might as well call Drew Pearson before I come to the meeting and give him the information. For next day he gives it out to everybody from coast to coast. The AP and UP are both calling me about it next morning while I am eating breakfast."

The Grand Dragon went on to say that sometimes he thought some of the men he had been relying on were talking too much to their friends, and that confidential information had leaked out that way.

"I have given out false information to people under suspicion, thinking maybe I would hear Drew Pearson mention it on the radio," confessed the Grand Dragon. "Then I would know I had the right man."

However, this strategy failed. So he put special markings on printed literature to suspected members, thinking that it would get into print. However, this failed also.

In conclusion, he said, he just didn't know what to do about leaks from supposedly confidential Klan meetings.

Klansman Ransom then criticized Pearson for telling his radio listeners that Ellis Arnall, former Governor of Georgia and a bitter enemy of the Klan, might be the new Secretary of the Army in the Truman Cabinet.

Big Cross-Burning

THE Grand Dragon spoke about plans for a big cross-burning to be held in Macon, Ga., on Dec. 10. It would be the biggest Klan burning, he said, and he expected 10,000 Glansmen to be there—in their robes.

"We are going to initiate people from all over the country like we did at Stone Mountain," he reported.

Grand Dragon Green read a letter from a colored woman asking the Klan to help run another colored woman out of town. This drew a big laugh. Dr. Green said that of course they weren't going to do anything about that.

He added that the Kavalier Klub—the Klan's whipping and flogging department—was now on the job and had plenty of friends on the Atlanta police force.

Arrogant Steel Tycoons

WITH everyone crying for steel, the tycoons of that industry have grown so arrogant they now treat Uncle Sam like a nagging customer.

As long as Congress threatened mandatory controls over steel, the steel magnates put on their best Sunday School manners. They made patriotic promises to keep the Government supplied with its basic steel needs, but pleaded, almost on their hands and knees, to keep it on a voluntary basis. As a result, Congress passed a law giving the steel industry voluntary allocations. To implement this, the leading producers formed an advisory committee under the Commerce Dept. to pass on allocations for the industry.

Once free of the threat of enforced controls, however, the steel executives got off their knees, climbed on their high horses, and rode roughshod over Government officials.

For example, when Acting Secretary of the Interior Girard Davidson pleaded with the industry for more steel for oil barges, storage tanks, and pipelines, the steel tycoons laughed in his face. They even vetoed extra steel for a vitally needed pipeline to the atomic energy plant at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Steel tycoons were so rude in turning Davidson down that one top executive felt pricked to apologize.

"It is my feeling," he wrote to Davidson afterward, "that, regardless of the steel industry's attitude toward the requirements of the petroleum industry, you were not afforded proper courteous consideration in the last meeting, and as a member of that committee, I offer my personal apologies."

Fifty other steel men were also present, but no one else apologized. In fact, they didn't even bother to answer a follow-up letter from Davidson, repeating in writing his request for more steel—sorely needed in order to assure American homes of heat this Winter.

Commerce Dept. officials, too, have complained against the steel industry's pompous attitude, but the most outraged official is none other than Nebraska's Sen. Kenneth Wherry, GOP Senate whip.

Wherry Gets Religion

NO ONE else fought more bitterly against Government controls than Wherry. But after a few brushes with the steel industry, he is ready to change his tune.

The outspoken Nebraskan has been pleading for increased production and more steel for small business, but all he has got out of the steel industry has been a discourteous brush-off. Once, after talking up his case for more steel with a top steel executive, Wherry got so hot under the collar that he banged down the receiver.

Backed into a corner, Wherry called the steel men together before elections and warned them:

"I am one who wants a free economy. No one has worked harder . . . to see that we have a free economy in this country on a voluntary basis. But we have to have production now.

"And I make this prediction: If you do not get it, you are going to get something else. And it will not be a distribution under voluntary methods. It means Government controls."

It will be interesting to see whether Senator Wherry goes along with the Democrats in asking that controls on steel be re-imposed, now that the elections are over.