THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

60th Anniversary Year

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1948

For County Chairman

IN NEXT Saturday's primary the contest of greatest local importance is that for Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. This is a full-time job, corresponding in the City Government to a combination of Mayor and City Manager. The contenders are Messrs. Bid McAden and John Ward. We believe that Mr. McAden is by far the better choice.

In the first place, it is known from experience that Mr. McAden can handle the assignment. He has done it competently for four terms. It could be argued, under that concept of public office as a plum to be rotated among the hungry, that four terms are enough. We do not subscribe to this argument, especially when the terms are for only two years each.

Furthermore, Mr. McAden has shown a good deal of backbone in transacting County business. He and the Board have stuck to their decisions, once made, without undue thought of their individual political welfare, and there is evidence that some of the support for Mr. Ward is motivated by a grudge against Mr. McAden. It doesn't follow that his decisions have always been infallible. We do believe, however, that he has arrived at them in a conscientious spirit, and in any case the fact that some of Mr. Ward's supporters have a personal enmity for Mr. McAden is no special recommendation for their candidate.

A contention which has more basis, and which may figure prominently in the voting, is that the County Commissioners are unprogressive, overly frugal, not properly mindful of the County's obligations to the advancement of the City-County community as a whole. It is undeniably true that over the years the County Commissioners have come to look upon themselves as arbiters primarily of rural rather than urban affairs, and we would not contend that Mr. McAden, even though a city-dweller, has tried to overcome the cracker-barrel attitude which dominates the determination of County policies. We would, however, offer in expiation of this state of mind the defense that it is the system of local government in North Carolina rather than county government in Mecklenburg which needs overhauling, and the authority and responsibility of this or that board in this or that sphere of government clearly defined. We doubt that this definition will become any the clearer for the defeat of incumbents.

There is, in reality, no great need to belabor the issues. This newspaper's opinion may be succinctly stated. It knows by close and constant observation that Mr. McAden has made, very likely will continue to make, a good County Chairman. He is a known quantity. We urge him re-election.

UN: 2---Changes Now Needed

IN THE three weeks of Congress remaining before planned adjournment, such matters as statehood for Alaska or Hawaii, Federal aid for education or medical care, labor law amendments, a tax reform bill and new social security laws will have to go by the board, it appears. On the "must" list, however, is action to strengthen the United Nations.

As our chief delegate to UN, Warren R. Austin, points out, there is no hope of amending the Charter on pacific settlement of disputes, the United States being the only one of the five permanent members of the Security Council in favor of such action. At the moment, on the Palestine question, the United States finds itself in the peculiar position of siding with Russia and against the British. The British are supplying arms to Arab forces, but may stop doing so if Arabs continue to ignore the UN cease-fire order.

Eventually, it appears, the United States will supply arms to Israel and probably to all Western Europe. This is possible under provisions of the present Charter for strengthening the military posture of our friends as well as our own armed forces. We are already bolstering their economies. Why not their instruments of protection from force?

The United States led in establishment of the Interim Committee of the General Assembly, which is expected to report by September on proposals to strengthen the machinery for pacific settlement of disputes by restricting use of the veto and otherwise liberalizing procedures of the Security Council. This will be in support of Mr. Austin's position that UN should be braced from within rather than battered from without.

UN supporters appear honestly to believe that collapse of present methods of negotiation and collaboration would result in a complete break between East and West—the virtual certainty of war as soon as men and materials for assault could be gathered by either side. As it is, UN affords everyone an equal chance for world support and for activities against threats to security. It is an instrument of negotiation among 59 nations.

It is not pure fancy to speculate that had it not been for UN, World War III would already be in full blast, instead of having been confined, as it has so far, to sporadic conflicts. There is reason to hope that comparatively calm and orderly strengthening of UN can keep pace with problems of conflict and avert full-scale disaster for the world. Means now at hand to strengthen UN will be discussed tomorrow.

Personal Problems Course Asked

HOW DOES it profit young people if they gain good foundations in the traditional arts and sciences and yet fail in their personal lives? That is what is happening to too many of them today. Outside the home, at least, they get more and longer instruction than any generation in history, yet they seem to have more sex problems and there is more divorce than ever before.

Despite all the time and labor-saving devices, households seem to be less efficiently managed. Perhaps this is at once a result and a cause. Home and family life are on the decline in the Industrial Age—smaller family units, more adults spending more time in both employment and recreation outside the home, and less instruction in the home. Public institutions probably can never hope wholly to take up the slack, to fill the void left by the trend away from the old-fashioned home, yet the public institutions probably have not made half the effort they should in this respect.

The Charlotte Parent-Teacher Council advocates a course in family life beginning in the first grade and continuing through all grades of the public schools. The course is most urgently needed in the senior high schools, and that is the best place to start, according to Mrs. J. Z. Watkins, chairman. City school commissioners to whom the proposal was presented referred it to school administrators for plan drafting.

The need for such a course for our young men and women, we believe, will be admitted by parents, sons and daughters and all civic groups. Inevitably there will arise differences of opinion on the details of such a course — home economics, budget planning, marital adjustments and especially the manner and extent of sex instruction. It is interesting to note that the PTA advocates that the director, who would advise faculty members, should be a married person.

But since the general objects of such a course seem certain to meet unanimous approval, all concerned in its planning should approach their task in a spirit of willingness to compromise and conciliate details.

From The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

The Melancholy Meson

WE READ in the papers that the world's largest cyclotron, the 4,000-ton counterpart of Ben Franklin's key and kite, has succeeded in creating, for the first-time man-made mesons—an event described as the most significant in atomic research since the uranium atom was exploded in 1939.

If the reader has only the haziest idea of the whirligig called a cyclotron and not the faintest idea of the force called a meson, he need not worry too much. The scientists don't know what the meson is, either. It appears in cosmic rays (what are they?) bombarding the earth from trillions of light years in space. It is apparently a newly fundamental electrical particle emanating from the atom as matter and dying as energy. The physicists at Berkeley produced it artificially by agitating helium atoms to the break-neck speed of 400,000,000 electron-volts.

Cyclotron, electron-volts, meson, cosmic rays—they are all baffling to most of us; and the meson and cosmic rays baffle scientists, too. They think, having created the meson, having with their philosopher's stone turned energy into matter, they will at last be able to study the rays and their mysterious component under controlled conditions in the laboratory. They suspect that they can learn much about the origin of the universe and the forces that hold it together despite the tremendous power within the atom which, if not somehow held in check by nature, would explode our cosmos into chaos and old night.

Matthew Arnold wrote sadly about the tide of faith, spiritual faith, ebbing down the naked shingles of the world before the incoming, nineteenth century tide of material science. Secularly speaking, he may have been wrong. There is a new age which compels the mind to take on faith Science's word that the intangible, inscrutable meson and its playmates really exist, and that bringing them to birth in the laboratory represents an "advance" in mankind's progress. At the moment, the meson is a melancholy symbol of man's fearful prying into the secrets of creation. One wonders whether it holds the illusions of a Cagliostro, the devilment of a Faustus or the self-destruction of a Frankenstein, and turns with some relief to read the sports pages, for the account of a Jackson Day dinner where *bombe atomique* was served for dessert.

Ain't Nature Pestiferous?

People's Platform

Here's To The Flag Of Israel!

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

AS a citizen of the United States of America, a nation founded by a people who sought freedom from tyrants and oppression, I feel a kinship to the peoples of a new nation who are in a mighty struggle against these same forces of evil.

This new nation is Israel, founded and being defended by an oppressed people, the Jews. This nation is also recognized by the United States as having the right of freedom and self-government. Of this I am very proud.

These citizens of Israel differ from our forefathers in the fact that they are striving to retain a country which is and always will be their native land. Most of them were driven from their homes by the Romans in 70 A. D. In all the lands they fled to they have met oppression, cruelty and death. It is no wonder that they long for their own homeland and will fight to keep it.

During World War I, to be exact on Nov. 2, 1917, Arthur Balfour, British Foreign Secretary, pledged the British Government to the "establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people." This was agreed to by the League of Nations and also by the United States of America. Why? Because of the tremendous help given by the Jewish people to the Allies and the fact that they, the Allies, recognized the Jews' right to Palestine as a homeland.

The lands acquired by the Jews in Palestine were not taken by force from the Arabs, who moved in after the Jews were forced to flee years ago. This land was bought at an unbelievable price from the Arabs. In fact, the price paid by the Jews for a square foot of land in Palestine would purchase a square foot of land in the heart of London.

The Jews have worked hard to build up this land they were promised and also bought. The Arabic common people benefited much from the Jews' labor. However, the Arabic leaders and rulers desire to rule the Jews, and that of course would mean a rule without representation by the Jews. This rule without representation was fought against and defeated by our forefathers.

The Jews' answer to this is liberty or death. "We shall rule ourselves and we shall not be moved from our native land again." They are giving their lives to defend this right of freedom.

Now we see the Arabic nations sending their soldiers against the Jews. Not only the Palestinian Arabs but troops from other countries. We see the British-trained Trans-Jordan Arab Legion. Also trained troons and airplanes from Egypt attacking the Jews. The odds are overwhelming but the Jews shall fight to the last man, woman and child.

We, the United States of America, could stop all this bloodshed and dispense justice to the Jews, but we cannot do this with mere words. We shall have to do more than just say "stop fighting." We must physically stop this killing of people and allow the nation of Israel to live in peace. If we wait much longer, the nation of Israel shall become a nation of the dead.

I think every American will agree with me when I say: "Here's to the Flag of Israel! Long may she wave, over the land of the free and the home of the brave."

—RICHARD L. JONES.

U. S. Money-British Arms

MORGANTON

Editors, THE NEWS:

BRITAIN'S illness should be clear to anyone who wishes to see. Her open and cynical statement that she would continue to arm, supply and directly direct Arab attacks against the state of Israel proves that this is a British act of aggression, again using a tool, her puppet Abdullah.

Indirectly the United States is furnishing the arms. On the contrary, to British claims, our money is being used to finance Britain's base and hellish campaign against Israel.

If our de facto recognition is more than an empty gesture, then we should lift the arms embargo, thereby allowing the Jews to at least buy their arms to defend themselves (at least the Jews wouldn't be using money lent for construction for wanton destruction, as the British are cynically doing now, by using our money to finance their puppet Abdullah.)

Certainly by Britain's own words, she isn't entitled to more money from this country to arm her tools of aggression. How long shall we be a tool of Britain? Bevin and his ilk have forfeited any claim of Britain in the past for fair play—Bevin has betrayed the British no less than his own party—Bevin has convicted himself in no uncertain terms of being nothing more nor less than a monster.

—S. R. CHESLOCK.

Religious Dishwater Sprayed

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

THE CREATION of the State of Israel and the evacuation of British troops from Jerusalem was no mere incident, but a fulfillment of the Bible.

Our nation faces a greater crisis today than it faced when Paul Revere rode at midnight through the villages sounding out an alarm. Communism is plotting world-revolution. Catholicism is planning for world-ecclesiasticism. Strikes are fomenting strife. America is brought face to face with the fact that we are in danger of civil strife if not revolution. The churches have made void God's law. Authority has disappeared from the pulpits where religious dishwater, perfumed with ethical lavender, is being sprayed over the sins of an ungodly world. Teaching and financial and social programs have been borrowed from the world. Preachers' studies have become offices. Corporation methods have taken the place of consecrated men. Human business has supplemented the Father's business. We are running around in our sleep, knocking things over and calling it "Kingdom work."

Apart from the second advent of our Lord, the world is more likely to sink into a pandemonium than to rise into a millennium. We are in the middle of a pitch-black moral and spiritual night. America is at the night club, not at the prayer meeting. It is knee-time in America. This is the zero hour, the Saturday night of the week of life, time is running out, and judgment is coming. When the ungodly are talking about peace and security, "then sudden destruction cometh upon them." We didn't know the meaning of that term before Hiroshima. The judgment of God upon sinning humanity is inevitable. God is forgotten, Christ is rejected and the Bible is spurned. Chapter six to nineteen in the Book of Revelation describes this coming judgment.

World conditions today make it increasingly clear that we must be very near to the end of this age. Time is priceless. It cannot be purchased with gold or silver. Once it has passed it can never be returned nor recalled. Knowing this, then, we as servants of the Most High God and co-worker with Jesus, our Lord should make each minute count as though it were the last. God grant there will be no vacant spaces in our record, vacant because we failed to work for souls. Let us labor quickly.

—WARREN W. WOODS.

Stewart Alsop

Twilight Terror--1

PRAGUE

IN THIS NEWEST of the police states, there is no visible terror. Instead, Prague has an air of Arab respectability. Dumpy women wheel their baby carriages in the lovely Spring sunshine. The crowded trolley cars are painted a cheerful red. The restaurant food is worse than England's and the store windows are sparsely filled. Yet the air of determined, un-Marxist respectability persists. The Western visitor even notes with some surprise an occasional peculiar Czech version of that intensely bourgeois importation, "The New Look." Except for the ubiquity of the tough, red-capped police, Prague might also be any western European city. Yet there is a difference. The terror is invisible. Yet it is there, below the surface.

Today, hardly three months since the Czechs meekly surrendered their liberties, the terror is still of a special and peculiar kind. There are stories, to be sure, which seep through to the isolated Westerners, and which have a familiar ring—stories of a wife beaten in her husband's presence to force him to confess his part in the underground railway to the West; stories of a soldier whose arm was calmly broken by the secret police because he grumbled during the parade for Bulgaria's Dimitrov; stories of men kept standing with their arms above their heads till the pain became excruciating and they confessed to political crimes which they did not commit. But although such things undoubtedly happen, the chances are that they do not happen very often.

JAILS OVERFLOW

For the terror in Czechoslovakia is for the most part an oddly polite terror—for the time being. To be sure, the jails are so overflowing with political prisoners that the excess has had to be accommodated in "work camps"—the polite term for concentration camps. And the rubber hose and the rifle butt to the jaw are certainly occasionally found necessary—just how often is doubtful, known only to the Ministry of the Interior's tough second-in-command, Jindrich Vasall, or to Col. Ristain, little-known chief of the O. B. Z. (the N. K. V. D. of this particular progressive democracy).

Yet far more typical than the rubber hose or the rifle butt of the fashion in which Czechoslovakia's new ruling class maintains its absolute authority is the case of a Czech whom we shall call Jan Konac. Mr. Konac might be a lawyer, or a small business man, or a doctor, or an anti-Communist trade union leader. He might even be the secretary of a rowing club or of the Pingpong Association, since these two have been purified, like every aspect of Czech life. In this case, however, Mr. Konac is, or was, a civil servant.

Mr. Konac has not been clubbed or thrown into jail. Indeed, no one has even raised his voice to Mr. Konac. Yet Mr. Konac is a victim of the terror just as surely as the few who have felt the rifle butt or the sight to ten thousand who have fled to the cold comfort of the American D. P. camps in Germany. Before February, Mr. Konac was an argumentative and unwieldy outspoken anti-Communist Social Democrat. One morning some weeks after the coup, he found a short note on his desk. It was signed by the action committee of his Ministry. Action committees were the chief instruments of purification—there was one for the Pingpong Association too. The action committee not impolitely informed Mr. Konac that he had been adjudged unsuitable for further employment in his current capacity.

HE'S STILL 'FREE'

So Mr. Konac lost his job. He also lost his beloved pension, for which he had worked long years at less than the going salary, in the expectation of a secure old age. A few days after the note arrived on his desk, Mr. Konac was informed by the action committee of his apartment house that he must vacate his apartment. Even so, Mr. Konac has not been sent to jail. He has not even been sent to the mines, although the law says that unless he finds another job within a limited number of weeks, the Government can so dispose of him.

But the difficulty is in finding another job. Always when Mr. Konac applies, he is asked why he left the Ministry. When he answers that the action committee found him unsuitable, the answer is always the same—"Sorry, all full up." In the end, Mr. Konac has taken a job as a workman, for which he is in no way suited, lest the Government direct him to "suitable" employment. Although not a hair on his head has been touched, Mr. Konac no longer thinks of challenging the authority of his new masters. Indeed, at least in public, he professes his loyalty in most enthusiastic terms.

NIGHT MUST FALL

A kind of dim twilight terror thus broods over the country of the dead Masaryk and the old and broken Benes. Yet, for reasons which will be examined later in this space, those who would know are unanimous in the conviction that this twilight terror cannot last for long. Soon, perhaps within a few months, the night of terror must come.

Marquis Childs

Oregon Analysis

WASHINGTON

THE REASONS for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's victory over Harold Stassen in Oregon are probably as many as the issues in that extraordinary campaign. But one factor which was more or less overlooked in the East carried a great deal of weight in the Pacific Northwest.

That is public power. Dewey took a clear and unmistakable stand. He said that "America's rivers should be developed on a regional basis" with public power projects pushed as rapidly as possible.

STASSEN EVASIVE

Stassen, on the other hand, was evasive. In Wisconsin, in reply to a question from one of his audiences, he said he was for the TVA and other developments like it. Campaigning in Nebraska, where the proposed Missouri Valley authority is an issue, he indicated he favored a compromise development plan to be carried out by Army engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Pacific Northwest is a region of almost unlimited potentials for power in every field. The people of the Northwest know they must have public power if they are to create wealth from their far-flung resources. Dewey was on the popular side in his forthright championship of the great projects which are possible in that region.

This is a lesson the Republicans in Congress should take note of. In particular, it should be a warning to those new Republican Senators from the West who were swept into office on the tide of Republican sentiment in 1946.

These men have not worked for the projects that are vital to the West. Again and again they have stood in the way of even mildly progressive legislation and they are, therefore, a definite handicap to the GOP in that part of the country, in this election year.

WESTERN TORIES

Senator Harry P. Cain of Washington became the darling of the real estate lobby when he tried various tricks to defeat the public housing provision in the Taft housing bill. Nevada's incredible Senator George W. Malone follows a narrowly reactionary line. So, in most instances, does Senator Henry C. Dworshak of Idaho.

The Republicans in the Senate face a test this week, and the outcome will be watched closely in the West even though that region is not directly involved. The Republican majority must decide whether it is to follow the lead of the House in eliminating from the TVA appropriation $4,000,000 to start construction of a steam plant considered essential to future power development in the Tennessee Valley.

The House acted on the recommendation of a committee that had listened to a long pep talk from Purcell Smith, the $65,000-a-year lobbyist for the utility industry. Smith, taking the swing to the GOP as a swing to complete reaction, decided the time was ripe to move in on the TVA.

Representatives from the TVA region protested violently. But their protests were ignored as Republicans, longing for a free ride, followed the lead of lobbyist Smith.

If the Senate follows the same road, there will likely be an outcry, and not alone from the Tennessee Valley. In the Pacific Northwest they will understand that this means a deliberately hostile to the development of public power projects.

The South and the Northwest have in common the discriminations imposed by the East. These discriminations have made it difficult to establish a South Industry. The South and the Northwest have been kept in the status of colonies supplying raw materials to the industry of the East.

EXAMPLE NOT LOST

The TVA has done a lot to break that bondage. It is an example which has not been lost on that other colony that rises in all its beauty and wealth from the shore of the Pacific. There is a widespread demand in the Northwest for a Columbia River Authority capable of the same kind of unified approach as the TVA.

Dewey understood the meaning of the deep urge behind the desire to prosper and grow out of the bondage of Eastern domination. In his remarkably hard-hitting campaign, he appealed to that urge and it unquestionably contributed to his triumph.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Truman Sees Callers Via Side Doors

WASHINGTON

THE President has resorted to new strategy in handling White House callers.

For some time, Washington observers were amazed at the number of visitors President Truman saw daily. But now the calling list has tapered off. The official list released every morning shows only a handful of visitors.

What most people don't know, however, is that there are five separate entrances to the White House, and in recent weeks Truman has been fooling the press. While regular White House correspondents wait in the lobby of the executive offices watching for Presidential visitors, various private callers slip in other doors. Sometimes as many as 25 will flow into Truman's office unnoticed. They come in through various side doors, sometimes even from the distant East wing, and are then spirited around the back through the rose garden and in to the President.

In recent days, Truman has held numerous significant confabs, none listed. He has seen Joe Keenan, head of the AFL Political Action Committee, British Ambassador Lord Inverchapel, French Ambassador Henri Bonnet, and various Zionist leaders including Chaim Weizmann, new President of Israel.

Some old Senatorial friends also drop around to see Truman at breakfast. Others come in after breakfast, but before the press arrives. Ed Flynn has been in twice lately, unnoticed. Former Judge Sam Rosenman is again a White House regular using the east gate, as is George Allen, the old court jester.

NOTE—Another new favorite Truman rendezvous is the Presidential yacht, the Williamsburg, where he holds stag poker parties with old buddies, sometimes sleeping on board and walking back to the White House early in the morning before most people go to work.

Old-Age Pensions

AT a secret powwow with Congressional Democratic leaders last week, President Truman was told there was little chance of Congress approving any of his proposals to increase old-age pensions. However, the leaders advised that the people were entitled to a frank report on how old-age insurance benefits—on which millions of Americans depend for retirement security—have lagged behind higher wages and living costs. That was why Truman decided to send his message to Congress anyway.

Michigan's aggressive Representative, John Dingell, an original champion of the Social Security law, summed it up bluntly: "Unless pensions are increased in ratio to higher wages, higher taxes and higher living costs, counties that have sold their poorhouses for the aged will have to reestablish them."

Dingell said it would be "actually sound" to increase pensions because of increased revenue from pay roll taxes. He added: "Sixty million people are employed now, more than we ever dreamed of when we changed the law in 1939. We thought then that we wouldn't have that many employed until 1980."

"I want to cover as many people as practically possible," commented the President. "Also, I favor higher pensions, as well as benefits to disabled people."

Biggest problem, observed Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing, is providing protection for casual workers, such as domestic servants and farmhands.

"We might try the stamp system they use in England," suggested Ewing.

"I doubt that it would work here," remarked Truman. "It's a nuisance to employers, and it would mean that such casual employees frequently build up less credits for contributory pensions than they could get in an old-age assistance dole."

Senate-Army Politics

PRIVATE LEO CHRISTENSEN was convicted by a U. S. military court in Japan last year of raping a Japanese woman in front of her son, deliberately running down a Japanese boy with his motorcycle, and beating up a Japanese man.

He was given the death sentence for rape, murder, and assault.

Then his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lars Deloy Christensen of Iona, Idaho, appealed to Senator Henry Dworshak, Idaho Republican and a staunch isolationist. Dworshak succeeded in reducing the death sentence to three years hard labor and a dishonorable discharge.

Later, Dworshak went to bat again, got a parole for Christensen. He is now a free man. However, the man who raped a woman, killed a boy, and beat up a civilian isn't satisfied. He now wants an honorable discharge, and Senator Dworshak has been asked to get it for him.