

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

60th Anniversary Year

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Soviet Risk in Berlin

WE HAD another war scare Saturday. Fortunately, it lasted only a matter of hours and was over before the American public had a chance to become excited.

The "crisis" occurred when the Russians blocked rail shipments from Western occupation zones of Germany to Berlin, a new move in their campaign to force the Allies out of the German capital. The blockade was lifted by agreement between the British and Russians after an all-night stoppage of transportation.

We believe the quick ending of the "crisis" is more significant than the action which provoked it, for it added evidence that the Russians are using the war scare as a bluff and have been all along.

So their determination to hold their positions in Berlin under the four-power consortium, the Allied powers — the United States, Britain and France — are taking a "calculated risk." The risk is a large one but the calculation, we believe, is sound and the objective worth the risk.

If the Russians went through with their threats to force us out of the German capital, we would be faced with the immediate danger of war unless we accepted the situation and abandoned our zones in Berlin. The chance that we would submit is practically nil, for such a move would be tantamount to a surrender to Soviet intimidation which Americans would not tolerate. An Allied backdown in Berlin would deal a body blow to Western Europe's will to resist, embolden the Communists and create more rather than less tension between the United States and Russia.

Our evacuation of Berlin would be accepted by the Germans as evidence that we have permanently abandoned Eastern Germany while we proceed with the creation of a new and truncated Germany in the western zones occupied by France, Britain and the United States. That move would inflame German nationalist spirit to the point of disrupting our present plans to start putting the German nation back on its feet in the Western zone. The German turmoil resulting from the surrender of Berlin, together with the depressing effect of this setback on Western Europe, would make the world crisis much darker than it is now.

Since the war danger would not be lessened by our departure from Berlin, we have nothing to lose and much to gain by staying in the German capital. By standing firm under Soviet pressure, the Allies are giving the Soviet generals a demonstration of determination and confidence that may cause them to abandon their tough tactics. The danger lies in the possibility that the Western powers may show signs of nervousness and fear which will convince the Russians that the home front in the democracies will not back up their position in the Berlin issue in a showdown. The present Soviet war of nerves in Berlin is designed to produce just that weakness. It will continue until the American people show more of the calmness exhibited by Secretary Marshall and General Clay.

Wind-Up For Southern Revolt

WHETHER the Dixiecrats know it or not, the Southern Democratic revolt of 1948 is over. There are a few trumpeting from the states' rightsists still to be heard but the real battle is ended with the adjournment of Congress this week and a shut-out for the Truman civil rights program.

In his article on this page, James Marlow reviews the civil rights controversy which has been the main theme of the Federal anti-poll-tax bill, the Fair Employment Practices Commission measure and other civil rights proposals ever allowed to die.

In view of the small Congressional effort that was made for the program, it may well be asked if the Southern revolt was needed to block this legislation. Congressional inertia and the Senate filibuster were enough to insure defeat of the proposals at the beginning. It would appear, however, it may be conceded that the Southern protest had the effect of chilling the enthusiasm of both the Democratic and Republican leadership in the nation on civil rights, and it doubtless will make the national Democratic command more sensitive to Southern opinion in the future.

So the South has demonstrated that it

Steps Toward Federal Control

A PROPOSAL that Congress outlaw railroad strikes that threaten to interrupt operation of the national transportation system was made before the Senate-House Committee on Labor-Management Relations Thursday. It came from J. Carter Fort, vice-president and general counsel of the Association of American Railroads, who is opposed to Government control on principle. He is particularly horrified at suggestions that the Federal Government take over the railroads.

Mr. Fort's proposal was invited by the railroad brotherhoods themselves, when they asked the Federal Government to take over public ownership of the railroads but made it plain that they did not mean that Government control should extend to the unions.

This exchange is a part of the controversy over wages between the carriers and three of the brotherhoods—engineers, firemen and switchmen—and it reveals one large reason why there has been no settlement in this case. "There simply isn't a clear concept on either side of each other's rights and interests, the public interest and democratic principles.

One other point to plain and that is that we will have both law outlawing strikes and public ownership of railroads and per-

haps other utilities unless management and labor make better use of machinery for collective bargaining and mediation than has occurred in this instance. The interests of all will suffer in this event.

A step along this way was taken when the three brotherhoods mentioned rejected the plan to let the Federal Government take over the railroads and called a strike to obtain more concessions. In order to prevent a nationwide transportation tie-up, the Federal Government seized temporary control of the railroads and obtained court injunctions against the strike.

If Congress were now moved to enact legislation outlawing railroad strikes, the carriers and the public could obtain only a temporary advantage from this regulation at best. Each new law widening the area of Federal authority over our economic life, be it for labor or capital, calls for another law. Encroachment on labor's right to strike builds up sentiment for nationalization of the industry. The end of this road is totalitarianism and socialism. We already have proceeded too far in this direction under the leadership of short-sighted union men who neglect opportunities to settle their differences by voluntary methods.

From The Christian Science Monitor

A Bulge Next To The Heart

A NEWS item tells of a young convict about to be released from prison the other day. A suspicious bulge in his new civilian clothes caught four guards, whom he resisted desperately, to try to search him. After a fruitless struggle, they found a concealed on him—a sheaf of poems he had written in prison.

It is our opinion that many a burly brawler will feel a secret pang of sympathy with the young stranger, if he is to be ever so cruel, be he ever so clever, who has not at one time in his life, moved by some strange, irresistible flood of emotion, written a better judgment and written a poem.

We know of bankers and teamsters who would rather mount the scaffold than admit that somewhere among their possessions, almost forgotten but secretly cher-

ished, is a bit of limping rhyme, liberally studded with thees and thou's, with faded clichés and marvelously mixed metaphors. Only to the most intimate friend or sympathetic stranger in a moment of sudden weakness will the treasure be revealed, perhaps after a half lifetime, with the shame-faced question, "Is it any good?"

And knowing that to the writer, these are the most beautiful words ever written, that they are music and fire and the beating of weakness will the treasure be revealed, perhaps after a half lifetime, with the shame-faced question, "Is it any good?"

The happiest people are not for getting and more forgiving. —Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat.

'Don't Look—We Want You To Be Surprised'



People's Platform

How To Make Democracy Live

(NOTE: A 41-year-old former schoolteacher and advertising man, Russell Mitchell, of Scarsdale, N. Y., was chosen top winner in Drew Pearson's contest for the best letter to How To Make Democracy Live. He receives a prize of \$5,000. The runner-up, William J. Mitchell, was graduated from Yale in 1911, taught school, was a reporter on the old New York Tribune and has been in the advertising business since 1918. His letter on democracy was selected by a board of three judges—former Secretary of State James P. Byrnes, Attorney General Tom Clark and author Clara Booth Lu. A total of \$15,000 was awarded to 144 other prize winners. The \$5,000 prize letter follows:)

WE, the people, can make democracy live, by living in democracy. First, let me—this man, this woman—cherish human freedom. Then let me, by word and example, inspire others to follow democratic ways.

As a citizen of my community, let me respect individual worth regardless of race, color, religion, sex or age. Let me grant each person all his rights—political, economic, social. Let me protect these rights—let me, with my blood, working for them, let me work well. Employing others, let me pay well. Applying good will to democracy's roots, I shall nourish life, liberty, happiness.

As a citizen of my country, let me faithfully practice my citizenship, not let democracy be degraded by selfish interests. Let me advance the welfare of my fellow citizens. That Government is not a master, but an ever-providing ally of man. Let me protect my home, education, security. That good public servants should be supported and united be replaced. That I am personally responsible for making democracy succeed, on Election Day and every day.

As a citizen of the world, let me help my country to help others. United by selfish interest, let us aid any nation threatened or exploited. Being rich in God's plenty, let us feed the hungry. Being strong, let us lead earth's people to prosperity and peace.

Thus doing our duty at home and abroad, with justice, wisdom, courage, kindness, we shall win men's hearts and make democracy live.

Eisenhower's "Liberalism"

THE aura of greatness, humanity and liberalism that today surrounds Eisenhower originated in his war leadership. Admirers have pointed to the moon and broad expanse of his speeches. But particularly among troops, high-sounding speeches and empty promises have been his trademarks. Neither do the fine Americanisms culled from Eisenhower's speeches add to liberalism. Rather, they are the nation's wealth, family, and peace.

His colleagues do not consider him a hard man to get along with. He is a good "fellow," but his makers never had to wrestle with him over bluntness, as with Patton or Stilwell. Generalizations about Eisenhower's liberalism are not only unhelpful, but they are also not real evidence whether he stands Left, Right or Center in major issues. Nor did conversations with associates of prewar days indicate that he had, at that time, formulated a political philosophy.

Eisenhower is remembered as a soldier of fairly

typical outlook, working hard to succeed in his profession. He possessed the extrovert's capacity for concentration. His smile was as sunny then as now, and he had a natural dignity that did not require the pushing around of subordinates. He showed the proper respect for superiors and carried out orders with complete good nature.

In his personal life he was again typically Army. Friends in the service remember the Eisenhower day he was promoted to first lieutenant he was married to Mamie Donahoe, a Boone, Iowa, girl as leading the United Army Life. That meant bridge, golf, swimming and a dinner party. Let me put fun-loving on parade. When Eisenhower recently got on a vacation with George Allen, political friend. The President Truman's associates doubted any political significance. Mrs. Eisenhower had the word with the Allies for a short while during the war. "George is just the kind of a fellow like gets a kick out of it," friends say.

The conclusion that Eisenhower holds no strong social convictions is supported by those who have had a chance to sound him out since the war. One thoughtful associate advised this reporter, "I just write down 'man of good will,' and you've got your story on Ike's social philosophy." But the preponderant opinion is that Eisenhower's reactions to social problems are on the conservative rather than the liberal side. He is temperamentally better suited to the atmosphere of the Republican Party. He would never be happy with a New Deal coalition such as Roosevelt's. He is a conservative. —Dale Kramer in The New Republic.

Quote, Unquote

Never procrastinate. Down in Nashville a woman had a desire—perfectly natural desire of course—to hump over a fire plug. But she didn't do it. She kept putting it off, probably thinking it would look queer if she did. Time kept passing. Every time she saw a fire plug she put her foot on it. She was past like a lady. Now comes middle age—and long skirts—and spring. Spring did it. The fire plug popped. She was humped. Moral: Never put off what you should do in youth. —Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.

A St. Louis judge ruled that a wife can take money from her husband's pocket while he is asleep. We fail to see the need for a judicial ruling on that. —Arkansas Gazette.

Remember the good old days when it was fashionable to try to ride the President's coattails? —Ellaville (Ga.) Sun.

Here and there around the country the art of fishing is being taught in the schools, to the great delight of the children. When the children are old enough to catch anything, can comment on the fact in which the children are taught to fish. —Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.

Apparently the European Recovery Program is having a disheartening effect on some of the Red results in Germany. They may be but it isn't likely the arms of the fleshpots of the West more appealing than the empty promises of Moscow. —The Greenville (S. C.) News.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE declining years of the duponts, the Rockefeller's, the Morgans and the Astors will be made considerably brighter by the return of the "technical" tax bill which Rep. Harold Knutson, Republican of Michigan, is obligingly reporting out of the Ways & Means Committee.

He has carefully called this a "technical tax-revision" bill which gives the tax collector the right to make off a few rough edges of the tax law. The edges it rounds off, however, cut down the estate and gift taxes so as to benefit the wealthy families in the U. S. A.

Most people don't realize that the earlier tax bill, passed over President Truman's signature, carried a 10 percent reduction in the estate and gift taxes. The new bill, however, gives a 10 percent increase in the estate and gift taxes. This, however, has merely whetted the appetite of the tax-lawyer lobbyists. They are now out to get more for their clients. The new bill, however, gives a 10 percent increase in the estate and gift taxes. This, however, has merely whetted the appetite of the tax-lawyer lobbyists. They are now out to get more for their clients. The new bill, however, gives a 10 percent increase in the estate and gift taxes. This, however, has merely whetted the appetite of the tax-lawyer lobbyists. They are now out to get more for their clients.

Note: The two tax lobbyists who sneaked this across with the Knutson bill were Kenneth R. Maxwell, Wall Street tax lawyer, and William Sutherland, tax expert of the American Bar Association.

Merry-Go-Round

ONE STAR STATE HORSCOPE—Young Rep. Lyndon Johnson looks like the new Senator to replace "Pete

Victory For Dixiecrats

Rights Bills Dying

By JAMES MARLOW

Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON

THE civil rights program. Remember it and all the heat it caused? Looks like a dead duck now.

Just about a miracle is needed to get even one of President Truman's civil rights proposals passed before Congress finishes up this week. Last February Mr. Truman sent a 4,000-word message to Congress, asking for a number of civil rights laws. Laws that would:

Help put an end to lynching; see that people are not kept out of jobs because of race, color or religion; make it a crime to discriminate in places where it has to be paid to serve a person can vote; and protect every one's right to vote.

Those laws would be of particular benefit to Negroes. Mr. Truman's program is infinitely more than his own Southern Democrats in 1944 and Congress the year after.

They threatened to quit the party if the rest of the country's Democrats nominated Mr. Truman for re-election.

The bill was terrific. For a while it seemed Mr. Truman's Democratic Party would fall apart. Maybe it was just over the top, but it was.

When the storm first hit him, Mr. Truman said he would not retreat an inch. In recent months he hasn't said anything to push the program.

The Senate in Congress — or, rather, in the Senate, since there's no limit on debate there although the House has a 10-hour limit. Democratic Senators warned: If the Republicans let the Senate floor, they'll filibuster them to death.

Some Republicans, who control Congress because of their majority in the House and Senate, have brought any civil rights bills out yet.

But now the talk they may try to bring at least one civil rights bill anti-lynching bill out this week.

Pronto, the Southern Democrats turned against. They'll filibuster if the Republicans try it.

But Congress is trying to finish its work this week. It has some very important bills to pass.

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Southern filibuster would upset the

apparent. Some Republicans may

1. Not bring out an anti-lynching

bill, explaining they don't let

the other important bills be ad-

ded by a filibuster.

2. Bring it out, let the filibuster

start, and then drop it—thus kill-

ing the bill and saving the rest of

with their other work.

Then, at least, the Republicans

can say they tried to let the bill

problem both sides will have to

keep on moving.

IN the next couple of weeks both

Democrats and Republicans hold

their conventions to nominate a

platform, pleading what they'll do

if elected for the next four years.

But four years ago both parties

pledged in their platforms to do

something about civil rights. If

for the four years beginning in

1944 and ending this year.

Both parties have had a chance

to try their pledges on civil rights

—although neither has yet got

for the Democrats controlled

Congress from 1946 to 1948.

The Democratic platform of 1946

was to "take up the subject of

civil rights. The Southerners were

greatly surprised that they were

opposed the re-nomination of Hen-

ry Wallace as Vice-President. Wal-

lace had been a pro-segregationist

in the Negro question.

The Democrats' platform said:

"We believe that racial and re-

ligious minorities have the right to

live, develop and vote on the basis

of all citizens and share the rights

that are guaranteed by the Con-

stitution. Congress should exert its

full constitutional power to pro-

tect the rights of all citizens.

The Republican platform pledged

the party to "take up the subject

Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

Five months before the Republicans met for their convention in New York City, the Marquis Childs, one of the party's shrewdest political

"We are not bothering about primaries and delegations. At two o'clock on Monday morning, July 14, a dozen men will meet in

Washington, go over the candidates for the Senate and House, and then and there Senator Harding will be nominated.

It is just that way in a smoke-filled room in Chicago's Loop, where the Marquis Childs, come the prototype of all smoke-filled hotel rooms. The prophet of the "New Deal" is here to become Attorney General in the cabinet of Warren G. Harding.

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Republican Parallel

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