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Our Fight To Control Polio

YEAR AFTER YEAR North Carolina has waited nervously through June, July and August. Those are the months in which, recent history tells us, polio or infantile paralysis strikes hardest.

Some years this state has been able to relax in September, thanking Providence that polio incidence has been light. But in other years, September arrives and the state must count dozens dead, many crippled.

Medical research has not been able to stop the disease, but it has made important advances in the treatment of polio and has pointed the way toward control.

One new hope is held out to potential epidemic areas. Evidence — admittedly of a circumstantial nature — indicates that a sanitation campaign is effective in the partial control of the disease. Strongest link in this chain of evidence is the experience of two Iowa cities, Cedar Rapids and Charles City. These two communities last year were sprayed with DDT—and when the Iowa epidemic died out, Cedar Rapids and Charles City were the only two cities in the state untouched by the disease.

Charlotte now is making the experiment with DDT. The initiative was provided by the American Business Club of this city, which agreed to underwrite the costs of the spraying up to $5,000. A campaign for public subscriptions had just gotten under way when Mayor Baxter announced a majority of the Council had agreed that the City Government would finance the program as a pest-control drive.

Although it remains to be demonstrated that DDT is a positive check on polio carriers, the plan has been endorsed by City, County and State health authorities as a means of sanitary improvement and the American Business Club has earned the whole community's gratitude for its work in getting the program started.

As an immediate sanitation measure, the plan sponsored by the club is well worth our while. But our interest should not and does not stop here. Our goal is a vigorous, tightly-organized long-range plan of research and education into the causes and treatment of polio. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis is doing much in this direction; this City, this County, this State can add to the Foundation's efforts.

What causes polio? Why did it strike only the central portion of the state this year? Why does polio limit itself almost exclusively to children? These are only a few of the questions that must be answered. Contributions to the National Foundation will aid in answering them; the health departments of City, State and County can help to answer them by investigation in communities hardest hit by polio.

Civic groups can follow the example of the American Business Club and seek out ways to contribute to the educational program and to new sanitation projects. Individuals can help themselves and their community by making it a point to study the extensive literature on this subject which has been made available. This collective effort will result not only in more effective control and treatment of polio; the general health of the community will be improved.

That a disease can sweep wantonly through a state, killing and crippling its youth and creating panic among parents, is intolerable in this age.

Time To Call Halt To Arabs

RESUMPTION of fighting in Palestine has been accompanied by indications that the United States at last is applying more pressure on the Arabs and the British for a settlement in the Holy Land. It was about time that our Washington policy-makers realized that the Arab League is conducting a major action against the United States itself, obstructing our foreign policy and threatening to undermine the whole system by which we hope to restore order and peace in the world.

Following the Arabs' rejection of the United Nations request for a 30-day extension of the Palestine Truce, Secretary Marshall declared that the "direction of American policy" is to have the fighting stopped entirely and the Arab and Israeli countries reach an agreement. We are working through UN with British co-operation, Mr. Marshall added, and this was interpreted as meaning that Washington is ready to join in diplomatic and economic sanctions or even supply troops to keep the peace in Palestine.

It still is a mystery why the State Department has taken so long to see that the Arabs are making a disaster for us in their campaign to prevent establishment of a Jewish free state under the partition program which the United Nations approved, largely at the behest of this country. Our failure to use more energetic measures in support of Israel since then cannot be justified by the reasons that have been advanced to explain our confused and vacillating policy up to this time.

It appears that we have done little to restrain the Arabs because we fear that Moslem resentment will deprive us of access to oil and military bases in the strategically important Middle East. It seems that we have not pressed the British harder to abandon their pro-Arab policy because we feel that the British know what they are doing or can't do any better in view of their imperial interests in the Arab world.

Results to date of our weak stand on Palestine show plainly that the British and the Arabs will produce nothing but continued chaos if left alone and the situation can be saved only if the United States asserts its leadership. Revival of the fighting in Palestine brings a renewed threat of Soviet intervention in the Middle East, a threat that will grow each day the warfare continues. If that should happen, we will have lost much more than we hoped to gain by pacifying the Arabs and playing along with the British.

If Israel is destroyed, we will have lost a dependable democratic ally in the Eastern Mediterranean. Britain's imperial influence will be increased. America's prestige and influence will be reduced by such an event. It already is clear that a good deal of the Arab and British opposition to Israel is due to their objection to America's rising power in that region.

Worst of all, this struggle paralyzes the United Nations, consumes time and energy that should be devoted to other theaters in the contest with Russia. Saddest part of the whole tragedy is that the British and Arabs stand to suffer much more than we in the holocaust which their nationalist and imperialist intrigues have been preparing. Certainly our State Department can make the devious British and the blackmailing Arabs see that, if it summons the resolution, and there is reason to hope we have now faced up to the task.

Pepper's Rally For Liberals

SENATOR CLAUDE PEPPER'S surprise announcement that he is a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination represents a daring bid on the part of the old New Dealers to seize control of the party leadership in the hour of the party's deepest despair and confusion. If it should succeed in its purpose it would constitute one of the most astonishing revivals of the liberal Democratic cause in our political history.

"My party," said Franklin D. Roosevelt, "can succeed only so long as it continues to be the party of militant liberalism."

The truth of that statement has been impressed on all elements of the Democratic Party in the last three years under Truman, and particularly in the anti-Truman revolt of recent months and weeks. The left-wing Senator from Florida meets the militant liberal specification but perhaps too well to suit a majority of the convention delegates.

An inviting situation for a New Deal "purge" attack has been created by the party's demoralization in the revolt against Truman and the vacuum left by the collapse of the drive to draft Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

If a coalition around Pepper is quickly formed by the New Dealers, the Americans for Democratic Action, the city-machine bosses and the labor leaders who have been conducting a sort of guerrilla campaign again Truman, the Florida Senator's drive will take on a formidable aspect. Indeed, the fact that he has placed himself in the picture in this dramatic fashion is indication that consultations among these groups for some such operation have been under way.

Senator Pepper's appeal to progressive, labor and diverse racial groups would greatly strengthen the ticket in the populous centers of the East, North and West. That must weigh heavily with the big New York, Illinois and California delegations, who are looking above all for a ticket that will help them carry local, state and Congressional races. The revolt against Truman by the city machines has come from realization that he has alienated many of their normal followers.

A Democratic ticket headed by Pepper quite possibly would bring Henry Wallace back into the fold from his Third Party jaunt. The Senator's call comes at a moment when many conditions are favorable for a Rooseveltian rally, both in the convention and the campaign that will follow. In view of the obstacle presented by the Southern conservatives and the Truman regulars, it probably will go down in history as a startling but futile goal-line stand in the 1948 game. However, it serves notice of the way the wind is blowing again for "militant liberalism".

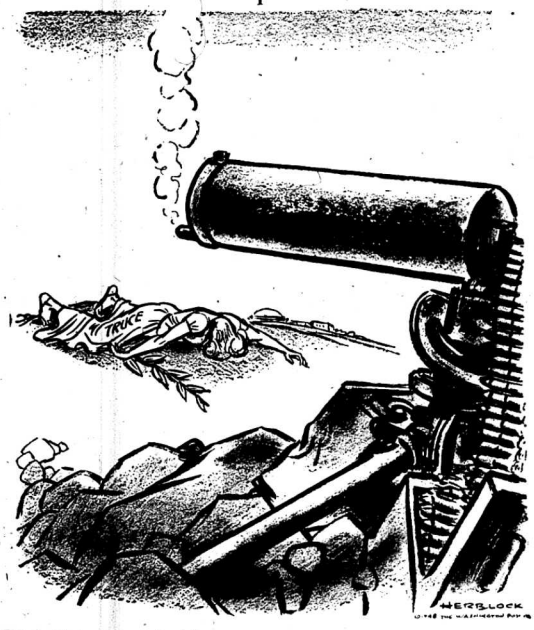
Alford Wood, Catholic High, defeated candidate for mayor of Boys' City, said one thing that citizens everywhere should remember. It was:

"Bad officials are elected by people who don't vote." — *Memphis Press-Scimitar.*

Maryland University found that women students are smarter than men. But they never get so far ahead they don't let the men catch them. — *Knoxville News Sentinel.*

In the course of time the whole country will be one big neighborhood, and in that case all City Halls will be museums. — *Charleston News & Courier.*

Arab Spokesman



Pick Your Own Lobby

Battle For Housing Revives

WASHINGTON

PRESSURE groups, having worked strenuously to get planks into both the GOP and Democratic platforms, will fight hard in the political campaign in order to lay the groundwork for consolidating their gains or recouping their losses on the 81st Congress. Local branches of national lobbies now are checking the record of Congress on a series of key campaign issues left unfinished as the 80th Congress adjourned.

Perhaps the most spectacular fight among lobbies in the closing days was over housing. Housing promises to be a major campaign issue. In the last session of Congress, a duel between proponents of the Taft-Ellender-Wagner long-range housing bill, which contained public housing and research features, and the Wolcott bill, which did not, split the Republican Party (majority of Senate Republicans favored public housing; House leadership and Rules Committee didn't). There were heavy lobby line-ups on each side.

Though the House Republican leadership was against the bill, the new chairman of the Republican National Committee, Hugh D. Scott Jr. (Pa.), sided with the Senate Republicans.

President Truman signed the Jenner (R-Ind.) housing bill, which provided a secondary mortgage market for FHA and GI-insured mortgages, saying it was a "teeny-weeny" measure. The AFL and AVC demanded that the Republican Party convention declare for public housing. The National Association of Manufacturers told the Republican convention that "having Government provide funds for a huge housing program . . . will not solve the housing problem. All it can do is gloss over and hide, for a time, the basic sources of trouble. These . . . have to do with local building codes and restrictive practices in the construction field . . . (so limit the platform pledge to) use the influence of the Federal Government to end the present restrictive practices . . ."

AN IMPRESSIVE array of pressure groups is lined up on each side in this legislative battle:

FOR T-E-W HOUSING BILL

CIVIC GROUPS
Natl. Federation of Settlements
League of Women Voters
Family Service Ass'n. of America
Natl. Congress of Parents and Teachers
Natl. Board of the YWCA

RELIGIOUS AND RACIAL GROUPS
Natl. Conference of Catholic Charities
Natl. Ass'n of Jewish Center Workers
Natl. Council of Negro Women
Natl. Urban League
Division of Social Education and Action of Presbyterian Church of USA
Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches
Natl. Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in America
Council of Christian Social Progress of the Northern Baptist Convention
Women's Division of the Methodist Ch'ch
Natl. Council of Jewish Women
Dept. of Christian Social Relations of the United Council of Church Women
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America
Natl. Association for the Advancement of Colored People

HOUSING GROUPS
Natl. Public Housing Conference
Natl. Council of Housing Asns.
Natl. Assn. of Housing Officials

OFFICIAL GROUPS
Natl. Institute of Municipal Law Officers
U.S. Conference of Mayors

LABOR GROUPS
American Federation of Labor
Congress of Industrial Organizations
Natl. Women's Trade Union League
International Assn. of Machinists
Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen
15 Standard Railroad Labor Organizations

VETERANS GROUP
American Veterans Committee
Army and Navy Union
Natl. Veterans Housing Conference
American Veterans of World War II
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Jewish War Veterans
American Legion (switched from opposition to endorsement, contingent on addition of Veterans Homestead provisions)

MISCELLANEOUS GROUPS
American Home Economics Assn.
American Council on Education
Natl. Farmers Union
American Assn. of University Women
American Assn. of Social Workers
Americans for Democratic Action

AGAINST T-E-W BILL

National Association of Real Estate Boards, National Lumber Manufacturers Association, National Federation of Small Business, Inc., Associated Industries of Rhode Island, Thx Justice League of Pennsylvania, Inc., National Association of Home Builders of the U. S., Council of Insured Savings Associations of N.Y.S., Committee for Constitutional Government, Inc., Building Products Institute, 5 Boroughs Taxpayers' Defense, Chicago Metropolitan Home Builders Association, Pittsburgh Real Estate Board, Chamber of Commerce of the USA.

Many local organizations of builders, building supply men, realtors and home owners also opposed T-E-W. So did individual firms which wrote Congress. Not all realtors and builders opposed T-E-W, however. National Builders Association, a Georgia affiliate of National Association of Home Builders, and William Reinhardt, a Philadelphia realtor who was president of the Pennsylvania Savings & Loan League and is now chairman of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, supported T-E-W. These were the exceptions, however.

THE ATTITUDE of most builders was stated by Milton J. Brock, president of NAHB,

What did the builders want? Brock urged builders to tell Congress that "any legislation designed to extend and increase the functioning of FHA is important and desirable; that legislation establishing a secondary mortgage market for GI loans with the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie May) would be helpful. Beyond this the industry does not require legislative assistance and we are unalterably opposed to legislation, such as S 866, which puts the Federal Government in control of slum clearance, research in housing techniques, estimates of housing needs, and, of course, public housing both urban and rural" —Congressional Quarterly.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Truman Is Favorite Candidate Of GOP

PHILADELPHIA

NO MATTER who else may be for him, there is no doubt about the fact that Harry S. Truman is the favorite Democratic candidate—of the Republican Party. GOP leaders are keeping their fingers crossed, hoping that this convention will not fail to nominate their man.

Reasons behind their prayers are manifold and some quite obvious. One which is not so obvious is the fact that the Republicans have been saving up some of their juicest scandals on the Truman Administration to be published this Summer—after the Philadelphia convention. They don't want to break the scandals too soon; first, for fear Truman won't be nominated; second, because public memory is short.

One scandal is the contributions given to the Kansas City primary which elected Mr. Truman's hand-picked Congressional candidate, Enos Axtell, in 1946. It so happens that big-talking General Harry Vaughan, the White House military aide, collected some cash from certain people in this campaign, which should make sensational reading.

Truman's Friends

ANOTHER juicy connection which the Republicans intend to expose between now and election is the association between the White House hangers-on and a partner of Frankie Costello, biggest kingpin gambler of the nation.

The New York State Liquor Authority has now made public officially the long-suspected fact that William Helis, the New Orleans race-horse owner, is associated with Frankie Costello and ex-convict "Dandy" Phil Castell as owners of the William Whitely Distilling Company in Scotland. Both were pals of Lucky Luciano and the undisputed lords of the New York underworld.

This is the same William Helis whose room at the Hotel Statler Mr. Truman occupied after the Ahepa dinner at which the President spoke and Helis presided. Outside Helis's hotel room on this occasion stood John Maragon, an ex-bootlegger, acting as a guard in keeping other dinner guests out of the room while Mr. Truman and Mr. Helis chinned inside.

Beware Greeks Bearing Gifts

HELIS and Maragon, the ex-bootlegger, are, in turn, intimate pals of General Vaughan. Maragon has frequently been seen driving in General Vaughan's special White House automobile, and at one time was allotted a special official parking space just outside the White House.

Both Maragon and Helis are Greek by birth and their obvious influence around the White House has led Republicans to wonder how much this close association had to do with selling the President on the Truman Doctrine for spending half a billion dollars in Greece. That is another thing the Republicans want to dig into.

NOTE—One thing they might also probe is the way General Vaughan and ex-bootlegger Maragon palled around New York with Young Athanissios Tsaldaris, son of the then Premier of Greece. Young Tsaldaris, though of military age, was not up in the mountains with General Markos fighting Communists, but enjoying the night clubs of New York with Truman's aides. It is also significant that Premier Tsaldaris awarded Greek decorations to General Vaughan and to Dr. Wallace Graham, the President's grain-speculating physician.

Mixing Books And Good Will

PROBABLY the Republicans haven't got wind of it yet, but sooner or later they may also smell out some highly interesting commercial aspects about the President's recent trip to Bolivar, Mo. It illustrates how Mr. Truman unwittingly jumps into things which look perfectly innocent on the surface but which sometimes have international repercussions.

Probably he didn't know, when he agreed to go out to Bolivar, Mo., to dedicate a bust of the famous South American hero, that the scheme was cooked up by a publishing house, originally to promote the sale of pamphlets about Bolivar and Latin American countries.

Again it was General Vaughan, the smiling, irrepressible military aide, who sold the President on a venture which isn't going to help our relations with Latin America.

It happens that General Vaughan is a great friend of Dr. John M. C. Crane, writer of pamphlets on Latin America. Crane was looking for a way to promote the sale of his pamphlets, and approached Vaughan on the idea of setting up "The Simon Bolivar Memorial Foundation." Truman also was approached, and among other things was told that this important ceremony held in the town of Bolivar, Mo. (population 3,500) would help the chance of carrying his home state.

At any rate, The Simon Bolivar Foundation was set up with Harry S. Truman as chairman and "co-founder" and John M. C. Crane also as "co-founder." With Harry Truman's name at the top it was easy to get South American ambassadors to serve, and also easy to get the President of Venezuela to come to the United States on the special Truman airplane. Independent President Romulo Gallegos is one of the true leaders of Latin America, a former author, and a crusader for Latin American democracy. Naturally he was pleased to accept the invitation, that he was playing into the hands of book promoters.

However, on the special train which bore the two Presidents out to Missouri was also Don Farran, publishing partner of Dr. Crane, and E. F. Gillian, his business manager. Also on board The Simon Bolivar Memorial Foundation is listed another of Crane's publishing partners, Robert Fowler. Incidentally, The Bolivar Foundation and Crane's publishing firm share the same offices and seem to be run by the same men.

Dr. Crane, on the train to Missouri, told newsmen that he expected the Bolivar ceremony to give a big boost to the sale of his pamphlets, and that he got a royalty of a half-cent on every six-cent pamphlet sold. He estimated that he would sell 2,000,000 copies this year.

Dr. Crane is also working on a plan to sell literature on another Latin American hero, San Martin, and is promoting the sale of 250,000 copies of his San Martin pamphlet to Argentina which in turn would have them distributed in the United States.

While the trip of President Gallegos to the United States was most important, and while a statue to Bolivar in Bolivar, Mo., is a fine thing, it could have been accomplished without having been linked to a commercial scheme.

That is the kind of thing Mr. Truman sometimes naively gets tangled up in, as a result of the "Missouri Gang" around him.

Marquis Childs

Vandenberg Touch

WASHINGTON

THE authorship of diplomatic
THE authorship of diplomatic the stiff note sent by the American Government to Moscow the phrases of one of the authors should be readily identified by those familiar with his skill in using forceful language.

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg has long had a close and friendly working relationship with Under-secretary of State Robert A. Lovett. Scarcely had Vandenberg returned form the GOP Convention in Philadelphia before the two sat down together to frame what may prove to be one of the key documents of American foreign policy.

Leaks deliberately arranged by the Foreign Offices in Paris and London disclosed that in the opinion of the French and British Governments the note was "provocative" and that it was toned down on their insistence. Consequently, some of the warmer Vandenbergian phrases may have been eliminated.

This was not, of course a new role for the Senator from Michigan. It was a continuation of the bipartisan foreign policy that he has made a working reality since the war's end.

GROUND WORK

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey claims to have initiated the bi-partisan policy in his 1944 Presidential campaign. While Dewey may have technical priority for this claim, he was acting under wartime compulsion. Since the lid has been off since the end of the war, it has been Vandenberg who has done the tough, day-to-day spade work.

The Senator is in agreement with the Administration's firm stand on Berlin. He believes, along with Secretary of State Marshall and Gen. Lucius D. Clay, American Commander in Germany, that to be forced out under Soviet pressure would be to weaken the U. S. position in Europe irreparably.

Along with almost everyone else, Vandenberg assumes that the present crisis will be resolved short of war. That is one of the phenomena of this curious Summer. Everyone goes about business, pleasure, and politics as usual. Yet if you take the headlines from Berlin at their face value, American policy-makers are walking on the edge of an abyss that drops down to the most terrifying depths.

The key, it seems to me, lies in a psychological factor that is shared by the U. S. and the Soviet Union. It is the belief that, since neither country wants war, each side can carry the crisis to a long way.

DANGEROUS ATTITUDE

There is a very grave danger in this attitude. Both sides may be emboldened to go so far that there can be no turning back short of armed conflict. If it were not for the convention that each side will do everything to avoid a war, the controversy might not be pushed to such lengths.

Vandenberg has left for his home town, Grand Rapids. He will stay there until the end of July and then he and Mrs. Vandenberg hope to go on a Scandinavian cruise. They are planning now to leave for Great Britain about Aug. 1 and join a holiday cruise there.

The Senator needs a vacation and most Americans would agree that he richly deserves one. The session of Congress that ended on the eve of the Republican Convention saw him in the middle of one struggle after another for the great objectives of a responsible foreign policy.

His final success was in the adoption of the resolution preparing the way for far-reaching co-operation with Western Europe. First steps are now being taken in conferences with Western European ambassadors, looking to political and military support within the framework of the United Nations. At the same time, in a last-minute appearance before the Senate Appropriations Committee, Vandenberg saved the ERP appropriation from Rep. John Taboris meat ax.

Then came the GOP Convention. That the party did not turn to him in the midst of a deadlock was a source of immense relief to Vandenberg.

What his role will be in January, assuming Dewey's election, is still a matter of speculation. Since Philadelphia, he has had several long talks with John Foster Dulles who, it has been assumed, would be Dewey's Secretary of State. But it is possible that Dulles, a reserved and retiring man, will not want this difficult and conspicuous position.

Vandenberg has repeatedly said that he would prefer to stay in the Senate where his position as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee makes him a key figure in policy-making. Certainly, millions of independent voters, who would have chosen Vandenberg over Dewey, will regard him today as the leader of his party in the foreign field and they will be disappointed if Dewey does not work with him.

James Marlow

The Big Spread

WASHINGTON

RADIO is spreading so widely it's reaching out to cover people from the cradle to the grave.

A diaper service in the southwest wants a license for a two-way radio-exchange between its office and its trucks.

And a cemetery near Chicago is so busy it wants an okey to use radio in directing traffic.

In both cases the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been asked for approval.

Those two extreme cases show pretty well how radio has blossomed to cover all kinds of living and activity.

This will give an idea of the spread:

In the war years 912 regular commercial radio broadcasting stations were operating in this country.

They were the familiar, standard AM—amplitude modulation—radio stations.

And during the war there were only 48 FM—frequency modulation —stations running. FM, among other things, cuts static down or out.

The war froze all kinds of new radio building. But the boom got under way when the shooting stopped.

THE BOOM GROWS

Now there are about 2,000 regular AM stations. The FCC has applications to let 600 more set up shop.

And the FCC has okayed 1,000 FM stations, of which 600 now are in operation.

Also—30 commercial television stations are doing business. FCC has told another 70 they can operate.

(During the war there were only six television stations. But they were experimental, not commercial.)

All this so far—2,000 AM stations, 600 FM stations, 30 television stations—has dealt only with commercial broadcasting stations.

AMATEURS TOO

But—

1. There are 75,000 amateurs licensed by the FCC to broadcast.

2. And there are 1,000,000 other types of radio stations operating, all licensed by FCC. They include police, fire, forest ranger, railroad, airline and taxicab broadcasting stations, and so on.

The FCC has to license all broadcasting of any kind because only a limited number of broadcasts can be on the air at any one time without interfering with one another.

Before any station can be on the air, it must have a license from the FCC. The law requires that.

The law was passed, and the FCC created, in 1934. The FCC is made up of five commissioners appointed by the President. Not more than four can be members of the same political party.

Each commissioner's term—except in the case of one who is filling an unexpired term—is seven years. The salary is $10,000.

The FCC doesn't charge any fee for its license. But it investigates the application of anyone wanting to open a station.

The air waves are policed by the FCC which has 14,000 employees and 22 stations, scattered around the country, to monitor all types of radio broadcasting.