

THOMAS L. ROBINSON ..... Publisher  
J. E. DOWD ..... General Manager  
R. S. GRIFFITH ..... Executive Editor

MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 1948

## Censorship Of The Radio

TWO YEARS ago the Federal Communications Commission issued a decision on religious radio programs. The decision was prompted by the demand of a California man that three stations give or sell him time for talks on atheism, and said in part:

"An organization or idea may be projected into the realm of controversy by virtue of being attacked. The holders of a belief should not be denied the right to answer attacks upon them or their belief solely because they are few in number."

That was not a clear "yes" or "no" to the question: Shall atheists be granted radio time to reply to religious broadcasting? The three stations interpreted it as meaning "yes," for they gave Scott a 30-minute program which displaced an established religious program. Protests arose from broadcasters and religious groups alike. So the Harpers special House committee to investigate subversive influences in the FCC has called a public hearing to clarify the FCC ruling.

It is doubtful that this committee is the proper forum for a great debate on the fundamental issues involved. If it follows the procedure of the Thomas Committee, the question may well be obscured by a haze of smoke and the glare of television spotlights.

## Forward On The Road To Health

ASK ALMOST anyone what he wants from life and his list will begin with good health. Paramount in the mind of the man is the desire for good health and the necessity for adequate medical care when illness strikes.

North Carolina has moved in the only way possible to reach the people better health. "Not as charity," says Governor Cherry, "but as an inalienable right" and to provide adequate medical care. It is only through legislative action that these two essential goals can be secured.

In 1947 such legislative action was taken. The medical care bill enacted by the General Assembly assigns the people of North Carolina of better—if still inadequate—medical care by making available \$51,600,000 in Federal and State funds which will be available in the next five years for building and equipping hospitals and health centers.

Part of the improvement of the State's hospitals is under way at Camp Butler. A portion of the money being spent on the new mental hospital comes from the medical care appropriation. The new building construction of houses and apartments for staff members. But as the

Yet here is a question which needs answering, and the sooner the better. For the radio industry, an awkward legal adolescent, still stumbles around in the twilight zone of censorship. There is reason for the FCC to license stations and prescribe engineering practices; there is a strong doubt that the FCC should have the power to tell them what they can broadcast and what they can't.

There is no problem for the individual. Freedom to worship means freedom not to worship, and no force except a man's conscience can make him take a stand on doctrinal questions.

There is no problem in the newspaper business. No power on earth except the judgment of the publisher and the force of public opinion can require a newspaper to publish a story promoting atheism—or prevent it from doing so.

Radio stations do not have such liberty, and it is hardly likely that anything short of a constitutional amendment will give to the broadcaster the same power over what the public is to hear that the newspaper has over what the public is to read.

There may be abuses of press freedom. But by and large the public benefits immensely from the freedom of the press. Government bureau told the newspapers, what they could and could not print.

Institution becomes settled more will go into facilities for the actual care of patients. Eleven hundred mental cases will eventually be cared for at the State Hospital Institution. The establishment and improvement of the State Hospital at Camp Butler is an impressive step forward on the long road North Carolina must travel toward adequate care for the mentally diseased.

But North Carolina still remains low on the list of states in the provision of medical care for its citizens. This must not and will not continue for many years. Our state now ranks fourth in the South in per capita income; new industries are growing and progress is being made on educational and other fronts. We must not forget the citizens who are still in need of medical care. Hospitals or those unfortunate who require care in mental institutions.

We have only begun the fight for a broad health program. We must concentrate on a number of things: more doctors; at least one hospital for every county; cure whenever possible, rather than incarceration in mental institutions. There is no better cause to which a Tar Heel may devote himself than the promotion of good health in North Carolina.

## Judge Zeke Henderson

"Twas the saying of an ancient sage that humor was the only test of gravity, and gravity of humor, for a subject which would not bear reality was suspicious; and a jest which would not bear a serious examination was certainly false wit."

.....Shaffteley

Somewhere along a way Lawyer D. E. (Zeke) Henderson found out that a few jokes are always palatable, the biggest problems and worries of this life. And he made it his philosophy.

It has served him in good stead through a long and illustrious career in which he has excelled at every task which has turned his attention. His first job was logging, and he used to split rails at the super-

human rate of 500 a day, a record in Eastern North Carolina in those times. He taught the same energy and determination to bear on his practice of the law, his work in the church, his leadership of civic improvement campaigns. Always he found some way to lighten the task by applying good humor generously.

Now, in the later stages of his outstanding career, he has been nominated by Senators Hoy and Unadun to fill an interim appointment as Federal Judge of the Western N. C. District. His appointment is virtually assured.

The law, at best, is a dull affair, weighed down with ponderous polysyllables and weighed mysteriously. If anybody can give it the human touch, it will be Judge D. E. Henderson.

From The New York Times

## Elms In The Meadows

TALL elms in the meadows are a beautiful motif in Nature's canvas these brooding Summer days. The river's quiet waters more slowly to the distant ocean, shaggy cumulus clouds accompany the sun as it courses near the pole of the horizon. The staccato burr of mowing-machines, knives behind the soft filigree of the grasshopper's legs, the rustle of curing clover and timothy fills the air.

The elms, singly or in groups, make beauty in the river valleys. Often a hundred feet tall, they stand patiently surveying the scene, their branches and the blue-green hills in the distance. Their outwardly curved main branches with drooping branchlets make a graceful bouquet in all seasons of the year. Reddish flower clusters hang from the drooping branches, while winged fruits drift away on June breezes. In autumn the pointed double-toothed leaves with cream-colored veins change to a beautiful clear gold. When snow blankets the landscape, the elms are muted beneath its, the symmetrical bare branches are an appealing etching above the whiteness.

Now in Summer the elms brood patiently above the meadows. Orioles' nests hang from the branches, blue jays perch high to survey the landscape. Wild vines climb the tall, straight trunks and make a green cloak over the gray bark. The olive-green leaves blend with the ruddy brown of the drooping new growth twigs. The American elm adds charm to quiet village streets. It surrounds the commons laid out by home-

seeking pioneers. But perhaps it is most beautiful when growing above the flower-starred green of the meadows.

Up at Ann Arbor, Mich., a news dispatch of July 24 stated: "Two horses galloping at top speed collided head-on and were killed last night," from which we can only conclude that horses—commonly credited with horse sense—sometimes have no more sense than people. —Nashville (Tenn.) Banner.

I want to vote for MEN, not for party labels. I would like to vote for Dewey and Warren—both fine men. Thurmond and A. Smith have no more show of winning than a tall, mother deer of corn and sorghum stalks through Hell—Grenada County (Miss.) Weekly.

Paging Luther Burbank! He might have the answer to the one about the baby ear. The stalk asked: "How did I get here, mother?" The mother ear of corn replied: "The stalk brought you, dear."—Arcadia (Fla.) Arcadian.

Pome Revealing That Celebrity Is Not As Exclusive As It Seems  
People quite unknown to fame have a good time just the same.

.....Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.

The fellow who sold a peach and then an onion into his Corn Flakes in Atlanta gives us a new idea of indifference. —Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.

## People's Platform

## Consider People As Persons

SOUTHERN PINES

IT IS very heart-warming to note the front page and other publicity you have given the World Council of Churches Conference at Amsterdam and that you headed your editorial column Thursday with your own fine comments regarding this conference.

It would almost seem from some of your remarks that you were present a few Sundays ago when we had a visiting minister from a nearby church who visited several opinions very similar to your statements regarding the considering of the people of the world as persons. This eloquent man, who said that we could put the world together more constructively for the good of man if we would think of the people of the world as individuals rather than as "the masses."

His text was "And Jesus saw a man named Matthew, and he went to say that Jesus saw the possibilities in Matthew, not as the hated taxgatherer, but as a man, with potential good in working for the Kingdom, and he therefore said to him 'Follow Me'." Could we not help the world more right now if we thought of it as individuals who are in need at this very moment of the very necessities of life, such as food, clothing and shelter?

It is not true that the "unhealthy attitude of dualism where religion is concerned" as you mention in your editorial, has existed ever since Jesus began his teachings, rather than its being a new development. This separation seems to exist more and more among the more learned classes apparently, for that in some heathen countries the so-called "religion" is tied into and practiced in every single act of their daily lives. Should this not in itself be a lesson to us?

Burely it would be better for the world if the lawless—as is done by the practice of the world—were "welcomed" into rather than from and alien to religious principles. Let us hope and pray that the delegates to the Amsterdam Conference will receive the support they need and deserve so they will be enabled to convince world-leaders that moral principles should dominate both political and economic plans if we are to have or even expect a lasting peace for the world.

—MRS. DAN R. McNEILL.

## Moral Principles First

MORGANTON

PERMIT me to voice my very warm appreciation of your editorial "World Council of Churches" as it appears in your paper of yesterday afternoon (August 29). I read it and it read it over and over again and it seems to me that it sets forth most clearly and most principles should dominate both political and economic plans if we are to have or even expect a lasting peace for the world.

As you so well express it: "The core of Christian philosophy is the dominance of moral principles over all others—political and economic." Have we (as a nation and as individuals) turned so far from the wisdom of God that we can (and dare) regard the moral principles of the Bible as indifferent to religion? Said to say it truly seems that we have and yet are greatly inclined to do so.

In spite of all its truly great merit in its various

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

(Ed. Note—While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation, the Merry-Go-Round will be written by his old partner, Robert S. Allen.)

WASHINGTON

GOV. TOM DEWEY has been doing a lot of unreported work in the State of New York.

Among those he has counseled with in these private talks are Speaker Joe Martin, House Floor Leader Charles McNary, Sen. Styles Bridges, N. H. and Sen. William Knowland, Cal.

In these conferences Dewey has presented the main outline of his campaign. The public already knows what he has in the main his operational plans are definitely formulated. They are as follows:

1. The GOP campaign will get under way the middle of September and continue at an undiminished pace until election eve, Nov. 1. Dewey will make a Labor Day speech. He does not consider it necessary to race around as extensively as President Truman will do that day. Dewey will confine his campaigning to a major speech at an important gathering.

2. The President's attacks on Congress—his campaign theme—will be met with the countercharge that he can't get along with Congress. To highlight this contention, Dewey will stress his record of "teamwork" with the New York Legislature and also, at all occasions, will have prominently in his entourage several or more members of Congress.

Dewey will avoid any hard-and-fast promises to balance the budget or cut taxes. He feels that would be imprudent because "we might not be able to deliver if the economy should take a turn for the worse." He will emphasize improving the administration of domestic and foreign affairs and eliminating "waste" and excessive personnel.

Dewey will make no promises to eliminate conflicts and contradictions. He will make no promises to eliminate the 1944 campaign, when the late Wendell Willkie and his running mate, the late Sen. Charles McNary, occasionally talked at opposite poles.

Truman is on the defensive, and we propose to keep

## 'I Don't See Any Commies'

## Marquis Childs

## Test Vet To Come

NOTE: Marquis Childs, Washington correspondent, is exploring the West. He is arriving first and taking a collection trip between this vast new development and the rest of the country, observing just how politics in this election year will fit into the picture.

SAN FRANCISCO

WHEN the motorist comes into this state, he is stopped and his car inspected a quarantine station. The purpose is to insure any disease-bearing plants. Then he is given an inspection certificate which says of way of explanation: "About one-third of the nation's fruits and vegetables are grown in California, where more than 80 commercial crops are produced. Last year the income from these crops exceeded two billion dollars, the highest of any state."

That modest understatement typifies the boom-time atmosphere of California, the gorgeous, magnificent, the unbeatable. The new 41 per cent jump in population, estimated by the state, is the place in the Union, just one of California's boasts.

In fact, just a political champion today and the fact he has won recognition taken as another illustration to California's inevitable greatness. You do not have to be a politician long to discover that Gov. Earl Warren has real popularity among all kinds of people.

Certainly he has a personal appeal following in the West than Dewey has ever had in his own state. And California voters are said to be disloyal to the Warren party to the country with the same pride with which they defend their oranges and sunshine.

Deputy has been completing that candidate into pretty much every corner of the country. But the border states with emphasis on Kentucky and Missouri, and they go into the deep South. He

He seems to me unfair to judge Warren by what he has been asked to get the legislature to do. Under this kind of a cross-firing, whereby a candidate cannot tell whether he is a Democrat or a Republican, the result is a legislature more subject to the whims of a more vocal than most. The governor is impossible to persuade or coerce. He is a man of the party to go down the line for measures.

The contrast with New York is striking. One of Dewey's best boasts is his ability to teamwork out of the legislature. He works with the legislature, party responsibility. New York has an FEPC law and leading measures in the advance of California. Warren has liberal views which he sometimes expresses in a somewhat casual manner. He is a man of courage. Rich, those matters that he is a man of courage. He will be judged on what influence he has on the national policy and administration when—and if—he goes to Washington.

## Joseph &amp; Stewart Alsop

## A Solid Step

WASHINGTON

THE defense chiefs' caucus at the Joint Chiefs of Staff last week-end was one of those rare events which are more important than they seem. It was celebrated as another step down the rocky road toward unity of the three armed services. But it was actually a very long way down the even more difficult road toward some sort of intelligible American strategic planning.

In 1946 and 1947, it was reported, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, after the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army, Navy and Air Force, were unable to agree upon long-range strategic planning. The Joint Chiefs of Staff, after the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army, Navy and Air Force, were unable to agree upon long-range strategic planning.

—J. HILDEBRAND  
Pastor, Beth Presbyterian Church.

## Mr. Fink's Passing

CHARLOTTE

TO MY own personal word of appreciation I would like to add an expression of behalf of the church in thanking The News for the very appropriate editorial comment occasioned by the passing of Mr. D. W. Fink.

The words were well chosen, the sentiment expressed did honor to the occasion. Mr. Fink was one of our jewels; but he belonged to the Christian community in a unique way.

—CLAUDE U. BROACH,  
Minister, St. John's Baptist Church

The People's Platform is available to anyone who cares to mount it. Communications should be sent to the editor, The People's Platform, P. O. Box 100, New York, N. Y. It is possible, and on only one side of the paper, to have a platform that is as good as anything goes. Each letter must be dated, signed, and in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, The News.

him there." Dewey told one Congressional caller. "I'm going to hit hard, but there is no need for a long-winded campaign of abuse. The public already knows what's all about. From our standpoint, the shorter the campaign, the better. I want to avoid an anti-trust election. We are going to build up to a climax, firing our heaviest guns in the final phases of the campaign."

HCL Ratings

EXTRACT from a letter of a Western cattle-raiser to a Washington friend: "Sold a few steers this week that topped the local market—\$26.80 per 100 pounds. Just grass steers, no grain. It looks like you're going to have to eat beans, feed, and like 'em."

Close Shave

FORMER APA Director Paul Porter is back at his private law practice, after a hectic stint as President Truman's special assistant during the emergency session of Congress. Porter walked into his office, he was exuberantly greeted by Thurmond Arnold, one-time head of the Anti-Trust Division.

"Welcome back," boomed Arnold. "You squeezed out of that one just in time. If that session had lasted a few days longer, they would have been eating you. They would have investigated you as a White House spy sure as shooting."

Hot Oil

COMMERCE Secretary Charles Sawyer is on a hot vet over a decision on steel oil piling he must make in a few weeks.

The postponing is the licensing of a huge fourth-round allocation for export to the Middle East. Four big U. S. oil corporations are clamoring for the pithy—\$600 million of New Jersey, Exxon-Mobil, Texaco Co., and California. They want it to complete their 1,100-mile pipeline from Lebanon coast. So far, only 300 miles have been finished.

Flashes

MAL GEN. WILLIAM J. DONOVAN is back from Greece having for his mission the Greek Republic. He is the murder of George Peck, U. S. radio correspondent, ... Rep. Dan Reed, 72-year-old New York Republican, was nominated for the Senate from New York in his district. Just before starting for home, he broke a leg. ... When Prigouna warships excitedly asked more for Gen. ... but why do you want mine? I'm only a reserve major and the only one remaining ... Carroll Reese, former Republican National Chairman running for Senator in Tennessee, has hired an ex-Washington correspondent as his publicity agent.