

60th Anniversary Year

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Benes, Champion Of Liberty

ON MAY 28, 1884, Eduard Benes was born at Kozlany, Bohemia, the youngest of ten children of a peasant couple. Yesterday he died, a man of international fame and one of this century's bravest champions of liberty. Before those days his story, like that of his beloved Czechoslovakia, was one of struggle, of short-lived success, and finally of futility and despair.

famous Munich pact which sacrificed Sudetenland while Britain's Neville Chamberlain intoned, "Peace in our time!"

Suddenly Benes did not satisfy the Nazis. The pressure became so great that Benes resigned, telling his countrymen that "our nation will never forget even if it bears its fate calmly." He went into exile. Five months later Hitler grabbed up the rest of Czechoslovakia.

In exile, Benes continued the fight for his native land, and when the Nazi machine crumbled made a dramatic return to Prague. He was elected president of the republic. This time the shadow fell from the East. Benes had to sign a twenty-year mutual assistance pact with Russia, had to stand helplessly as the Communists built up their strength until, in 1946, they captured control of Parliament. Benes was re-elected President unanimously, but Communist Leader Klement Gottwald was installed as Premier. Sick and disheartened, Benes resigned a historic last June rather than sign a new constitution drawn up by the Communists.

Even in retirement, his mere presence felt. He was a good spirit to his people and made the Communist task more difficult. He was more to them than a man; he was a symbol of the liberty and security that had twice been within their grasp, only to slip away.

Perhaps his passing will break their spirit. But more probably, when their sorrowing has subsided and they see the cold, bitter truth of their fate more clearly, they will turn to the Russians who become stronger. Then Eduard Benes will lead them in death, as he did in life.

The Peckerwoods Take Over

THEY'RE a-warm'n' up the greens and a-settin' on the squeezins in Louisiana's political house; the peckerwoods have come back to the state.

Long the First knew the pattern to follow—He was one of them, he told them loud and long, and he would bring them out of the wilderness.

Talmadge the First knew The Pattern, too. It's a simple pattern: you just make men feel they'd be a good spicils of his people and make the Communist task more difficult. He was more to them than a man; he was a symbol of the liberty and security that had twice been within their grasp, only to slip away.

Invitation of the hinterlands by education, the daily press, the radio may combat the very Talmadge and the Huey Long; the Gene Close contest between Russell Long and Judge Robert F. Kennon in the Louisiana senatorial contest this week would indicate as much.

But young Russell Long won out—by a narrow margin, by the margin of his rural parishes where the Long Legend lives. Education hasn't beaten Talmadge and Long yet, but the future is bright.

"The Kingfish" has been dead thirteen years now. It was in 1935 that a constitution named him with a bullet. But the way "The Kingfish" talked to his peckerwoods, told them how he was of humble origin himself, how he was just an old peckerwood, too—that isn't dead.

Bishop John Long Jackson

THE death yesterday of The Rt. Rev. John Long Jackson, bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, stirred a keen sense of loss among a wide circle of friends in Charlotte as well as elsewhere in North Carolina.

only a chapel with a membership list of 140. Upon its dedication as a church in the congregation included 713 persons.

A forthright and vigorous man, Bishop Jackson did not limit his efforts to the ministerial field. He was interested in the education of the Piedmont and particularly concerned about the education and the welfare of the city's young people; so much so that he served a number of years as a member of the City School Board and was elected to the Board and particularly concerned about the education and the welfare of the city's young people; so much so that he served a number of years as a member of the City School Board and was elected to the Board.

Bishop Jackson made important contributions to Charlotte as a minister and as a citizen and his passing is a cause of regret to all who knew him.

From The Greenville (S. C.) News

A Piedmont Builder

THE DEATH of Frank H. Coltran of Charlotte has caused a real estate and construction industry in the South and in Canada.

pany and other Canadian enterprises in the Piedmont. He returned to this section to become associated with the Southern Power Company and other Duke enterprises, and was chief engineer of the Piedmont & Northern Railway from 1912 to 1927.

Mr. Coltran became president of the Piedmont & Northern and the Durham & Southern Railway in 1937, and held that post at the time of his death. As the administrative head of these affiliated railroads, he demonstrated his ability as a transportation executive, and under his management the roads made steady progress in the expansion and improvement in their services to the shippers of the Piedmont region.

A hick town now is a place with only one airport.—Arkansas Gazette.



This cartoon was drawn in May, 1947, and is one of a series of Herblock cartoons being reprinted while he is on vacation.

Peoples' Platform

More About 'Henry & The Egg' CHARLOTTE The American way of life to the slavdom of Red totalitarianism.

Editors, The News: Now that the shadow of Henry Wallace and his wild-eyed band of malcontents and agitators has passed over the Tar Heel State, the self-righteous bleeding hearts and tippester jingals are grinding out a ludicrous load of sentimental drivel dedicated to the topic of "Eggs And Henry Wallace."

The "shift key happy" breast-beaters appear chiefly concerned with lambasting public manifestations of contempt for Wallace, and strive to create an impression that such demonstrations of disapproval were instigated upon and that the doddering old man should have been allowed to unbridle his tongue without interference.

In the first place Wallace's right of free speech was neither jeopardized nor infringed upon. On the contrary, he was granted a specific time and place to speak and certain no one was to demand against his speaking, nor was there any threat to obstruct his constitutional right. But simply because he is entitled to free speech it does not mean the privilege is conceded as an exclusive right of his alone.

Every citizen of the United States is guaranteed the same privilege, and as there is no specific provision compelling listeners to remain silent, nor any guarantee that free speech shall be allowed without interruption, it follows that the right to heckle speakers is as much a sacred right as the guarantee of free speech.

Whether or not the speaker successfully enjoys the full benefits of free speech depends largely upon his ability to control those to whom he is speaking. But in this respect Wallace proved himself a sad and ridiculous spectacle.

Almost from the very moment that he stepped to the microphone Wallace indicated a nervous uncertainty. This registered in the crowd in an unconscious tension that found expression in vocal outbursts. Curiously motivated the crowd in a restless shifting of persons. Wallace's fear-stricken mind concluded that the crowd was prepared to pounce and made the mistake of moving to his car. From that time the audience was out of control. How is it to be expected that a speaker should be able to ensure public action for the fault of Wallace to understand his own psychology?

As for the supposition that he should have allowed to rant and rave with humble passiveness, it must be remembered that this is exactly what he wanted. Uninterrupted freedom to conduct their campaigns of hate and disruption is the aim of the Communists. The word "yes" to his appeals that American elements fear most is any form of opposition to the Communist war aims. The American people of good will, any manner of protest to their activities invariably brings forth frenzied attacks from the placards that their constitutional rights have been denied.

The anti-Wallace demonstrations throughout North Carolina are gratifying indications that patriotic citizens have the courage of their convictions and the intestinal fortitude to manifest their indignation for the quinquins who conspire to subordinate

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A Word From California

Editors, The News: Copy of letter sent the Governor of North Carolina dated Sept. 1, 1948. My dear Governor: Thank God the people in North Carolina know what they believe, know whose bottom they sit on, and know whose side they are on.

Thank God the people in North Carolina know what they believe, know whose bottom they sit on, and know whose side they are on. It is quite apparent that your people don't need the help of the Communists, who propose to solve the problem of the "shift key happy" breast-beaters who have paraded their false doctrine in dangerously important places in our beloved land.

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WASHINGTON THE CANDIDATES are, so to speak, being put through their paces by the press. Dewey is the diet and early morning glutton, in preparation for the grand Presidential spectacle. Dewey will begin shortly. It is time for a re-orientation of the contestants.

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