THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON ..... Publisher
J. E. DOWD ..... General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH ..... Executive Editor
C. A. McKNIGHT ..... Editor

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1950

UNITY IN THE AMERICAS

WHEN Tom Wallace, editor emeritus of *The Louisville Times*, was in Charlotte last year he convinced a lot of Charlotteans of the desirability—indeed, the necessity—of closer relations between the nations of the Americas. It was easy to see, talking with Mr. Wallace, that Inter-American harmony meant a lot to him.

This week in New York, Tom Wallace is probably as close to Heaven-on-Earth as any man can get. He's presiding over the opening of the Inter-American Press Conference. He is chairman of the Conference's Organizing Committee.

The basic outline of the Conference concerns itself largely with professional problems—the encouragement of uniform standards of professional and business conduct, the exchange of ideas and information which contribute to the cultural, material, and technical development of the press of America, to guard the freedom of the press.

But not forgotten in the hustle and bustle of newspaper talk is the dream of Tom Wallace. A stated purpose of the Conference is:

". . . to foster a wider knowledge and greater interchange among *the peoples of America* in support of the basic principles of a free society and individual liberty and to work collectively for the solution of common problems and for the preservation of the peace and tranquillity of the New World."

And without assigning undue power to the press, we say that Tom Wallace could have found no group of men more likely to be effective in bringing about hemispheric unity than the newspapermen meeting in New York this week; for the only real barrier to hemispheric unity is ignorance. Responsible newspapers can do much to dispel that ignorance.

Hemispheric unity is not just the dream of Tom Wallace; it is the goal toward which the rich and mighty U. S. must strive just as zealously as the weakest of South American nations, for the poverty-stricken peoples of South America offer the Soviet Union its greatest opportunity for infiltration in the Western Hemisphere.

The Russians have had much success with the poor and unlearned peoples of Asia and, while there is little reason to believe the Reds can achieve military success in the Latin American countries, Soviet sympathizers there can certainly create dissension and block unity of action in the event of war.

The South Americans are our neighbors, more literally than any other people. The Inter-American Press Conference, of which THE NEWS is happy to be a co-sponsor, will help to make us all better neighbors. Our mutual needs can be fulfilled only through sympathetic understanding.

RECORDER WILSON GUILLOTINED

AS WE NOTED some weeks ago, Durham Recorder A. R. Wilson was sticking his judicial neck out when he ordered the arrest on vagrancy charges of anyone who circulated the Stockholm (Communist-sponsored) Peace Petition in that city.

His order was challenged by a young left-winger, William McKee Evans, who was properly arrested when he tried to get three Durham policemen to sign the petition. Evans asked for a jury trial.

On Wednesday, Superior Court Judge Henry L. Stevens threw the case out of court after hearing the State's evidence. It was shown that young Evans was gainfully employed, and that he had $100 on his person when he was arrested. Hence, Judge Stevens ruled, he was not a vagrant.

The jurist, a former national commander of the American Legion, held forth in resounding phrases for some minutes about the "American way of life", and inferred that he would deny the benefits of the Bill of Rights to such people as Evans if he had his way about it.

Fortunately, Judge Stevens doesn't have his way. Neither does Recorder Wilson. The Bill of Rights is far too precious a thing to entrust to the care of any one individual.

The constitutional issue—the right of petition guaranteed in the first article of the Bill of Rights—never came before the court. That is unfortunate, for we need to be reminded constantly that individual liberties can not be denied to one unless they are denied to all, and that to preserve them we must, in the words of Supreme Court Justice Jackson, give more liberty than the good citizen will use.

The trouble with such super-patriots as Recorder Wilson is that they play right into the hands of the fringe elements in our society. By injudicious actions, they permit leftists like William Evans to arrogate to themselves the precious privilege of defending the Bill of Rights. That is the privilege and duty of all good Americans. We must never let it pass by default to those who would hide behind it while trying to destroy it.

BOB RUARK AND THE VEEP

IN HIS own angry, imitable style our Mr. Ruark has decided to kid around with Vice-President Alben Barkley, who is sometimes referred to (at his own request) as "The Veep". What our Mr. Ruark wants to know is why don't we pick responsible men for the Vice-Presidency and keep them working at the job.

After all, Mr. Ruark points out, what if "Harry Truman took sick and died or fell overboard or got assassinated—a fate which has, in the past, overtaken some of our leaders"?

Who would take over? Mr. Ruark asks. Someone who has spent more time kissing Miss Athlete's Foot of 1951 than he has spent on the study of international affairs.

It would be unfortunate if we allowed ourselves to be so titillated by Mr. Ruark's prose pyrotechnics that we overlooked the seriousness of the matter. We *have* allowed the Vice-Presidency to become a sort of social front for Washington goings-on. We *should* insist on a more serious approach to the office.

Don't get us wrong. We think Vice-President Barkley is a fine, friendly old gentleman in the best Kentucky tradition and we rejoiced with everyone else when he married that pretty lady from Missouri. But Mr. Ruark has himself a point there—"If you ran a government like a sensible business, your VP would be constantly at the right hand of the incumbent, absorbing all the know-how against the day he might have to take over."

FAREWELL TO DIPLOMATESE

IT HAS OFTEN seemed that the men vested with the responsibility of keeping world affairs straight have intentionally tried to keep us from knowing what they are up to. We have all heard radio talks and read speech texts in newspapers and found ourselves hopelessly muddled.

Secretary of State Acheson's speech Sunday night gives us hope that that might be a thing of the past.

Not only did the Secretary say something important (that there is still hope for peace with Russia if we keep our powder dry), but he said it in a refreshingly simple matter.

Gone were the old phrases in diplomatese. Simple, hard words replaced them. For instance:

"It is with the world as it is—not as we might wish it to be—that we must begin. . . .We find ourselves in a world of peril. The values we cherish and our right to fulfill them in peace are in grave jeopardy. The small group of men who hold the Russian people in an iron grip is not content to entrench the power of its regime. These men seek to expand their control over other peoples. Wherever there is prospect of success, they have reached out for more territory, more people. They have mobilized arms and armies for this purpose. It takes more than bare hands and a desire for peace to turn back this threat. It takes very considerable military strength, organization, and a strong will, to ensure that aggression does not have further prospect of success, and may therefore be discouraged."

The simplicity of Secretary Acheson's speech is not commended on an academic basis alone. If ever there was a time when understanding between policy makers and the people were needed, this is it. Successes in Korea may well breed complacency at home; we must remember that Korea is not the only danger spot. Without inciting hysteria or indulging in "crisis talks", Secretary Acheson has stated clearly the necessity for continued preparedness.

From The Frankfort (Ky.) State Journal

SOUND OF MORNING

THE sound of morning isn't what it used to be. Long ago the clop-clop of the milk-man's horse was silenced with rubber shoes or traded for the muffled exhaust of a gasoline engine. The clinking glass bottle was giving way to the non-clinking cardboard container, when the milk-man himself came up with a more drastic step. He stopped coming before breakfast.

The tapping night-stick of the policeman faded before the silent trend of the squad car. The iron-tired wagons which clattered over brick or cobblestones on lonely dawn errands have vanished. Now even the rattling garbage can may be doomed, for someone has invented a rubber one with a lid which makes no sound on can or pavement. Soon it'll be so alfired quiet no one will be able to sleep.

Ah for the good old days last month before the tax deducts went up.—*Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.*

State Sculling Champion Takes On The Varsity

Commonwealth Conference On Asia Bodes Well For Future

By MARQUIS CHILDS

LONDON

NOT so many years ago this capital was the focus of the greatest imperium of modern times. The boast about the sun never setting on the British empire was truthful as well as proud.

In the interval since that empire vanished—except for stray bits and pieces in various corners of the globe—a remarkable transition has taken place. By conscious, careful, skillful policy the British have been changing over from imperial master to friendly partner.

QUICK-CHANGE ACT

They are frankly amazed at the success they have had thus far in this quick-change act. After performing as the high-handed British Raj for a great many years, they would not have been surprised at being shoved out once and for all with the door permanently closed against any kind of relationship.

The instrument of change is that international club known as the British Commonwealth. It is hardly necessary to add that the old rules of exclusion coming out of the century of empire have long since been junked.

There has just been concluded here a Commonwealth conference—operating under the new rules—on Southeast Asia. While the test of performance is still to come, on the score of agreed objectives and plans for the future, it seems to have been highly successful.

As the tensions in Asia build up, there seems little hope of any kind of peace whether short term or long term. But if there is a ray of hope left, it is in the patient, painstaking approach to real co-operation seen here.

Around the conference table were representatives of India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand and Britain, with other Commonwealth countries participating from time to time. They drew up a prospectus for the development of the great underdeveloped areas of Southeast Asia. And at a later session this program was taken up with representatives of Burma, Indonesia and other Asian countries not a part of the Commonwealth.

The prospectus includes a technical assistance bureau to furnish technological aid. It includes a careful scheduling of repayments on the sterling debt that Britain ran up in these countries during World War II. And it contains at least the tentative outline of a program of capital investment, with emphasis on development loans from the International Bank.

Some of the steps will be carried out at once. This represents practical progress toward East-West understanding and eventual partnership.

While they are discreet in talking about it, the British planning this co-operative policy are hopeful that American efforts in behalf of Southeast Asia can become a part of the whole program. Assistant Secretary of State George McGee was an unofficial observer at the Commonwealth conference. Capital investment, whether public or private, must come in considerable part from the only great pool of surplus capital—and that is in the United States.

Policy planners here have borne in mind the warning given by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru of India three years ago. At a conference on Commonwealth relations in the new and empireless world, Nehru in effect said:

"You can fight Communism in Asia, but you can't fight both Communism and Nationalism. If you try to fight Nationalism, you will be driven out of Asia."

In other words, to resist the national aspirations of people who have lived long under colonialism would be a fatal error. In part, at least, this is behind Nehru's attitude on China. He believes that the Chinese Communists, given a moderate policy in the West, will develop independence of the Soviet Union even though their economy and government may be Communist. That is to say, they would follow the example of Yugoslavia.

As with President Truman's Point 4 program, this is a signpost to a decent and a peaceful world. And that remains true even though it appears sometimes as though all signs pointing to reason and moderation will be ignored.

People's Platform

Home Owner Backs Auditorium

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

I have read the letter of opposition to the coliseum bond issue appearing in Monday's News. May I comment briefly on this letter?

Yes, taxes are high. But what taxes? City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County taxes are essentially at the same rate of several years ago, despite the fact that year by year steady inflation has caused each tax dollar to buy less in civic services. The tremendous increase in taxes has been mostly in Federal taxes; the tremendous increase in living costs has been largely due to Federally-caused inflation.

Regarding the statement that the coliseum would be a probably self-supporting undertaking, does not the writer of the opposition letter realise that the high taxes of which he is complaining would make impossible a privately-owned "business" such as this? Has he calculated even the local property taxes on a $3,000,000 investment? This is solely a civic undertaking by necessity.

Regarding the expenditure of City and County funds for a municipal airport building, I must wholeheartedly concur with Mr. Wellons. I, too, strongly oppose spending city funds for airport buildings.

However, on the next point in the letter, I must disagree. I firmly believe that the average home owner will have several times a year desire and occasion to enter and use the coliseum.

Concerning sidewalks, let me remind anyone who may read this letter that sidewalks are, in North Carolina, legally the responsibility of the property owner, not of the City.

I stand firmly in favor of the coliseum and auditorium bonds. I am a home owner who will pay a share of the taxes involved.

—WILLIAM C. BURNETT.

Opposes Bond Issue

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

ON SATURDAY morning, Oct. 14, a mere handful of voters will trek to the polls to cast their ballots in another bond election. This will probably be another election by default. It will mean, if carried, a further debt of $3,000,000 to be paid for by the taxpayers, in addition to the City, State and Federal tax burden already imposed upon the people, with the end not in sight.

I am opposed to placing the burden of the cost of the auditorium and coliseum on the taxpayers when the project will benefit only the few. I know that there are some people who will say that Charlotte should have an auditorium and coliseum. I concur in their opinion, but these people, few in number, are looking to Government to provide the three million dollars by increasing taxes, but the larger group of taxpayers will not share in these facilities. These are the people who should certainly go out and vote their convictions in the forthcoming bond election.

An auditorium with a seating capacity of only 2,500 in a city the size of Charlotte clearly indicates that it is for the few. The promoters are all financially strong men, and if they wish to do something for the city in a cultural way they have an opportunity to do so, by organizing a corporation for the erection of the buildings, their operation and maintenance, and not saddle the cost off on the people. The income from the project should amortize the cost over a period of years, and at the same time be self-supporting.

Let's defeat this bond issue and give private capital a chance.

—J. L. FOLEY.

Auditorium Needed

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

CONGRATULATIONS on your editorial support of the Auditorium-Coliseum project! You are rendering a great service to the people in the City of Charlotte and surrounding areas by your stand on this issue.

Charlotte's growth over the years and its importance to this section of the country is tangible evidence that its residents in the past have been farsighted and progressive. To continue our progress and maintain our importance to this section, we must remain aggressive. All successful municipalities must have adequate auditoriums and coliseums to accommodate conventions, large meetings, and desirable entertainment.

The advantage to be derived from the Auditorium-Coliseum will more than offset the few additional dollars that such a program may add in taxes. I know no other facility that could be enjoyed by so many people.

It would be tragic to deprive this section the benefits to be offered by this program just because a small number of citizens object to a minor increase in taxes. Remember, we will pay for these buildings in a few years, and in the years to come we will receive income from this investment which can be used to reduce our taxes. Actually, therefore, the slight increase in taxes will be temporary.

I am sure the majority of voters will support this bond issue. I am going to vote "yes".

—W. S. TERRELL.

First Things First

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

PLEASE let me say a word in defense of my home before it is too late. Another bond issue, as proposed in the amount of $3,000,000, could easily be "the straw that broke the camel's back". Thousands of GI's have borrowed ninety to one hundred per cent of the value of their homes, and in most cases, their furniture is purchased on monthly installments; and to meet these payments requires about all their income. Most of the new homes scattered over town, and many of the old ones, are heavily mortgaged. All small home owners, including widows, orphans, the sick and disabled, have all they can beat. Can't you see the injustice of further burdens? How do the poor live anyway?

If other burdens and bonds are to come—and they must—let them be for necessities of life, not for a Coliseum. We need sidewalks, sewerage, and more school buildings. Many of our streets are in bad shape and must be remedied. Dangerous grade crossings must be cared for; burdens of charity are yearly increasing; and who, except the home owners, are to pay for these things? The man without property doesn't.

No, Mr. Editor, let's first remove those out-of-door privies and rock quarries from our city, install sidewalks, sewerage, care for the poor, and provide necessities of life; and let's pay off some of those numerous and burdensome bonds yet outstanding that were issued from 1922 through 1950.

—O. B. ELLIS.

Aged Al Barkley Has Been A Boresome Buss-t As Veep

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

ACCORDING to recent intelligences from Hollywood, Miss Maryanne O'Brien was planning a pilgrimage to Washington, which may have been completed by now. This juvenile quest for the Orail, in terms of a premier kiss from Vice-President Barkley, of course would have nothing to do with a press-agently stunt, but the good thing is that the Veep would not only hold still for it, but would revel in it. His ruby lips are permanently chapped from oscillation with everybody from Miss America, 1950 to Miss Athlete's Foot, 1951.

Do not misunderstand me. I am not knocking serious necking, or even the semi-formal buss bestowed by baseball players on each other for the benefit of the newsreel cameras. I think that Vice-President Barkley is kind of cute for an old codger. "Veep" is a very chic title for the man who could be our President in time of great trouble if Harry Truman took sick and died or fell overboard or got assassinated—a fate which has, in past, overtaken some several of our leaders.

PUCKERED OUT

But so far as I am able to discover, the Veep has done very little for the record since he came into office but go to parties, get married and kiss everybody who puckered up in his immediate vicinity. This is fine fun and good games, for sure, but rather a poor indoctrination for the leadership of a nation in case something comes amiss with Harry. If we needed a professional necker, we might just as well have hired Klasing Jim Folsom of Alabama.

We make rather a poor thing of our vice-presidents, using them as consolation prizes to swing political deals, and paying slight heed to the potential of the job. We include them out from the basic workings of the Administration, award them a lip-service (no pun) job as President of the Senate, and drive them to such cheap publicity grabs as kissing Miss Poison Ivy, while eighteen press agents cheer. They serve chiefly as ambassadors at Washington cocktail routs—and then one day fate intervenes and they are suddenly tapped to pilot the country out of its latest mess.

If you ran a government like a sensible business, your VP would be constantly at the right hand of the incumbent, absorbing the know-how against the day he might have to take over. He would be selected as the next-best man for the job, rather than as a shoddy compromise, guaranteed to be non-abrasive to the raw of the most sensitive politico in the smoky salon.

Governor Earl Warren of California, when he was teamed with Thomas Dewey in the last election, specified early in the campaign that he intended to play no Throttlebottom part, but desired and had been guaranteed a virile activity in the administration of the nation. For our times this was a fresh approach to the assignment of second man. Mostly the task has attracted poker players, piano players, cowboy singers, devotees of Oriental rope climbing and practitioners of the ancient sport of spin-the-bottle.

HOARY OLD GOAT

I think that a man in his seventies who makes a point of missing young women is rather more boresome than disgusting, but not much more. In every family there is always one hoary old goat who makes a big pitch of drooling over pretty young things and stealing a kiss against which he has the mask of avuncular immunity from a slap in the face. But I do not think that even our robust indulgence of mirth-loving citizens would stand the supposedly dignified chore of reserve President into a public kissing contest.

And so turn the potential boss of the greatest nation, currently, into a foil for the cheapest in press-agent gimmickry; to accent his fitness for the assignment by applauding his choice of "veep" as a designation for his office, is a little too stiff for my queasy stomach. Good Gawd, if we are hiring ancient comedians as a safeguard against a Presidential demise, we can at least do a better performance from Bobby Clark. He, at least, owns a more artistic leer.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Kefauver Risks Much In Crime Probe

(Ed. Note—This is another of Drew Pearson's columns which for the first time in history calls the roll of the Mafia, secret crime organization which controls the underworld in the United States.)

WASHINGTON

SENATOR KEFAUVER'S determination to investigate the Mafia requires a lot more courage than appears on the surface. Not only is it dangerous from the point of view of personal safety, but it is dangerous politically. For the Mafia has friends and protectors in very high places.

President Truman had no idea what was happening, and probably his military aide, Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan, did not suspect it, but the Mafia was making a play for White House pull through the late William Helis, close friend and partner of Frankie Costello. The Senate Expenditures Committee in the throes of unearthing real dynamite in regard to this during the Maragon-Vaughan investigation, when Senator Hoey considerately hushed the hearings up.

How the Mafia pulls wires in high places is illustrated by Sylvestro Carolla, New Orleans hatchet man for Louisiana's Mafia chief, Marcello, who helps operate Costello's gambling joints in and around New Orleans. Carolla's son, Anthony, is married to Marcello's niece, Maria Zanistia, who came to the United States from Italy on a visitor's permit in 1947, but strangely has been allowed to remain here ever since. Obviously she could not have done so without political pull.

Carolla was convicted in 1921 for bootlegging, and spent a year and a day in Atlanta; was sentenced again in 1931 to 24 months for violating the narcotics laws; and in 1933 was sentenced to 8 to 15 years at hard labor for attempted murder. However, the Mafia has pull. One year after the attempted murder, Carolla was given a full pardon by the Governor of Louisiana.

Two years later, in January, 1936, Carolla was slapped into Atlanta on a five-year sentence for a narcotics violation, and this time the Federal Government finally decided that he was not a useful citizen and ordered him deported. Whereupon Congressman James Morrison of Louisiana came to his rescue, introducing a series of private bills to keep him in this country. However, Carolla's record was too black even for political pull, and on April 30, 1947, he was deported from Boston by plane.

Two years later, he turned up in Mexico, operating out of Acapulco, having been ordered there by Lucky Luciano personally. On July 1, 1950, Carolla was picked up in New Orleans, right back in his old stamping ground.

Secret Mafia Roll Call

HERE is the hitherto unpublished roll call on more of the Mafia leaders, the most powerful rulers of crime in the United States:

Frank Cappola, alias "Three-Fingered Frank" — Cappola was prominent in the New Orleans Mafia, then showed up in Kansas City, where he was linked with the late Charley Binaggio. In fact, Binaggio aided Cappola to resist deportation in 1930, but failed. Cappola was deported but came back again. In May, 1949, with Binaggio on his $2,000 deportation bond.

Cappola set up headquarters in Tijuana, Mexico, and in 1949 Binaggio made an interesting trip to Mexico, stopping off to visit Cappola in Tijuana and Carolla in Acapulco. Once the Tijuana Chief of Police, Francisco Kraus, raided Cappola's headquarters in a Tijuana motel, and found with John Frank Bompensiero, a San Francisco tavern owner and business associate of Jack Dragna, boss of the California Mafia.

Texas Gambling Lords

SAM MACEO of Galveston—Before 1920, Maceo was an humble Galveston barber. But he broke into the bootlegging racket, graduated to dope smuggling, then muscled into the gambling rackets, and now owns Galveston night clubs, bars and two hotels. Maceo is also a power in Texas politics. Born in Italy in 1894, his criminal record shows no convictions, only an acquittal on a New York narcotics rap Oct. 24, 1942.

Biaggio Angelica of Houston—is Maceo's subordinate in the Mafia, has been linked with Maceo in narcotics smuggling, was sentenced to 10 years and fined $2,000 on a narcotics rap at Houston, Oct. 20, 1938; was sentenced to another eight years' imprisonment at Galveston, Jan. 19, 1940, and still another two years at New York City Oct. 10, 1945, both on narcotics violations. Incidentally, the New York narcotics case was the same one in which Maceo was mixed up.

Missouri Mobsters

JOE DI GIOVANNI, alias Joe Church, Kansas City—is of Mafia origin, came to the Kansas City area from Brooklyn. Di Giovanni has been the big boy of Kansas City's better-known houses as Joe De Luca and the late Charles Binaggio. Di Giovanni's front is the Di Giovanni Wholesale Liquor Co., which incidentally has employed Paul Cantanzaro, a murder suspect, as night watchman. Di Giovanni's criminal history goes back to 1915 and includes arrests for everything from murder to rape, but he has never been convicted.

Joe De Luca, Kansas City—is in charge of the narcotics branch of the Kansas City Mafia. He was arrested for bootlegging in Kansas City, Dec. 17, 1930; sentenced to three years for dope smuggling, Kansas City, March 27, 1943; got out on parole after serving only one year, violated the parole by selling whisky across the Missouri state line, then got out on parole again after another month. Both paroles were arranged by ex-Congressman Tuck Milligan.

Anthony Gizzo, Kansas City—A close pal of the slain Charles Binaggio, he was arrested with Binaggio as far back as Jan. 18, 1930, in Denver for carrying a concealed weapon. One Gizzo's jobs was "sales agent" for the Duke Sales Co., distributors of Canadian Ace beer, in which capacity he was supposed to persuade tavern keepers to buy Canadian Ace.