

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. S. DOWD, General Manager
D. S. ORFITT, Executive Editor
C. A. MCKINTY, Editor

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1950

'REBELLION' IN PUERTO RICO

THE AMERICAN people will make a serious mistake if they jump to the wrong conclusion about the "rebellion" against the U. S. authority in the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico.

Some of the early news dispatches left the impression that the Nationalist Party is a potent factor in the island's political life. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Puerto Ricans are fiercely patriotic. They are proud of their island, of their language, of their culture. Even when they find fame and fortune in other parts of the world, they keep a plot of ground on the Emerald Isle to which they hope to return some day.

But the overwhelming majority of Puerto Ricans are also proud of the American citizenship bestowed upon them by the United States Government. They are happy that an enlightened U. S. policy has given them virtually all the instruments of self-government. And they are grateful that this nation has shelled out hundreds of millions of dollars since 1900 to help them meet the traditional problems of overpopulation and poverty and disease.

EISENHOWER FILLS THE BILL

THERE are several qualifications that a supreme commander of the Atlantic Pact defense program must have.

He should be a man of great international reputation, whose personal prestige would give greater weight to his actions.

He should be a first-rate military strategist, preferably with wide experience in welding together air, ground and sea forces into one compact organization.

There are other qualifications, to be sure, but those are sufficient to show why Gen. Dwight Eisenhower is the ideal man for the job. As yet, there has been no official announcement that he has been asked to take the post by President Truman. As yet, the Atlantic Pact Defense Committee has not extended an invitation to Eisenhower, or to any other individual.

He should, by all rights, be an American, and one who has the complete confidence and trust of the American people and the American Congress. This is fundamental, for the success of the Atlantic defense effort will hang upon the continued support given by this nation.

There are other qualifications, to be sure, but those are sufficient to show why Gen. Dwight Eisenhower is the ideal man for the job. As yet, there has been no official announcement that he has been asked to take the post by President Truman. As yet, the Atlantic Pact Defense Committee has not extended an invitation to Eisenhower, or to any other individual.

TWO WAYS OF BORROWING

TOMORROW Mecklenburg County will retire \$300,000 in railroad bonds originally issued in 1870. The bonds were for the purpose of building railroads in Charlotte. But successive boards of County Commissioners failed to lay aside money to repay the principal. Twice since 1870, when the bonds became due, they were simply ignored and it was until the late 1940's that G. D. Bradshaw, County Auditor, began putting the county into a sinking fund in which it became possible to retire the bonds. Meanwhile, some \$1,440,000 has been paid out in interest—almost five times the principal.

local deficit financing and Federal deficit financing. When local governments borrow money to pay for the definite intention of paying it back on a regular schedule, and they make provision in their budgets for doing so. When Uncle Sam borrows money, there is no thought of paying it back. Uncle Sam merely repays the huge national debt from time to time, just as earlier boards of Mecklenburg Commissioners did with the old railroad bonds.

There is a moral for this generation in the event, and it can perhaps best be pointed up by reference to an editorial in the Winston-Salem Journal several weeks ago. That newspaper chided the Charlotte papers for "inconsistency," in that they have been critical of deficit financing by the Federal Government while endorsing the various and sundry local bond issues.

There is a further distinction between the two. Local governments borrow money for long-term capital investment, whereas much of Uncle Sam's borrowed money goes to pay the running expenses of government. These services ought to be paid for out of current income.

FALL COLOR IN TREES

FRANK KOWALK, whose business is trees, furnishes this statement by Frank Pipl, Omaha city forester, on how old Mober Nature splatters trees: "Jack Frost is not responsible, as commonly supposed, for coloring the leaves. Many leaves turn even before there is any frost."

"The prevalence and the brilliance of the Fall colors depend a great deal on the preceding weather. Plenty of sunshine, sufficient moisture and cool nights following warm days give best results. Drouth, cloudiness and warm nights give poorest results.

"Sunshine is absolutely necessary to manufacture sugars. That is the reason why trees and plants most exposed to the sun after the autumn sun have accumulated large supplies of sugars and produce the best coloring. This is an important point to remember when planting trees or shrubs which are known to produce brilliant coloring. If plants in shady spots, the results will be disappointing.

"After some very cool nights and frosts Nature gives another signal, and the special layer of cells mentioned above separates and the leaves fall.

"The Indians had a rather interesting interpretation of the leaf coloring phenomenon. They called the coloring of the Great Bear, and his blood dripping on the forests changed many trees to red. Other trees were turned yellow by the fat which splattered out of the kettle as the hunters cooked the meat."

"There is a hook in the USA for every 3.3 persons, the government statisticians say. The fractional person is the kid the landlords won't allow.—New Orleans (La.) Statesman.

Challenger Hennings May Rout Incumbent Donnell In Missouri

By STEWART ALSOP

ST. LOUIS, Mo. In the rural counties he has been campaigning with an energy rivaling that of a demolition team, Harry Hennings is a familiar one throughout the Middle West—the Truman campaign, the responsible for casualties in Korea, Communism, confusion, corruption, and the cost of living. But probably more effective than this collection of 'C's' is the fact that he has been wonderfully folksy. It is said to remember not only the names of the voters but also the names of their cows and his public reputation for a fanatical personal honesty.

Presumably Truman will be obliged to say a kind word for Hennings when he returns next week. Yet Hennings can anticipate little real help from Washington. He has the look of an effective campaigner. He has even introduced a refreshing note of honesty in the campaign by backing Truman's opponent, Emory Allison. Another is that he has backed the anti-Communist, composed remnants of the Kansas City Braggie and Pendergast machine and since the Democrats have now closed ranks behind Hennings, he has effectively cut labor which has marred Donnell as target.

Peace Talk Sounds Good, But Reds Will Only Laugh At It

By ROBERT C. KUARK

CHICAGO (AP)—"Greater East-Asian Prosperity Sphere" or the brotherhood of man as exemplified by Russian imperialism all provide less argument than an amendment to the truceless struggle.

Hitler armed the Germans on the spot. He was a man who did go, and we shipped armor to the Japs to help them build a war machine. He was a man who had to do so. No American knows today how much the Japs have learned. We haven't. I dread the Navajos and Apaches smugly wrapped in their blankets, the old-fashioned of an easy scalp.

How can you enforce world disarmament? Give enough police weapons so that some fool or rascal will not be able to get his hands on a sufficient quantity of arms. Mr. Truman challenges Russia to disarmament. No program is proposed against selfishness or greed or the other ingredients of aggression. Hitler was a madman. So I suppose when Ghengis Khan and Napoleon Mussolini was a fool for the world.

The good Lord knows there is no more money in the world than there is who likes to fight or who likes to die. War is a bore if you live through it. Nobody who is not off you are out of business forever, which is a reasonably long time. The true spirit of Jesus would be to let if all men could be suddenly turned into angels, and they would club and bury their hatchets in something other than their neighbors' skulls.

But since man was born of woman, he has been coming down on his knees except his own person's meanness. Filmy propaganda.

Friend Of Nazi Agent

WATCHING THE CANDIDATES—The motto, "select in the past," was published in the Congressional Record last week. It was a Congress that this column heretofore calls attention to some of the little-realized qualities of Congressional candidates.

The Big Race In Ohio



People's Platform

TVA Is A Fraud

PITTSBORO

ONE thing you can't admire in our chief magistrate, Harry Truman, is that he was disappointed at his Washington experience. He moved his public utilities seminar to Charlotte and invited representatives from both TVA and TVA to assist him.

Well, there was a time when the people of this state did react favorably to outside advice, but that has all changed now. We are living in the days of a new dispensation—one that requires expert advice from foreign sources.

TVA has the eye of the world turned on it. We are told by its representative at the seminar, TVA is an industrial octopus. It does everything, from the building of model cities. Certainly, eyes from many places are turned upon it. Backed by the Democratic Party and the Roosevelt administration, TVA is a political and constitutional fraud. Its constitutional basis is flood control and navigation. These are its constitutional functions. All else are mere incidents, constitutionally. But the incidents, in reality, are its chief functions.

Well do I remember the argument before the Congress that TVA would be a measuring rod, pariah, for the cost of electric utility, which country sorely needed. But the TVA Act was hardy, dry before its backers added an amendment, thereby exempting it from all control by the Controller General's Office, exempting it from NRA, which was supposed to be the body that would regulate TVA and so that no commodity should be made or service rendered at less than the cost of production or service.

The foregoing history shows clearly that it was born as a political fraud. But it is, but it was given monstrous power—the power of life and death over every competitor in the area. And that power, in fact, it actually attempted to exercise. However, public opinion would not stand for it. The late Wendell Willkie made his national reputation fighting that attempt.

Frankly, can perfect candor and straight dealing be expected from any institution or organization which is controlled by a government, as an example, contended that the representative units, state, county and municipal governments, and that they lost more than fifteen years ago by the nationalization of the utilities in the TVA area, not to mention the fact that they were not allowed to restore what they lost. But he did not make pretense of claiming that TVA was now returning to the status of a private utility system. TVA's conscience has been buried with taxes, not by a long string of "BUT'S."

Sees Labor Government

CHARLOTTE

BEFORE the election of Nov. 7 it should become clear to the voters that the purpose of organizing labor is to deliver an immense property to labor and to the political party which organizes it.

Truman Gets Peace Advice From Hindu

WASHINGTON

AT THE diplomatic reception following President Truman's address to the UN General Assembly, Indian Delegate B. K. P. Sinha, who is the President and carried his own on-the-spot peace proposal.

"Would it not be a good idea," said the Hindu diplomat, "to be the peace talks in the name of the President, to be in the same room with you, sir?"