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

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WHO'S IN FAVOR OF POLLUTED STREAMS?

No one, so far as we know, has stood up in the North Carolina General Assembly and spoken in favor of stream pollution. But on every occasion that a bill to curb stream pollution has been presented to that body, it has been voted down.

Some of the legislators, we suppose, thought that a control program would work a hardship on some of the industries of the state which discharge their waste into rivers. Under an adequate stream sanitation and conservation program, these industries would be required to process their waste before loosing it into rivers and streams.

But there has been argument that stream pollution is now working a hardship on the people of the state.

What's bad about stream pollution?

1. Public water supplies are, in most cases, taken from surface streams. Pollution of these sources can cause sickness and death. The "old swimming hole" also becomes a dangerous spot. Stream pollution is a menace to public health.

2. Water is needed for industrial uses. Few industries can operate unless there is an ample supply of good clean water. Industry not only must have a sufficient supply, but in most instances a very rigid demand for water that has a low mineral content.

3. Stream pollution is a menace to fish and other aquatic life. It depletes the water of oxygen and thus destroys aquatic life. Some wastes have chemicals that kill aquatic life more quickly.

4. Polluted streams sometimes smell bad.

There are methods known for correcting almost all of these things that are bad about stream pollution. However, co-operation is required. Only through State action can this co-operation be obtained.

On several occasions bills have been presented to the General Assembly calling for adequate and proper legislation to empower the State to take remedial action regarding present and future pollution. Studies have shown the extent of the pollution to be statewide, but the laws governing waste disposal and stream protection are inadequate to cope with the situation.

All bills pregented have failed to pass and in 1949 the bill was defeated by eight votes in the House of Representatives.

Another bill will be presented in January 1951. It is to be hoped that the legislators will give proper attention to the recently published material of the the Stream Sanitation and Conservation Committee which shows the need for action.

It is also to be hoped that the General Assembly will take action to clean up one of our greatest natural resources.

TO CONFOUND THE KREMLIN

THE COPY of Collier's Weekly which appeared on the newstands Friday slyly suggested that we might confound the Kremlin, which has built a propaganda campaign around American racial segregation, by sending a Negro, Dr. Ralph Bunche, to Moscow as Ambassador to Russia.

Says Collier's:

"Beyond the matter of Dr. Bunche's qualifications, his appointment would give notice to the Russian people that (their ideas about American segregation) are exaggerated. It would show the colored races of a troubled Asia that segregation is not a policy of the American Government, and that the American Negroes and their government can regard each other with mutual esteem."

While agreeing that Dr. Bunche is an able diplomat, that his work as a peacemaker in the Arab-Israeli war was excellent, we are of the opinion that this action would not serve Collier's purpose or the purpose of the U. S.

In the first place, segregation does exist in America and is staunchly defended in some areas.

Secondly, sending Dr. Bunche to Moscow would not convince Russians, Chinese, Indians or anyone else that the Negroes in the U. S. enjoy first class citizenship. The Soviets might easily turn such an action against us.

"The Americans," they might say, "are so sensitive about their race relations that they have sent a Negro here as a front."

And they might ask, "Where else is an American Negro an ambassador?"

Dr. Bunche might be a suitable ambassador for Sweden or Italy or France or any other nation. But not Russia. The stunt is too obvious.

FODDER FOR ANGLOPHOBES

THE august members of the Oxford Union Debating Society had a high old time at the English university one night last week, roaring approval of a faculty member's statement that "the prime duty of British statesmen and diplomats is to keep Britain out of the next war. The greatest impediment to that policy is the fact that Britain is tied to the wheels of the American chariot — a chariot leading us to hell."

The speaker was Prof. Cyril E. M. Joad, pacifist extraordinaire and father of 1933's "Oxford Oath," which pledged thousands of young Englishmen and Americans not to fight "for king and country".

Last week Prof. Joad went on to say, "Like ancient Rome, America is prepared to use mercenaries. This time she has assigned Britain the role of an atomic cushion."

And that did it. The Union voted 224 to 179 to approve a motion regretting "United States domination of the democratic world."

Despite the fact that only 224 Britons went on record against U. S. "domination," such men as Col. Bertie McCormick and his fellow Anglophobes will attempt to convince the public that the whole British Empire has turned against the U. S. The Oxford vote will be fodder for their anti-English newspapers and music to their ears.

Don't be misled. Prof. Joad is a pacifist and that is his privilege. Two hundred and twenty-four Oxford students don't like the U. S. and that is *their* privilege.

TEACHING LITTLE FINGERS

MAY AND JUNE are noted for something other than the flowering of baseball, the increased popularity of picnics, and the decline in energy potential of the human machine. It is in May and June that the great bulk of piano recitals are held.

Thus, the two months find every high school auditorium and every hall-for-hire echoing to the tripping melody of "The Happy Farmer" and "Dorothy" and "The Doll Dance" and practically everything else that little fingers can be taught to play.

The months also find music teachers in a cold sweat lest their little pupils plunk themselves down on the bench before the assembled parents and suddenly draw a mental blank. At least once a year one of the city's thousands of young piano pupils goes through that: sitting down, the placing of fingers and then—nothing. More often than not the pupil rises after a few silent moments and dashes tearfully into the back room there to face the silent, troubled gaze of the other pupils waiting their turn.

This, of course, is a tragedy; the Parent is stricken with a combination of pity and embarrassment. And poor Pupil often hides for days afterwards if she does not, after three or four other little musicians have shown how easy it is, muster her courage and attack the piano again.

The "back room" at a piano recital is a place filled with silent anxiety. While the younger first or second year pupils are only mildly perturbed before the prospect of those scores of parental eyes, the teenage young ladies who treasure—secretly, of course—a desire to "give my life to music" wring their hands, wet their lips and strive bravely to conquer those troublesome butterflies in the dark region of the diaphragm.

While the Pupil and Teacher often suffer exceedingly, the Parent usually gets through the thing all right. (The Parent is, of course, Mother, Father having found a convenient business engagement he just *couldn't* break).

There are, however, certain minor points which trouble the Parent: she must be sure that the new white party dress she bought for Mary Anne is as pretty as that Mrs. Jones bought her little Agatha; the Parent must be very careful not to change her expression when her child prepares to play (*afterwards* you smile); the Parent must remember to compliment the Teacher, even if she *can't* understand how he could teach little Agatha Jones to play so well while *obviously* spending so little time on Mary Anne.

But through it all Teacher, Pupil and Parent take courage from the approaching Summer. The Pupil sounds the keynote: "Goody, no more practice 'till Fall", to which the harried Teacher and weary Parent respond in turn: "Goody, no more practice 'til Fall."

The wearing-out-shoes champion of these parts is the seven-year-old of Mrs. Virgil Rooks at Marks. Mrs. Rooks came into the Democrat office of the other day with a package in her hand—her son's sixth pair of new shoes since school opened last Fall. And, in addition, he has worn out a pair of tennis shoes, a pair of rubber boots and a pair of cowboy boots.—*Marks (Miss.) Quitman County Democrat.*

The best acting in the movies is done by the fellow who smiles when kids behind him munch popcorn.—*Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.*

One lady in town has a red face. She called the mayor and asked him to please have an old wornout truck moved off the square, stating that all four tires were down. The truck was moved. The mayor never did inform the sister that it was his own truck.—*Meriwether (Ga.) Vindicator.*

Svengali

Booming Business To Take Starch Out Of GOP Drive

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

IN THEIR all-important effort to stage a comeback this Fall and capture control of Congress the Republicans have a major handicap. That is the lush, full-blooming boom that has developed with every indication that it will be sustained at least through the Fall and into the Winter.

The party in power has always claimed credit for prosperity, just as President Truman is doing now. And while the voter takes these claims with a whole handful of salt, he has customarily shown in the past a reluctance to rock the boat and endanger such good fortune by substituting the outs for the ins.

It is nearly as difficult today to buy some kinds of steel as it was immediately after the end of the war. Some steel plants have firmly committed their output anywhere from a year and a half to two years in advance. In order to buy a popular make of automobile, you must again go on a waiting list in many cities.

In view of all this, the Democrats should be happily harmonizing on the theme of victory and the full-dinner pail — in modern parlance the full-dinner pail means a television set and, on the average, a car and a half to each family. But are they doing that? Not at all. Many of them are behaving as though they were the Republicans' secret weapon, bent on overcoming the advantage of high prosperity.

In the primary in Florida the two candidates called each other Red and traitor and other unfriendly names, all of which was spread over the press not of Florida alone but the nation. The defeat of Senator Claude Pepper was widely acclaimed, and with some reason, as a blow to the Administration.

NORTH CAROLINA CONTEST

In the North Carolina primary the chief challenger, Willis Smith, is a more Republican than all except a few of the Old Guard in what might be described as the William McKinley survivors' wing of the party. Although he is an ultra-respectable ex-president of the American Bar Association, Smith's managers used demagogic tactics against Senator Frank Graham, invoicing the Negro and the Red issues almost as extreme as in Florida.

In the California primary now coming up backers of Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas are indignant over aspersions cast by publicist Manchester Boddy, her opponent. Boddy in his Los Angeles Daily News, intimated that his opposition — and therefore Helen's support — came from a small minority of "red hots" using the "sound gains achieved by the Democratic Party as a beachhead from which to launch an un-American attack against the United States on behalf of Communist Russia." Mrs. Douglas' friends are fearful that if she is the victor in the primary, this will be turned against her in the fall election.

NEW PARTY EMERGING

When you look at the Republican party, you see a striking contrast. There, in spite of the barnacles that cling so tenaciously, the outline of a modern party — a party that does not look always to the past, a party that stands for something positive and that does not twang incessantly on the negative — is becoming visible.

The most encouraging evidence, of course, is the fronting that Governor James Duff administered to the creaking, turn-back-the clock Grundy machine. Duff is certainly no flaming liberal. But he is a vigorous and practical politician who knows that negativism cannot win except by default in total bankruptcy when a victory would be nearly worthless.

The more than two-to-one victory of Senator Wayne Morse over his horse-and-buggy opposition in the Republican primary in Oregon is another portent. Morse's victory was in spite of some secret maneuvers of the Old Guard of the GOP, including, as the Senator had reason to believe, a hidden slush fund for his opposition sent in from Chicago.

There is the fine affirmative stand of Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine against McCarthyism and the political degradation that it implies. Another and somewhat different sign of a trend in the same direction is Senator Taft's attempt to deny that he had offered aid and comfort to Senator McCarthy.

"Don't rock the boat" or "Let's enjoy it while we can" may be just about the most effective slogans that a divided Democratic party can employ this Fall. But they may not be good enough if the Republicans can continue to form a revitalised party around constructive elements now taking the lead.

People's Platform

Trucks And Our Highways

CHARLOTTE.

Editors, THE NEWS:

YOUR issue of May 26 carried an editorial regarding truck damage to highways which made reference to the article in June Reader's Digest entitled "The Rape of Our Roads." The Digest article is really illuminating and I strongly recommend reading it to those whose pockets are being legally picked and that includes all automobile owners. And Brother, if you don't know how they are being picked just remember that every time you drive into a filling station and say "fill 'em up" you are being touched for around a dollar and a half to build highways for trucks to break up. And there will be no end to it unless you do something.

You concede that much damage is being inflicted on our highway system by overloaded trucks. As has already been pointed out before. Most of the trucking companies have no scruples as to the damage they are inflicting on public highways. To various other causes they have falsely tried to charge this wholesale destruction, but their sins are catching up with them at last.

No mention with made by you of the menace to life of these highway box cars but the death injury toll proves that.

You state the trucks are here to stay. I agree with you on that. But you seem to dismiss the problem with the statement that there is nothing to be done except for all states to adopt uniform weight limits and build highways to take care of the weight abuse, regardless of what it is. One naturally wonders if these law-breakers could not arrange to have loads that no roads could stand.

If, as the Digest article points out, it will cost $60,000,000,000 to put our highways in condition to stand the abuse it will be really interesting if you will point out to us (the public) just why it is our responsibility to build a roadway for the trucking companies to confiscate to operate a money-making business. Would it not be just as fair to say we will tax the people to provide land and pay part of the cost of construction of the natural gas pipe lines, which are to be operated for private gain?

—R. C. BOLEN.

Too Many Lawyers

CAMPOBELLO, S. C.

Editors, THE NEWS:

I AM not a blind man. I am really fearful that you can hardly read what I am trying to write. I hope, however, that you will allow me space in your most excellent newspaper for a short letter in regards to our North and South Carolina "politics".

Only two men in each state are aspiring to go to the United States Senate, and three of them are lawyers. Two other one is a college professor and a college president.

What I would like to get across to our voters in each state is: Why is it that the average voter in North and South Carolina think we have to have lawyers to fill all our important offices? Please tell me, Mr. Editor. What are we now doing in our good homes, sacred churches, and magnificent school buildings? Are we not producing any good, able farmers, business men, teachers, etc)?

A lawyer can not make the best statesman. His hands are tied. Then, too, each one of these states has turned out great governors and senators who were not lawyers. Governors Swain and Vance of North Carolina were not lawyers and the most outstanding men in our state of South Carolina not so long ago were Wade Hampton and B. R. Tillman, neither of whom were lawyers. Let me hear from some of your readers on this vital topic.

—RAMSEY O. HUSKEY.

Editorial Complimented

LINCOLNTON

Editors, THE NEWS:

I WISH to compliment you on the editorial of May 25 entitled "Emissary to Washington." It brought memories of J. E. Dowd. So much mediocre stuff is being put out now, it is refreshing to read something real good. Seems as though everyone should think it is time to put some brakes on the Truman administration.

—G. N. HAMSAY

'Encouraging Development'

CHARLOTTE.

Editors, THE NEWS:

THE General Motors Corp., on their very fine Sunday evening broadcast, manages as a public service to sandwich in a few observations on the domestic and international scene. On Sunday last, their newscaster made what was to many ears doubtless a startling revelation. For years, he said, it has been generally recognized by the Czars in the Know that, for all her bluff and bluster, Russia would not fight. Until a very few months ago, he said, America could have made any move, or any combination of moves, and Russia would have retreated from the disputed position.

Very recently, however, (he said), Russia has done a complete about-face in this regard; and now it is not only possible, but probable, that Russia could be coaxed into a trial at arms with us.

This should be a very encouraging development to the boys who have been longing for a Holy war against the Soviet. They have never for one moment been afraid who might win the war, just getting it started was all they have been worried about. America has never yet lost a war, they will tell you, and she is not going to lose this one.

There is much to commend this attitude. It has been generally recognized, through the ages, that God fights on the side of the Right. And any old innny can tell you that America has never yet fought on any other side, nor will the Almighty desert her now, as she goes forth to battle to preserve the American Way, Free Enterprise and Equal Opportunity, not to speak of Guilt by Association.

However, there is reason to believe that our Creator has come more and more to the conclusion that he was a sucker ever to have taken part in our periodic mass-killings down here, and is less and less convinced of the propriety of his taking sides. For instance (as my Sunday School teacher told us about last Sunday), the ordeal that God was called upon to go through one day in early 1941. Winston Churchill made an eloquent plea to Him who is ever willing and able in behalf of the British war effort. That wouldn't have been so bad, but it developed that on that particular day Adolph Hitler had proclaimed a day of prayer throughout all Germany for the success of German Arms. Things like that could give a lesser Being ulcers, and it would appear that God, at that time or subsequently, decreed a plague on both these houses, especially since, using Franklin Roosevelt as an innocent tool, at Yalta and Potsdam He gave the victory to one Josef Stalin who, ostensibly, had not asked Him for anything.

—A. E. BASSETT

In Defense Of New Orleans, She Looks Meaner Than She Is

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

THEY HAVE BEEN picking on my town quite a lot lately and I wish they would leave her alone. New Orleans, I mean. Her bark is worse than her bite and she is possibly the last bastion of unabashed wickedness left in a land that has come down with a severe case of superficial self-righteousness.

A guy got fed a Mickey some time back in one of the shoddier shops, around Bourbon St., and died. A governor gets loaded and has some trouble with a hacker and a bar tab and it gets in the papers. The gambling probe — surprise, surprise — reveals that it is possible to risk a buck on a crap table in Jefferson Parish. Goodness, gracious me.

New Orleans looks as mean as a Spanish lady in a red dress, with a flower tucked over her ear and a dagger in her garter. The only thing is, in New Orleans' case, the dagger's blade is made of rubber.

THE HONEST SPORTS

I can take you by the hand and tour the more colorful quarters and guarantee no roll, no rob, no Mickey Finn. The tables and machines at Costello's Beverly club are as honest as machines and tables anywhere, and the jocks who pull horses at the Fairgrounds don't pull 'em any harder than they do at Belmont or Churchill Downs. They got handy guys with rods and lumpy muscles standing by in the gambling palaces outside town, but that is largely to protect the house and the customers from stickup by hungry opportunists. The cops graft, but cops are on the take everywhere.

Gambling in Louisiana, like gambling anywhere, is administered with a passionate eye to decorum. The drunk, the crook, the troublemaker speedily reaps the heave. A man who runs a dicing den is more intolerant of trouble than a deacon. His conduct must be exemplary.

Insofar as decorum is concerned most people who conduct ginmills or rowdy Bourbon St. bars more Babbitty than Babbitt. They deal with tourists and you get nickered in a drink hurts business. So does a fight. So does a raid. So does bad publicity. So does a drunkenness charge.

The greatest chamber of commerce man I know is an Irisher named Owen Brennan, a redheaded product of New Orleans' Irish Channel. Owen runs an ancient spot called the Old Absinthe House and a big French restaurant called the Vieux Carre. Owen can't differentiate between "out" and "non," but he can shame a middle western Rotarian when it comes to plugging his town on a civic level. Both his establishments are about as wicked as a USO canteen, except the food and booze are better.

MORE FOR LESS

You can go from the Vieux Carre to Pat Brennan's Absinthe at his house and fall off at Sharkey's for some prime original jazz or topple into Roy Alciatore's or peep into Galatoire's or stumble into Jimmy Moran's restaurant and wind up at LaPitte's and never see a bruised face and a bulging blackjack, or get fed a drink that isn't level. Charley Cantrell permits no strife at Pat O'Brien's, where the loud tourists are separated from the quiet tourists. Even the torso-tossing emporiums largely view their products with the cold eye of an insurance salesman, and punish the chumps only by giving them less whisky for more money, which encourages sobriety.

People believe what they are, they will wish to drink and gamble and kick up their heels occasionally and they will find more opportunity for same. Sin is graciously handled in Louisiana and I am not for reforming New Orleans loose from its casual color and rakish air of spurious wickedness. It isn't that the town is more sinful than other towns—they just run it more dramatically, and you can't beat the food.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Tax-Forgiveness Would Help Big Racketeers

WASHINGTON

CONGRESSMEN are beginning to change their minds about vetting income-tax forgiveness to tax defrauders who come in to the Treasury and fess up.

Such a tax-forgiveness proposal was voted by the House Ways and Means Committee the other day at the urging of Congressman Walter Lynch, New York City Democrat.

However, some consider it significant that Congressman Lynch has the backing of Joe Nunan, ex-commissioner of internal revenue who is a lucrative income-tax-law business; and that Nunan in turn has been representing Frankie Costello.

Regardless of who was behind the tax-forgiveness bill, however, it is now recognized that this would chiefly benefit such big racketeers as Frankie Costello. In fact, some of the big gangsters are said to be praying that such an income-tax-forgiveness bill will pass. For that is about the only way the Federal Government can catch up with them.

Realizing this, several Congressmen are now changing their votes, among them veteran Representative Herman Eberharter of Pittsburgh.

"Like a lot of people, I thought it would bring in some quick money to help balance the budget," says Eberharter. "However, if we approve something like this, it will be an admission that our revenue system has broken down and that we have got to forgive criminals to get money."

The only Congressmen who had the foresight to speak out against tax- forgiveness were John Carroll of Colorado, Jere Cooper of Tennessee and Stephen Young of Ohio, all Democrats.

Acheson's $1 Words

LONG-RANGE aftermath to Secretary Acheson's historic report to Congress was that he used too many one-dollar words. Ten-cent words would have gone down better with the congressmen.

Real fact is that, military-wise, Acheson achieved a greater success in London than most people realized. Here is what he achieved, spelled out in ten-cent words.

During World War I, General Pershing flatly refused to integrate American troops with French or British. He spent several months organizing independent U. S. units so they could fight separately.

Likewise Field Marshal Haig was flatly opposed to an over-all European commander, and it took pressure from Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson to make Marshal Foch the Supreme Allied Commander. After he was appointed, the war went better.

In World War II, General Eisenhower was supreme allied commander. But even so there was not much integration of troops of different nationalities. The American army usually fought as a unit and so did the British.

Last month in London, however, it was agreed that North Atlantic Pact forces would be completely integrated. In other words, France, which would like to go in for a navy and air force, instead will chiefly concentrate on developing a land army. The U. S. A. will concentrate on long-range bombing and naval warfare; the British on fighter planes, etc.

To persuade sovereign nations to forego their own military commands and co-operate in this kind of defense is probably the most important step in military co-operation ever taken.

Note—One point neglected by Acheson is the European man-in-the-street, now drifting steadily toward neutrality. Regardless of what his military leaders may decide, he is inclined to see no reason to get pulsed up in a war between the U. S. A. and the U. S. S. R. Danger, therefore, is that we send guns to Europe, make historic agreements with generals, yet the man-in-the-street may not fire the guns.

Dulles Vs. Johnson

IT LOOKS as if the Republican watchdog of U. S. Foreign policy, John Foster Dulles, is going to be something of a disappointment to his fellow Republicans. Simultaneously it looks as if the big Democratic money-raiser, Secretary of Defense Louey Johnson, is going to be quite a help to the Republicans.

In fact, Johnson, the Democrat, is probably going to please the Republicans, more than Dulles, the dyed-in-the-wool Republican.

It was over aid to Formosa and Nationalist China that Republican senators raised such a howl last Winter—a howl which led to the appointment of Wall Street attorney John Foster Dulles as State Department adviser.

Now GOP senators find that GOP Dulles is privately critical of GOP General Douglas MacArthur and his Japanese policies, one of which was sending arms to Formosa.

Meanwhile, Secretary Johnson lectures Congressmen in support of MacArthur.

"There is no Japanese problem General MacArthur can't solve," he says. "The Japs don't want him to leave. Nor do they want a change in civilian rule. There is no resentment against our occupation."

However, MacArthur's tight censorship has prevented the American public from getting a true picture of what is happening in Japan. Nor does the Pentagon building appear to be fully informed.

For, according to information which State Department Adviser Dulles has given to senators, Japanese communism is definitely growing, and with Japanese businessmen, wanting a share of the great Chinese market now dominated by the Communists, talk about doing business with Communism.

Dulles, in searching talks with senators, has said he feels the United States must win over Japan as a partner in the Cold War. The dilemma, Dulles confided to senators, is that if American troops move out, then armed Communists will move in. Yet if the present military occupation remains, Communists have a better battle cry for sabotaging us.

One solution now under study is to give the Japanese more authority, remove military control, and reconstitute MacArthur's troops as a "Pacifice defense force" eventually including the Japanese.

Meanwhile Secretary Johnson is leaving for Japan, privately agreeing with MacArthur that U. S. arms should go to Formosa. He will huddle with MacArthur on how to sell their program to Congress.