THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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DEWEY'S BOLD PLAN

IF GOVERNOR DEWEY'S speech last night is to be the theme song of the internationalist wing of the Republican Party, then President Truman can pour the gas to immediate full-scale U. S. mobilization without worrying about the Republicans dragging their feet.

Making due allowance for the fact that Governor Dewey is on the outside looking in, and hence does not have the monumental job of administering the program he espouses, his fiery address to the New York County Lawyers' Association was nonetheless a bold and courageous effort to wake up America before it is too late.

Dewey sees the nation in the greatest peril of its entire history. He is fearful that it will not survive except by the superhuman effort of every American citizen. He is angry and outraged at the business-as-usual, politics-as-usual atmosphere in Washington and throughout the vast empire of American business and industry. He would shatter this atmosphere by:

1. Building a 100-division U. S. Army, an 80-group Air Force and a full strength Navy, and calling up immediately 25 National Guard divisions.

2. Registering every U. S. man and woman over seventeen years of age for National Service.

3. Appointing an economic mobilizer—"the ablest business executive in our country"—and giving him full authority over production, economic controls, and civilian manpower.

4. Controlling inflation rigidly by pay-as-you-go taxation, with heavy levies on luxuries, corporate profits and individual incomes, and a crackdown on credit expansion.

"Let us get rid of the idea we can stop Russia by appropriating billions of dollars, setting up new government boards and then continuing wage rounds as usual, price increases as usual and politics as usual. We can not sit down and do business with Stalin while we are weak and he is strong," said the New York Governor.

While one may quibble with specific portions of the Dewey program, it must be admitted that he has pulled back the curtain of confusion and let the American people see their desperate plight in all of its frightful implications. The Governor went further—much further—than anyone in the Administration has gone. It will be interesting to watch the reaction to his proposals, especially in the Congress where, if we may judge by the *Congressional Record* of recent days, there is utterly no sense of urgency or willingness to forego the good things of our existence at this moment of great crisis.

LET US HOPE FOR A MIRACLE

IT IS NOT, we believe, an overstatement to say that there is greater public interest in what the President will say tonight than at any time since he assumed the mantle of responsibility.

And it is not being unfair to Mr. Truman in this troubled hour to say that the American people will be just as interested in how he says it as in what he says.

Since the ill-tempered, importunate political speech in St. Louis immediately before the Nov. 7 election, Mr. Truman has diminished in stature at a time when a worried and anguished nation was looking to him for superior leadership. A succession of events, too numerous and too familiar to repeat here, has placed Mr. Truman in an unfavorable light and created grave doubts in the minds of the American people that he measures up to the responsibility of the moment.

If we can rely on the "leaks" in recent stories out of Washington, Mr. Truman will announce the existence of a national emergency, and will outline the steps that America must take to re-establish its security in a world threatened by Communist conquest.

We fully anticipate that the President's address will tell us what we ought to know and want to know. It is our hope that somehow, as he has done before, he will rise to the occasion and so re-establish himself in the confidence of the people that every American will willingly and enthusiastically follow his leadership.

NO COMPROMISE ON PRINCIPLES

THERE are two ways of viewing the current efforts at Lake Success to work out some sort of compromise with Communist China.

One is to admit frankly that the bold and unprecedented move to defend South Korea last Summer has been a failure because the U. N. lacked adequate military power to back up its decision. If one takes this view, sheer logic would then dictate a strenuous effort to salvage something from the wreckage.

The other is to accept the military reverses, even if they result in a forced withdrawal, without retreating one whit from the legal and moral position the Security Council took when it called on U. N. members to resist the North Korean invaders. This latter view must prevail if the United Nations is to endure.

The fundamental principles involved in the decision to defend Korea have not changed, although the facts are now different. The attack across the 38th Parallel by North Koreans was plain undisguised aggression. The subsequent intervention by the Chinese Communists was simply more aggression on a bigger scale and with an even more brazen motive. Both instances of armed aggression occurred with the approval and material support of Soviet Russia.

No compromise can change those facts. They are incontrovertible. The issues are clear. Right and the wrong have been established.

If the United Nations is to exist, there can be no compromise that ignores these facts.

WELCOME TO A NEW DAILY

THE ability of the American citizen to act wisely in a time of crisis, depends largely upon the information he has. And one of his main services of information is his newspaper.

This is one of the reasons that people who publish newspapers have trouble sleeping at night. It's quite a responsibility to try to keep the people informed, to tell them the truth as best the editors know it and to give them as much of the important news as the editors can get into the paper.

In Dunn last week, a young newspaperman, Hoover Adams, took this big responsibility upon himself. As president of The Record Publishing Co. and editor of the brand new *Daily Record*, Adams will do his best to meet the challenge.

Aside from the occasionally painful soul-searching involved in putting out a newspaper, there are a lot of minor headaches.

Adams, who served on the editorial staff of The *Dunn Dispatch* and as public relations man for Senate Candidate Willis Smith, met up with a few of the "little things" early: two minor parts, which didn't arrive on time, delayed publication for almost a week and on the day of publication a key mechanical worker began celebrating too early.

Despite this, Adams and staff published a good first newspaper on Dec. 6 and followed up with an even better one on Dec. 7. Dunn and Harnett County are fortunate to have a daily paper, for the first time in their history, and doubly fortunate that the capable Hoover Adams is its editor.

From The New York Times

THE FATE OF JAPAN

THE storm that is sweeping down over Korea from the north is going in the direction of Japan. That has always been the case throughout history. Korea is a springboard from the mainland to Japan, while from the Japanese side it is a weapon pointing at the heart of the islands.

After five years of military occupation Washington decided that a peace treaty was overdue. Toward the end of October Mr. Dulles discussed the matter with Mr. Malik at Lake Success and gave him a confidential memorandum outlining American ideas for a treaty. This included seeking a Big Four agreement on the former Japanese outlying possessions, with the United States keeping a trusteeship over the Ryukyu and Bonin Islands. On Nov. 20, with typical discourtesy, the Russians published the American note and their own sharp reply. In it they insisted that, in accordance with the Cairo declaration, Formosa and the Pescadores must go to China (meaning Peiping); in accordance with Yalta, Sakhalin and the Kuriles should remain under Russian control, and in accordance with Potsdam, the Ryukyu and Bonin Islands should remain Japanese. Now the Chinese Communist Premier, Chou En-lai, has issued a statement supporting the Russian position and insisting on participating in the "preparation, drafting and signing" of a Japanese peace treaty. Japan, of course, is to be "democratized" and the United States forces are to be withdrawn. Meanwhile, the Russians and Chinese Reds have been claiming that we are rearming the Japanese and using Japanese troops in Korea.

Put these jigsaw pieces together and we get a grim picture which, in turn, fits into a much larger picture. We must remember that Japan is the only industrial nation of Asia and the only one with a highly skilled labor force. Japan is without the slightest question of doubt the primary objective of Russia in the East, just as the Ruhr must be in the West. The storm signals are clear; we have been warned.

Private Co. Seeks To Block Power For Defense Projects

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

ONE OF THE shortages hampering the boom-time production of the years after V-J Day has been a power shortage. Now with rearmament added to capacity civilian production, the power shortage is bound to grow more acute in various parts of the country.

Nor is it a shortage that can be cured overnight. To build new power plants takes scarce materials vitally needed for building planes and tanks.

In view of this fact, it is all the more difficult to understand a conflict going on behind the noisy facade of preparation — or argument about it — for rearmament. A private power company is contesting with a public power development the right to supply one of the nation's vital aviation research centers at Langley Field in Virginia.

NEED POWER LINE

By October of 1952 the public power development now being built on the Roanoke River near the North Carolina-Virginia line at Buggs Island will have power to supply the aeronautics laboratory at Langley. But to get that power from the project to the laboratory it will be necessary to construct a Government-owned power line at a cost of $6,870,000.

Part of this amount is asked for in a supplemental appropriation bill now up for passage. There is a possibility, however, that it will be blocked by private power interests. Testifying against the appropriation, Rep. J. Vaughan Gary of Richmond said that the entire Virginia delegation in Congress was opposed to it.

The opposition stems from the Virginia Electric and Power Co., which exerts a potent political influence in the state. Justin Moore, an attorney for the power company, testified that a private company should have the right to build facilities to furnish the power. He also said that the Government line from the Roanoke River project to Langley would duplicate lines already in existence.

This was denied by Ben Crelin, administrator of the Southeastern Power Administration. According to Crelin, one power line extends from Richmond to the aeronautics laboratory. But, he told Congressional Committee, it is now carrying full capacity.

Crelin's testimony was supported by witnesses for the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, top-level agency that directs the research at Langley Field. The power is needed for an addition to the laboratory that will be completed at about the same time the Bug Island project can start providing the requisite number of kilowatt hours. Basic research is conducted at Langley essential to the progress of military aviation.

Under the arrangements worked out by the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, Langley would take three-fourths of the off-peak power from the Bug Island project, the night hours being the off-peak period. Langley would use one-third of the power available during the daytime. This is, of course, hydroelectric power. The private company would build a steam plant to supply the necessary kilowatt hours.

In broad outline, it is a familiar controversy. Both in the West and in the territory of the Southwest Power Authority it has been fought out. The private companies working customarily through the rich and resourceful power lobby in Washington have tried again and again to stop the construction of Government lines from publicly-built-and-paid-for projects. Their goal is to get the low-cost power for distribution to consumers.

The Government has argued that this would tend to nullify or reduce the benefit to farmers and other groups. Such benefits are specifically authorized by Congress in providing funds for the hydroelectric projects built during the past seventeen years.

What puts the Roanoke River project on a different footing is the fact of the vital necessity for power for the kind of project that underlies our national security. If, as appears to be true, this can be provided from a public project already under way, then to quibble over an additional sum for an essential government power line seems like willful obstructionism. At the present moment such obstructionism is close to giving aid and comfort to the enemy outside the gates.

The grave threat to the security of this nation puts these matters on a wholly new basis. All plans for public power projects should be stopped — the materials are too urgently needed elsewhere — unless it can be shown that they're vitally needed to increase production of armaments. The test on this score must be as hardboiled and and realistic as possible.

Folks Wanting To Stay Well Pay Off Cops At Christmas

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

THE wondrous custom of Christmas giving, like many another habit, seems to be increasingly losing considerable of its original intent while taking on aspects of a racket.

I don't mean to knock Santa Claus, the holly bough or the feeling that makes a man wish to deck his maid with diamonds or give his kids a train set. Yuletide is something to playwith. I was thinking more of the business, especially in big cities, which leads even casual acquaintances to expect gifts as a delayed bribe for services rendered in line of duty.

TO END SQUEEZE

The new commissioners of police, Tom Murphy, is trying to bust up the old police racket of putting the Yuletide squeeze on the neighborhood and industry which amounts to several million bucks a year in New York — and in any other city big enough to have cops. There is even the local instance of written "gift" lists of "deserving" cops being submitted to liquor dealers and saloons.

Nothing much will ever be done about the old racket, because the cop is in a position to hurt the rugged individual who tells him to blow when he comes in with his hand out. A more subtle blackmail exists among the employees who affect the daily life of city dwellers — the doorman, the janitor, the elevator man, the waiter, the butcher the baker, the candlestick maker.

If you recall your war days you saw to it that you remained on exceedingly friendly terms with the butcher, the liquor store dealer, the man behind the cigarette counter, the girl who had the nylons and the man who handed out the coupons. You bribed him. If you didn't do it nakedly you waited when some legitimate occasion, such as Christmas came along to make the bribe appear as a red-ribboned gift.

This brand of business, which seems to be on the upswing, sort of steals the fun out of Christmas. It is possibly corny, but I still think that Christmas is a time when you go broke buying trinkets for people you love, like and admire, instead of a payoff date for past or future favors. There is considerably more blackmarket than Magi in it, and Mr. Klaus disarms his bounty with a gun in his back.

About the nicest Christmas story I ever read was the O. Henry one, "The Gift of the Magic," in which the wife cut off her treasured hair to get the money for a watch chain for her husband's treasured watch. The husband, in turn, hocked his watch to get expensive combs for his wife's no-longer existent hair. I just don't believe that there's quite as much of this kind of thing around today as there used to be.

It seems to me that Christmas used to be a time when you gave and got a lot of lightly-bought, most of it largely non-functional, which you didn't expect at any other time of the year. A woman was almost justified in shooting the man who gave her a vacuum cleaner for Christmas, and any wife who gifted her man with a lawn mower deserved immediate banishment from the nylon league.

The degeneration of the Christmas spirit which would lead a policeman to literally hint a "donation of as much as $300 from a tavernkeeper, under the tacit threat of trouble in future if the saloonkeeper fails to kick in, is a far yelp from the not-so-distant day when you used to give the cop on the beat a box of cigars because he smiled at little Susie and helped her across the street.

It sort of signalizes the modern miracle of the mooch, in which any excuse, including Christ's birthday, is fair game for the gimmies.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Civilians In Defense Department Ignored

WASHINGTON

WHEN Gen. George Marshall was appointed Secretary of Defense, criticism was raised that he would instinctively break down civilian safeguards. Traditionally, civilians have commanded the Army, Navy and Air Force, so it was argued that putting a military man in charge of all three services was dangerous.

One phase of this criticism now appears justified. Though he has been in office three months, General Marshall has not yet called a formal meeting of the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

These three civilians—all able men—are supposed to be the real bosses at the Army, Navy and Air Force. Under Louis Johnson, they met almost every week—sometimes oftener. But under Marshall they have not met at all. Instead he, a military man, leans almost entirely on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In fact, the Joint Chiefs of Staff today have become about the most important governing factor in Washington.

With broad-minded Gen. Omar Bradley as chairman of the Joint Chiefs, this is not dangerous. Furthermore, the other joint chiefs—Gen. Joe Collins, Adm. Forrest Sherman and Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg for Air—are also civilian-minded officers. However, the precedent is dangerous. For it creates a system similar to that which dominated Germany.

Musical Criticism

MOST people have forgotten that, regardless of Harry Truman's ability to be a music-critic, Paul Hume, the right to criticize musical and dramatic performances has been established by the American courts in the case of New York Times versus the Shubert Theaters.

It happened that the Shuberts objected to New York Times drama reviews, refused to give Times critics the customary passes, following which the critics purchased their own tickets. However, tickets were not honored at the entrance and the critics were barred.

The New York Times then went to court, and its attorney, Alfred Cook, brother-in-law of Washington Post Publisher Eugene Meyer, won the important verdict that newspapers have the right to criticize and the right of access to musical and dramatic productions in order to criticize. No power can bar them.

Ironically, it was Eugene Meyer's music critic who got the wrath of President Truman on his head when he exercised that right.

INTERESTING CONTRAST — Wonder what would have happened to a Moscow newspaperman if he had criticized the child of Russian top man? The rapid promotions of Lt. Gen. Vassili Stalin, son of Joseph Stalin, might be compared to the rapid musical development of Margaret Truman, in that less-spotlighted youngsters might not have come along so fast. But at least in this country we can criticize—even at the risk of a bloody nose, "plenty of beefsteak" and a "supporter."

Voteless Hawaii

NEBRASKA'S Senator Ken Wherry was queried by a friend as to why he voted against statehood for Hawaii.

"I'm afraid we might get some of these New Dealers in the Senate," Wherry replied, referring to the fact that Hawaii, as a state, could send two Senators to Washington.

"You'd get Joe Farrington as a Senator," Wherry was reminded, the reference being to the stanch Republican delegate who now represents Hawaii in Congress. "Do you consider Joe a New Dealer?"

"How did he vote?" asked the GOP Senate leader.

The friend of Hawaiian statehood, though amazed at Wherry's ignorance, didn't dare tell him that the delegate of Hawaii and of other territories cannot vote at all, and that this is the main reason they want statehood. So he replied: "Oh, Joe voted about the way you did."

Washington Keyhole

IRONY of the GOP attack on Dean Acheson is that he had wanted to retire around Jan. 1. Now, in view of the bitter battle against him, both his and the President's dander is up . . . When Acheson does get out, keep an eye on Tom Finletter, now Secretary for Air, as the new Secretary of State. Finletter did a bang-up job for the State Dept. at the San Francisco Conference, has also handled various big international-economic problems . . . Quoth Wyoming's Sen. Joe O'Mahoney to Herbert Bayard Swope when asked if he'd taken the Senate Democratic leadership: "I don't relish the idea of being the majority leader of a minority party." . . . Attorney-General-elect Pat Brown, only Democrat elected in California, took time to interview most Washington officials with whom his state's intricate problems—reclamation, tidelands oil and highways. Brown also conferred with most of the California Congressmen.

Chinese Relax

THE behavior of Chinese Communist delegates at Lake Success is so boorish that it makes the Russians seem friendly by comparison.

Occasionally, however, one of the Chinese will relax and let his mask down. This happened at Secretary-General Trygve Lie's private dinner at which General Wu surprised other guests by being quite amiable.

Instead of the torrent of denunciations which he usually launches against the West, Wu drank a couple of cocktails and told some amusing stories about his military career.

While it couldn't be said that Wu got around to any slap-you-on-the-back intimacy, he let drop some hints that the democratic system had some pleasing aspects. For instance, he expressed surprise that the United Nations had done him the courtesy of translating his two-hour tirade against the West and distributing it to the press in English.

Perhaps if the Chinese delegates were exposed to Western hospitality a little more—with no Russians looking over their shoulder—relations might improve. But as things now stand, the Russians are around almost every minute.

Speak Sharply To Them

People's Platform

Roosevelt And Truman

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

PLEASE allow me space to comment on your most worthy editorials. I do think that we have the best evening paper in the South, The Charlotte News. It is food for thought. I have been a constant subscriber for The Charlotte News for 25 years.

I want to say a few words about the political situation. In 1932, while I was on my job, I could ask this question, "Are you going to sit up tonight and listen to our President?" The answer then would be, "Yes." This happened all the way through Roosevelt's Administration. I ask the same question again today and the answer would be "No." The reason of this is confidence. The people believed in Roosevelt and they gave him their support 100 per cent. It was a hard job, but he brought us through.

Now let's go back to 1948. Mr. Truman was campaigning through the states and he made this remark, "I am out to give them Hell!" Then later he called for a day of prayer and an invitation to Billy Graham and it was accepted. Then later on his trip to Guam to meet General MacArthur, it was reported by one of our news commentators that he played poker going and coming to Guam. This is just a few of the things that the President has done. There are a lot of others I could mention, and I ask you, "Can we, the people of the good old USA have confidence in a President of this kind?" Let's pray, pray, pray for America.

—L. L. CHILDRESS.

Presidential Letter

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

HAVING taken the liberty of forwarding your very fine editorial (Dec. 11—"Presidential indignity") to the White House, I am sending you a copy of this letter. It is indeed a deplorable and frightening situation.

—MRS. E. A. CARTER.

(Copy)

The Hon. Harry S. Truman,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

ENCLOSED is an editorial from tonight's Charlotte News which I believe expresses beautifully the sentiments many citizens must feel in this time of crisis. May God provide you better, in the future with the wisdom, tolerance, and intelligent understanding this great country deserves.

—MRS. E. A. CARTER.

Kill 'Em Quick And Dead!

McBEE, S. C.

Editors, THE NEWS:

BILLIONS upon billions for defense but not one word of compromise shall we offer to Red China. Out of the jaws of hell and out of this dungeon of despair we shall arise as one—a nation united—determined to bring total and unconditional defeat against this new-found enemy, the Communist forces of China.

Gear this nation to the quick! Strike back hardest when things get toughest! Arise you young sons of our land! Be arms in defense of your land! Better to die young than live a ripe old age as a coward. Beds weren't made for soldiers.

We shall never compromise for the sake of safety and comfort, for the forces we seek to compromise with hold no words in bonds of trust. Better to fight them in open mortal combat than issue a weak sister order of surrender.

Turn defeat into victory. Kill your enemies quick and kill them dead. Throw everything that you have at them on land—on sea and in the air. Use every weapon within your power regardless of the consequences. Weapons were made to use whether they are stink bombs or A or H bombs. There are no morals in war. Be immoral. Fight dirty—the dirtier the better. Remember the end justifies the means. War is hell! Let us put more coal on the fires of hell and make our enemies, the Communists of China, suffer.

—MARK A. BROWN.

Thoughts On Christmas

CAMPOBELLO, S. C.

Editors THE NEWS:

WELL, the Christmas season is almost here. Really, she is indeed, just around the corner. But when we stop to think of the existing conditions of our country and her people, it causes us to blush with shame. Pray tell me, my good fellow readers, why is all this the case?

What are the chief causes for such an unheard of dilemma? Is it ignorance? Or is it sin on our part? Or is it neglect to do our duty to our fellowman and to our God?

I cannot believe we are altogether to blame, but I do want each one of our to be willing and ready to assume our part in this trouble.

Sometimes I wonder if we, just now, here in America, are not a little short, if you please, on really good, able statesmen. What about it? Oh! I know this is not a very popular idea. I know that as well as any one; but, but! During my long experience in life I have read many good quotations, and one of which comes to my mind just now, viz.: "When the wicked rule, the righteous mourn."

When we really think of it in its true sense, we have many nations that are now being ruled by wicked rulers. I shudder when I remember our boys over yonder across the deep blue seas. They are there, not because they had a longing desire to be there, but because, "Uncle Sam," had need of them there. They are fighting in the rain, in the cold and snow storms. They are in an ugly climate; the odds are strikingly against them.

Now we are approaching Christmas almost here. What will it be like to our boys over there? There isn't much we can do here for them but we can and should remember them in our thinking and in our prayers.

—KIMSEY O. HUSKEY.

Approves Wolf's Action

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

I THINK J. Lester Wolf, Clerk of the Mecklenburg Superior Court did the right thing in dismissing the condemnation proceedings brought by the Charlotte Housing Authority against Negro home owners in the Shuman Ave.-York Road section of Charlotte. In all Communist countries, the Government takes anything it wants and if you don't like it, you are shot.

—PARKS A. YANDLE.