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THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1950

POTENTIAL ACHILLES HEEL

Now that we do not urgently need the help of the Latin American countries in defense of the Western Hemisphere from European aggression, we—the average citizen and the governmental policy-makers—have turned our back to Central and South America. If we continue to ignore the vast continent below us the results may well be disastrous.

speech before the United States Senate, Gabriel Gonzalez-Vidal, president of the Republic of Chile, called attention to another reason for closer co-operation between North America and Latin America. He said:

"I sincerely believe that should the day come when all the countries of this hemisphere give to their democratic structures a certain uniformity of understanding of representative democracy, the moral force of the American continent will become the solidest in the world for the implementation of peace and the defense of the rights of the oppressed peoples of other continents."

Latin America, of course, would gain the immediate economic benefits of greater hemispheric unity. The North America will be of immense value.

The Second World War has not been ended so long that we have forgotten the highly effective work of the men in South America who fought under the banner of the American flag and Mussolini. There are now living Communist organizations at work in Latin America; these calls are already functioning as Communist listening posts in the Western Hemisphere.

South America, if we continue to ignore the deficiencies it has, will continue to be in the event of intensification of the cold war economic and military. And in a recent

SECURITY VS. RELIEF

The editorial from Business Week, printed elsewhere on this page today, is a compelling statement of the need for more Social Security, one which ought to be brought to the attention of every businessman in the nation.

Business Week, as its name implies, is a magazine for businessmen and is one of the more reputable and influential of the publications in the field. It is usually conservative in its attitude toward bigger government.

FARM PLAN JOKER

The farm price support jumble has turned up many a ludicrous situation but none more so than the one due to the weekly Farm Quarterly and given national circulation by Time. It started with this advertisement in the Quarterly:

make an extra 50 to 80 cents a bushel on all the corn he fed his fowls and animals. Told by his local farm agent that he would be within his "legal and moral rights", the farmer added: "By keeping all my own corn off the market and buying it myself, I would be building up the price, which was just what the whole program was designed to do."

IS WINNIE A COMMIE?

The NEAREST dissection of the McCarthy anti-Communist technique we have seen thus far has been penned by an editorialist on the London Economist who pointed out that the Senator's method of defining a bad security risk is like that of the Chicago Tribune.

"It is something more tenuous than the normal theory of 'guilt by association'; it is the only association which pointed a tabloid guilt is that of association in the same story in the Tribune—or, in this case, in the same statement before a committee," he wrote.

From The Cleveland Times

GENTLEMEN, IT'S SPRING

The return of Spring and the dogwood, the greening lawns and the bold daubs of flowering shrubs, brings to mind the story of Santayana, the American teacher and philosopher.

his book. A moment of silence—and then he arose and quietly said, "Gentlemen, it is Spring."

He took his hat and never returned. We wonder how long it will be before someone tries to sit out the top of one of the new "hard top" convertible models as by using the pavement as a can opener.—Greenwood (Misc.) Commonwealth.

America (a) A land with the best of building materials; (b) a place where family houses are plentiful and rent is high; (c) a place where death—Rocky Mount Telephone.



Trend Of The Times More Social Security Needed

Interest in raising the level of Social Security benefits. There are other — and probably more important — reasons why business is concerned about the Social Security program. One is that it has become clear that private plans can do only part of the job.

Obsolete And Inadequate WHY is there so much steam behind the drive to expand the Social Security program? The chief reason is that time has made the present Social Security pension plan, passed originally in 1935, obviously inadequate.

The nation today has more than 11 million people over 65 years old. Only 19 million of them are receiving pensions under Social Security. Of those who are receiving 65 years old, only 30 per cent are eligible for pensions if they did retire. The system covers only about three jobs out of five.

Behind the growing interest in pensions are two simple but highly significant facts: People live longer today than they did 20 years ago. And more and more people are city-dwellers who depend on a weekly paycheck.

Americans today have a life expectancy at birth almost 20 years greater than in 1900. Those people who reach 65 can expect, on the average, to live 12 years more.

With this longer life span has come a fundamental change in our way of living. In the old days, there was always room on farms where there was plenty of space. And old people could always find useful work on the farm.

But today, grandfathers may be only in the way of a small family living in an apartment or a small town. They would use their own savings against the 80th Congress to attack the 81st Congress.

Disregarding the politics, however, here is the legislation. Congress has less than four months to go before adjourning for the election campaign. Five new bills have been introduced in the House to make campaign financing easier.

Nevertheless, the Senate hasn't even tackled the civil rights bill, the appropriations bill, or called the complicated task of liberalizing the Social Security laws to include 12,000,000 new workers and increase the unemployment benefits.

The Brennan farm plan to support farm income and aid education, the middle class program, is bogged down in the Senate Agriculture Committee, while Herbert Hoover's 21 plans to streamline the Federal Government are getting nowhere fast.

Public Plan Advantages

A PUBLIC plan has certain basic advantages. It can be made to cover all workers in the country, including the self-employed, architects, engineers and other professional people.

It can be operated on a pay-as-you-go basis without the need for building up huge hard-to-invest reserves. It can cut down the need for old age assistance programs, which today are a rapidly growing burden on the taxpayer.

For all these reasons, we believe Congress should expand and perfect the Social Security program. If the long run, if the plan is to be fair and democratic, it must provide pensions for all workers and their families.

Quote, Unquote

In the good old days, when everybody put a potato in the kerocane can, there was no surplus of that commodity.—Sherman (Tex.) Democrat.

A lot of youngsters are now finding out that cities apparently are wired for kites, too.—Greenville (S. C.) Citizen.

Lots of us have the ticklish choice between keeping our pants being thought a fool or opening up and proving it.—Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial-App.

As the chicken business becomes less profitable in this area, more and more people again are spiking their brains with whiskey.—Daily of Kansas City.

Forgot His Friend

THERE was only one sour note when Freshman Sen. Herbert Lehman of New York took the floor on the fifth anniversary of his death. Ironically, the sour note was struck by a Democrat who would vote FOR Lehman's most laudable bill.

The only man who walked out, rather than listened to a few kind words spoken for the man who once saved him from defeat, was Senator Elymer.

But when this same President's death was memorialized in the Senate last week, his "friend" Elymer walked out.

A DEMOCRATIC primary in the Deep South fairly deserves national attention. It is a fact that the primary in Alabama may well have a decisive effect on the whole national political situation.

For this primary, which is to be held on May 2, will decide whether or not the Dixiecrat movement is likely to collapse, or whether it may become an extremely important political force in 1952.

Aside from Louisiana's huge, shrewd Leander Perez and the state's famous Senator Fielding Wright, the real sparkplugs of the Dixiecrat movement are to be found in Alabama. The Dixiecrat braintrust includes Alabama's widely known Governor Frank Dixon and the corporation lawyers, Horace Wilkinson and Gordon Fausch.

The Dixiecrat movement is being directly challenged by Alabama's able Speaker, Lister Hill and John Sparkman, and by most of the Alabama Representatives. Although the fight will come to a head on May 2, when the Alabama voters will elect the Dixiecrat and Hill-Sparkman state for the state Democratic committee.

From the start, the Dixiecrat movement has been a statewide political balance of power. This aim came nightmarishly close to success in 1948 when the election was almost thrown to the Democrats by the Dixiecrat vote.

The first step would be to call Dixiecrat conventions in every Southern state early in 1952 — a step which has already been taken in Alabama.

THE NAVY DOES NOT WANT AND in the sea that it sometimes seeks to succeed in 1949 when it was an election was almost thrown to the Democrats by the Dixiecrat vote.

Now we have the valiant warrior talking to the committee on the progress of the Navy. He is a brilliant submariner, whose accomplishments include the sinking of the Miramonte, that gadget which allows crewmen submarines to escape from stricken ships.

"By fully exploiting the use of submarines, it would be possible for this country to insure that a war will not be fought on our own soil." — Admiral D. M. Moorer.

If the admiral means a war with stones and dice, quite another matter. I imagine he is right. Otherwise he sounds like a small boy who has just learned to play.

I believe we all will win if we have the services, aimed primarily at buying a favored class of voters with the money, aimed primarily at the voters on it. I doubt very much if anybody would want to occupy it.

The recognition was so appreciated that Pennsylvania's Commander Walter Alessandro, who led the Legion delegation to Europe, was met by the Legion just after Christmas, has been getting a tremendous response in Western Europe, and even in some countries, such as Finland.

It is a fact that the Legion just after Christmas, has been getting a tremendous response in Western Europe, and even in some countries, such as Finland.

Perhaps it is because we have failed to heed the admonition: "A little child shall lead them."

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