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ON SMOKING IN THE SCHOOLS

IT IS NOT, by any stretch of the imagination, a "compromise with evil" for the City School Board to permit students to smoke on school grounds outside the school building.

Nor is it "another symptom of the moral corruption that seems to have contaminated the whole American people."

It is not evil for children of school age to smoke. It may be stupid, it may be silly. It may be unmanly. It may even impair the strength of the body and the ability to get on with his work.

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And when, confronted by the certainty that youngsters will sneak a drag in locker rooms or basement, creating a fire hazard that cannot possibly be guarded against, school officials decided to let them smoke on the outside, it was no sign of moral corruption.

Maybe the City School officials came up with the wrong answer several years ago when they adopted this policy now under attack. Maybe they should have kept the tight rule against smoking anywhere on school grounds.

A STAR HAS FALLEN

IN HIS famed address to a joint session of the U. S. Congress, General MacArthur called the United States a "great and glorious experiment with the principle, implicit in the Truman Doctrine, of resisting Communism everywhere in the world."

He went further and said that "the issues are global and so interlocked that to consider the problems of one sector oblivious to those of another is to court disaster for the whole."

In his testimony before a joint Senate committee, General MacArthur continued expounding this theme. He said he was opposed to the concept of the "strategic defense" which would confine the continental United States with this nation furnishing nothing but air and sea units in the battle against Communism.

And on the question of building up the defense of Europe, the General told the Senators that "the Congress would well to pay the closest attention to the professional advice" of military leaders in approving the use of United States troops abroad.

ACTION ON THE HOOPER REPORT

CONGRATULATIONS are in order for Sen. Olin Johnson of South Carolina and his Post Office & Civil Service Committee. Yesterday it passed on the Senate a bill which will help streamline the Federal Government's wasteful personnel policies.

The machinery for hiring and firing the two million-plus Federal employees is outdated, inadequate and balled up by red tape. The (Hoover) Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government found that an average of 218 days elapses between the announcement of an examination for a Federal job and the first appointment. It takes an average of seven months to discharge an incompetent or unnecessary employee. One agency required fourteen man-years—and \$50,000—to process a reduction of 2,000 employees.

Congress did adopt improved classification and efficiency rating systems which the Commission recommended. But much remains unaccomplished. Personnel operations need to be decentralized, to permit departments to recruit, examine and certify some of its personnel. The Civil Service Commission Chairman does not have enough authority. It's still a long, hard job to fire an incompetent or needless employee.

The bill placed before the Senate yesterday holds a long way toward correcting these faults. In a wire yesterday to W. H. Field, North Carolina chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Hoover Report, the national chairman of that organization urged the sending of wires and letters, recommending prompt action on the bill, to Senators. We heartily concur—while Congress is tied up on the tax issue it could do nothing finer than pass this legislation which would cut down on the cost of Government. In fact, if Congress would have simply passed the unadopted portions of the Hoover Report, the legislators could have gone home without raising the taxes, and with a clear conscience.

And if Sen. Johnson really wants to see his prestige rise in the Carolinas, he should also report on the bill to take the Post Office out of politics, which has been before his Committee for two years.

FALSE FALL

THERE'S a pinch in the air, to be sure. The glowing hearth at evening and the heavy jacket early in the morning both feel good.

And there are other signs around . . . the crisp air is turning brown . . . the silencing of the door and the rattle of the lawn after a football . . . the squirrels, busier than ever, have a free run of the feeding station where, a few weeks ago, the birds clustered around.

Yes, the signs are unmistakable. There is but one time a year when the neighbor quiets his easy chair to sprinkle Winter rye over his yard, when the cardinal's dull Summer coat takes on a brighter hue, when the first streaks of yellow and gold splotch the poplar and the gum.

Fall is on the way—definitely and positively. But it's not here yet, mind you. One essential ingredient, one delectable spice for the heavy mixture is still missing. Not until it is added can one square his shoulders,

property, suspending those kids they happen to catch and letting the others go free for the same offense. . . . Many parents feel quite properly that the State when it takes charge of their children, should respect the wishes of the parents as to the child's behavior. And if any considerable number of Charlotte parents think smoking on school grounds had best get busy and ban it.

But let no parent think that this simple expedient will deter his child one minute from beginning to smoke. There will be nothing to keep the kid from lining up on the public sidewalk like so many smokers. There will be nothing to keep them from smoking in soda shops and in automobiles and on the way to and from school. . . . When any kid decides he is going to take his first drag from a cigarette, he'll find a place to do it—behind the garage, locked in his family's bathroom, at a party, or somewhere.

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It might appeal. We don't know. But we do know that there is utterly no point in expecting school officials to do something that the parents can't or won't do—and that's the present smoking among children.

This week in Miami, General MacArthur talked to the American Legion about the build-up of the North Atlantic Treaty organization defenses. Without mentioning General Dwight D. Eisenhower, President Truman, members of the Congress who voted the NATO on the million of patriotic Americans who believe that our first line of defense is in Europe, MacArthur said:

"Apparently some of them, more in line with Marxian philosophy than animated by a desire to preserve freedom, would finance the defense of Europe as a means of sharing with their own wealth.

"This wealth would then serve as the nucleus for the Socialist or Communist deficits abroad."

"That from a man who, a few short months ago, was the epitome of virtue and integrity as he expounded his views on the great questions of the day, leaves us with a feeling of profound sadness."

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People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

Likes 'Evening Prayer'

Editors, The News: STOPPING at the Minoaslot motor court here on my way South from Philadelphia, I was given a copy of your paper. Seeing the "Evening Prayer" printed the front page of your paper was truly wonderful, and I just wanted to let you know what a favorable impression it made.

We commute into town by bus, it has been very puzzling to us to figure out where the bus stops in the Sedgewick section as there are no signs indicating such.

We have been going out in front of the house to catch the bus and the drivers have always picked us up on campus of the Oklahoma College for Women unless they were in a hurry.

This caused Senator Taft to remark that the person who had complained, and simply laid all our

Model Planes in Chickasha Editors, The News: CHICKASHA, OKLA. ABSOLUTELY no model flying was being done in Chickasha in September, 1949, when I saw some fellows flying their planes in Duncan. Upon inquiry into the reason, I found the same situation exists in Charlotte—"Too much noise."

When I saw the situation, I started a hobby shop, getting advice from several persons. We flew planes on campus of the Oklahoma College for Women until one fellow flew an Anderson Spitfire .845 during class hours. After that, we were chased off.

We went to the golf course. We braved flying golf balls and complaining neighbors until a petition signed by twenty neighbors drove us from that spot. So, we took to the baseball field. But the team also wanted to use the field, so that ended our flying there.

We decided to put an end to this once and for all. The fellows and their fathers and mothers went in a body to a Council meeting. We told the City Council of our problem, naming the persons who had complained, and simply laid all our

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Thanks From The Chief

Editors, The News: I SHOULD like to express to you and your staff on behalf of the Charlotte Fire Department our sincere appreciation for the co-operation extended by us during Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 7-13, 1951, which was sponsored locally by the Charlotte Joint Chamber of Commerce and the Charlotte Fire Department.

We are grateful for your participation in publicizing the importance of fire prevention, and we believe your presentation of this matter will contribute much toward a substantial reduction in the fire loss of our community.

Your interest and assistance in fire prevention not only during Fire Prevention Week, but also throughout the entire year is appreciated.

—DONALD S. CHARLES, Chief Charlotte Fire Dept.

Quote, Unquote Strolling through the card room of a businessman's club, a member was surprised to see three men and a dog playing poker. Pausing to watch, he commented on the extraordinary performance of the dog. "He's not so smart," the dog's owner said in disgust. "Every time he gets a good hand he wags his tail."—StarVibe (Miss) News.

How stupid are the philosophers who for centuries have debated the question whether there is design in nature—never noticing how perfectly a bird is shaped to fit a bating pool.—Jackson (Miss) Daily News.

The other day a woman went into the Buntyn Normal branch of the Union Farmers National Bank to buy some traveler's checks. The clerk got up his checks and his record books. Then he looked up at her. "What denomination?" "Baptist," she replied.—Memphis Press-Scimitar.

Europe, he would not interfere in the campaign and election.

Senator Taft probably doesn't know this, but some of the Republicans are launching the smear-Eisenhower campaign hinted at by Ben Tate.

First attempt to scare the General out of the Presidential primaries came from Westport, Pa., when he reported his alleged flirtation with an English WAC during the war, and warned that President Truman would use this to wipe up the General if he got into the Presidential race.

Actually, certain Republicans, not Truman, are more likely to use this against Eisenhower. In fact, they've already done it. It happens that Truman and Eisenhower are not only friends, but Truman was deeply grateful to Ike for staying out of the 1948 race when Ike could have had the Democratic nomination for the sake, but when Truman wanted more than anything else in the world to see Ike elected.

So if Eisenhower really wants to run this time, it's a fairly good bet that Truman won't.

Meanwhile, the Westport Pageter and other smear-Eisenhower artists might look up the below-the-belt tactics used against George Cleveland. They elected him.

Jessup And Eisenhower WHOSE who watched the Senate hearings on Ambassador Philip Jessup detected a smear-Eisenhower undertone

in that proceeding also. For Jessup is a Columbia University professor who not only saw an Eisenhower's faculty, but received a letter from Ike defending him against the McCarthy pro-Communist attack.

It was Brewster who led the attack on Jessup in the Senate Committee, though privately admitting to other Senators that McCarthy hadn't proved his charges.

Stassen's Poor Memory SENATORS who listened to Harold E. Stassen stumble through the Jessup hearings say that Stassen apparently dropped the bomb on the table when he read the full, secret transcript of the round-table conference with Far Eastern policy.

Stassen's poor memory, for example, that Jessup brought up the question of recognizing Communist China on the third day of the conference, and that the State Department came out in favor of recognition. The actual transcript, however, shows that the question of recognizing Communist China was brought up, not by Jessup but by the State Department's Charles Buttsworth, not on the third day, but on the first day.

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PAA Seeks More Subsidy

While Small Airlines Suffer

BY MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House of Representatives on Friday is expected to pass a bill authorizing the Post Office Department to spend \$100 million to subsidize the operation of the Pan American Airways system.

The bill is part of a larger package of legislation that includes provisions for the expansion of the airline industry and the improvement of air service to rural areas.

The subsidy dispute was aired in a remarkable Senate debate that got little or no attention in the House. The bill has been repeatedly shown their interest in cutting Government spending to force a similar appropriation between subsidy and mail pay for American lines flying into foreign countries.

The vast armament contracts and the special tax amortization granted as an inducement to armament manufacture cause the big corporations to grow bigger. The plants of American industry are daily becoming more gigantic as they expand to proportions that even a few years ago were undreamed of. And this means almost inevitably a greater concentration in monopoly or near-monopoly.

One of the few men in Congress who has been working to stem this tide is Sen. John McCarran of Nevada. As chairman of a small-business committee he has worked persistently to try to limit the small non-subsidized airlines that receive no Government subsidy for their operations.

The CAB ordered a study of the future of the non-subsidized airlines at the same time the board has proceeded by regulatory measures to promote the maintenance of scheduled lines, as the latter have pointed out in full-page newspaper advertisements. Only one member of CAB, Joseph Adams, has shown consistent concern for keeping at least some competition in the air.

Under prolonged pressure the board has just wrestled with the task of separating subsidy from mail pay for the certificated carriers, having admitted that current rates per cubic foot of mail are in fact, subsidy. A rate of 45 cents a ton-mile has been allowed for carrying on of mail.

We as the Sky Chick Model Airplane Club with 46 members have pledged the following: never to fly in the morning or too late at night, never to fly on Sunday morning, to be considerate of the neighbors and at all times conduct ourselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

—RALPH A. WILLIAMS, Senior Adviser Chickasha Sky Chicks

Fixers And Peddlers Are On Guard—Let's Turn 'Em Out

BY ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK (AP)—The fixers and peddlers of the world are on guard against the turn of events that may result in their being completely irrelevant.

It is its swiftly expanding phase since the start of World War II that the airline industry is still very new. It is possible to see the developing pattern of monopoly as it threatens to freeze into being the present setup with its limitations on the progress of the means of transportation as yet in infancy.

There are other industries long past this stage with the freeze so solid that new laws are completely irrelevant.

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