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SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1961

An Editorial Feature

THE RECOVERY OF FRANCE

MOST Americans who run over to Paris of economic rather than enlightenment come back with erroneous impressions. At the sidewalk cafes, at the bars, and in the lobby of the Folies Bergere, they gather the impression that Communist completely dominate France...

To correct such distortions of fact, Barry Bingham, who recently returned as Chief of the ECA Mission to France, has written a discerning article entitled "The Case For France" which appears in the May issue of The Atlantic Monthly. Bingham, the chairman of the Louisville Courier-Journal, BARRY BINGHAM writes with a deep knowledge and understanding of the French point of view...

BINGHAM points out in his article that although the Communist Party is still the largest single political unit in France, it holds only 30 per cent of the seats in the National Assembly. Although the Communists were very strong in 1946, they were thrown out of the government the following year and since then their power has diminished rapidly due to an acceleration of business and industrial recovery throughout France.

After receiving slightly over two billion dollars in Marshall Plan funds, France can point to some solid returns from this American investment. Her industry is now producing 30 per cent more than previous years. Coal and steel production are at the highest levels ever achieved with the single exception of 1928.

As is well known to George B. Cramer of Charlotte, a textile manufacturer who works with the ECA in Paris, the largest employer of labor in France is the Cotton Textile Industry. This industry has been successful in securing 80 per cent of its raw cotton through ECA credits and has eliminated mass unemployment which has crippled the textile industry and thus given fresh incentive to the Communists.

IN WRITING about the complaint that the French have seemingly not expressed sufficient gratitude for American aid, Bingham explains that the true Frenchmen, contrary to the usual impression, are "mentally stolid and leery of enthusiasm." Furthermore, every French citizen who has received anything under the ECA has paid its full value in his own francs. In fact, no person in France has had something from America for nothing.

For example, a French farmer is unable to buy a tractor in his own country. His dilemma is further complicated by the fact that American manufacturers of tractors will not accept his francs. However, under the Marshall Plan, the French farmer can obtain his tractor from America which is paid for through ECA credits and shipped to France. In time the French farmer will get it and drive it away but not until he has dug down in his own pocket and paid the full market value for the tractor in francs.

The money collected from those who receive Marshall Plan goods is placed in what is known as the Counterpart Fund. This is a large quantity of francs available for recovery projects and it corresponds to the pile of dollars which is accumulated for France. A considerable amount of these Counterpart Funds are spent for a program

of public works that has "jumped France forward three generations in three years." Counterpart francs have completely rebuilt the French railway system which was torn to shreds by American and British bombers during the war. The Counterpart Funds have also made possible the building of harbor installations, the erection of a number of important dams on the rivers of France, the location of thermal plants at the mouths of coal mines and the development of more electric power throughout France.

To counter the objections to any ingratitude on the part of the French people, Bingham has recently returned as Chief of the ECA Mission to France, has written a discerning article entitled "The Case For France" which appears in the May issue of The Atlantic Monthly. Bingham, the chairman of the Louisville Courier-Journal, BARRY BINGHAM writes with a deep knowledge and understanding of the French point of view. As the son of the Ambassador to the Court of St. James, Judge Robert W. Bingham, (a native of Orange County, North Carolina), the Louisville editor spent much of his youth in England and on the continent. Subsequently he served for four years in the United States of his duty being in France and Britain working on problems of wartime intelligence and public information.

DISCUSSING the charge that defeatism grips France, the Louisville editor says that the present anti-Communist "defeatism" that pervades France. The French people, however, are far from defeated in spirit. With universal military training long ago accomplished in France, the French are not only a well-trained fighting force but also a well-armed one. At the end of this year, fifteen by 1952 and twenty in 1953. Although the French have no desire for a fight against the Soviets if it is entirely hopeless from the start, Bingham argues that if the battle can be staved off for several years there is a chance that the "assault could not only be repulsed but forestalled altogether."

Bingham also points out that France is still fighting the Soviets, played its full part in the Marshall Plan, and is now producing 30 per cent more than previous years. Coal and steel production are at the highest levels ever achieved with the single exception of 1928. With a rise in agricultural production of six per cent more than previous years, France is now self-sufficient on food and can even export some meat, grain and dairy products to England and Western Germany.

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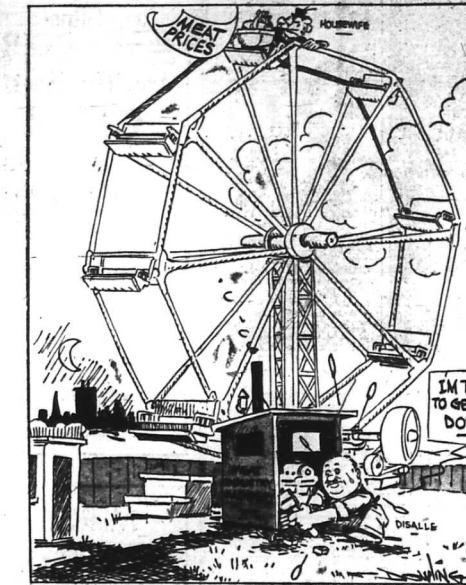
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Looking Forward To Next October



News From The Capital

Hickory May Get Air Service

By TOM SCHLESINGER, Charlotte News Special Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—Prospects brightened this week for a successful decision in Hickory's uphill struggle for resumption of first-rate air service. Civil Aeronautic Board sources here indicated that there is a "good chance" that Capital Airlines will be required to establish regular runs into the town's new million-dollar field starting June 1.

However, the final decision on whether Capital will continue servicing Hickory probably won't be made until the winter, a spokesman said. By then the decision on Piedmont Airlines' request for renewal of operations will also be made. The board is expected to make a number of changes in Piedmont's status, one of which could be a requirement to stop at Hickory. Since the town is regarded as a marginal profit operation, it is unlikely that Capital would fight to continue its runs unless this step is taken.

Capital was authorized by the CAB to serve Hickory until May 30, 1962, when war demands forced the airline to take equipment off the run and cancel all runs. After the war, and the field was deemed inadequate for resumption of runs.

Finally, after a nine year lapse, the field is expected by June 1 to be again ready to meet CAB standards. The Hickory Chamber of Commerce in March filed papers asking the CAB to require Capital to return, and Capital in turn has asked for its temporary suspension of service to continue until the field is ready to meet the standards.

Cruz of the matter, according to Hickory businessmen, is that Piedmont, one of about eighteen feeder line operations in the country, doesn't fly to places where most people want to go in a hurry, like Atlanta and Washington. CAB sources say that while there is no bar to both lines scheduling the town, it is unlikely that they will do so, even though the lines aren't, in the strict sense, competitive. There isn't enough profit to justify it in a town of 25,000, despite its 250 industrial plants.

"Piedmont, which as all airlines must appear before the board every three years to report, will not be heard formally before late Summer. The decision, then, can be expected sometime during the winter and the matter will be resolved then." Meanwhile, Rep. Hamilton C. Jones, of the 10th District, has been conferring with CAB officials who are the major factor in the matter. Jones believes that the matter could drag on to a July 1, instead of a June 1 decision, but that outlook is "highly optimistic," he says.

DEMOCRATIC Senators and Representatives, at least one must believe that the party of Sen. Acheson must go for the good of the party. The views received further support recently with the news that the influential and generally pro-administration Washington Post to the ranks of the Tatts, McCarrish, McCormicks and Scripps-Howards in calling for the Secretary's scalp. The paper has stuck with Acheson through thick and thin.

"This big guessing game has already begun and Britain's note was merely to please the Americans and the gloomy Dean. Perhaps the most unusual candidate at that time, and he also faced the private opposition of Cordell Hull.

Pussyfoot No. 3—Came when Mussolini invaded Belgium. This was one of the cruelest cases of aggression in modern history. The League of Nations conscientiously tried to act. But although an economic blockade was voted for the first time in 1935, it was completely ineffective. One was the exclusion of oil. The big American and British oil companies pulled backstage wires, managed to get the American government to permit the continued shipment of oil to Mussolini. Without oil, his fleet would have been paralyzed and his trucks could not have moved. But we pussyfooted.

Furthermore, the big powers, after voting the embargo, refused to use their navies to back it up. It became a pitiful, pathetic joke. Pussyfoot No. 4—This is taking place right now in regard to Red China, an obvious, warning aggressor in metals, machinery and textiles. American diplomats in the USA, including General MacArthur himself, have pulled our punches. For instance, has permitted a steady dribble of strategic materials to flow into Red China from Japan. From July to October, 1950, he permitted \$8,100,000 in metals, machinery and textiles to be shipped to China. From October to January, Japanese exports to the Communists increased to \$11,100,000. Since MacArthur controlled all Japanese exports, he was merely to please the Americans and not to be taken seriously. Pussyfoot No. 2—Was when President Roosevelt tried to organize an economic blockade of Japan in 1938. He failed to stop further aggression against China. By this time the British realized their 1931 mistake and went along with us. But Roosevelt could not get the support of other European powers. Hitler and Mussolini were too strong by

U.S. Burden In Korea Gets Heavier as War Goes Along

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate-MacArthur controversy is being touched on in a new way that carries the greatest emotional charge both in Congress and the public. It is the percentage of the burden of the Korean War carried by the United States.

This gets down to the role of American casualties, to the cost of American materials and troops which in turn means higher taxes, to the independence of American troops from the Canadian force which in turn means higher taxes, to the independence of American troops from the Canadian force which in turn means higher taxes.

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Florida Always Considerate Of Its Citizens' Comfort

By ROBERT C. RUARK

MIAMI (AP)—The State of Florida, to which I have just fled in order to escape the slings and arrows of the press, is a very considerate state in Washington, has always fascinated me as a site of magnificent legislation. It concerns it, but not so much with the grander scheme such as world destruction, but grinds out intimate laws to make things simpler.

We note from Tallahassee, the capital, that many wondrous things have happened recently. There is a motion picture to make the patent medicine, Hadacol, subject to tax and another book, "The Other Alcohol Beverage."

Hadacol, as you probably know by now, is touted as being something like the failed elixir which Ponce de Leon was seeking when he fared forth to find the Fountain of Youth. The manufacturer claims a forecast of "new life" for the user, and also states "it will be of use to you if you use it 'red better.'"

This meets the dual suspicion that the heavy burden of taxation is somewhat the equivalent of taking a small shot of lightning to ward off a much larger one. It is daily "renewed" by the State of Florida, or so says Rep. J. Lee Bush of Tallahassee. Rep. Smith says that the product containing 1 per cent alcohol should be taxed just like any other alcoholic beverage.

There has been a bill to protect grocers from fraud, undoubtedly at the hands of Yankee transients, and a more important piece of legislation designed to stamp out the Ku Klux Klan. A new law forbids anyone from wearing any person over sixteen years of age in public places. It is a law that has been in effect since 1908. It is a law that has been in effect since 1908. It is a law that has been in effect since 1908.

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'MOMISM' AND MOTHER'S DAY

THE perturbation Mr. Philip Wylie, novelist, essayist and streamlined salesman of Jungian philosophy, has time and again made it clear that he thinks Americans (of which he is one) are totally entangled in aprons, that we're too much concerned with "Mom."

Of course, Philip Wylie is entitled to his opinion and there are those who agree with him, as witness his inevitable position on the best-seller list when he contributes a volume to the book world. And, we concede, there are some occasions when apron strings are awfully strong and quite knotty.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Diplomatic Pussyfooting Led To Wars

MOST important diplomatic debate of the Korean War that is being going on backstage at the United Nations — namely the Red China question — has been going on for some time. So far our UN allies haven't got ground to voting to ban arms, let alone an economic embargo. However, it remains a fact that this is one of the most important steps to be taken against any aggressor.

Furthermore there is a long history of diplomatic pussyfooting regarding this by our supposedly good friends — pussyfooting that even today has landed them in war. Here is some case history: Pussyfoot No. 1—Was when the British under us in 1931 when Japan first invaded Manchuria. Issues most identical to the Korean aggression were involved in Manchuria, and the late Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson saw the light. He saw that Japan was sewing the first wild oats of aggression, just as Russia is today, and that if she got away with one aggressive bite there would be more.

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But Stimson never could get the British, who had more at stake than he, to co-operate. When U. S. Ambassador Cameron Forbes would deliver a note of protest, the British ambassador did likewise—then dropped round to the Japanese foreign office an hour or two later to explain that Roosevelt could not get the support of other European powers. Hitler and Mussolini were too strong by

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