

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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MONDAY, MAY 21, 1951

WHAT ABOUT GREECE?

ANDRE MICHALOPOULOS, adviser to the Greek Embassy in Washington, is a fluently convincing man as he speaks in a Mediterranean drawl, as reported in *Time* last week, will gain much support. What adviser Michalopoulos has in mind is a co-ordination of the military efforts of Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia. At first we were somewhat surprised to hear a Greek suggesting an alliance with Yugoslavia, blood enemy since Yugoslavia served as a supporting base and rear for the Greek Communist guerrillas in the late forties. But then we realized that survival makes strange bedfellows — and survival is the stake in Greece today.

THE JAPANESE PEACE TREATY

RUSSIA took the expected course in suggesting new terms for a Japanese peace treaty, and the United States took the only possible course under the circumstances by rejecting Russia's terms outright. And that the matter stands, precisely where it was before the current exchange of diplomatic messages.

PRESIDENTIAL INDISCRETION

DISPLAYING once again that unique talent for putting his foot in his mouth, President Truman gave his version of the MacArthur dismissal at a press conference last week. Reported the Associated Press, in the indirect quotations customarily used for Presidential interviews:

RENEWING A SUGGESTION

NOW that the Congress is considering new tax legislation, we will voice once again a suggestion we have made before without stirring any noticeable response from Congressmen—or from News readers, for that matter.

FEARLESS WINNING?

MANY generations of students at the University of Wisconsin and countless visitors to Madison have stood at John Bascom Hall and read the statement cast in bronze, which the Wisconsin regents issued in 1894. After nearly 60 years, it remains a testimonial, perhaps still unsurpassed, to the right to listen and learn, to inquire and expound. Said those stanch regents:

to the inclusion of the two Mediterranean nations in the Pact. Their reason is a simple one: Greece and Turkey come into the Pact, there will be less military and economic aid to Denmark and Sweden. That, of course, is true. But it is equally true that Greece and Turkey are of great importance in the defense plans of the West. While we do not pretend to fathom the military strategy of the Kremlin and while we admit the attack may come in Germany or Sweden or Alaska, it seems to us that the Russians have infinitely more to gain by reaching into the oil-rich Middle East, thence into strategic Turkey. Secure control of the Middle and Near East by Russia would make it imperative that Russia control Greece. And so long as we control Greece and make full use of its position as a defensive bastion in the Mediterranean, Russian conquest of the Middle and Near East will be a difficult and dangerous task.

Freedom Of The Press

largesse over the world... so long as we could afford to do so without impairing our own situation. At first I was inclined to favor the program. But, I am not so certain now. (Again Smith seems unable to make up his mind about the moral consequences of the dictionary meaning of "largesse" is glib, glibly. As The News outlines in its editorial of Tuesday, two bills are now before Congress to provide grain aid to India. Both provide for the shipment of 2 million tons of grain to India. The Senate bill proposes a half-ton, half-grain basis. The House bill is for full ton basis. Prime Minister Nehru of India says the House bill would be acceptable, his government prefers to the Senate bill which would take more time to negotiate, so Smith to the contrary notwithstanding seems to be asking for an increase in the amount of grain to be shipped while Congress dillys. Are we again going to be too late?

Smith's Speech

Editors, The News: MONDAY, May 14, Senator Smith made a return to the Senate to address the conversion of the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association. I have read a copy of Smith's speech, composed mostly of platitudes and generalities, reviewing situations and problems familiar to most of us, but nowhere in the address does he take a positive stand or offer any plans to solve the problems.

They Can Be Wrong

Politicians once thought it would take 2,000 years to settle the United States, but the feat was achieved in a century. Politicians could be wrong in other things, too. There's still hope.

GOP Strategy On Hearings May Backfire

By STEWART ALSOP

IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE that the Senate investigation into General MacArthur's dismissal will come to a full stop in a series of angry cries of partisanship and politics. The real nature of the inquiry has been so carefully veiled in the course of the wrangle over whether confidential conversations with the President should be reported to a Senate committee by the President's chief military adviser, Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is unhappy caught between the lines, raked by fire from opposing factions. And because he has chosen to fulfill his duty as he sees it under the Constitution, he is being attacked and smeared in a way that shames the attackers.

People's Platform

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

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The Cattle Are Giving All They've Got, Aren't They?



Public A-bomb Blast Might Shake Apathy

By MARQUIS CHILDS

IF THE READER of this report is of a somewhat morose and curious turn of mind; and if he would like personally (but safely) to witness the explosion of an atomic bomb, he may yet have an opportunity to satisfy his curiosity. The Civil Defense Agency has announced that the Atomic Energy Commission that an atomic bomb will be exploded publicly — that is, after arrangements have been made to permit the maximum number of people to witness the explosion. In safety, the Atomic Energy Commission is examining this proposal, believing that a recommendation to President Truman, with whom the final decision will rest.

The idea seems fantastic. But it is being considered seriously for very serious reasons. One reason is that the atomic bomb must be found to get the civil defense program off dead center. The action of Congress in recommending the program is a rather grim joke, but it is a grim joke which the public officials of both the Civil Defense Agency and the Atomic Energy Commission were especially dismayed by the reaction to the Atomic Energy Commission's proposal. The breaking of windows 70 miles away in Las Vegas which was to be a result of the explosion (an unpredictable phenomenon); the flash of light seen hundreds of miles away; the atomic bomb which surrounded the desert tests; all contributed to the general notion that the atomic bomb is a defense against the atomic bomb.

The primary purpose of a public explosion of the bomb would be to dispel this notion by dispelling the atmosphere of mystery. If the Atomic Energy Commission and the President approve the Civil Defense Agency's proposal (which is being reviewed by the physicist Dr. Ralph Lapp in "The Reporter" magazine) the following day, the Atomic Energy Commission will be able to witness the explosion from a distance of seven miles or more. The Atomic Energy Commission provides absolute safety without protection. To demonstrate that there is such protection, the Atomic Energy Commission, volunteer observers could witness the explosion as close as they wish, but at a point one foot of concrete would offer one foot protection.

Yet it is also true that a public atomic explosion could contribute to the morale of the country by graphically demonstrating the limitations as well as the capabilities of the atomic bomb. Above all, by substituting for the terrible unknown the always less terrible known. We realize that a public atomic explosion could reduce casualties, even from the immensely powerful modern atomic bombs, to about 50 per cent. An effective civil defense could, indeed, make the present atomic age a safe age. If, for war, this has been said so often that it is beginning to lose all meaning, but it is nevertheless true. And if a public explosion of an atomic bomb helped to show that it is true, it would serve an immensely useful purpose.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

AT 8:30 A. M. the other Sunday—just as early as most Washingtonians on Sunday mornings—Drew Pearson finished reading New York's Sunday Times, picked up his pen and dashed off one of those famous Pearson letters, which have become a part of the world. This one went to vice boss Mike Disalle.

Truman Writes Sunday Morning Letter

Disalle, a city boy and former mayor of Toledo, Ohio, writes to look up the "other" side of the coin. The tractor, he discovered, is a surgical spear sometimes used to release gas pressure in blasted cattle. By "cleverness," the President's dispatches referred to a bull which had become "crazy" because of gas pressure.

Republican Drive In Texas

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