

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. E. DOWD, General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH, Executive Editor
C. A. MCKNIGHT, Editor

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'TO MEET THE COMMON DANGER'

WE WELCOME the initiative by the U. S., Australia and New Zealand of a Pacific Pact, whereby "each party recognizes that an armed attack in the Pacific area on any of the other parties would be dangerous to its own peace and safety and declares that it would act to meet the common danger."

Subject of course to Senate ratification, the Pacific Pact resembles its Atlantic counterpart, and provides for the establishment of a Pacific Council of foreign ministers or their deputies. Apparently no military assistance program is planned, at least for the present. Some official envision ultimate inclusion of other Asiatic countries, such as the Philippines and Japan.

—Thus we have made another step toward organization of the forces of the free world by the establishment of closer working arrangements through regional agencies.

COINCIDENT with the announcement of the Pacific Pact have appeared two comprehensive accounts of the progress of its predecessor, the Atlantic Pact, and the achievement of General Dwight Eisenhower, chief architect of Atlantic defense.

Writing in the July Harper's, George Fielding Elliot goes into the larger field of alliances in general. Elliott says that successful conditions of the past have included (1) a definite common objective, (2) agreement by all partners as to broad means for attaining the objective, and (3) centralized political and military agencies for working out the mechanics of the alliance.

He finds that the UN action in Korea was stymied by the introduction of two

contingencies, the question of crossing the 38th parallel and the intervention of Communist China. "It was a clear case of not thinking the thing through," he writes, "the great fault of defensive coalition planning."

In the Atlantic Pact, on the other hand, he finds that long-range planning and coordination is being carried out. An example of one of the problems, as Andre Laguerre points out in the current issue of Life, is "supply twelve armies which use 33 types of machine guns and 90 types of heavy guns."

It is fortunate that planning and training in the Atlantic is being co-ordinated, before any war may break out, and it is to be hoped that a similar long-range plan will be developed in the Pacific.

But above and beyond the matter of organization, says Elliot, who stresses the need for overall political authority, "is the far more crucial need for a sense of community, of interdependence, among the free peoples which now reluctantly are taking up arms to meet the Communist menace."

IT SEEMS that this point should be stressed as we tighten our Pacific ties. Regional agreements among countries with similar interests make sense, but let us not lose sight of the larger view, the urgency for unity among free men, whether in Canberra or Charlotte or Brussels.

And it would be well to move cautiously in adding other countries to the Pacific Pact, lest there be included so heterogeneous a group that it is impossible to develop the intimate teamwork and spirit needed in an effective political-military organization.

A LESSON FOR THIS GENERATION

SOMEWHAT irritated with Congress over its penchant for probing the Past when it should be plotting the Future, The News was tempted to deride the House Un-American Activities Committee's decision to investigate Communist leadership of the famed 1932 march.

On further reflection, however, we concluded that a thorough and painstaking inquiry into the march and the conditions that inspired it might produce unexpected dividends for this generation.

"The thousands of World War I veterans who made the long trek to the nation's capital in that dismal year were not thugs and ruffians. They were simply desperate men. They were desperate because they were jobless and hungry, because their wives and children were suffering, because they were losing their homes. They were desperate because they had been caught in the grind-

ing wheels of economic chaos and were slowly being crushed."

The fact that Communists may have organized and directed the march is not important in 1951. What is important is that the men and desperate men are always susceptible to leadership by Communists and other advocates of violence and revolution whether they live in prosperous America or in the underdeveloped areas of the world.

That is the lesson for this generation in the 1932 march. The answer to Communism in this nation is neither fear nor terror; it is the preservation and enrichment of political, social and economic justice for all men. And the best way for us to combat Communism abroad is to share our technical talent and economic assets with the underdeveloped areas of the world where other desperate men are being organized and led by Communists.

SON OF A SLAVE

WHEN, in 1886, a tall, slim young man came up to Charlotte from a South Carolina cotton county to study at old Biddeford University, no one foresaw the future of Henry Lawrence McCrory. Twenty-three years old before he started high school here, young Henry McCrory possessed little more than a driving ambition to learn. Indeed, his first 50 cents had been spent for an arithmetic book, a book which he studied after a day's work in the fields, by poor light and with the distraction of his nine brothers and sisters in the home.

But while still a student at the University, his unusual gifts were recognized by the faculty and he was appointed an instructor. In the following years he taught Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and eventually became Dean of the School of Theology. Twenty-one years after the country boy came up from Chesterfield County, he was president of Biddeford University. He was to retain that post for four years, watching the transformation from Bid-

deford to Johnson C. Smith, from a provincial religious school to a university of regional and national significance.

In 1947 Henry Lawrence McCrory retired. He was 84 and the pressure of the post, coupled with the tragic death of his wife in a fire three years before, proved too much for him. Thirty days passed at Johnson C. Smith that the tall, thin, silver-haired figure was not present in body or spirit. It was a home that he could not leave.

Though his devotion to the University was the center of his life, Dr. McCrory had more time to participate actively in the religious and educational life of the state and the nation.

He died yesterday afternoon at 88.

It was fitting that in April of this year the Indiana Negro YMCA here was named in his honor; the extension of Dr. McCrory's ideals of religion and education through the YMCA can only be beneficial to this community and his race.

From The New York Times

PARISIAN BIRTHDAY

PARIS is this year celebrating its two-thousandth anniversary, in spite of the fact that there was a city already on that site 2,003 years ago—this is known because Julius Caesar destroyed it. The actual birthday was fixed for this week, though not on the exact day of the month the first Parisian arrived and set up the equivalent of the first cafe. The certainties are not historical; they are that there is a city called Paris, that it is unique and that its continuance and growth is important to the whole free world.

In any case, it is scarcely the first thousand years of Paris that matter, nor even the greater part of the second thousand. What matters about Paris is mainly the past that restores the years when the old monarchy overthrew partly by mob violence but much more by the power of thought; the years that saw freedom spring from ashes, often abused, often betrayed but never forgotten; the years when the creative spirit of man, no matter where it dwelt, took Paris for its second home.

Paris has its humdrum and unhappy aspects: it has its traffic problem, its crowded subways, its hundreds of thousands of inhabitants who are not Parisians. It can be banal, greedy and corrupt, like any other city. But the glory of the City of Light shines through. Here are taste and wit, and here is beauty. Here is the mellow wisdom that only twenty centuries ago and is young today. Here is civilization as we like to think about it.

Mr. Phelps Phelps of Walla Walla was named appointed governor of Pago Pago. Now how about naming the city after him? —Joplin (Mo.) Globe.

In the old days, when a fellow told a girl a naughty story, she blushed at it. Nowadays, the memories left—Camden County (Ga.) Tribune.

Kids now growing up will probably think that a blunderbuss is a vehicle for transporting Washington diplomats and policy makers to their meeting places.—Omaha (Ne.) News.

A judge says autos are having a bad effect on the younger generation. And don't think the younger generation isn't getting even.—Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.

Those who are so zealous about the fish being protected by law must not be aware of how well the fish in this section can take care of themselves.—Monroe (La.) Advertiser.

Naval Grows In Strength In Pacific

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON
REGARDLESS of the outcome of the peace talks now going on in Korea, there is a major element of American strength that is to be left pretty much intact. That is the greatly increased power of the United States Navy in the Western Pacific.

At the time of the North Korean Communist attack when the decision was taken in Washington to resist aggression with all possible force, it also was decided to assign the United States Seventh Fleet to establish a patrol between the island of Formosa and the Chinese mainland. This was to make sure that the Communists did not attack Formosa and that the Nationalists did not continue their raids on the mainland.

That action was taken by the United States alone without any approval or sanction from the United Nations. At the time the patrol was stationed in the Formosan straits there was a heavy concentration of Communist strength on the mainland. The latest reconnaissance shows that the troops and invasion barges apparently are ready for an attack on Chiang Kai-shek's island. Redoubt have now been removed. But even though the situation has been radically altered, the present intention is to keep a watch on the strip of water separating the Nationalists and Nationalists. In recent months the watch has been maintained by minor elements of the fleet. An over-the-shoulder look has been maintained while the Navy has played a major part in the Korean War.

OCEAN WATCH

The full extent of that role has been scarcely realized. Navy strength in the Western Pacific today is at least three times as great as it was a year ago. The present plan, again regardless of the outcome of the talks at Kaesong, is to keep at least two of this expanded Navy in that area. During the year 1950, U. S. naval vessels have fired nearly a quarter of a million rounds at railroads, shore batteries and other installations on the Korean coast. Repeatedly North Korean railroads have been destroyed. The heavy has the barrage been in recent months that, in effect, the Navy has been able to keep the North Korean coast in the North to little more than a central core.

In the twelve months naval vessels have been supported nearly 12,000,000 tons of supplies and equipment to Japan and Korea. More than 800,000 men have been transported to and from the theater of war.

Other statistics give some measure of the extraordinary changes that have occurred. The Navy has begun to add Admiral Forrest Sherman as Chief of Naval Operations in November of 1948. A few of what has happened since then is to be recalled. Back in the Fall of 1949 the Navy had been so sorely down that the plan then was to keep two aircraft carriers in the Western Pacific and one in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

ROTATION SYSTEM

With two-thirds of the expanded fleet in the Western Pacific, there will be six to eight aircraft carriers away on station in that area. A system of rotation is being worked out. The Navy will send approximately five months at sea and seven months at home. Those in Hawaii and on the West Coast.

It was, of course, the force of events that led to the expansion of the Navy. But with the swift expansion of the Navy. But a great deal of credit is due to Admiral Sherman for his effectiveness in organization and administration as well as his far-seeing global vision to the problem of American security.

When Sherman took over, there was considerable doubt as to the Navy's growing out of the feud with Defense Secretary Louis Johnson and Gen. Omar Bradley, Chief of Staff of the Army, over the big aircraft carrier and the ocean transport. The Navy had been smoothed out. On the Joint Chiefs of Staff Sherman has been a team player and at the same time he has been a strong voice for the Navy.

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